

NLPA Annual Meeting Notes September 29, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Dan Kruse, NLPA President at 7:00 pm.
Approximately 36 attendees including representatives from Goose Lake.

Old Business:

1. **Review 2024 NLPA Annual Meeting Notes:** Sheryl Ulin summarized the notes from the 2024 NLPA Meeting
 - Motion to approve the 2023 NLPA Annual Meeting Notes: Tim Whitesall
 - Second: Paul Lammers
 - Approved by all present
 - Opposed by none

2. **Treasurer's Report:** Sheryl Ulin presented the Treasurer's Report. The June 30, 2025, balance on hand was \$14,497.72. See attached report.
 - Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report: Tim Whitesall
 - Second: Dick Frendt
 - Approved by all present
 - Opposed by none

3. **Overview of CLMP by Charlie Taylor** (see attached report)
 - Organized by Michigan State University
 - Goal: Track overall water quality
 - Secchi disc reading – deepest that you can see the disk is a measure of water quality
 - Average Secchi depth reading has improved over the years
 - Dissolved oxygen – Oxygen in lower part of the lake goes to almost zero in the summer
 - Thermocline is at approximately 20'
 - Algae blooms in the late spring for the past 5 years (Spiro Jira). Floats to the top and creates a mat. Can treat for this since it is a mat. This algae bloom expected annually and dissipates by mid-June.
 - New algae bloom started approximately August 24, 2025. This is a blue-green algae, geotrichia. This was new to North Lake (or at least noticeably new.). Washtenaw County tested this algae for toxins. No toxins were found. A toxic green algae can cause GI symptoms, rash and liver damage. It is likely to return to North Lake in future years. This algae is present in the northeastern U.S. and other lakes in the Midwest.

4. **Explanation of NLPA Board Meetings and Weed Control Meetings**
 - Two or three NLPA Board meetings per year.
 - One NLPA annual meeting per year.

- The Weed Control committee provides detailed survey information to the NLPA Board and Washtenaw County SAD representatives.
- Weed Control committee surveys the lake with Washtenaw County SAD representatives in conjunction with the NLPA President and other Board Members who are available.

5. Special Assessment District (SAD). Report by Eric Mayo from Washtenaw County.

- Oversees the invoices, management and treatment for the SAD.
- 2 treatments in 2025. Approximately 30 acres were chemically treated.
- Harvested 14.5 acres.
- Lake surveys are done by Kieser & Associates (pre and post treatment)
- Treatments are done within the permits approved by EGLE
- Communicate challenges on the lake to NLPA and/or SAD managers at Washtenaw County.
- SAD representatives meet with NLPA leadership.
- Treat invasive species of weeds. There are limits to what native weeds can be treated.
- There are approximately 24 species of weeds in North Lake.
- A homeowner would like to see the harvesting done earlier in the season.
 - The Chain of Lakes harvests around the same time as North Lake (Right before North Lake this year. Both lakes use the same harvester.)
 - There are several homeowners who want more harvesting
- Harvesting is used to remove areas that can't be treated chemically. Anyone around the lake can hire a harvester. A permit is not needed for harvesting.
- Washtenaw County has seen improvement to weed amounts in the next year when harvesting is done in the fall.
- Washtenaw County didn't start considering harvesting until mid-August. Consequently, harvesting was done after Labor Day.

6. Report from Mark Kieser of Kieser and Associates

- Prefers to establish one point of contact for each lake.
- County publishes a RFP for work from Kieser & Associates and/or other consultants. Their time is billed hourly and there are budget limitations for consulting and treatment.
- Collective communication with Washtenaw County, NLPA, and other experts to determine treatment.
- Invasive weeds such as milfoil or starry stonewort should not be harvested. Harvesting will spread those weeds.
- Report provided (see attached).
- Two surveys are done per year – late April or May (looking for what is popping up early in the season, where are the invasive weeds?), full surveys

are done in June to determine if harvesting is needed (due to nuisance or recreational impairment).

- Complete 2 water quality measurements per year.
- There is a database to track trends in water quality.
- Decisions are made to keep a balance in the lake based on scientifically based, repeatable information.
- The Floristic Quality Index indicates that North Lake is trending towards the management goal (good results).
- Treatment areas have decreased over time. This is based on what needs to be treated (not budget).
- Water quality is good. Sediment in North Lake is very good. Very little phosphorous is documented in the sediment in late summer.
- Phosphorous cannot be destroyed. Phoslac is a product that binds up phosphorous.
- Septic systems on other lakes in Michigan are creating huge algal blooms.
- North Lake has very low soluble phosphorus. This is what causes the blue-green algae.
- Harvesters are cutters. They are fairly good at removing vegetation and not disturbing the sediment.
- Very little agriculture run-off going into North Lake. This helps keep the lake healthy.

New Business

7. Changes to By-Laws recommended by Dick Frendt.

- Spending limit revisions
- Laker Editor to be part of the NLPA Board
- Website Manager to be part of the NLPA Board
- The NLPA Board will discuss these recommendations at the next Board meeting.

8. Add Annual NLPA Meeting Notes to NLPA website

9. Dead Deer (The information below is from meeting attendees and Google AI)

- DNR issued a report.
- EHD is Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease, a virus spread by biting midges that causes deer to die. There is no cure for EHD in deer, and outbreaks, often in late summer and early fall, are ended by the first hard frost.
- This disease does not affect humans.

10. Election of Officers

Initial Nominations and Suggestion:

- a. President: Don Zak, Dan Kruse
- b. Vice-President: Ted Mickevicius, Don Zak

- c. Secretary: Ginny Morgan
- d. Treasurer: Sheryl Ulin
- e. Ted Mickevicius suggested that Don Zak be Vice-President and Dan Kruse continue as President for continuity and knowledge of NLPA history.

Final Nominations and Results

- a. Dan Kruse – President
- b. Don Zak – Vice President
- c. Sheryl Ulin – Treasurer
- d. Ginny Morgan – Secretary (including maintaining mailing list)
- e. Charlie Taylor – Water Quality Monitor
- f. Cindy Mickevicius – Website Manager
- g. Dave Pruess and Paul Lammers – Weed Control
- h. Laker – Dan Kruse, Ginny Morgan, Joseph Spiegel, Charlie Taylor and others
 - Approved by all present
 - Opposed by none

Meeting was adjourned by Dan Kruse at 8:55PM.

NLPA Financial Report

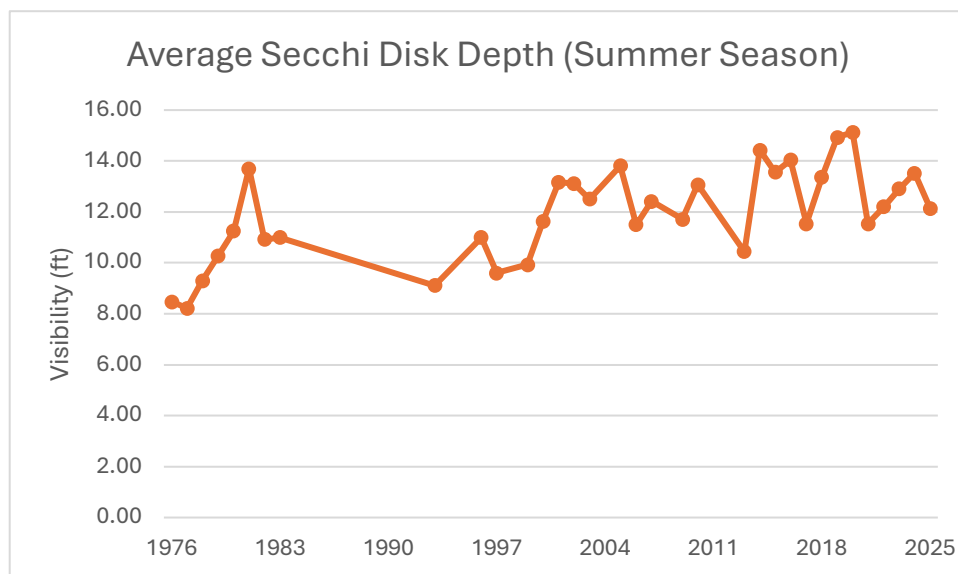
January 1 - December 31, 2024	
INCOME	
Collections - NLPA dues	\$2,520.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,520.00
EXPENSES	
Dues (ML&SA)	\$180.00
Postage	\$197.10
Supplies	\$844.34
Tax - MI Corp Info Update	\$20.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,241.44
OVERALL TOTAL	\$1,278.56
Account Balance 12/31/2024	\$14,487.71

January 1 - June 30, 2025	
INCOME	
Collections - NLPA dues	\$130.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$130.00
EXPENSES	
Supplies	\$119.99
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$119.99
OVERALL TOTAL	\$10.01
Account Balance 6/30/2025	\$14,497.72

Summary of Lake Water Quality Measurements and Conditions (2025)

As in previous years, NLPA has measured water clarity, dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles (at many depths) and dissolved total phosphorus (thought to be the mineral that is limiting for plant growth).

Water clarity has remained stable for the past 25 years, which is a good thing! Also, lake bottom temperature in both spring and late summer has remained stable.



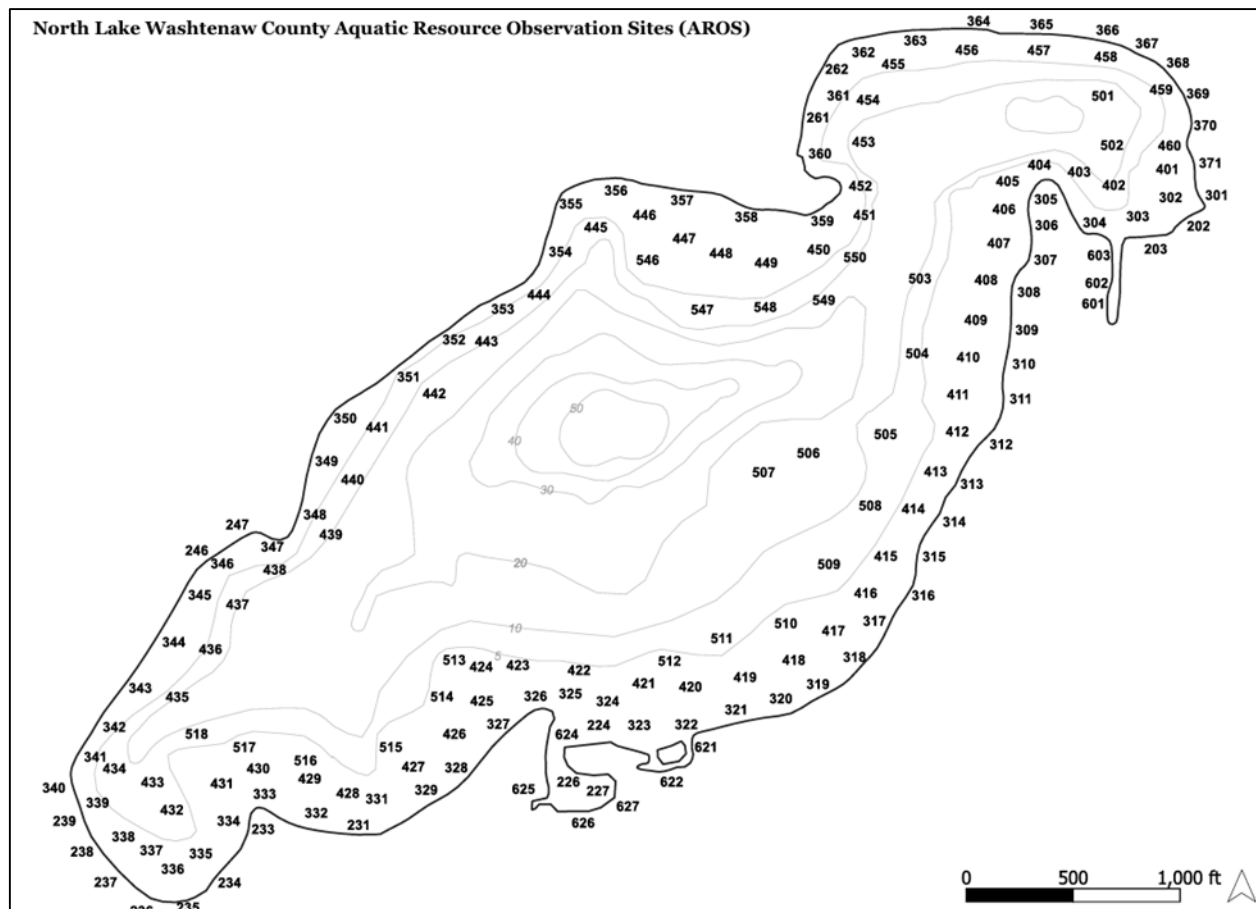
In Winter months, dissolved oxygen is present all the way to the bottom of North Lake. However, by mid-May to June each year, dissolved oxygen is depleted below the thermocline (about 35 feet down at that time), and the depth of depleted oxygen gets closer to the surface throughout summer months. [Fish cannot survive without oxygen, and some lakes that are choked with algae have very low oxygen.] In 2025, oxygen was depleted in mid-September up to about 27 feet below surface. In some previous years (2020, 2021 and 2023) September oxygen was depleted all the way up to 20 feet below the surface. We hope this good trend continues.

Algae blooms

As in the previous 5 years, there has been an early Spring bloom of filamentous green algae (*Spirogyra*) lasting until about the end of May. This caused masses of hair-like green filaments to grow on the bottom and later float on the surface. This bloom is “icky” and is mostly due to phosphorus from decaying matter and fertilizer runoff from adjacent yards and streams.

Unlike previous years, in 2025 we had a bloom of tiny blue-green algae colonies (tiny yellowish spheres in the water column and forming scums in nearshore areas) from about

August 24 that peaked on about September 3. This has now mostly dissipated but likely reduces deep water clarity (as of mid-September). The blue-green algae were *Gloeotrichia*, have likely been present in past years resting in the sediments, typically bloom in late summer, and are actually bacteria that sometimes can produce a toxin. In early September we had the Washtenaw County test and they found no toxin present. Still we learned that folks (and especially pets) should be cautious about swimming and ingesting any lake water during these blooms. We may likely see these again in future years.



2025 Vegetation Survey Findings

The early and late-season surveys on North Lake took place on June 10 and August 7, 2025, respectively. Throughout both surveys, the coverage of native species was high and invasive species coverage was low.

The surveys in 2025 represented the highest Floristic Quality index score in the past 5 years and the highest LakeScan™ metric scores across the last 3 years (Figure 1 and Table 1). The 2025 surveys also recorded the highest species richness observed on the lake dating back to 2012.

These trends represent a high level of treatment efficacy across multiple years and the maintenance of ecologically diverse and desirable conditions.

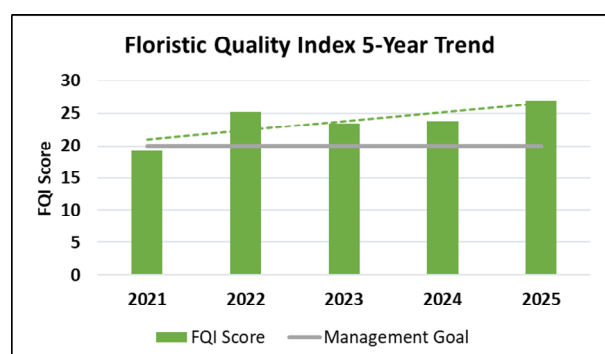


Figure 1. North Lake average floristic quality index 5-year trend.

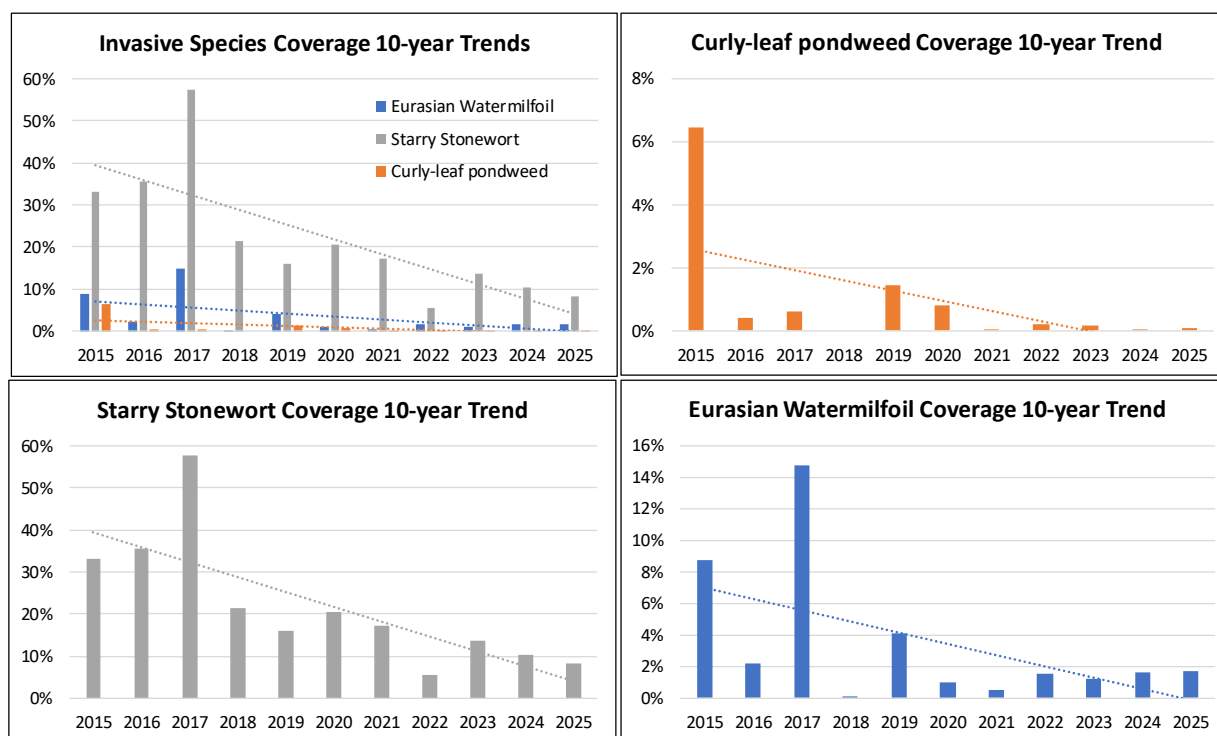
Table 1. North Lake LakeScan™ metrics 5-year averages.

LakeScan™ Metric	2021 Average	2022 Average	2023 Average	2024 Average	2025 Average
Species Richness	20.5	23.0	18.0	21.0	24.0
Shannon Biodiversity Index	8.5	11.4	7.2	8.3	8.9
Shannon Morphology Index	4.5	6.7	4.5	5.2	5.5
Floristic Quality Index	19.3	25.3	23.5	23.9	27.0
Recreational Nuisance	17%	20%	6%	0%	0%

Historic Vegetation Trends

Decade-long trends on North Lake indicate the overall reduction of average submerged aquatic invasive species coverage (Figures 2-5). Trends for the average coverage of Eurasian watermilfoil have slightly increased on a smaller 5-year scale, however the average coverage has remained at less than 2% since 2020. Curly-leaf pondweed has followed the same trend, with less than 1% average coverage observed since 2020. These trends indicate success in the current invasive species management strategies at maintaining low coverages of species of concern.

Emergent aquatic invasive species are additionally recorded during the LakeScan™ surveys. The emergent invasive *Phragmites* has not been recorded on the lake since 2022 and purple loosestrife has not exceeded 2% since it was first recoded in 2019.



Figures 2-5. Average coverage trends of submerged aquatic invasive species on North Lake over 10 years. Please note the variation in scale along the Y-axis to best display unique coverage trends for each species.

2025 Management Actions

On May 27, 2025 members of the lake team met with Aquaweed to observe invasive species conditions around the lake. From the observations, a 17-acre treatment map was drafted for control of nuisance Eurasian watermilfoil and curly-leaf pondweed. The treatment was conducted on June 6, 2025. The early-season vegetation survey 8 days following revealed a high level of treatment efficacy with impacts observed on both Eurasian watermilfoil and curly-leaf pondweed.

From observations during the late-season vegetation survey on August 7, of an increase in starry stonewort growth and native pondweeds causing nuisance concerns, a late-season combination of herbicide treatment and harvesting (both ~13 acres each) was pursued during the first week of September. Impacts of these late-season management efforts will ideally still be realized into 2026.