

## **Curlyleaf pondweed (CLP) and Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) activities**

**Regarding Curlyleaf pondweed (CLP),** At the June 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, Ron Hedlund and Nick Bernier reported that they and Paula West did a pre CLP treatment search on Lower Mission on May 26<sup>th</sup> and under very good visibility conditions they found almost no CLP, probably because of the long period of ice/snow cover. With the 28<sup>th</sup> being the last day approved for treatment they decided we would be better off skipping the treatment this year, do a thorough mapping of any CLP growth at its peak, and use the data for future treatment planning. This would also allow us to better afford our Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) treatment needs as we identify them later this year. Unfortunately, with the current warm weather conditions, the CLP is now growing rapidly.

**Regarding Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM),** the plan discussed at the June meeting is to do as much searching and locating as possible, as soon as conditions permit, and passing the data to the DNR and the applicator for approval and treatment. This plan was developed at a March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting where our Committee met with the DNR and Professional Lake Management. At that meeting we set our first treatment priority as the area in front of the resorts in an attempt to minimize the spread of EWM into the lower lake. It was also stressed that anyone boating on Lower Mission should be on the lookout for EWM and if any is found it should be reported to Nick or Ron.

Shortly after the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, Nick Bernier and Ron Hedlund did a thorough search of the large bay in front of the resorts on Upper Mission Lake. They marked 111 waypoints of EWM throughout the area. They were very disappointed to see such an abundance of EWM. This is an area that had minimal EWM in the past and has received very little treatment. Searches that had been done late last year only resulted in finding very few small patches, yet this year it seems to be everywhere, even in some very shallow (3-4 foot depth) areas where we have never found it in the past. Probably one of the causes for the spread is the heavy boat traffic from the resorts, however it is hard to explain the significant change from last year.

On the bright side they were very encouraged by what they found while doing a brief search over an area that was heavily covered with EWM in 2012 and treated aggressively in 2013. They didn't find any sign of EWM! However, they did find and mark some EWM in the nearby area that was not treated as aggressively. Of course this is just the beginning of our searching, and as the data is gathered it will be quickly emailed to the DNR and the applicator. We will be using a strategy of locate/treat, locate/treat in order to reduce and/or eliminate the EWM as quickly as possible.

**Curlyleaf pondweed and Eurasian watermilfoil cannot be eradicated.** Our goal is to work closely with the DNR and the applicator, share our information and investigate new options to better **control** all Invasive Species. We are all continuing to learn more about the effect of the weather, the effectiveness of various treatments and the more effective means of application.

**Learn to identify EWM. Don't drive your boat over EWM. Remove EWM from prop, anchor and fishing lines and dispose of it on land.**



Now, more than ever, we are depending on your dues and generous contributions to continue the protection of our lakes. All dues and contributions to the Mission Lakes Association are tax deductible. We are a recognized 501(c)(3) corporation. Please send your dues (\$20) and contributions to Mission Lakes Association, c/o Cheryl Turcotte, 13789 County Rd. 116, Merrifield, MN 56465