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*Working towards the preservation of an ecologically sound Lake Maxinkuckee and its surrounding watershed*



## A SAD FAREWELL .....

**Allen Chesser  
1954 - 2022**

Allen has been a vital part of our organization since 1999.

He was always enthusiastic about helping in any way he could. Whether it was serving on the Board, strapping on a backback sprayer to combat invasives,



or collecting water samples, we could always count on him.

You could say Allen was the voice of LMEF. He narrated both our videos, talking about Lake Maxinkuckee.

[Lake Maxinkuckee Tributaries](#)  
[Kline Levee Reconstruction Project](#)

[Read Obituary](#)

Thank you, Allen, for always being there with a kind word for everyone and a smile on your face.

You are missed.



Earlier this year, the Indiana State Legislature passed Senate Bill 85, which created the Drainage Task Force.

Many environmental organizations are watching the progress of this Task Force because the decisions may eventually impact the quality of Indiana's waterways and riparian zones.

[Read Full Article](#)



A few people have commented to me recently that the lake is "really down!" That prompted me to look into some data to see if I could corroborate their observation.

[Read Full Article](#)

## WATERS of the US (WOTUS)

*the saga continues*

## EPA and Army Finalize Rule Establishing Definition of WOTUS and Restoring Fundamental Water Protections

*"The definition and subsequent regulation of water in the US has been in constant upheaval for over a decade."*

On December 30, 2022, the agencies announced the final "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States'" rule which will be effective 60 days after it is published in the Federal Register.

The agencies developed this rule with consideration of the relevant provisions of the Clean Water Act and the statute as a whole, relevant Supreme Court case law, and the agencies' technical expertise after more than 45 years of implementing the longstanding pre-2015 "waters of the United States" framework.

This rule also considers the best available science and extensive public comment to establish a definition of "waters of the United States" that supports public health, environmental protection, agricultural activity, and economic growth. More information about the final rule is available [here](#).

## Izaak Walton League of America

### SALT WATCH

Road salt is everywhere during winter months. It keeps us safe on roads and sidewalks, but it can also pose a threat to fish and wildlife as well as human health.

Good News - This will be the third winter that LMEF has been monitoring and have found no cause for concern.



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