



THE RIPPLE EFFECT

A Monthly Update Highlighting One Committee's Progress

FEBRUARY 2026

**EXPLORING EVERY IMPACT
EMPOWERING EVERY VOICE
ENSURING A HEALTHIER HIGGINS LAKE**

HOH-lake.org or HOHL@gerrishtownship.org

AT A GLANCE

Science Committee

- The HOHL Science Sub-Committee is a volunteer group working on behalf of the Health of Higgins Lake (HOHL) Steering Committee and the Gerrish Township Board to evaluate scientific data related to the health of Higgins Lake.
- Members are local residents and property owners who volunteer their time and professional expertise to support informed, science-based understanding of the lake.

MEET THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE

Qualifications

The committee includes 21 highly qualified volunteers, with expertise that spans:

- Six PhDs, including three active university professors (two at MSU and one at Grand Valley State University)
- A retiree from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- A former administrator with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Two attorneys, including a retired judge
- Professionals experienced in water and wastewater treatment
- Multiple engineers, IT specialists, business leaders, and individuals who have spent decades working on protecting Higgins Lake

The expertise of these volunteers is nothing short of remarkable. We are blessed to have an abundance of highly educated, uniquely qualified, and dedicated individuals who have been serving our community.

THANK YOU



Science Committee members include:

- Brad Gibson, Chairperson, John Barta, Ethan Brand, Melanie Brown, John Davis, Bob Frye, Sue Gelderbloom, Gustavo de los Campos, Tom Kizer, Mark Luttenton, Mike Matuzak, Gary McCrie, Don Mick, John Ogren, Ed Panyard, Mike Purkey, John Schreck, Rick Shoemaker, Fred Swinehart, Ana Vazquez, and Jeff Zabel.
- Their combined knowledge and dedication represent a remarkable community resource working to support the long-term health of Higgins Lake.
- When this group begins releasing reports, rest assured their findings and recommendations will be based on a full and extensive analysis of the data.

The next Steering Committee meeting is Tuesday, February 17th, 7 PM at the hall.

Plan to attend and participate! For more information, go to the website or on Facebook at Gerrish Township Health of Higgins Lake.