

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL AND PROJECT COSTS**

BERTHA LAKE

TAKE NOTICE that a special assessment roll (including a corresponding computation of costs) has been prepared and is on file for public examination at the office of the Clare County Drain Commissioner (225 West Main Street, Harrison, MI 48625) and at a public hearing. This special assessment roll has been prepared for assessing the costs of maintaining a court-ordered lake level, as authorized under MCL 324.30712.

Please call (989) 460-8257 with any questions related to individual assessment amounts. Our office will be happy to answer any questions.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that on **Friday, August 12, 2022, at 10:00AM**, the Clare County Drain Commissioner, as the delegated authority of the Bertha Lake – Lake Level District, will hold a public hearing at the **Clare County Building**, located at **225 West Main Street, Harrison, Michigan 48625** for the purposes of reviewing said special assessment roll and project costs and hearing any objections hereto, and/or making a determination of whether to confirm said assessment roll and project costs. The hearing may be adjourned from time-to-time without further notice.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that appearance and protest at the hearing **is required** in order to appeal the amount of the proposed special assessment. Any person or local unit of government objecting to the assessment roll shall: (1) appear at the above stated time and/or file his or her objection in writing with the Clare County Drain Commissioner by no later than the close of the hearing; or (2) file an appearance and protest by letter addressed to the **Clare County Drain Commissioner, on behalf of the Bertha Lake – Lake Level District, P.O. Box 564, Harrison, Michigan 48625**, which if received by the Drain Commissioner by no later than the date of hearing, no personal appearance at the hearing is required. The Bertha Lake – Lake Level District shall maintain a record of parties who appear to protest at the hearing. If the hearing is terminated or adjourned for the day before a party is provided the opportunity to be heard, a party whose appearance was recorded shall be considered to have protested the special assessment in person.

Proceedings conducted at this public hearing will be subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and you are further notified that information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Clare County Drain Commissioner's Office. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Drain Commissioner at **(989) 460-8257** or through the Michigan Relay Service at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance. Minutes of the meeting will be on file in the Clare County Drain Commissioner's Office.

The special assessment roll shall be final and conclusive unless appealed in a court within fifteen (15) days after approval of the special assessment roll by resolution of the Clare County Board of Commissioners. Please review MCL 324.30714(4) for information related to lake level assessment appeals.

Carl J. Parks
Clare County Drain Commissioner
on behalf of the Bertha Lake – Lake Level District
(989) 460-8257

FAQs

Carl J. Parks
Clare County
Drain Commissioner
Phone: 989-460-8257



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS about the Notice of Public Hearing to Review the Special Assessment Roll and Project Costs

Why am I receiving this notice?

You are receiving this notice because you may own lands within a Lake Level Special Assessment District previously established for maintaining a legal lake level.

Who is responsible for maintaining the lake level?

The Clare County Drain Commissioner is the delegated authority for Clare County. Assessments levied are utilized by the Drain Commissioner to maintain the legal lake level as established by the Clare County Circuit Court.

Why are special assessments being imposed?

State law governing inland lake levels makes property owner special assessments the primary funding mechanism for maintaining legal lake levels. See MCL 324.30714. As you may be aware, various activities were performed (including court hearings) to ensure existing lake level orders in Clare County complied with state law.

What is a Special Assessment District?

A Special Assessment District is an area of land designated to receive special assessments for a particular benefit that it receives from certain public projects, like lake levels. Lake level special assessment districts are established by circuit courts.

Do I have to attend the Public Hearing?

You are not required to attend the Public Hearing, however you must protest in person or by writing to reserve your right to appeal the proposed special assessment.

What is my assessment amount?

Your estimated assessment amount is listed on your attached notice and will be available at the Public Hearing to Review the Special Assessment Roll and Project Costs.

When do I receive my lake level special assessment?

Lake level assessments may be included on your Summer and/or Winter Tax bills, and are only levied when costs are incurred for the maintenance of the lake level.

How can I get more information?

Please call 989-460-8257. Please leave a detailed message including a) your name; b) your address; and c) the name of the lake involved. All phone calls will be returned in the order in which they were received.

Carl J. Parks

Clare County Drain Commissioner | P.O. Box 564 | Harrison, MI 48625