

# FAQs



**Jason Wiersma**  
Kalamazoo County  
Drain Commissioner

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS about the Crooked and Eagle Lakes Lake Level Hearing to Establish Lake Levels, Establish Special Assessment District, and Confirm Special Assessment District Boundary

### *Why am I receiving this notice?*

You are receiving this notice because you may own lands within the proposed Special Assessment District for Crooked and Eagle Lakes.

### *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 they receive from certain public projects, like lake levels.

In this case, the proposed Special Assessment District is made up of properties that have direct or indirect access to Crooked Lake or Eagle Lake.

### *What is a legally established lake level?*

Part 307 of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act allows circuit courts to establish lake levels for inland lakes to, among other things, benefit property owners and preserve Michigan's natural resources.

### *What are the proposed lake levels for Eagle Lake and Crooked Lake?*

895.12 feet NAVD88 for Crooked Lake and 899.26 feet NAVD88 for Eagle Lake. A lake level report is posted on the Drain Commissioner's website that explains how these proposed levels were selected. Among other considerations, the proposed levels were chosen based off of historical records. The Drain Commissioner's Office shared this lake level report with various stakeholders including the lake associations and Texas Charter Township to solicit input.

### *What is NAVD88?*

NAVD88 means North American Vertical Datum of 1988. It is a typical measurement datum for lake levels in Michigan.

### *Do I have to attend the Zoom Court Hearing?*

No; but, it is your right to do so. You may present testimony and evidence to the Kalamazoo County Circuit Court regarding the proposed lake levels and special assessment district. Please contact the Court at **269-383-8837** for the Hearing Zoom information (May 28 at 9:30AM).

### *When would I receive my lake level assessment?*

If established, lake level assessments may be included on your Summer or Winter Tax Bills, and are only levied when costs are incurred for the maintenance of the lake level. Assessment amounts may vary from year to year.

### *What would be my assessment amount?*

If a lake level is established, estimated assessment amounts would be available at a separate Public Hearing to Review the Special Assessment Roll. A separate mailing notice of this Public Hearing would be sent out to all property owners within the Special Assessment District at a later date to provide an opportunity to incorporate feedback on any assessments.

### *How can I get more information?*

Visit our website at <https://www.kalcounty.com/drain/> and click "Current Projects/Public Notices." You may also call our number dedicated to this project at **269-214-3113**. The Drain Office will return calls in the order that they are received.