

FREE

THE LAKER

FREE

NO. 14 NORTH LAKE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER MAY, 1990

ANNUAL MEETING: TUESDAY, JULY 31, 7:30 P.M.
INVERNESS COUNTRY CLUB -- SEE YOU THERE!!

THE WEED CONTROL FRONT -- WHAT'S HAPPENING

I. PRELIMINARY PLANT SURVEY

Early in May, ^{*}Aquatic Nuisance Plant Control, Inc., expects to conduct an aquatic plant survey of North Lake for two purposes: (a) to locate the milfoil to be treated (treatment will occur about one week following the survey), and (b) to plan for harvesting other weeds (harvesting around June 18th, after the treated milfoil has disintegrated). Committee members plan to accompany the survey team to help identify areas to be treated and those frontages where owners object to treatment.

II. MILFOIL TREATMENT

1. Schedule: early May, about one week after above survey, weather permitting. Contact landing representatives for updates.

2. Shallow well areas. Due to shallow wells, the use of 2,4-D is prohibited in three areas of milfoil growth along the north shore of the lake. The alternative treatment with Diquat and Komeen used last year will be repeated, to inhibit spread of milfoil from these three areas. However, most of one shallow well area, off the north end of Sauer Drive and East Gilbert Landings, is not treatable with any chemical due to objection by some residents. If it proves feasible, funds that would have gone for chemical treatment there may instead be used to have divers employed by the treatment company carefully remove the scattered stands of milfoil there. If this can be done, the later mechanical harvesting of excessive native plants there can go ahead as planned. If not, consideration is being given to the advisability of mechanical harvesting of all weeds, including milfoil, in this one area (about one acre); the rationale is that if the milfoil is not removed, fragmentation and spread would occur as residents and others motor through the area.

3. Notice to North Lakers from Aquatic Nuisance Plant Control, Inc.:

In accordance with Michigan's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) procedure, this notice is being circulated at least 7 days in advance of treatment to areas of milfoil growth in North Lake. The required DNR permit for treatment has been secured.

Due to uncertainty of weather, the exact treatment day cannot be announced in this

** The preliminary survey is now scheduled for May 8, weather permitting.*

notice. Please watch your SHORELINE for POSTING (which will appear on the actual day of treatment) of 14 x 11 inch SIGNS which will indicate the DAY and DATE of TREATMENT, the exact chemicals used, the RESTRICTIONS as to the use of the water for SWIMMING, IRRIGATION, and CONSUMPTION of FISH TAKEN FROM THESE WATERS.

Watch for treatment boats displaying a RED FLAG which will indicate that there are restrictions. If you see a boat displaying a GREEN FLAG, signs will NOT be posted and you will know that there are NO restrictions.

In the event that you see us spraying and signs are not posted, you will know that we have used a copper product, a chemical which does not limit the use of water in any way and therefore does not require any signs be posted. This treatment is for control of algae only. [EDITOR'S NOTE: Although Aquatic has secured a permit to use a copper product to treat possible algae blooms following "dropping down" and decay of the milfoil, this was not necessary last year and we do not expect it to be needed this year. Algae blooms usually dissipate on their own within a day or two and the Committee's goal is to use as few chemicals as possible in North Lake.]

Please be aware that only chemicals which have been approved by the State of Michigan and the Federal Government are being used. These chemicals are applied in dosages approved by the DNR. As applied, they are not harmful to fish or wildlife.

Another requirement of our permit is that we locate any shallow wells, 30 feet (or less) from the water's edge and less than 30 feet deep. If you are aware of such a well [not already reported in 1989] please notify this office immediately.

If you have any questions, please contact the NLPA Weed Control Committee co-chairs, Ginny and Jerry Bachman, 475-1817. If they cannot answer your questions, we can be reached at the number below: Aquatic Nuisance Plant Control, Inc., 1014 N. Bridge St., Linden, MI 48451 (313) 735-4886.

4. Restrictions and precautions with chemical treatments.

FOR 2,4-D:

SWIMMING: wait 24 hours.

FISHING: no restriction.

IRRIGATION: "indefinite" -- recommendations are:

(1) Wait 24 hours to water lawns (so as not to disturb milfoil treatment).

(2) Could have adverse effect on broad-leafed, sensitive plants such as grapes, tomatoes, and ornamentals, so wait 3 to 7 weeks before watering these with lake water.

(3) Avoid irrigation during the 2-3 days when the milfoil is "dropping" (because small amounts of 2,4-D might be released as plants decay).

(4) If especially concerned, and to be very conservative, you may wish to avoid swimming in the treated areas 2 to 3 days when the milfoil "drops."

COMPOSTING OF TREATED WEEDS: safe to use by Fall, or to be extra conservative, save until following year.

DIQUAT:

SWIMMING: wait 14 days.

IRRIGATION: Wait 14 days.

ANIMAL CONSUMPTION OF WATER: wait 14 days.

KOMEEN (a copper product): no restrictions.

5. Private weed treatment. To avoid confusion we want to mention that another treatment company, Great Lakes Aquatic Weed Control, Inc., has been retained privately for treatment of one and one-half acres of a variety of plants along frontage of three property owners in Glen Oaks. This DNR permit application is for use of Diquat, Aquathol K, 2,4-D, and copper sulfate; it is not part of the NLPA program.

III. HARVESTING -- HERE'S THE SCOOP

1. Decision to harvest. At the meeting held on January 17, a large majority of the property owners in attendance voted in favor of the proposed lake-wide harvesting program. This is to deal with nuisance weeds other than milfoil and is intended to make the lake more pleasant for all boaters, reduce problems of weeds (cut by propellers) washing ashore, and remove nutrients from the lake. It was agreed that the "self-assessments" to cover harvesting should be \$100 for properties with lake frontage and \$50 for properties with shared lake access. It was also agreed that since the above benefits will affect all who use the lake, costs should be shared by all -- not just those who happen to have weeds in front of their property.

2. Funds contributed to date. More than \$5,000 -- enough to harvest at about 35 acres. In addition to being sure to cover frontages of those who contributed, we will attempt to harvest areas most appropriate for the lake and lake users, based on the preliminary weed survey. The harvester will avoid frontages of the three property owners who have aquatic plants along their shores but requested no harvesting.

3. Harvest date: The week of June 18th (provided the weather cooperates, and the earlier chemical treatment has fully "knocked down" the milfoil).

4. Public access limitation. Unless we are able to locate a suitable alternative site, use of the public access site may be hampered during harvesting week because of the presence of some of the harvesting equipment. You may prefer to schedule any boat-launching or pulling-out to avoid that week.

5. Escapees. The harvester is designed to cut and capture the weeds, but unavoidably some cut weeds will escape. We are hoping this will be minimal.

6. On trial. This is intended as a trial-run harvest to see whether we like the results, and the reduction of chemical weed control it can bring about.

7. Thank you for your support. If you are supporting these efforts in spirit, don't forget we need your financial support too. We cannot harvest any more weeds than we can pay for. A listing of harvesting contributors (as of May 1) appears later in this newsletter. If you have not yet sent in your "self-assessment" for harvesting costs, please send a check (\$100 for lakefront properties, \$50 for lake access properties), made out to NLPA (with "Harvesting" written in the memo portion of the check), and mail it to Brent Bills, Treasurer, 101 Watt Road, Gregory, MI 48137.

Ginny & Jerry Bachman, co-chairs, Weed Control Committee

CONTRIBUTORS TO NORTH LAKE HARVESTING (as of MAY 1, 1990):

ABBOTT, Wayne
ALLEN, John
BACHMAN, Ginny and Jerry
BAILEY, Clover and Glenn
BATZDORFER, Eric
BAYLIS, Janet and William
BILLS, Brent
BINGEL, D. Kevin
BLANZY, Dennis
BOERSMA, Vivian
BORT, Robert, MD
BRIER, Ralph
BYRD, Ilo
CARTER, George
CHESTNEY, Eliz. and Gilbert
DE GROW, Rosemary
DOAN, Dennis
EMSWILER, Margaret
FASING, Douglas
FELTON, Allie
FERGESON, D.L.
FISHER, John
FRENDT, Richard
FRISINGER, Max
GAFFNEY, Bruce

GERMAN, Robert
GLEASON, Charles
GORDENIER, Jerry
HAGOPIAN, Sam
HARRINGTON, Leo
HASELSCHWARDT, Howard
HOFMANN, Loretta
HOWE, Raymond
HUME, Philip
HUTTING, Wilmer
KNIGHT, Gordon
KNISELY, David
KOSZEGI, Joseph
KRONNER, Henry
KRUSE, Daniel
KUNSTEL, James
LAMMERS, Paul
LANE, Edward
LOGAN, David
MARKS, Henry
MITCHELL, John W., Sr.
PERKINS, David
PIGNANELLI, Frank
PORATH, Warren, Jr.
PRUESS, David

ROBERTS, Lonard
RUMSEY, Ralph
SMITH, Rex
SPAULDING, Rolland
THOMAS, John
TURNER, Robert
VIVIAN, Byron
WARREN, Don
ZIEL, Harvey
SPRINGER, Sheridan
KESSLER, Tom

ADDITIONAL
CONTRIBUTORS TO
MILFOIL CONTROL:

ALLWARD, Dean
BAILEY, Clover and Glenn
BAYLIS, Janet and William
GORDENIER, Jerry
PERKINS, David
ROBERTS, Lonard

ASSOCIATION STICKERS

We are going back to the membership stickers again this year. When you pay your dues for 1990, which are \$7.00, you will receive your sticker for your boat or house. It's a nice incentive. It's very important to pay your dues in order for our association to work. The monies collected are used for postage, mailings, gate operations, lake studies, possible rentals for meeting room, expenses for guest speakers, and various other items. We are counting on you to remember dues are separate from other collections such as chemical treatment, harvesting, or your dues to your own landing. Without your help and concerns we cannot exist. Thank you. Please send your dues to Brent Bills, 101 Watt Road, Gregory, MI 48137.

NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!

1. For those of you who haven't heard yet, the Maize and Blue Landing has officially closed down. Due to the rising cost of liability insurance, Vic and Renee (the new owners) have decided to close the business. Now that it's definitely private land, let's all respect this and make sure we no longer pull up to their docks or land. This should be a positive move for our lake.

2. I would like everyone to personally thank Ginny and Jerry Bachman for all their efforts to thoroughly investigate all possibilities in weed control. Along with their committee, we have come a long way to combat the milfoil. A lot of people have worked hard, but the Bachmans have especially exceeded in this job. I personally would like to thank them for a job well done! We owe you both a lot of thanks.

3. Do you have a bad septic system? Maybe you have one undersized! Maybe you don't have one at all! There will be some new water closets on display at our annual meeting. These are 1.6 gallon flush to conserve water consumption. Come to the meeting and see what's new for Mansfield water saving toilets.

4. If you are new to the lake, or know someone who is, please contact Mary Lou Frendt at 475-3480 so we can keep our records up to date.

5. Lake Board?? Do you know what one is? Do you want one? Do you think we need one? We hope to be able to discuss this issue at our annual meeting. If everything works out, we will have speakers present on this subject. So let's plan on attending.

6. If you still have not paid for either the 2,4-D treatment (1989 collection) or weed harvesting, it's still not too late. Send your check to Brent Bills, 101 Watt Road, Gregory, MI 48137.

HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER!!!

Don Warren, president, North Lake Protection Association

NORTH LAKE IMPROVEMENT GUIDELINES

1. If you fertilize, make sure you look into fertilizers which do not harm lakes and their surroundings.
2. Improve your septic system:
 - a. Conserve water -- use water saving devices.
 - b. Maintain your septic system -- have it pumped regularly.
 - c. If it's not working properly, have it fixed.
3. Remove leaves and debris from the lake.
4. Do not burn near the lake; if you must, please remove all ashes and dispose of them properly.
5. Improve boating and swimming safety.

NORTH LAKE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Don Warren	East end	475-1772
Vice Pres.	Dan Kruse	Glen Oaks	475-7170
Sec/Treas.	Brent Bills	Watt dr.	475-2258
Director	Dave Classon	N. Lk. Farms	475-1255
Director	Ted Lane	W. Gilbert Dr.	475-7931
Director	Jerry Loukotka	Noah's Landing	475-1094
Director	Dave Pruess	Webb Shore	475-8146
Director	Mary Lou Frendt	Stonehedge	475-3480
Director	Glen Bailey	Sauer dr.	994-3137
Director	George Carter	Gilbert Dr.	475-1570
Director	Allen Boyce	Parklawn	475-8183
Weed Control	Ginny & Jerry Bachman		475-1817
Lake Development Task Force	Sheridan Springer		475-8794

If you would like to be active on the board or be a director, please contact anybody on the executive committee. Your help is needed; we need new blood!!!

Reminder: Don't forget to pay your membership fee!!!