

THE LAKER

North Lake Protection Association

September 2009

NLPA Annual Meeting for 2009 is at Inverness Country Club on Sept 28, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

Agenda:

- 1) Review minutes of NLPA meeting(s).
- 2) Treasury report
- 3) Old business: Lake Management project information presentation by Jeff Krcmarik from Washtenaw County Dept of Public Works. Mr. Krcmarik is the administrator and director of the Lake Management project.
- 4) New Business: Dialog on lake level management.
- 5) Election of officers

The financial balance of NLPA is as follows:

12/31/01	\$9,170.63
12/31/02	\$16,231.63
12/31/03	\$16,231.63
12/31/04	\$18,054
12/31/05	\$9,523
9/14/06	\$4,411
5/5/08	\$4,491.28
8/31/09	\$3,989.96

The mission of NLPA is to promote good water quality and equitable use of our lake for recreation, wildlife and beauty.

2009 North Lake Weed Treatment Report

North Lake has had two weed control applications in 2009. These occurred on June 9, 2009 where 40 acres were treated for Eurasian Water Milfoil and 15 acres for milfoil and Chara close to shore. During the first follow-up treatment on August 10, 2009 the lake was treated for 14 acres of Chara/Starry Stonewort, 9.4 acres of Eurasian Water Milfoil, and 11.5 acres of Monster Pondweed. Total costs for the treatments were \$23,546. As we are now a special assessment district of Washtenaw County, there are some administrative and overhead costs to be paid in addition to the \$3000 in Michigan DEQ permits required for this work. The December 2008 income from the special assessment district was \$51,667 leaving \$13,681 for the rest of 2009. A fall treatment is planned for late September or early October after another lake survey with emphasis on Chara, Eurasian Water Milfoil, and Pondweed as needed. We also have to repay the initial seed money of \$35,000 advanced to the North Lake Project for the 2008. We should also be aware of other possible weed infestations that may be of concern on North Lake. During the last survey with Dr. Pullman, we found some wild celery growth to the South center part of the lake. This has the possibility to be another major infestation if growth occurs. The treatment for this species will be different from the current mix and will probably be more expensive. The weed situation in North Lake is thus a dynamic situation that requires diligent monitoring and treatment changes as growth dictates.

Dr. Doug Pullman will be posting his annual report sometime in January 2010 at the below WEB site. The same WEB address is the official Washtenaw Country site for the North Lake project is:

http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/drain_commissioner/dc_webPublicWorks/lake_management/north/index.html

Please visit this for the official reports and information.

General information can be found on the home page for Washtenaw County

<http://www.ewashtenaw.org/>

The NLPA board would like as many of you that have e-mail to provide us with your address so we can provide information to lake residents. The Lake was treated for various weeds in June and August of 2009. Many residents would like to know when the treatments are scheduled in order to make plans. Using e-mail will improve notification of scheduled treatment dates.

NLPA is asking for \$20 in dues for 2008/2009 which is used to cover the cost of subscriptions, mailings and continued water quality analysis which is conducted by Dr. Wallace Fusilier of Dexter Michigan.

The North Lake Management project is funded via a special assessment district (SAD) that was approved in fall of 2007. The SAD is in effect for 5 years and will be paid for from property tax assessments. The program is being

run under the direction of Jeff Krcmarik from Washtenaw County. The communication conduit to Washtenaw County is Dave Pruess with support from Paul Lammers. Dave & Paul (especially Dave) have spent hours surveying the lake to provide detailed information to Aquest Corp. & Dr. Doug Pullman.

**REPORT OF WEED SURVEY
CONDUCTED 6-26-2009 by
Dave Pruess**

The June 26, 2009 survey was made by Doug Pullman, Jeff Krcmarik, Paul Lammers and Dave Pruess on a high visibility day using polarized glasses and normal observations. The consensus was that the initial milfoil treatment as applied by PLM was very successful with the use of 2,4,D and Reward in the shallow areas. However, the chemicals used were not targeting the Chara (starry stonewort and other variations too!) and pondweed infestations.

Overall the lake has more weed growth than the participants were envisioning. Milfoil as mentioned above was quite well controlled but still remains viable in some areas. This will have to be watched in the August time frame. The plants of concern are: the **Chara** and related thick growths in the shallow areas, **Pondweed** and its variants from the shore out to say 20 feet depth, **wild celery**, and **lily pads**. In areas where the Starry Stonewort has been treated, Chara has been noted to grow to a depth of more than 3 feet. This is now becoming a problem as it is a very thick and entangling weed. Chara is now in most parts of the lake and is growing in the shallower areas. Pondweed is mostly visible in the large curly variant that is brown to reddish in color and is evident in some very thick patches. The newly identified wild celery may be the worst of the bunch as it does not root well to the bottom but moves a

bit and will foul most propellers. It is a long stringy weed that will have a curlicue type of flower soon. This will be very hard to eradicate and expensive to treat. It is noted that the lily pad areas are increasing and they can be chemically treated in the fall. Since we decided to go with a special assessment district, we have been ill-blessed with pondweed, chara and celery for weed infestations.

Jeff Krcmarik also wants to let our residents know of the e-Washtenaw green website and the Clancy's boat tour that can be found on <http://ewashtenaw.org/green-media>. Based on conversations of June 19, it is expected to have the second weed treatment during the second week of July after the additional permit extensions are obtained.

Lake level information:

North Lake does have a 22" diameter drainage culvert under Hadley road. We inspected the culvert at the request of several concerned residents due to the abnormally high lake level this spring. We found the entire culvert was underwater and very little water ran through it. We estimated that the culvert is about 90-95% blocked.

Washtenaw County Road personnel also inspected the culvert using a long metal pipe to assess the blockage. When the NLPA contacted the County, we were told that the Road Commission planned to replace the culvert.

The NLPA is now working with the Washtenaw County Road Commission to understand the formal process used by the county to set a correct lake level if the culvert is replaced.

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Useful WEB sites:

www.boat-ed.com

Use this site for boater safety on-line certificate and access to The Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities.

Safe boating on any inland lake is important. Many North Lake residents have observed unsafe practices.

www.michigan.gov/dnr

Useful information from the Department of Natural Resources.

Milfoil Treatment - History

Since 1989, North Lake has been treated for milfoil. Below is a breakdown of the number of acres treated each year. (North Lake is 250 acres.)

- 1989 - 36 acres
- 1990 - 32 acres + harvesting
- 1991 - 28 acres
- 1992 - 0 acres
- 1993 - 47 acres
- 1994 - 45 acres
- 1995 - 38 acres
- 1996 - 25 acres
- 1997 - 35 acres
- 1998 - 41 acres
- 1999 - 49 acres
- 2000 - 52 acres
- 2001 - 32 acres
- 2002 - 35 acres
- 2003 - 37 acres
- 2004 - 37 acres
- 2005 - 43 acres 2,4-D at a cost of \$15,225 plus \$8,000 for the weevils.
- 2006 - 44 acres chemical at cost of \$13,916 and \$12,800 for weevils.
- 2007 - 54 acres chemical at cost of \$19,821
- 2008 - 50+ acres for initial June application.
- 2009 - 55 acres in June, 34.9 in Aug.

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How Can I Help?

You can prevent pollution in North Lake by following guidelines supplied by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (details are available by requesting the free DEQ publication "Protecting Inland Lakes"). The entire watershed affects lake quality. After heavy rains, water runs off roads, ditches, and yards directly to North Lake. This means YOUR YARD drains into the lake.

- **Don't burn leaves or waste on the lake watershed.** If you must burn, remove ashes to a landfill. Ashes are very high in nutrients that cause plant growth. Neighborhood composting areas are a good project for individual landing associations to organize.
- **Keep organic material out of the lake.** Leaves, lawn clippings, animal droppings, etc. should be composted far away from the lake.
- **Keep shrubs, trees, and plants growing within a 15 foot belt along the lakeshore.** Plants form a barrier to runoff and use up excess nutrients much better than grass.
- **Conserve wetlands.** Swampy areas trap sediment and increase nutrients. They are important to fish and wildlife.

Camp Burt Shurly

As many of you are aware, the camp operates for 8 weeks during the summer. What you may not know is that it is home to approximately ninety children from Detroit Public School system each week. These are students who are

eligible for Title 1 funds and are academically performing below expected grade levels in reading and mathematics. Each of the campers may only come for one week during the summer. Some of the counselors and counselors-in-training participated in the camp when they were students.

While the campers are at North Lake, they participate in swimming, boating, archery, ropes courses, outdoor games, reading, natural science, mathematics, and arts and crafts. Students are asked to keep a journal of their week at camp. Emphasis of the camp is placed on socialization, character-building, and individual creativity while providing exploratory activities in the outdoor world. Teachers and staff from the Detroit Public Schools serve as counselors and teachers.

Because all of the campers who attend Camp Burt Shurly receive Title 1 funding, many of them do not always have the necessary items they need for a week away from home. Camp Burt Shurly is happy to accept donations. They are always in need of toiletries, children's clothing, and swimwear, but will accept any gift you have to offer. If you would like to donate items or money to the camp, you may bring it directly to the camp while they are in session or you can call the Office of Physical Education and Safety @ 313-873-7735 when camp is not in session. All gifts are 100 % tax-deductible.

If the camp has another open house in the future, please strongly consider going. The staff is friendly, out-going, and enjoy the opportunity to get to meet us, their neighbors.

NLPA Landing Representatives

East End – Steve & Anne Koch
Eisenbeiser Drive - Kent Thiel

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Gilbert Drive - Jim Johnson & Doug Oberholtzer
Glen Oaks - Dan Kruse (President)
Hadley Road - Sheryl Ulin, (Secretary & Treasurer)
North Lake Farms – Rod Payne
Noah's Landing – Joe Holowicki
Parklawn - Eric Batsdorfer
Sauer Drive – Sheridan Springer (special support) Carol Bingel and Bruce Gaffney
Stonehedge Valley - Carol Heydlauff
Watt Road - Paul Lammers, Scott Gerweck
Webb's Landing - Dave Pruess and Dave Gravelyn
Secchi Disk readings done by Charlie Taylor.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

North Lake Protection Association, c/o Dan Kruse,
7053 Lake Shore Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118

Part A: General Information

My/Our property is ____ Lake front ____ Shared Lake Access ____ Neither

My/Our name: _____

My/Our Lake Address:

My/Our E-mail Address:

Mailing address(es), (clarify winter and summer, if different and corresponding time frames)

PART B: NLPA ANNUAL DUES

[] \$20 - requested from everyone for 2008 & 2009 North Lake Protection Association dues.

(Note: contributions of any amount are accepted)

_____ **TOTAL**

Checks should be made out to: **NORTH LAKE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION** with "2008-2009 dues" in the memo portion. Please return this form and your check by September 28, 2009.

Please write any additional comments on the back of this page.

Thank you for your time!