



LES Meeting August 8

Due to recent flooding events at Lake Erie Shores, the Board of Trustees has scheduled an informative meeting on August 8, 2013 at 6 p.m. at the Beach Pavilion to discuss storm water and sanitary sewer issues with the Board, Bill Vondra, the Association's Engineer with Land Design, Inc., and a representative from the Lake County Department of Utilities.

4th of July Bike Parade Thank You – by Jim Sorenson

Thanks to everyone involved in organizing and implementing the bike parade for the kids on the 4th of July weekend.

Flooding – by Jim Sorenson

Well, it happened for the second time. Our neighborhood flooded last month – almost 7 years after the 2006 event.

As with the 2006 event, we just had too much rain in too short of a time span. The bad news is that our neighborhood had flooding. The good news is that it was not localized to only our neighborhood – there was wide spread flooding in the region. Based on the wide spread flooding, and the fact that you cannot control Mother Nature, I would not look at placing blame on anyone. Not everyone had a flooded basement, but unfortunately some of us did.

I live away from the neighborhood basins and I do not think that they played a role in the flooding near me. However, I saw a “river” flowing between two homes near me just due to the amount of rain fall.

Hopefully everyone who flooded in either event, or who has not flooded, is taking steps to try and help prevent their homes from flooding if it happens again. *Try and help* is the key phrase because no matter how much planning and money we spend, Mother Nature is

more powerful and we cannot completely prevent flooding.

Please speak to your insurance agent to make sure that you have the appropriate coverage. Each insurance company will be a little different and you should ask specific questions about flood insurance vs. sump pump backup insurance, etc.

I would bet a large sum of money that the last thing you want to hear after the event is “you are not covered”.

Water Pumps– by Jim Sorenson

Unfortunately we had more heavy rain this past month and some residents had water in their basements. Home owners can add resiliency to their home's infrastructure to reduce the risk of basement flooding, but it comes at an increased cost. Also, there is no way to completely protect your home against all that Mother Nature can throw at it. Here are a couple of possible infrastructure improvements:



1. Buy a gas powered water pump
2. Add a second electric sump pump
3. Add a battery powered sump pump
4. Add a water powered sump pump
5. Do any combination of the above, or even add multiple units, like installing 4 electric powered sump pumps.

A typical 110V electric powered sump pump is 1/3 or ½ HP and pumps 30 – 35 gal/min at a 10 ft pump head. Common pumps such as this typically cost less than \$300 and these pumps are not designed for floods. REPEAT: they are not designed to keep your basement dry when flooding occurs.

A typical basement footprint in our neighborhood is 40' x 30', and that translates into 747 gallons for every 1-inch of water in that basement. If the sample basement gets 6 inches of water, that corresponds to

4,482 gallons. If the sample basement gets 1 ft of water, that corresponds to 8,964 gallons.

As a quick example, if the sample 40' x 30' basement has 12 inches of water – and assume that no more water is entering the sump basin [not a good assumption] – it would take 5 hours for a typical 30 gal/min sump pump to drain the basement! Water would still be entering the sump basin, so the actual time to pump all of that water out would be even longer.

If only 5 gal/min were entering the sump basin – that leaves 25 gal/min of the 30 gal/min capacity to pump out the flood water. It would take a total of 6 hours to pump out the 12-inches, or 8,964 gallons of water.

If 10 gal/min were entering the sump basin, it would take 7.5 hours to pump out the 8,964 gallons.

If 15 gal/min were entering the sump basin, it would take 10 hours to pump out the 8,964 gallons.

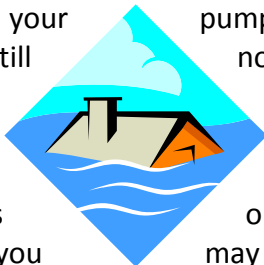
If 20 gal/min were entering the sump basin, it would take 15 hours to pump out the 8,964 gallons.

The bottom line is that typical electrical sump pumps are not meant for flooding – they do not have enough pumping capacity.

A gas powered water pump with a 205 gal/min capacity could drain 8,964 gallons in 44 minutes. If this pump was running during the rain storm, the water in the basement could have probably been avoided all together.

Each of the possible infrastructure improvements previously listed has its own associated costs, benefits and drawbacks. Each homeowner has to weigh all of those factors and decide for themselves what they want to do. However, based on the events in 2006 and 2013, doing nothing is just asking for trouble.

Adding a second electric powered sump could double your pumping capacity but that would still not have been enough for some folks. And having only electric powered pumps does not help if the electricity goes out. If you choose this route, you may want to add a gas powered generator to your infrastructure.

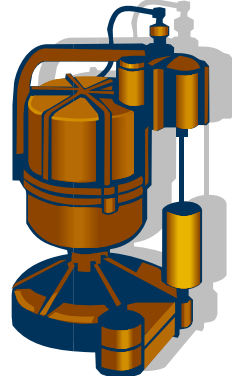


A Zoeller M98 ½ HP submersible sump pump should run about \$215 and is rated at 61 gal/min @ 10'. Adding this to a 30 gal/min pump would triple the existing capacity - going from 30 to 91 gal/min – but this still would not have been enough for everyone.

A Zoeller 510 Sentry II battery powered sump pump provides 22 gal/min of capacity @ 10', corresponding to a total pumping capacity of 52 gal/min when added to a 30 gal/min primary pump. The pump & controller run about \$620 and a 3.5 hour runtime battery is \$300. If you wanted 7 hours of runtime, that is about \$1,200 just in pump hardware.

There are folks in our neighborhood that installed a battery backup pump after the 2006 event, but the pumps did not work this time. I can only imagine their frustration. However, even if the battery pumps did work, 52 gal/min would not have been enough capacity for everyone to prevent basement flooding.

A water powered pump provides even less pumping capacity than a battery powered pump - about 16 gal/min. That is with a water supply of 60 psi and our water pressure is most likely less. I have seen these advertised for \$1,000 installed. Again, I know of folks that installed these after the 2006 event, and it was still not enough pumping capacity this time around and they flooded again.



You could install multiple electric, battery and water powered pumps for a very resilient system, but the cost goes up quickly. However, one advantage of these three types of systems, is that they are automatic (assuming that they are not broken). I know of multiple families that were on vacation during the rain storm and these types of systems should have worked without someone being home.

A gas powered pump requires you to be home and to have fuel to be effective, but they have a much greater pumping capacity than the other types. A major brand name multi-purpose centrifugal gas powered 2-inch pump can be acquired for \$570 that has a pumping capacity of 205 gal/min @ 10'. The matching hose kit runs \$150 and includes a 20 ft semi-rigid suction hose, a strainer, a 50 ft PVC discharge



hose and camlock fittings [for easy connection of the hoses]. This corresponds to a total of \$720, and if multiple people are interested in this solution, I am willing to pursue a group discount – perhaps 10% to get the cost down to \$650. If you

bolted 4 casters to the frame, it would be even more portable. In the event that the pump is needed, you could place the end of the suction hose with the strainer in the sump basin and then run the suction hose outside a basement window to the pump inlet.

An alternative would be to plumb 2 inch rigid PVC pipe from the sump basin to the outside of the house. The appropriate fittings and hose would be needed to be able to connect this to the water pump’s inlet. You would still need the 50 feet of PVC discharge hose and this runs about \$50. You may have to run the PVC pipe because a 20 ft suction hose may not be long enough to go from the basin to outside your house.

A gas powered pump that pumps 205 gal/min @ 10’ has 6.8x more water pumping capacity than a typical electric sump pump operating at 30 gal/min.

You would need fresh fuel for the pump, but there are several ways to keep enough fresh gas on site.



Two flooding events in our neighborhood in 7 years should be enough motivation for folks to spend some money to improve their contingency plan. Doing nothing is not a good plan. If you did something after 2006 to improve your infrastructure but flooded again, you need to re-evaluate what you did. No one can predict Mother Nature, but you can use the two flooding events as data points to improve your infrastructure accordingly.

Each option reviewed has its advantages/disadvantages and the more resiliency that is added, the price increases as well. I would encourage you to thoroughly understand the option(s) that you choose and to evaluate the pumping rates as well. If your basement has flooded and you have had more than 4 inches of water, adding a second electric

pump, battery powered pump or water powered pump is most likely not enough pumping capacity.

Note that none of the options presented account for sewer backup. That is a whole different problem.

If anyone would like to pursue the brand named gas powered pump option that was mentioned, before the end of August – and you are interested in trying to get a discount - please let me know via newsletter@lakeeriesthores.net. I would like to try and get a group discount of perhaps 10% to reduce the price to about \$650 for the pump and the hose kit.

| Pump Capacity Summary (gal/min) | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Electric | 30 - 60 |
| Battery | 22 |
| Water | 16 |
| Gas powered | 205 |

Committee and Event Volunteers Needed

Several volunteers are no longer with us on the various committees & events for our neighborhood and we need your help. You can help as much or as little as you would like with a committee or event such as: Covenants/Restrictions • Financial • Landscaping/Beautification • Recreational (including the subcommittees for events like the Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Parade, etc.) • Yard Sale Volunteers. The various committees may be reached via the web site:

<http://www.lakeeriesthores.com/contactUs.aspx>

Dates to Remember – copied from the Township newsletter

Township Yard-Waste Drop-Off

Every Saturday (10:00 am to 2:00 pm) and every Wednesday (7:30 am to 3:00 pm) thereafter (through December 3rd) at the Painesville Township Road Service Garage - 558 Fairport-Nursery Road. This service is for Painesville Township residents ONLY.

Contact Information



Lake Erie Shores Web Site
www.LakeErieShores.com

Home Owners Association Committees

Welcoming Committee (welcome@lakeeriesthores.net)
Covenants/Restrictions Committee Chair – Bruce Buffie
(buffie723@att.net)
Financial Committee Chair - Randy Van Buren
(rcvanburen@sbcglobal.net)
Landscaping & Beautification Committee - Dave Spall
(davidspall@sbcglobal.net)
Recreation Committee Co-Chairs - Jonathon Adkins
(jonsuzannaadkins@sbcglobal.net) and Cory Wertch
Volunteer Coordinator - Paula Haumesser
(paulahaumesser@sbcglobal.net)
Newsletter Committee Chair – Jim Sorenson
(newsletter@lakeeriesthores.net)

Board of Trustees

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