



NEWSLETTER

Awosting Association Honors America's 250th Anniversary

Following the celebration of our own 100th Anniversary in 2025, Awosting proudly joins in recognizing the Nation's 250th Anniversary and this historic milestone in our shared heritage.

A Community Rooted in Tradition

In 2026, Awosting Association is home to 195 residences located along the eastern shore of scenic Greenwood Lake, within West Milford Township in northern Passaic County, New Jersey. Surrounded by rolling hills, wooded landscapes, and lakefront beauty, Awosting remains one of the area's most unique private lake communities.

As an association-based community, Awosting has long been centered around shared ownership, volunteerism, recreation, and neighborhood connection. Membership in the Association provides access to a variety of amenities and activities that continue to define our lifestyle today.

These include:

- The Awosting Clubhouse
- Boathouse and Main Dock
- Lifeguarded Beach
- Playground
- Tennis Courts
- Paved Recreation Area
- Seasonal Events and Community Gatherings

Beyond its physical amenities, Awosting represents something deeper: generations of families who return year after year, many spanning decades of history within the same homes and shoreline.

Awosting remains grounded in community and tradition. Summer weekends continue to bring neighbors together at the docks, children to the beach, and families to gatherings and events that have become cherished traditions across generations.

2026 Awosting Board

Veronika Kohlbrenner - Chairperson
Sean Rice - President
Candice Patton - Vice President
Debbie Purdy - Treasurer
Marge Martin - Secretary

Beach and Safety: Candice Patton
Social Activities: Heather Bivone Maloney
Roads/Trees: Chris Weidmuller
Docks: Sean Rice
Insurance: Ryan Christman
Properties: Pat Benson
Membership: Ryan Christman
Children's Activities: Crystal Prais
Clubhouse: Veronika Kohlbrenner
Newsletter/Website: Marge Martin

Awosting Association
35 Long Pond Rd, Hewitt, NJ 07421
www.awostingnj.com



The Origins of Awosting

The name Awosting dates back to approximately 1910–1915 and is believed to have evolved from the Native American term Aiaskawosting, commonly interpreted as “Place of Grassy Hills.” Long before roads were paved and homes lined the lakefront, the area reflected exactly that—rolling wooded hills, open shoreline, and undeveloped beauty.

During this period, Greenwood Lake was often referred to as Long Pond, and the area that would become Awosting was still in its early stages of development. At the time, one of the only structures in the colony was an old farmhouse that eventually became part of the northern end of The Inn, a central social landmark that no longer exists but played an important role in early community life.

In 1915, the Ringwood Company developed Awosting as what was considered a modern and highly desirable vacation colony. For its time, the community offered advanced infrastructure, including water and sanitary sewer facilities, making it a progressive residential retreat.

Awosting was thoughtfully designed around recreation and social gathering. Early features included:

- Two clock golf courses
- The original clubhouse
- Gate and gateman controlled entry into the colony
- Shared community gathering spaces

The stone gate pillars that still stand on Awosting Road remain a physical reminder of the early entrance.

Transportation also played an important role in Awosting’s development. The nearby Erie Railroad station allowed commuters and seasonal visitors to travel conveniently to and from the region. Motor vehicles were typically stored in designated garages, helping preserve the quiet dirt roads and peaceful character of the community.

Over time, what began as a seasonal destination evolved into a permanent and deeply connected lakeside community.

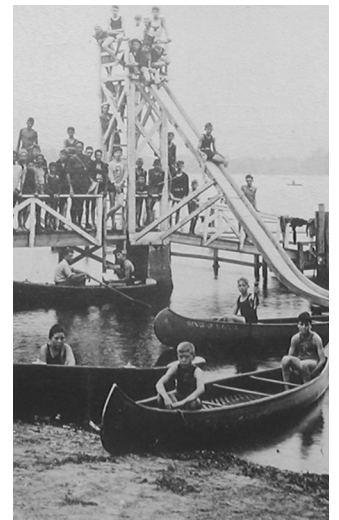
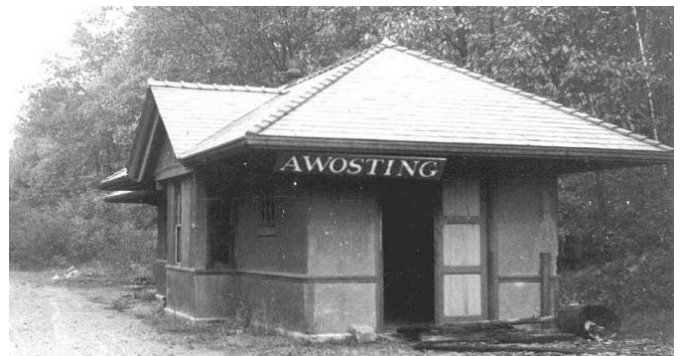
Fast Forward to 2026

Today, Awosting continues to be defined by its strong sense of community and tradition. Summer weekends bring neighbors and families together at the beach, docks, clubhouse, and community events, creating memories shared across generations for more than a century.

Beyond its scenic setting and recreational amenities, Awosting represents something even more meaningful: a community shaped by family connections, continuity, and lifelong relationships. Many families have remained part of Awosting for generations, with decades of history tied to the same homes and shoreline.

Based on an informal recent count, at least 21 of Awosting’s 195 homes are currently owned by descendants of original owners or by families who returned to homes connected to earlier generations. In addition, approximately 35 homes are owned by extended family members—including parents, children, grandparents, cousins, and siblings—who intentionally chose to live close to one another within the community. One extended family currently spans four homes within Awosting, all choosing the neighborhood as the ideal place to raise children while remaining close enough to support and care for older family members.

That enduring sense of family, continuity, and connection remains one of Awosting’s greatest strengths and most treasured traditions.



Protecting a Community & Building a Legacy

Awosting officially received its Certificate of Incorporation on September 8, 1925, and was originally owned and operated by the Ringwood Company. In 1935, the Awosting Country Club, later renamed the Awosting Association, was formed to oversee community facilities and social activities.

A defining moment in Awosting's history came in the mid-1950s after the Ringwood Company disbanded and the community's assets were transferred to Columbia University and later acquired by investor Fred Wehran. Concerned about proposed development and the potential loss of community control, 61 dedicated residents formed AWWEMI (Awosting West Milford) in 1955. Through shared investment and determination, AWWEMI successfully purchased the Awosting properties for \$75,000 after Mr. Wehran initially offered them for \$100,000, preserving Awosting's private identity and future.

After ten years of ownership and management, AWWEMI sold the sewer and water systems to the West Milford Municipal Utilities Authority for \$100,000, while the remaining community properties were transferred to the Awosting Association for approximately \$30,000, ensuring that long-term stewardship of Awosting remained in the hands of its residents.

Those efforts helped preserve Awosting as the close-knit, community-driven neighborhood that continues to thrive today.

A Lifestyle Built Around Connection

For generations, Awosting life has centered around family, recreation, and shared tradition.

Popular events through the decades have included:

- Easter Egg Hunts
- Dance Parties
- Family Day
- Cocktails at the Boathouse
- Halloween Celebrations
- Breakfast with Santa
- Summer Beach Activities
- Youth Activities and Community Gatherings

The original Inn once served as the center of community life and social activity in Awosting. As the building declined over time and eventually fell into disrepair during the 1960s, the community evolved and adapted while continuing to preserve its strong sense of connection and tradition.

In Spring 2018, a new Awosting Clubhouse opened, creating a modern gathering space that once again became the heart of community life. Today, the Clubhouse serves as a year-round hub for meetings, celebrations, social events, and neighborhood gatherings.



A Proud Sailing Tradition

Awosting has maintained an active sailing tradition since 1933.

Over time, Greenwood Lake hosted many types of boats including:

- Sunfish
- Lightnings
- Stars
- Hobie Cats
- Catalinas

Beginning in the early 1960s, the Rebel 16 gained popularity among Awosting residents and eventually became the primary competitive sailboat raced on Greenwood Lake.

Today, Rebel Fleet 21 remains part of the National Rebel Class. Members travel throughout the country to compete, while visiting sailors continue to return to Greenwood Lake to race in one of Awosting's longest-standing traditions.



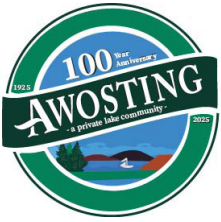
100 Years Celebrated & Looking Toward 2076

In 2025, Awosting proudly celebrated its 100th Anniversary. This milestone marked a century of growth, preservation, friendship, and community pride.

The celebration included:

- A 1920s-themed Centennial Gala
- A Memorial Day parade float
- A National Rebel Regatta
- Awosting Centennial logo
- Community gatherings honoring the generations that shaped Awosting

For many residents, the centennial was more than a celebration of history. It was recognition of the families, volunteers, board members, and neighbors who helped sustain Awosting across changing decades.



A Message to the Residents of 2076

To those opening this time capsule in the year 2076:

We hope Awosting continues to thrive.

We hope Greenwood Lake remains healthy, vibrant, and protected.

We hope future generations continue to gather at the shoreline, launch sailboats from the docks, celebrate milestones in the Clubhouse, and preserve the sense of belonging that has always defined this place.

We hope the decisions made by past and present residents helped protect both our natural environment and our close-knit community.

Most of all, we hope Awosting remains what it has always been: A place where neighbors become lifelong friends, traditions endure, and community matters.

From all of us in 2026,
Happy 250th Anniversary, America. And here's to Awosting's continued journey into the future.