

# FOOTPRINTS

**FEBRUARY 2024**

**IN THE SAND**



**SANDYPINES**  
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY

## PHONE NUMBERS

**Member Service** ..... 616.896.8315  
 Nicole Klinge.....Ext. 101  
 Nichole Milbocker .....Ext. 100

Fax Number..... 616.896.7409  
[MemberService@SandyPines.com](mailto:MemberService@SandyPines.com)

### Administration

Jeff..... Ext. 105  
[jeff@sandypines.com](mailto:jeff@sandypines.com)  
 Kimberly ..... Ext. 109  
[kim@sandypines.com](mailto:kim@sandypines.com)

### Park Inspector

Jeff Hopkins..... 616.896.7286  
[inspector@sandypines.com](mailto:inspector@sandypines.com)

Pumpouts-Emergency ..... Ext. 111

**Sales Office**..... 616.896.8315 Ext. 118

Kent Livingston.....Ext. 114  
[kent@sandypines.com](mailto:kent@sandypines.com)

**Camping Office**.....616.896.8315

Janele Tomes .....Ext. 103  
[janele@sandypines.com](mailto:janele@sandypines.com)

**Communications** ..... 616.896.8315

Ian Mitchell .....Ext. 107  
[ian@sandypines.com](mailto:ian@sandypines.com)

**Maintenance** ..... 616.896.8317

Ben Fifelski, Supervisor  
[maintenance@sandypines.com](mailto:maintenance@sandypines.com)

### Emergency/

**Public Safety**..... 616.896.9006  
 Steve Deyarmond, Emergency  
 Services Director  
 Paul Schaaf, Security Services Manager

Fax Number..... 616.896.9182  
[security@sandypines.com](mailto:security@sandypines.com)

### Park & Garden

Dale Yoder.....616.896.9334  
[parkgarden@sandypines.com](mailto:parkgarden@sandypines.com)

### Recreation

**Department**..... 616.896.8315  
 Abby Greenfield.....Ext. 800  
[Recreation@SandyPines.com](mailto:Recreation@SandyPines.com)

**Lake Monterey Golf** ..... 616.896.8118

Dave Ingles, Manager  
[www.lakemontereygolf.com](http://www.lakemontereygolf.com)  
[Golf@golflmgc.com](mailto:Golf@golflmgc.com)

**Laundromat Hours** – Open 24 Hours

## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff Sweitzer ..... Park President  
 Kimberly Williams ..... Finance & Accounting  
 Steve Deyarmond ..... Emergency Services  
 Ben Fifelski ..... Maintenance  
 Dave Ingles ..... Lake Monterey  
 Golf Course

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

Janele Tomes ..... Camping  
 Ian Mitchell ..... Communications  
 Dale Yoder ..... Park & Garden  
 Jeff Hopkins ..... Park Inspector  
 Paul Schaaf ..... Security Services  
 Abby Greenfield ..... Recreation

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance..... Ginny Hager  
 Golf Course ..... Joe Zomerlei  
 Long Range Planning..... Kevin Hager  
 Rules ..... Drew Torres  
 Safety & Security ..... Dennis King  
 Technology ..... Bob Powers  
 Lake Study..... Jim Buchanan  
 Library..... Valerie Troschinetz

## OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to providing  
 a fun and safe environment  
 where families and friends  
 create a lifetime of memories.



## RETAIL SERVICES

Dairy Dip ..... 616.405.5643  
 Just Your Style ..... 616.669.6788  
 Park & Garden Store ..... 616.896.9334  
 Park & Garden  
 Rental Office ..... 616.896.9888

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellen Carpenter, Chairperson .....(2025)  
 Rick Day, Treasurer .....(2026)  
 Bob Deckinga .....(2025)  
 Pat Doezeema.....(2026)  
 Kelly Johnson, Vice Chairperson.....(2024)  
 Paul Peppel, Secretary.....(2025)  
 Stephanie Saypanha .....(2024)  
 Craig Van Beek.....(2026)  
 Scot Wyman .....(2024)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

The Sandy Pines Board of Directors  
 will provide positive leadership and  
 management direction so as to ensure  
 the long term viability and success of  
 Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc.



# PARK PRESIDENT NEWS

BY JEFF SWEITZER

[Jeff@SandyPines.com](mailto:Jeff@SandyPines.com)

Love is in the air! Yes, it sure is! Love for our Happy Place is happening now through our 2024 Renewal process. It is going extremely well. System updates have made the process more efficient for our staff and members. We have included the ability for members to add items during your 2024 Renewals. You may now add items like a pump out (if you do not currently have a pump out) or a water softener. Water softeners are now part of the renewal process in 2024. The old way of calling to get "added to a list" no longer exists. If members wish to have a water softener in 2024, they must add it through the renewal process. This change is taking place to allow Sandy Pines to pre-order water softeners to secure all our needs. Making additions or changes to pump outs was a huge bottleneck for staff and members last year. Staff had to manually make pump out changes for members. The system has been updated to complete these changes automatically as well as build your entire 2024 pump-out schedule. With the updates to the system, these changes are no longer an issue.

Members have become well-versed in navigating the system while managing their information on their portals. Thank you to all who have taken the time to log in, update your information, and process your 2024 Renewals. After our first two weeks of renewals, over 25% of the membership renewals are complete. This is ahead of the 2023 Renewal results. As a reminder, 2024 Renewals will remain open until the end of this month, February 29th. If members do not process your 2024 renewals, items from your 2023 renewals will be carried over to 2024. Your account will be charged accordingly. The gates open in less than 75 days! Get ready! Here is what else is happening this month.

## WASH Laundry

Wash Laundry is installing new washers and dryers in our Sandy Pines laundromats. Wash is going coinless to use their equipment. Laundry cards can be purchased at Member Service or at the Wash kiosk located in the main laundromat located in the Retail Center. They will be available for purchase in April. Members will be able to use the Wash-Connect app to schedule machine(s), pay for machine(s) usage, and provide service requests directly to Wash if a machine is not working.

Visit our Sandy Pines website (<https://sandypines.com/laundry-information/>) for more information. You can also visit the YouTube Wash Laundry tutorial by clicking on the link ([https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLd0QA7IS3AJVqlrfXgq\\_tkGI2O2q4GTI7](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLd0QA7IS3AJVqlrfXgq_tkGI2O2q4GTI7)). Wash will be holding open houses for members in May and June to show members how to use the apps and equipment. Stay tuned for those dates in upcoming Footprints.

## Dairy Dip & Country Café

The transition from Dairy Dip ownership to Sandy Pines is on track and going smoothly. We continue to meet regularly to

ensure a seamless transition for both the staff and members. We are planning on focusing on ice cream at the Dairy Dip while moving the food items to the Country Café. Our plan is to have a breakfast and lunch menu at the Country Café. The team continues to work on the Country Café menu and hours of operation. Equipment is ordered with installation timing later this month carrying over into early March 2024. More to come in the next couple of months. We are excited about the upcoming 2024 season. We hope you are too!

## Personnel Updates

You will see some familiar faces in new places this season. With the transition of the Dairy Dip into our Sandy Pines operations, Dale Yoder will be moving from our Park and Garden and Golf Cart Rental manager position to overseeing our food operations. Dale will be supporting the launch of the Country Café restaurant, Dairy Dip transition, and maintaining the Country Store. Dawn Doxey who has managed the Dairy Dip for many years will be staying on to continue to lead the Dairy Dip. With the above changes, we will be looking for a new Park and Garden and Golf Cart Rental manager. This position will be posted this month internally and externally as a seasonal position. If you are interested, we encourage you to reach out to Amanda Griffin in our HR Department at [amanda@sandypines.com](mailto:amanda@sandypines.com).

We are placing a significant focus on adding more staff to the Park Inspector's Office. The plan is to have two park inspectors and one administrative support person to respond to calls, and emails and set appointments. Hiring will take place this month or next month in prep for the season-opening in April. If you are interested, please reach out to Amanda Griffin in our HR Department.

Lastly, we will be meeting with Committee Chairpersons this month to finalize committee meeting dates and what to focus on in 2024. If you are interested in serving on any of our committees, please reach out to Janele Tomes in our administrative office. Her email address is [Janele@SandyPines.com](mailto:Janele@SandyPines.com). She can provide a committee application and answer any questions you may have.

We are excited for the upcoming season! We hope you are as well. Our team's hard work in preparing for your arrival is paying off. We continue to be blessed with an amazing staff, board, and members in our Sandy Pines community. We are all part of this awesome place blessed to us! We are looking forward to welcoming you to another positive season at Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course.

Thessalonians 5:11

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

God Bless!

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# MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY NICOLE KLINGE & NICHOLE MILBOCKER

[MemberService@SandyPines.com](mailto:MemberService@SandyPines.com)

## Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

## Contact Information

Phone: 616-896-8315 x 0

Fax: 616-896-7409

Email: [MemberService@SandyPines.com](mailto:MemberService@SandyPines.com)

## Important Dates

2/10 Winterfest

2/25 Member Account Balances Due

2/29 Member Renewal Account Changes Due

Believe it or not the season is almost here. Over the winter months, we have been gearing up for the 2024 season. We can't wait for all of our members to return to their happy place. We have a few reminders:

## Winterfest

Winterfest is February 10th from 11 am – 3 pm at the North Shore Center. Be sure to come out and take the POLAR PLUNGE! The polar plunge will take place at 1 pm! You can sign up for the polar plunge on the Sandy Pines website. Sandy Pines will provide you with a free "polar plunge"



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towel if you participate! After you take the plunge, you can warm up by a bonfire, enjoy the hot cocoa bar, have lunch, and participate in some activities for all age groups. We will have Winterfest T-shirts (\$15) and customizable mugs (\$10) for sale the day of the event. There will be two dog sled demonstrations at the chapel parking lot from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm depending on the weather. Bundle up as many of the events will be held outside that day! All outdoor events are weather permitting. We hope to see you there!

## Boats

Just a friendly reminder if you have made any changes to your boats, please make sure we have your updated registration no later than June 1, 2024, to avoid any fines. You can contact us at Member Service, and we will be glad to help you out.

All boats must be registered in the members' name and registered with the state. Remember non-motorized boats no longer need to be registered with the State of Michigan, but you must have the correct sticker on them. Be sure to get them renewed before sticker pick-up begins.

## Dues

If you have been following our six-month payment plan your balance should be at \$420.24 for the month of February. Remember there is a 1.5% interest on the unpaid balance. Payments made over the phone or via the portal receive a 3% surcharge. To avoid a fee please either mail us a check or come into the Member Service office or Main Gate/Public Safety to avoid any additional fees.

## Flea Markets

Please don't forget to sign up for flea market spaces on the Sandy Pines website. You can do this by logging into your portal and clicking the links tab. Which will prompt you to make a reservation. You may also call Member Service, and we will be happy to help you. All reservations must be paid via credit card at the time the reservation is made.

## Renewals

Renewals, Renewals, and Renewals! Please remember to go into your portal and make all the necessary changes to your renewals. For example: change pump-out plans, adding or removing boats, mopeds, or golf carts. We encourage all members to refer to the FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions) section on our Sandy Pines website <https://sandypines.com/annual-renewals/>. You have until February 29th to complete your renewals. Please review your changes and make sure they are correct before you hit the submit button. We are in the office all year round if you need anything. Please don't hesitate to contact us. We always enjoy hearing from our members. Bring on 2024 we are ready for you! We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

BY PAUL PEPPEL     [BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com](mailto:BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com)

Since it's the middle of winter, this seems like the perfect time to talk about boat stakes. The assignment and monitoring of boat stake use is one of the more time-consuming tasks for many park personnel. From Member Service to the Inspector, to our Marine Officer, even all the way to the President, it's a tireless chore that sometimes seems never-ending. As an aside, the term boat stake is confusing to members as it can mean several things. Hopefully, between quite a bit of off-season work and the reading of this article, you'll have a better understanding of the challenges. And the steps being taken to help alleviate the burden.

One of the ongoing thorns with boat stake placement is, mysteriously, they seem to move. That is to say, with nothing physical to accurately mark stake locations, some members choose to inch them one way or the other to better suit their personal needs. Pretty soon, those inches turn into feet, causing quite the disruption. This can occur especially if there are unoccupied stakes around the lake. Hey, there's nobody there, might as well move my boat closer to my trailer, right? Trust me, just because they're unoccupied doesn't mean they're not in someone's control. Imagine a new member buying their new trailer with a boat stake, having the inspector mark the spot, only to find another boat already there because it moved from its correct location. Not a good first impression.

To combat this issue, during the off-season, the park has been marking boat stake locations permanently with galvanized pipes. This will remove any doubt as to whose boat belongs where. Therefore, in the spring, you may have to move from where you were to where you should be. The stake markers will have identifiers with stake numbers attached. Your stake number can be found on your renewal notice which will be mailed out later this month. It will not correlate with your site number so it's important that you verify.

So, the term boat stake, just what does that mean? For one, it's the physical stake that some use to hold their watercraft in lieu of a dock. Because of a recent rule change, the physical stake may now be 18"-24" showing above the ground. What hasn't changed is the stake material and size, must be wood and have either 4"x4" or 3"x5" dimensions. Also unchanged is the physical stake location, which may not be farther inland than the high-water mark. For your convenience, the new galvanized poles are placed at this limit. Please install your physical stake in line with the pole to remain compliant.

The other common definition for boat stake is the term many of us use to mark our position for parking watercraft. However, there is a caveat to that term usage as well. Boat stakes in front of waterfront units are 40' wide. They are then subdivided into a left and a right position (each 20' wide). Those are called boat stakes as well. These are identified by 4-digit numbers followed by an L or R. Thus, your boat stake is the physical position to park your watercraft. But it is actually a by-product of the true boat stake itself. Whereas stakes elsewhere are 10' feet wide. They're simply called boat stakes because they serve both purposes. Simple, right?

Streamlining the boat stake process is paramount to better Park efficiency. It benefits not only park personnel but members as well. A better understanding of the nuances of the stakes themselves will hopefully help you better navigate the change that you may encounter this spring. Please be patient and recognize the need to be flexible as things may be different. And realize it's for everyone's benefit. Including yours. As always, reach out to us for any reason at [BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com](mailto:BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com). Thanks for reading!

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## INSPECTOR NEWS

BY JEFF HOPKINS     [Inspector@SandyPines.com](mailto:Inspector@SandyPines.com)

We've bid farewell to the first month of the new year, and there are just three more months until the park opens for another exciting season. I trust everyone navigated through the snowfall in January. If you haven't had a chance to inspect or clear your roof, it's advisable to do so, considering the significant snow accumulation. We have a list of contractors available for roof shoveling services in case you are unable to manage it yourself, but I strongly recommend having it examined at least. Each year, some members experience damage to their porch and trailer roofs due to heavy snow.

Unfortunately, the snow has hindered our progress in installing pipes for the boat stakes. However, as weather conditions permit, Patti and I will resume the work. The new reflective decals have arrived, and we'll affix them when weather conditions allow. We aim to complete all preparations by opening day. I've noticed a concern regarding members

without boat stakes parking at friends' stakes or occupying both sides of a dock that isn't in use. This goes against Sandy Pines rules and will not be tolerated moving forward. Public Safety will patrol the lake, imposing fines and points on violators. The process to obtain a boat stake is clearly outlined in our member handbook.

Anticipate an excellent 2024 season with exciting additions. We'll introduce several new contractors, and the updated contractor list will be published in the last week of March. The permit application has also been revamped for ease and better information processing in our office. You can find it online at [sandypines.com/permits-applications/](https://sandypines.com/permits-applications/). Wishing you all a safe remainder of winter, and I eagerly look forward to seeing your smiling faces soon!

God Bless.

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# FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS

[Kim@SandyPines.com](mailto:Kim@SandyPines.com)

## 2024 Seasonal Renewal Portal

As of Monday, January 15, 2024, all members should have received a notification that your Member Renewal is available for your review and approval on the Member Portal. Renewal approvals are due by February 29, 2024. All renewal billings will be March 2024 billings and show up on your April 2024 statements. Renewal stickers will be available in the Administration office after April 8th, 2024.

## Annual Dues Payment Schedule

For your reference and information, below is the payment plan schedule if you have elected to make monthly installments to pay for your Annual Dues and Assessments. Your monthly payment this year is \$420.22, and is payable on the 25th of each month, from Oct 2023 thru March 2024. This payment plan is allowed for dues and assessments only. To stay current within the payment plan, your balance owed at the end of each month for 2023-2024 must equal the following on each date listed below:

▪ October 25	\$2,039.93
▪ November 25	\$1,644.00
▪ December 25	\$1,242.14
▪ January 25	\$ 834.25
▪ <b>February 25</b>	<b>\$420.24</b>
▪ March 25	\$0.00— All dues and assessments paid.

As a reminder: All other member fees and charges billed to your account (outside of the annual dues and assessments) are due by the 25th of the subsequent month after being billed. You must add all other charges for services, electric, state unit tax, etc. to the monthly installment amount to stay within the balance plan displayed above.

Payments can be made the following ways:

- Directly with your bank through online bill pay (your 4-digit site number and last name are your account number; Sandy Pines is the vendor, mailing address is the address on your statement) – (no additional fee)

- Through USPS mail by mailing a check (no additional fee)
- Directly at the Administration office through the exterior drop box; located in the back of the building. (no additional fee)
- Online through our website (includes 3% fee)
- Over the phone with Member Service or Public Safety (includes 3% fee)

Please note a 3% convenience fee is charged for credit card payments made online or over the phone.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time regarding your member statement, we are happy to assist and may be reached at 896-8315.

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## VACATIONLAND SALES

616-896-8371 | [Sales@VacationlandSales.com](mailto:Sales@VacationlandSales.com)

**OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER – FEBRUARY  
AND WILL REOPEN ON MARCH 1ST!**

**ALL QUESTIONS & CONCERNS WILL BE ANSWERED VIA OUR E-MAIL WHILE AWAY!**



# RECREATION NEWS

BY ABBY GREENFIELD [Abby@SandyPines.com](mailto:Abby@SandyPines.com)

## Winterfest

It's the final countdown to Winterfest on the 10th. There will be lots to do— polar plunge, dog sled demonstrations, hot chocolate bar, crafts, and games. Depending on the weather, there will be sledding and snowman building, so be sure to dress accordingly. Additionally, we will need volunteers for this event. If you are interested, please visit the Winterfest Event page on the website to sign up.

## Summer Employment

New year, new pool, new staff. Applications will be available in April. If you know of anyone looking for summer employment, keep us in mind.

With the new pool, we will need more staff that is lifeguard certified. Anyone 16 or older is welcome to apply. We require a valid lifeguard certification. Sandy Pines covers the cost of the certification after the employee completes a full season with us, since they are valid for two years. At the beginning of the season, we require an additional in water certification that is performed on site. If you have any questions about certification needs, please reach out.

We also will have a limited number of spots for General Recreation Staff. This application is open to anyone 15 or older. General Recreation Staff often work in the food portion and the weekly activities

Lastly, we need Ropes Course Operators. Operators must be 17 or older. Training is done on site.

## Weight Room

Just a reminder that mini golf and the weight room are open year-round. To access the building, you will need your member card. We ask that you clean up after yourself, for there will not be always someone there to clean.

## Game Room

A scan card entrance has been added to the game room located at the waterpark. It will still be a place for all ages but will require adult supervision. No one under the age of 18 is permitted unless they are accompanied by an adult. By scanning into the room, there will be a record of the groups entering, in case damages are done. Equipment, such as ping pong balls, air hockey pucks, etc. will be available to rent in the Rec Office. Like other rentals from the Rec Office, you will need your member card and a \$1 per sport.

## Activities for Next Summer

There is a lot planned for the upcoming summer. We added a lot to the schedule, so be sure to check it out. A few highlights, there are activities every evening during the week for all ages to join. This will give the kids something to do while fostering new friendships. Mondays will be gaga ball at the Rec pit. Tuesdays and Wednesdays will vary, so be sure to check out the calendar and the weekend flyer during

season. Thursdays will be 9-square at the Rec Center, near the basketball courts.

As always, there will be swim lessons, tennis lessons, golf lessons, kids club and pre-teen club. For lessons, children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. This is for the duration of the lessons. For swim lessons, one adult must be within the fenced area.

## Adult Activities

There are a ton of card games, board games, and lessons already organized for adults only. While we are also creating some events for adults, we are always looking for ideas. We need volunteers to lead or help with adult events, since our staff is already stretched thin with everything else planned. If you are interested in helping or have ideas of events, please reach out.

There will still be lessons and organized classes for line dancing, Zumba, cardio drumming, splash drumming, tennis, and aquacise. Additionally, there will be fused glass classes (open to teens as well), euchre, poker, cribbage, hand and foot, knitting group, and more. Make sure to check the online calendar and weekend flyers for all the information.

We are also in need of volunteers to help with getting water to the summer series bands. This will consist of picking up a cooler of water from the Rec Office at 6pm on the Saturdays of the concert. Additionally, bringing the cooler back to the Rec Office after the concert. If you are interested in helping for one or all concerts, please reach out.

Additionally, there will be adult cornhole every Sunday from 1-3pm. If anyone is interested in helping set up and run the tournaments, please reach out. Rec Employees will be responsible for set up and clean up.

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## SALES NEWS

BY KENT LIVINGSTON

[Kent@SandyPines.com](mailto:Kent@SandyPines.com)

### Sandy Pines Listing Lookout

Our sales team has partnered with our communication and marketing team to kick off a new feature on our website under the Sales tab and excited about the new launch. Discover the latest opportunities at Sandy Pines by signing up for our exclusive "Sandy Pines Listing Lookout" email. Be the first to explore new listings in our vibrant community. Our email blasts will deliver a curated selection of fresh listings right to your inbox, ensuring you stay in the loop about the best opportunities for your dream retreat. Don't miss out on this insider's advantage – sign up now and embark on the journey to finding your perfect spot at Sandy Pines!

### Testimonial

As always, we are here throughout the whole year to take care of your sales needs whether you are on the buying side or selling. Please see another testimonial from an excited new member that joined our community and found their Happy Place. "My family and I just purchased a place at Sandy Pines this January, and we could not be happier. We have visited Sandy Pines on several occasions over the years and have always wondered if this would be a good fit for our family. We have been seasonal campers at another park for over 11 years and loved every minute of it. Still each and every time we visited Sandy Pines we felt pulled to someday move to this park. As our family has grown up and circumstances have changed, we felt that now would be the right time to look at a membership more seriously. We browsed Facebook and searched the listing section of the Sandy Pines website, then we reached out to Kent. Kent was able to help us find and purchase a great place that we feel will fit perfectly for our family. From start to finish everything went smoothly, we are excited and confident with our decision and can't wait to enjoy our first season in the park. Memories will be made for hopefully many years to come. Thanks again to Kent and his team for helping us through this process."

- Chad VS

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## Sincere Sympathy

*Sympathy is extended to:*

**Christine Casemier** on the passing of her father Carl De Jong, site **K234**.



SANDYPINES  
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY

# LISTING LOOKOUT

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# SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF [Paul@SandyPines.com](mailto:Paul@SandyPines.com)

## Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

## Call Stats for December 2023

Public Safety staff responded to 45 calls for service in December. The types of calls and numbers are:

Alarm .....	1
Assist .....	3
Illegal Dumping .....	2
Illegal Entry .....	1
Lost Property .....	1
Medical .....	1
Open door .....	23
Property Damage .....	5
Site Checks .....	2
Suspicious Situation .....	5
Tree Down .....	1

## SNOW

The snow has finally arrived. If you plan on operating a snowmobile in the park, please remember the park rules.

1. Must be operated on Park roads, designated snowmobile trails and Park designated areas.
2. Must be driven in a safe manner and comply with Park speed of 10 mph.
3. May not emit excessive sound or create a nuisance.
4. May not be driven across sites, on recreational facilities or in green areas.
5. Operators must have a State operator's license or State issued snowmobile safety certificate.
6. Snowmobiles may be confiscated for violations of Park rules. Snowmobile will be released to the member after a meeting with the Park President.

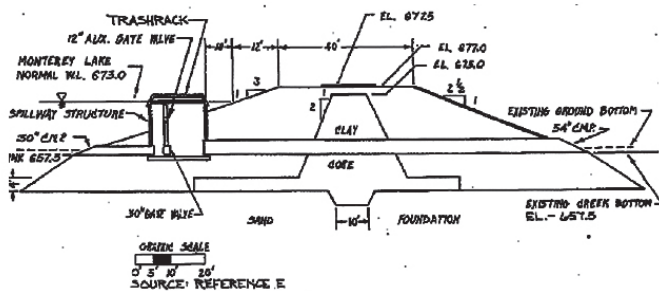
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# SAFETY NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND [Steve@SandyPines.com](mailto:Steve@SandyPines.com)

## Lake Monterey Dam

Last month I wrote about the dam and what appears to be piping occurring along the corrugated pipe. Water flow/piping is still occurring. The engineers are still working on the drawings and a geotechnical survey will occur to provide more information as to where the water is coming from. It is thought to be following the 50 year plus corrugated pipe. Lake Monterey Dam has a clay core. The engineer's thought is that the clay has shrunk along the corrugated pipe over the years and this is where the water flow is from. Water can also flow under the foundation of the Dam although this is rarer. The work that must happen on the Dam has to be the correct method so we are not throwing money toward a fix that will not correct the problem. Dams and dam repairs are costly.



Prior to the piping issue the Park and Lake Committee has been working with the State of Michigan to make repairs to the Dam. The following are the recommendations from the Engineer hired by Allegan County:

Fully remove each concrete slab using an excavator. Set aside. Visually identify sloughing, erosion, settling, animal burrows, or other types of defects.

Address each defect with placement of additional fill, regarding, filling with grout or gravel. Reshape the front face of the earthen embankment to a uniform profile using an excavator, bulldozer, or skid steer. The purpose of this step is not to grossly change the shape of the dam or to cut or fill but rather to provide a consistent surface for placement of riprap.

Place heavy duty, non-woven geotextile fabric along the length and depth as shown on the Permit Applicant's proposal. Fabric shall be a minimum 7 oz weight (e.g. Hanes Geo Terra Tex N07). Toe in each side a minimum of 12 inches.

Place heavy (16-24") angular riprap over geotextile fabric at the toe of the slope and below the normal water level as shown on the Permit Applicant's proposal. An excavator can be used to place the rock in conjunction with hand placement to ensure uniform alignment. The heavy riprap should be placed in two layers to prevent rolling or movement. Infill with small diameter angular rock.

Place 8"-12" riprap, 18-24 inches deep. Infill with small diameter angular rock. The plain riprap should extend at a minimum to the current outer limit of the concrete slabs. An excavator can be used to place the rock in conjunction with hand placement to ensure uniform alignment. Alternatively, crush the concrete slabs and mix/infill with riprap. Only to be done if there is no rebar present in concrete.

Place topsoil, seed, and mulch blanket on all disturbed surfaces.

Eventually the engineered drawings will be finalized, and construction contractors will bid on the project. With piping

*Continued on Page 10*

occurring along the corrugated pipe the project has increased in size and most likely cost. Prior thoughts were to line the corrugated pipe. Lining the inside of the pipe will not stop piping outside the pipe. As a result, the old, corrugated pipe that had a life expectancy of 25 -50 years will have to be removed. It should not be a surprise to us knowing the pipes longevity and predictions.

Hopefully, the repairs can be completed prior to the next season. Closing the road on top of the Dam will be a necessity during repairs/construction. If you live in phases 4, 5 or 6 please ensure that you and your associates/grandchild cards are active so they may enter the park using a remote gate during construction .

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## CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES

[Janele@SandyPines.com](mailto:Janele@SandyPines.com)

### Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 103

Email: [Janele@SandyPines.com](mailto:Janele@SandyPines.com)

Winter definitely came in strong last month and so did camping reservations! Camping season is just a couple of months away and we have many dates filling in. If your family and friends are looking for specific dates to camp please do not have them wait. We offer campsites, rustic cabins, and rental trailers, and campers can camp for up to two weeks at a time with a week off in between. Campers can access all of our wonderful amenities, receive a discount on golfing

and apparel, fish in our beautiful lake, and enjoy our many activities. We do offer a 10% discount for our associate members, and we also offer a 10% military discount for anyone who has served or is serving in the military. Thank you for your service! You will need to contact the camping department to have the discount applied. Reservations can be made directly from our website at [www.SandyPines.com](http://www.SandyPines.com), or please give me a call at 616- 896-8315 ext. 103. I would love to help and answer any questions you may have!

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# 2024

## CAMPING RESERVATIONS



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# COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

BY IAN MITCHELL    [Ian@SandyPines.com](mailto:Ian@SandyPines.com)

## Advertising

If you own a business and are looking for a prime opportunity to showcase your products or services to the community of Sandy Pines Members during the 2024 season, we invite you to get in touch with us. At Sandy Pines, we value and support local businesses, and we offer advertising opportunities that can help you reach our engaged and active membership base. To discuss how you can promote your business within our community, please reach out to us at [Communications@SandyPines.com](mailto:Communications@SandyPines.com). We look forward to exploring how we can collaborate and make the upcoming season a memorable one for our members and your business alike. You can find our 2024 advertising packet here: <https://sandypines.com/wp-content/uploads/media-kit-partnerships.pdf>

## Wall Calendars

2024 wall calendars are now available for purchase at Member Service and Public Safety! Wall calendars are \$12 when picked up in person, or \$15 for delivery (charged to your account). We have heard your feedback about previous wall calendars and made the background on the dates white! This improvement makes it even easier for you to write down and manage your events and deadlines. Don't miss out – grab your calendar today and make 2024 your most organized year yet!

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# FEBRUARY STORE



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