

March 30, 2013

Coon Lake Improvement District (CLID)
Board of Directors
P.O. Box 26
East Bethel, MN 55011

Dear Coon Lake Improvement District Property Owner,

The intent of this letter, in addition to its legal requirements, is to inform the District Property Owners of items of importance.

This letter is being sent to all property owners within the Coon Lake Improvement District boundaries and is intended to meet two requirements from the State. These are; information on how to Opt Out of herbicide treatment of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) control and of the CLID Annual Meeting Notice.

This letter requires your immediate attention and signature submission should you choose NOT to have herbicide treatment lake ward of your shoreline of AIS for the year 2013.

First some history for your information and reference;

On January 28, 2008, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners created an "Order Establishing the Coon Lake Improvement District" in Resolution # 2008-10. In that order, it was resolved that the boundaries of the district were defined as:
"The boundaries of the Coon Lake Improvement District shall include those parcels that abut Coon Lake, including the man-made channel."
The order further went on to say that "WHEREAS, the advisory report from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, which was read into the record at the public hearing, notes approval for the proposed boundaries with a request the county board consider limiting the authority of the lake improvement district to matters that can be addressed by the riparian property owners..." Per the definition of Riparian Water Rights, under the riparian principle, all landowners whose property is adjacent to a body of water have the right to make reasonable use of it. If there is not enough water to satisfy all users, allotments are generally fixed in proportion to frontage on the water source. These rights cannot be sold or transferred other than with the adjoining land, and water cannot be transferred out of the watershed. Riparian rights include such things as the right to access for swimming, boating and fishing; the right to wharf out to a point of navigability; the right to erect structures such as docks, piers, and boat lifts; the right to use the water for domestic purposes; the right to accretions caused by water level fluctuations. Riparian rights also depend upon "reasonable use" as it relates to other riparian owners to ensure that the rights of one riparian owner are weighed fairly and equitably with the rights of adjacent riparian owners.

At the Annual Meetings of the Coon Lake Improvement District in July of each year, members at the meeting vote to approve and fund the districts activities for the coming year. An annual fee is determined and will be charged to eligible district properties via collection of fees by the county on the following year tax statements. These fees are currently used to fund the cost of herbicide treatments in areas identified as moderate to heavily infested with Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) or Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). This is determined by means of a delineation to locate and document sites to be re-inspected and/or approved by the MN DNR for treatment by a state licensed applicator contracted with the CLID. The chemicals normally used to control these are Endothall, Triclopyr and 2,4-D.

Sec. 78. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 103G.615, has been recently amended by adding a subdivision to read: (in part)

Subd. 3a. Invasive aquatic plant management permits. (a) "Invasive aquatic plant management permit" means an aquatic plant management permit as defined in rules of the Department of Natural Resources that authorizes the selective control of invasive aquatic plants at a scale to cause a significant lake wide or bay wide reduction in the abundance of the invasive aquatic plant.
(b) The commissioner may waive the dated signature of approval requirement in rules of the Department of Natural Resources for invasive aquatic plant management permits if obtaining signatures would create an undue burden on the permittee or if the commissioner determines that aquatic plant control is necessary to protect natural resources.
(c) If the signature requirement is waived under paragraph (b) because obtaining signatures would create an undue burden on the permittee, the commissioner shall require an alternate form of landowner notification, including news releases or public notices in a local newspaper, a public meeting, or a mailing to the most recent permanent address of affected landowners. The notification must be given annually and must include: the proposed date of treatment, the target species, the method of control or product being used, and instructions on how the owner may request that control not occur adjacent to the landowner's property.

Signatures for herbicide control of invasive species are no longer needed for Coon Lake as the MN DNR has waived the signature requirement as allowed by state statute. This is documented as an amendment to the Lake Vegetation Management Plan through April of 2015. The following, with the distribution of this letter, fulfills the requirement as stated in Subd. 3c. (above);
Early season herbicide treatment for CLP is expected to take place in from mid to late April (depending on variables such as water temperature, approval of permit and herbicide applicator availability) and will be done by using the chemical Aquathol K, at dosage rates of .75 – 2 ppm. Nuisance control of EWM should follow in mid May to mid June and areas would be treated with a 2,4-D or Triclopyr herbicide and be applied at the rate of .75 – 2.5 ppm depending on the applicators recommendation. All of the rate variables listed above have a direct correlation to the size of the weed bed and is present to satisfy a performance guaranty.

It is your right to request treatment not be done in front of your property in the case it is identified as an area that needs to be treated, but please be mindful that this is a collective effort funded by each of us and non-treatment areas may diminish the quality of control and affect our goal to reduce the quantity of control of AIS with each year's successful results. Should you desire to Opt Out, please entirely fill out the "Request to be Excluded From Herbicide Treatments" form, duplicate it and mail one copy to each of the recipients' listed on the form.

This letter portion along with two weeks prior published notice in the Anoka County Union and the Forest Lake Times, will satisfy notice informing property owners of the CLID Annual Meeting required by Resolution #2008-10, Anoka County Board of Commissioners, Order Establishing Coon Lake Improvement District, Item # 7 in accordance with Minn. Statute, 103B.571, Subd. 2.

CLID meetings are currently held at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of each month at the Coon Lake Community and Senior Center (CLCSC), 182 Forest Rd., Wyoming, MN 55092. Additional meetings may be added for the fourth Wednesday to accommodate the workload with regards to the lake vegetation treatment planning or to prepare for the annual meeting. The CLID board is subject to the rules and statutes of the State of Minnesota Open Meeting Law, MN Statute Chapter 13D. Meeting minutes of all CLID meetings are available on the CLID website, www.clidmn.org. Treasurer's reports will be posted twice per year, after the January and July board meetings.

This year the Annual Meeting of the CLID will be held on Wednesday, July 24, 2013, at the Coon Lake Community and Senior Center, address above, in the Coon Lake Beach area. Meeting time begins at 7:00 PM and voting for Directors by ballot will be open from 7:30 – 8:00 PM following introductions.

The agenda includes:

- Two of the five position terms of the board are expiring. We will be meeting candidates and electing two residents to serve in the open position for three (3) year terms on the Board of Directors
- We will be presenting options having costs in excess of \$5,000.00, which will require a vote for a 2014 Plan of Work to be carried out by the Lake Vegetation Management Team
- We will approve a budget for the fiscal year to submit to Anoka County
- We will be voting on the CLID annual fee on the 2014 tax statements

If you are interested in serving your lake community through the CLID, we encourage you to consider filing for the open board positions to be elected through a ballot process at the July 24, 2013 CLID meeting. To file for Office of Director, please refer to the following requirements:

- Eligibility. Individuals must be unique property owners with property abutting Coon Lake, Anoka County, including the man-made channel.
- Candidates. Candidates shall be 18 years of age and submit a completed Letter of Interest within the stated filing period.
- Filing Period. Letters of Interest shall be filed not more than eight weeks or less than four weeks before the annual meeting. The filing dates for this year are between May 29, 2013 and June 26, 2013.
- Letter of Interest. The Letter shall contain the following information:
 - i. The candidate's true name or the name by which the candidate is commonly and generally known in the community;
 - ii. The address and telephone number of the individual;
 - iii. The signature of the individual and
 - iv. The reason the candidate is running for office.
 - v. The Letter shall be presented at a CLID Board meeting or mailed to:
Coon Lake Improvement District
P.O. Box 26
East Bethel, MN 55011

Property owners not present at the annual meeting may participate in the election of the board of directors by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots shall be mailed to any eligible voter requesting one beginning no later than 10 days before the annual meeting. Completed absentee ballots shall be mailed to the Coon Lake Improvement District, P.O. Box 26, East Bethel, MN 55011. Absentee ballots not received by 3 p.m. the day of the annual meeting are void and shall not be counted. Absentee ballots can be obtained by calling Barb Bouljon, election official, at 763-434-7787 after July 1, 2013.

An update on past and planned treatments for aquatic invasive species will be presented at the annual meeting along with an accounting of funds spent and planned for 2013 and 2014.

The CLID Board recommends joining the Coon Lake Improvement Association (CLIA). As a CLIA member, you would receive current and pertinent information regarding Coon Lake via email and newsletters. We think that it is important for property owners to be an integral part of their community and to be well informed. The MN DNR favorably recognizes a lake association with a large percentage of membership. Please consider this thought and should you wish, request a membership form and you will receive one either electronically or by US Mail. CLIA's email address is: coonlakeimprovementassociation@yahoo.com.

With warmest regards,

The CLID Board of Directors:

Michael Bury	Chairman	mike323b@comcast.net	612-618-1372
Al Beck	1 st Vice Chair	albeck9801@hotmail.com	763-434-9801
Arlan Mercil	2 nd Vice Chair	bevmercil@hotmail.com	763-434-9811
Lowell Efterfield	Treasurer	lowellefterfield@gmail.com	763-434-3414
Keith VonDeLinde	Secretary	dunndelinde@aol.com	763-755-5841

(FFI or clarification, feel free to call Mike Bury @ 612 618 1372)

**COON LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT - (CLID)
REQUEST TO BE EXCLUDED FROM HERBICIDE TREATMENTS
FOR AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) CONTROL**

SIGNING THIS FORM DOES NOT EXEMPT YOUR PROPERTY FROM THE ANNUAL CLID FEE CHARGED TO ALL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE DISTRICT

Use this form each year to Opt Out of having herbicide treatments to control AIS within the 150' lake-ward zone from your shoreline:

Due to the distribution date of aforementioned information and when the treatments would occur, this signed form is only valid when signed between January 1st and May 31st and is valid only for that years Spring/Summer season. If you plan to submit this form and wish not to have treatment for CLP, do it immediately as early season treatment for CLP is temperature sensitive and could be applied as early as mid April. EWM treatments may occur as early as mid May. Your request to "Opt Out" is invalid for treatments that occur prior to receipt of your signature by the CLID or the DNR.

Submit a copy of the following to each of the two addresses listed below:

Coon Lake Improvement District
PO Box 26
East Bethel, MN 55011

Keegan Lund / Invasive Species Specialist
Division of Ecological and Water Resources/ MN Dept of Natural Resources
1200 Warner Rd, St. Paul, MN 55106

I have read the annual letter sent on or before April 1st of this current year and reviewed this document. I request that no herbicide treatment occur adjacent to our property and 150' lake-ward of our shoreline. (Only one signature is required.)

Signed _____ Date _____

All requested information must be entered for verification and validation purposes.

Current Year: _____ Pin Number(s): _____

Property Owners Name(s): _____

Lake Property Address: _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone Number(s) Home: _____ Cell: _____

Mailing Address (If different from Lake Property Address):

