

2015 Treatment Report

The Coon Lake Improvement District (CLID) Board again contracted with Professional Lake and Land Management Corp. (PLM) to treat the lake for Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). To save time, effort and dollars, the contract was through the States' Materials Management Division and the agreement was referred to as MN Cooperative Purchasing Agreement. That agreement assists government bodies and other organizations to acquire supplies, commodities, equipment or services through a competitive bidding process or requests for proposals.

Being concerned with the possibility of the 2014-15 winter being one with a lighter snow cover and not being able to adequately delineate for CLP, the Board sought bids for the CLP delineation by others. This is because the entire process is usually done urgently due to a time/temperature sensitive situation for the treatment window and we had missed it the previous year, when fortunately only 5 acres were located. AIS Consulting Services was awarded the project due to the lowest bid of \$525. The CLP treatment of 21.85 acres in seven sites occurred on April 29th at a cost of \$7037. 1.7 acres in the East basin and 21.15 in the West. Our Spotter Team was out on the lake shortly after for the EWM delineation and submitted a request to treat 23.1 acres. The DNR representatives that approve our request for treatment found 26.4 acres with enough EWM to treat during their search and approved that quantity of acres for 13 sites. These were allocated by 13 acres in the East and 13.4 in the West. That treatment occurred on July 1st due to a communication failure as we prefer these treatments take place as early as possible yet the delineation needs to take place when the plants are mature enough to find and to treat the maximum quantity. The cost of the EWM treatment was \$8958. A Grant from the State of Minnesota was applied for previous to the treatment season and approved for \$100 per treated acre up to a maximum of \$12,200. With our total acreage treated amounting to 48.25 acres, it was our expectation to receive a \$4825 check from the State. With great surprise and gratitude, for some reason, the State decided to reimburse the maximum allowable amount to the Grantees. That brought the \$15,995 expense for treatments down to \$3795 for the 2015 season after receiving the check for \$12,200. Many thanks the State to assist us with this expenditure. Again we all owe a debt of gratitude to the Public Works Department of the City of East Bethel for the summer use of the dumpsters provided for weed disposal. Lake residents please remember to use these when you remove your weeds from the lake. They are located at the two East Bethel Fire Stations near Coon Lake, one at the intersection of CR 22 and CR 15 and the other across the street from Smokey's Bar and Grill on Forest Rd in Coon Lake Beach

In addition, we would like to thank the individuals that have spent a considerable amount of their time to delineate (inspect and document) the entire lake for EWM and a special effort by Jeff Welciek to monitor for zebra mussels. As I am, if you have the opportunity, please be sure to acknowledge the efforts of Jim Gunderson, Keith and Arlan Mercil, Ron Petricka, Lowell Efterfield, Carl Czeck, and Leon Mager. If you are able to help out, please call Leon at 763 434 9652 and let him know of your availability.

We chose not to renew the Lake Vegetation Management Plan that expired in April as we have not been treating more than 15% of the lakes littoral area which was the primary reason for the document. The stated goal of the CLID is to reduce invasive species infestation to less than 5% of the lakes area. Please visit <http://www.clidmn.org> for more information, semi-annual Treasurer reports and monthly meeting minutes or to send an email requesting further information.

Thank you to those of you attending the CLID Annual Meeting where the 2016 Budget of \$192,850 and 2016 fee of \$25 per assessable property 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. Bob Czeck was re-elected for another three-year term as a CLID Board Director. 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, Steve Olson will serve as Secretary, Bob Czeck 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.

Look for the CLID annual letter early in April informing property owners of the Annual Meeting and how to opt out of herbicide treatments. 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)