

2012 Treatment Report

Again in 2012, as last year, the Coon Lake Improvement District (CLID) Board contracted with Lake Restoration, Inc. (LRI) to treat the lake for Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and with Professional Lake and Land Management Corp. (PLM) to treat the lake for Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM). The same two firms were also chosen in 2010, but the lake was divided into two sections for treatment control by both firms to receive experiential information relating to treatment controls for maximum benefit, and to be able to recognize differing treatment styles to be more aware of factors that might dictate results. Being both firms were successful with 90% eradication rate, were very fair with their pricing and no major issues of results, it was decided to award this year's contract to the lowest bidder of each specific targeted plant species.

The Bay-wide Pilot Project Program that Coon Lake was accepted into in 2010 and 2011 was discontinued and replaced by a more acceptable grant program in the opinion of the CLID Board. It is evidenced by the 4 year Treatment Summary with acreage and cost analysis on pp6 of the 2012 Annual Meeting Presentation - url: (http://www.clidmn.org/2012_minutes.html). We have been able to treat more acres with less money. In 2009, 73 acres were treated for nearly \$27,000 and this year, 252 acres were treated for under \$9,500. All but one of 137 acres requested, likely due to redrawing the polygons, to treat CLP was treated by LRI in early May and the CLID was reimbursed by a MN State Grant of \$20,400. All 116 acres requested to treat for Nuisance EWM were treated in June with a bonus of .21 acres. The CLID applied for and received a Nuisance EWM Grant for \$17,431.50 as partial reimbursement for EWM treatment. We are grateful to the State and more specifically to the Grants Coordinator, Wendy Crowell for her work to inform us and to assist with our successful bid for these grants.

This turn-around is an amazing improvement from past years when an unacceptable ratio of invasive species was left untreated and our goal to reduce invasive species infestation to less than 5% of Coon Lakes' area would never have had a prayer. Many Thanks to whoever seemingly moved mountains in the State policy!

According to reports from many residents and spotter team members, the results of the 2012 treatments for CLP and EWM were very successful and the navigation has been greatly improved with expectations of improving water quality reports in the future. Reports of some untreated EWM on the south and shores of the west lake have been reviewed and will be more closely dealt with in 2013. Please feel free to let me know of any other canopied areas of EWM the spotter team may have overlooked and we can also include them next year as well.

Look for the CLID annual letter early in April informing property owners of the Annual Meeting and how to opt out of herbicide treatments rather than furnish their signature allowing them to occur.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to the individuals that have spent a considerable amount of their time to delineate (inspect and document) the entire lake for these invasive species and some of it was done urgently due to a time/temperature sensitive situation. As I am, if you have the opportunity, please be sure to acknowledge the efforts of Jim Gunderson, Keith and Arlan Mercil, Lowell Efterfield, Carl Czeck, Mike Gaynor and Leon Mager. Thanks also to those of you that have stepped up to assist with next year's delineation. Leon has said it should go well with two pontoons and two crews so if you are able to help out, please call Leon at 763 434 9652 and let him know of your availability.

Thank you to those of you attending the CLID Annual Meeting where the 2013 Budget of \$192,850 and 2013 fee of \$25 were approved. The CLID Board expects that the annual assessment fee will continue to remain low and the plan for the future, at least short term will be to replace the previous year's expenditures. Keith Von DeLinde was re-elected by vote to serve as a CLID Director for another three-year period. In the business meeting that followed the Annual Meeting it was decided for the following 12 months the slate of directors will remain as the previous year, Keith VonDeLinde will serve as Secretary, Lowell Efterfield will serve as Treasurer, Arlan Mercil will serve as Second Vice Chair, Al Beck will serve as First Vice Chair and Mike Bury as Chair.

Thank you all for your service to Coon Lake.

Ongoing efforts by CLIA, CLID, the DNR and private professional lake service organizations such as PLM, Lake Restoration and other interested parties will continue to protect the quality of Coon Lake and protect the best interest of the users and property owners of Coon Lake.

Mike Bury
CLID Chairman

(This information is being submitted to the MN DNR, MN PCA, Anoka County, Cities of Columbus, East Bethel and Ham Lake to comply with MN Statute 103B.571 Subd. 4 as part of the required Annual Report)