

Advanced

OFFICE SUPPLY & PRINTING

EZ Online Ordering!

www.aoskalkaska.com

231-258-2810

332 S Cedar • Kalkaska

Northwest Michigan

FREE!

Voice

Celebrating the good news below the bridge

VOICE

MOTOR SALES

www.voicemotors.com

Since 1921

Chevrolet

302 W Mile Rd, Kalkaska

231-258-9178

Since 2014

Halloween is right around the corner. You can tell because all the stores are decked out for Christmas. ~ Stephen Colbert

Vol2025:22 - October 31, 2025

Three Lakes Association Summer Interns 2025

Clam Lake Aquatic Plant Survey



TLA Summer Interns and Leader tackle the scientific survey of aquatic plants in Clam Lake.

Left to right: Isabelle Borden, past intern volunteer; Jeanie Williams, lead instructor; Courtney Borden, Kalkaska HS; Jaylea Erickson, Kalkaska HS; Carlina Luchenbill, Mancelona HS. Center: Aspen Evans, Central Lake HS.

This year the interns did an aquatic plant survey of Clam Lake. The survey used the latest survey methods and updated a survey completed by Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council in 2013. What an awesome project that will be able to be referenced in the future as needed by our organization and by other, outside organizations.

Courtney Borden, Jaylea Erickson, and Isabella Borden proudly display their certificates of completion, following their presentation to the Kalkaska School Board, October 20,2025.

The interns spend summer doing an environmental project, then prepare a presentation on their findings that they present to the TLA Board of Directors and then to their individual School District Board of Education. In addition to the certificate, each intern receives a modest stipend, a letter of recommendation from the Tla, and a half-credit-hour for environmental science study added to their High School transcript.



A display of the several species of aquatic plants from Clam Lake.

Clam Lake

- Part of Elk River Chain of Lakes
- 27 feet at its deepest
- 437 acres total
- Between Torch and Bellaire lakes

- For those wondering, yes it's good for fishing

Conclusion

- 27 different species of plants were found
 - Clam Lake is extremely diverse in plant life
 - South end has the most plant density and the most plant diversity
 - More diverse because less used by people, shallower
- 65% of the lake is vegetated
- Max depth of plant growth was 18 feet
- No invasive species were found on Clam Lake in 2025
 - Great progress on getting rid of Eurasian Water Milfoil
 - The diversity and density of plants may help prevent establishment of invasive species
- Estimated 26 hours on the water and 26 more working on everything else
 - A lot of time went into this project and into protecting our lake

Courtney Borden, Jaylea Erickson, and Isabella Borden proudly display their certificates of completion, following their presentation to the Kalkaska School Board, October 20,2025.

The interns spend summer doing an environmental project, then prepare a presentation on their findings that they present to the TLA Board of Directors and then to their individual School District Board of Education. In addition to the certificate, each intern receives a modest stipend, a letter of recommendation from the Tla, and a half-credit-hour for environmental science study added to their High School transcript.

Making their presentation to the TLA Board of Directors.

A couple of informative slides from the Clam Lake Aquatic {lant Survey presentation.

COMMUNITY

Native Plant Garden

Staff from the Au Sable Institute and the Kalkaska Conservation District teamed up this week to prepare a native plant garden at the new North Country Trail trailhead off U.S. 131 in Kalkaska. Fifth-grade students from Birch Street Elementary will complete the planting and design this spring.

This is one of 13 similar projects taking root in local communities through Au Sable’s REYS (Restoration Ecology for Young Students) program, which engages schools in hands-on habitat restoration. This garden in Kalkaska will cover more than 1,600 square feet, will reduce mowing and maintenance needs at the trailhead, all while creating valuable pollinator habitat and flowers for all to enjoy.



In the pictures: Staff from Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies and Kalkaska Conservation District during and after phase 1 of site solarization.



Sales:
Monday 8 am - 8 pm
Tues-Fri 8 am - 6 pm
Sat 9 am - 3 pm
Sun CLOSED

Service & Parts:
Mon - Fri 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat & Sun CLOSED

Since 1921
Chevrolet

