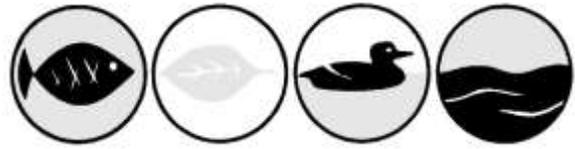


# N.I.C.C.

## May 2021 Newsletter



The NICC Pond is a major focal point of the property. We do various things to keep the pond looking good and enjoyable for all members. This year we have contracted with Clarke Aquatics to perform the plant and algae treatments. The pond has a history of heavy plant growth dominated by Curlyleaf Pondweed. The first treatment has been completed and Clarke will be out twice a month to do pond inspections and treat as needed. The chemicals used are non-toxic to all wildlife and humans. The pond was stocked several years ago with Largemouth Bass, Bluegill and Channel Catfish. This year we completed a follow-up stocking of 200 Bluegill, 100 Largemouth Bass, and 50 Channel Catfish. Feel free to fish the pond, but remember it is all catch and release. Lastly, to protect the shoreline of the pond, we will not be mowing the grass up to the edge of the pond. We are also pursuing the option for establishing

a shoreline buffer strip of native flowering plants. This will not only serve as shoreline protection from erosion, but also benefit pollinators such as honeybees and butterflies. There is a pedal boat, row boat, and kayak available to use on the pond as well. Please return them to the area near the pier and put the life vests on the railing by the back door of the Clubhouse. Swimming is prohibited in the pond, but dogs are allowed to swim in the pond. The time has come to get out and enjoy the NICC Grounds.

### **The Beautiful Invasive Siberian Squill.**

Here is a beautiful non-native “weed” found on the trails at NICC, The Siberian Squill. This is the pretty blue carpet of flowers that is often seen under trees in the early spring. It is not native and it’s colonies can crowd out native flora. Many nurseries sell it as an ornamental, but it spreads readily and is hard to get rid of. The Siberian Squill originated in Russia & Eurasia which was then brought to the U.S. as an ornamental. It is a distant cousin to asparagus, but don’t eat this pretty weed, the foliage and seed capsules contain pyrrolizidine and other toxic alkaloids which can cause diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain. Because of its toxicity, mammals leave it alone & it has little ecologic value with the exception of attracting bees.



### **Grounds Clean Up May 8 at 9:00 am.**

Now that Spring is here, there's plenty to be done at the club grounds on this day. There's wood to be relocated, trees and bushes to be trimmed and the inside of the clubhouse could use a good cleaning. So, bring gloves, rakes, cutting shears and a chainsaw.

### **Adopt-A-Highway for May 8, has been canceled.**

The National Honor Society from Antioch High School completed the clean up of Grasslake Rd. between Rt 83 and Rt. 59.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

The club grounds will be closed from June 25-27 for a private event.

We will be having our first NICC Nature Night on Wednesday May 19th at 6:30 pm We will be having an arborist come out to walk us around the property and show us the types of trees we have around the grounds and explain how to identify them as well as any cool facts. Hope to see you there!!

NICC is considering putting in an order for t-shirts and or hoodies. If you are interested in ordering watch your email for details coming soon.

Watch your email for other "pop-up" events coming to NICC!!

### **Outdoor Education Day July 24, 2021**

NICC along with Lake County Pheasants Forever and the Gary Borger Chapter of Trout Unlimited are teaming up to host the 3rd Annual Outdoor Education Day at Richmond Hunt Club on July 24, 2021 starting at 8:00 am.

There will be trap shooting, archery, fishing, fly fishing and much more!

This event is open to everyone 10 and up. Please watch our facebook page for additional information. Space is limited, registration is open so sign up today, you'll want to reserve your spots!

Register here: <https://pfqf.myeventscenter.com/event/Aoed3-47798>

### **Membership Musings**

Greetings All! On May 8<sup>th</sup> the gate combination will be changing. The club has experienced healthy growth this past year. Roll call is now 93 membership units. In spite of world events the past 12 months, I hope you have enjoyed a chance to relax and refresh in the land we have worked together to preserve and keep encroaching development at bay. If you have not had the chance to renew your membership, please consider doing so. If you have renewed, thank you. Please consider bringing out a friend or neighbor for a visit or have them contact me and I would be glad to give them a tour. Events are starting to be planned, keep an eye out for emails and Facebook postings. There will also be a need for volunteers as projects get underway this summer. Our first workday for the year is scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup>. Whether you can stop by for hour or the entire day, we'll have many opportunities for members of all ages. Last but not least, a hearty and happy Mothers Day to all our moms. I hope it's magical. Any questions, comments, or concerns I can be reached at 847-727-9022.

Ron Lobodzinski/Membership Chai



Payton Bennett  
Terrence Haupt  
Lori Heywood  
Vince Heywood  
Victoria Pham  
Michael & Roberta Slugocki  
Mark Willer

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**May 8** NICC Grounds Cleanup @ 9:00 am  
**May 17** General/Board Meeting and  
Elections 7 pm at NICC  
**May 19** Nature Walk at 6:30 pm  
**June 14** General/Board Meeting at 7 pm  
**July 12** General/Board Meeting at 7 pm  
**July 24** Outdoor Education Day



*The greatest reward for serving others is the satisfaction found in your own heart.*