

Green Lake Breeze

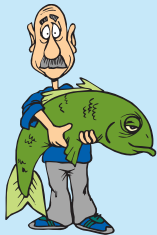
P.O. Box 362 • Spicer, MN 56288

www.greenlakespicer.com

May 2015

Plan to attend the
Green Lake Property Owners
Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 20, 2015
at the
Green Lake Bible Camp

A full breakfast will be served beginning at 8:00 am with the annual meeting to follow. Bring your neighbors to see how the board is working for the betterment of Green Lake.



Fishing Tournament information...

West Central Bassmasters
7/19 & 9/13

Amateur Bass Series
6/27

Fishers of Men
Granite City Division
7/11

Dave Coahran
MN DNR Fisheries

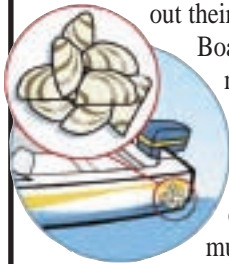
Greetings from Green Lake,

As I write this, the song birds are back, the ice is off Green Lake and the grass is turning green. Spring has arrived and it is beautiful at the lake!



The GLPOA Board had a very busy fall and winter working on projects that are important to the health and longevity of Green Lake. Here are a couple highlights:

1. EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL TREATMENT PROGRAM: Over the last several years, Bob Schemel has generously and graciously donated his time and equipment to run our milfoil treatment program. He has helped us successfully manage a challenging problem at minimal cost to our property owners and for that we owe him an incredible thank you! Going forward; we have hired PLM Lake & Land Management out of Brainerd, Minnesota to take over the program.
2. ZEBRA MUSSEL STATUS: As many of you know, a single zebra mussel was found in Green Lake last July. Unfortunately, more cases were confirmed by the DNR last fall when many residents took out their docks and boat lifts. This difficult news started a dialogue between our GLPOA Board, the local DNR and PLM Lake Management about our zebra mussel treatment and mitigation options moving forward. After many hours of research and discussion, we concluded that because our zebra mussel outbreak is so widespread-on all four shores of the lake - it cannot be treated at this time. The experts we consulted explained that zebra mussel treatment and eradication has only been effective in very small, contained areas and the current technology and chemicals available to us would be much too expensive and almost certainly unsuccessful in our situation.



The good news is that great strides are being made in the fight against aquatic invasive species. New treatment options for zebra mussels are in development and results are looking very promising in the right setting. We will continue to be diligent in working with the DNR and the University of Minnesota to monitor areas of the lake where zebra mussels have been found and stay on top of our treatment options with PLM, as they become available. Also, Minnesota now has dedicated funding for AIS, which have been providing Kandiyohi County with a constant revenue stream to deal with things like Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels.

Aquatic invasive species are here and we have to deal with them. Rest assured that the Green lake Property Owners Association and our partners will work hard and stay focused on our mission to protect, enhance and restore Green lake for our future generations.



Jamie Duininck
President GLPOA



Please Assist Us!

The Board of Directors, of the Green Lake Property Owners Association, will print a new directory, to be mailed when dues are paid, starting in June 2015.

We would like to ask for your assistance to make sure that we have your name and address spelled correctly. Please check the 2012 directory to see that this information is the way you wish to have it printed.

We wish to ask you to inform anyone new to the neighborhood about the directory so their names may be printed. We need to hear from you, as we do not know the changes! Please write to us.

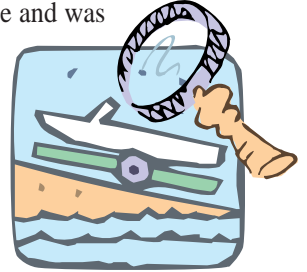


GLPOA Applies for County AIS Funding



The GLPOA is the first lake association to apply for AIS (aquatic invasive species) funding through Kandiyohi County's local grant program. In 2015, the Kandiyohi County Board of Commissioners and AIS Taskforce made \$55,600 available in grant funding to lake associations for the prevention and treatment of AIS. The Green Lake application is for \$10,000 in local funding, with a \$10,000 match from the GLPOA, for the treatment of Eurasian Watermilfoil. The grant application period closes on May 31, at which time the AIS Taskforce will be able to evaluate all of the applications with respect to the available funding. Terry Frazee represents Green Lake on the AIS Taskforce and was the author of GLPOA's local grant application.

In addition to local grants, this summer, Kandiyohi County's AIS Taskforce will be increasing the number of inspection hours on Green Lake, as well as other county lakes. At the present time, the AIS Taskforce is planning on having 7 day per week inspections and decontamination services at Saulsbury Beach from Memorial Day through mid-August. 7 day per week inspections are also planned for the County Park 5 access, during the peak weeks of summer. Minnesota DNR is also planning on having decontamination services available at Saulsbury Beach on weekends in May and September.



The AIS Taskforce is also purchasing three sentry units (I-LIDS), which are electronic inspection and education units, which will help fill gaps at active boat launches, when "live" inspectors are unavailable. Decontamination units cost approximately \$8,500 a piece. The Rush Brown access has been selected for placement of one of the sentry units. Another unit is scheduled for Lake Florida and the third unit will share time between Lake Solomon and Games Lake. As Green Lake's AIS Taskforce representative, Terry Frazee was instrumental in the research of the sentry units. In addition to the sentry unit, part-time inspection services will also be provided at Rush Brown throughout the summer.



Green Lake accesses are also proposed to feature car counters. The purpose of the car counters, which cost approximately \$700 each, is to measure the amount of boat traffic entering at the various access points around Green Lake. The goal is to utilize this summer's car counter data to help plan for 2016.



To assist in the enforcement of AIS laws, the Sheriff's Department will be adding two part-time deputies for the summer months.

Kandiyohi County's AIS Taskforce appreciates Green Lake's ongoing efforts in the fight against aquatic invasive species and looks forward to an active summer protecting Kandiyohi County's waters.



For additional information regarding Kandiyohi County's AIS Taskforce and its activities, please call Dave Paulsen, AIS Coordinator, in the Health Department at 320-231-7800 x2116 or via email at david.paulsen@co.kandiyohi.mn.us.



A NOTE FROM THE SHERIFF



Greetings to All Green Lake Residents!

I hope everyone had a good winter whether they stayed in Minnesota or went to a warmer climate; by comparison to the 2013-2014 winter this past winter was pretty mild!



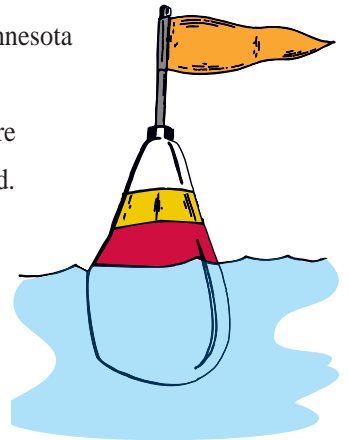
Well, as most of you are probably aware, zebra mussels were located in Green Lake last year. This is too bad as Green Lake residents, along with State and Local agencies have worked hard at trying to stop the spread of zebra mussels into Kandiyohi County lakes. Kandiyohi County does have an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Force that was formed last year and has representatives from the lake associations, DNR, County Board, fishing leagues, law enforcement and watershed districts. One of the main functions of the task force is to educate the public about invasive species and what they can do to stop the spread of them. The Sheriff's Office will have deputies working to enforce laws that were put in place by the legislation to help stop the spread of invasive species. We have been doing this the past few years. Some of the violations we have seen over the years are individuals not removing the drain plugs before leaving the lake they are on, emptying live well water and removal of weeds from the trailers. Let's all work together to stop the spread of aquatic invasive species!



On another topic, this year (2015) is the year that temporary structures and buoy permits have to be renewed. The Sheriff's Office does this every two years and we have received quite a few back. Thank you for doing that and for those that are thinking about putting out swim buoys, a swim raft or a mooring buoy please stop by the Sheriff's Office to pick up a permit application or visit the Sheriff's Office website to get this application:

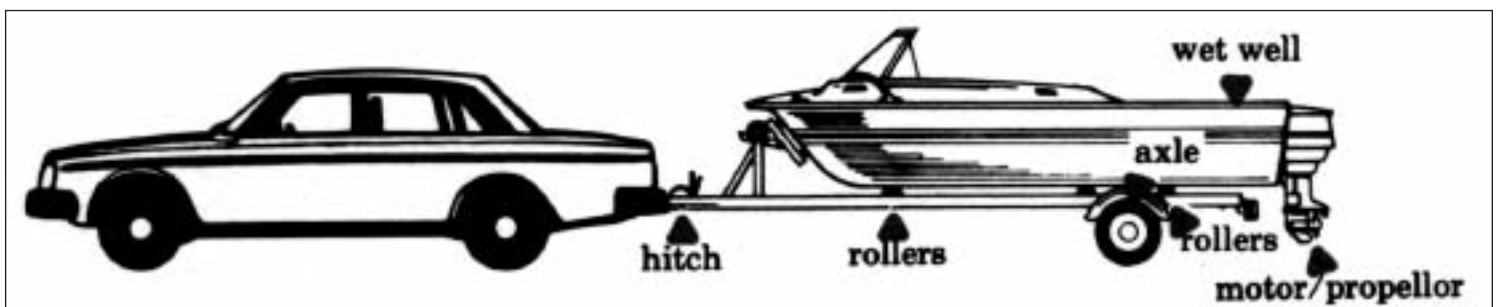
(http://www.co.kandiyohi.mn.us/departments/sheriff/boat_and_watery_safety.php) Minnesota Boat and Water Safety Rule 6110.1800 spells out when a temporary structure and buoy permit is required. Deputies will be checking with the structures to make sure they have a permit number visible on them and if the structure in the water is permitted.

As always, if you have questions please call the Sheriff's Office and we will assist you.



Thanks, and have a great summer!

Sheriff Dan Hartog



2014 Summary Report of Watercraft Inspection Results at Green Lake

The Green Lake Property Owners received a prevention grant from the MN DNR in April of 2014 for 316 hours of Level 1 inspection time during the 2014 watercraft inspection season, to be implemented at the Saulsbury access in Spicer. The DNR inspector also accomplished hours at the County Park 5 access and Rush Brown, but these hours were in addition to the Saulsbury hours. The contract dates were April 18th through October 15th of 2014. One DNR watercraft inspector was hired to work on Green Lake in Kandiyohi County in order to accomplish both the grant hours and the DNR goal hours.

The following figures and tables show the results of the inspection program at Green Lake for the 2014 season. All data is reflective of DNR personnel unless otherwise noted in the graph title.

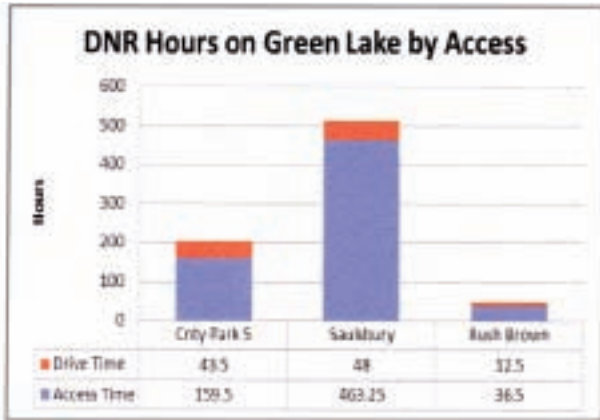


Figure 1: MN DNR Watercraft Inspectors worked 763.25 hours (659.25 hours of access time and 104 hours of drive time) at Green Lake.

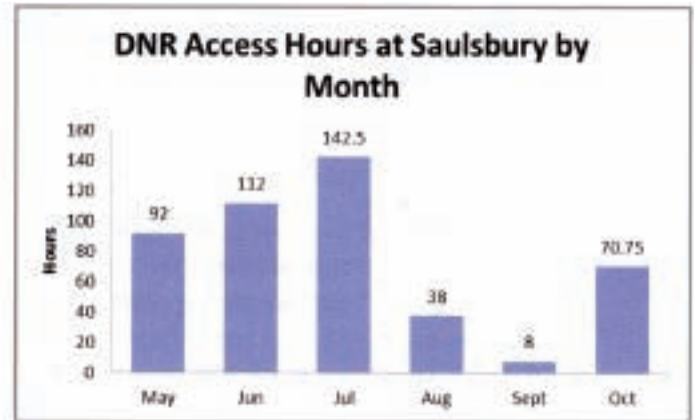


Figure 2: MN DNR Watercraft Inspectors worked 463.25 hours at the Saulsbury access in Spicer. These hours do not include drive time.

Figure 3: Inspections per hour per month as seen by DNR Inspectors at the Saulsbury access.

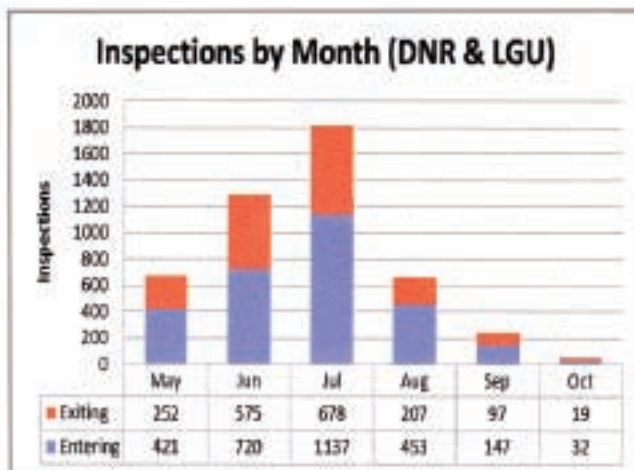
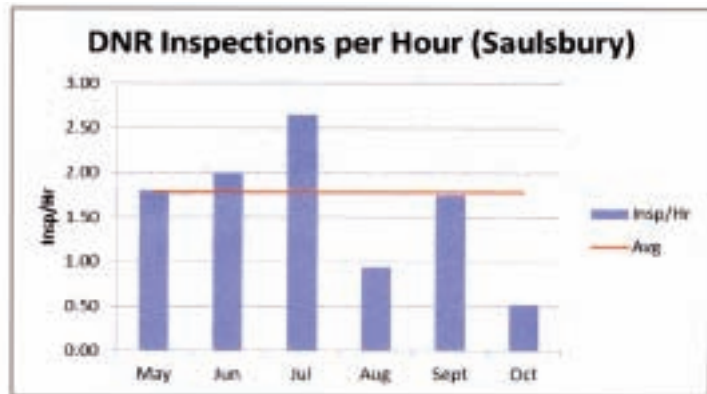


Figure 4: During the 2014 season 4738 inspections were conducted by the DNR at Green Lake.

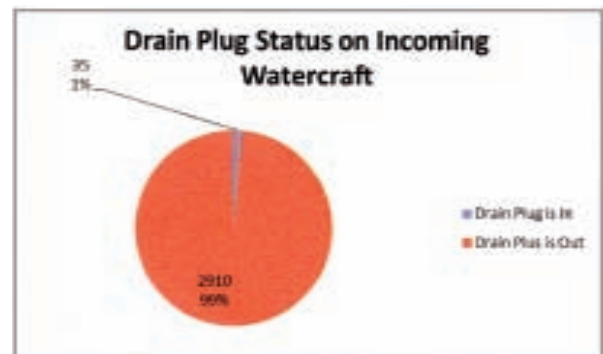
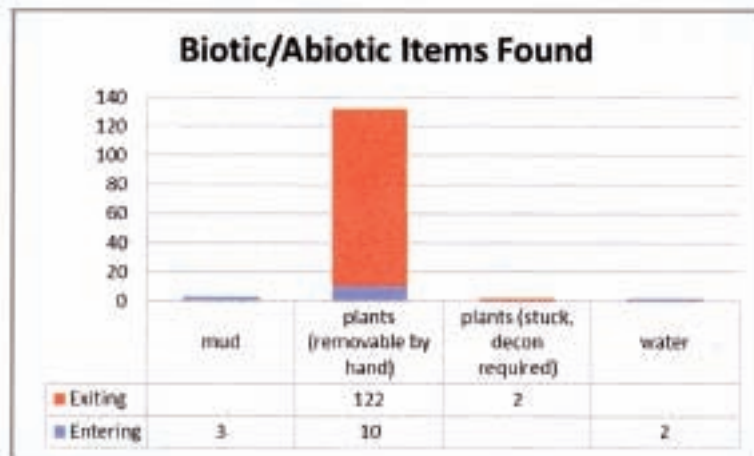


Figure 5: Number of incoming watercraft to Green Lake with drain plugs installed. These users were directed away from the access to pull their plugs and drain any standing water.

Figure 8: There were 15 entering watercraft found in violation of the clean and drain portion of the law. 124 watercraft were found to have attached plants upon exiting Green Lake.

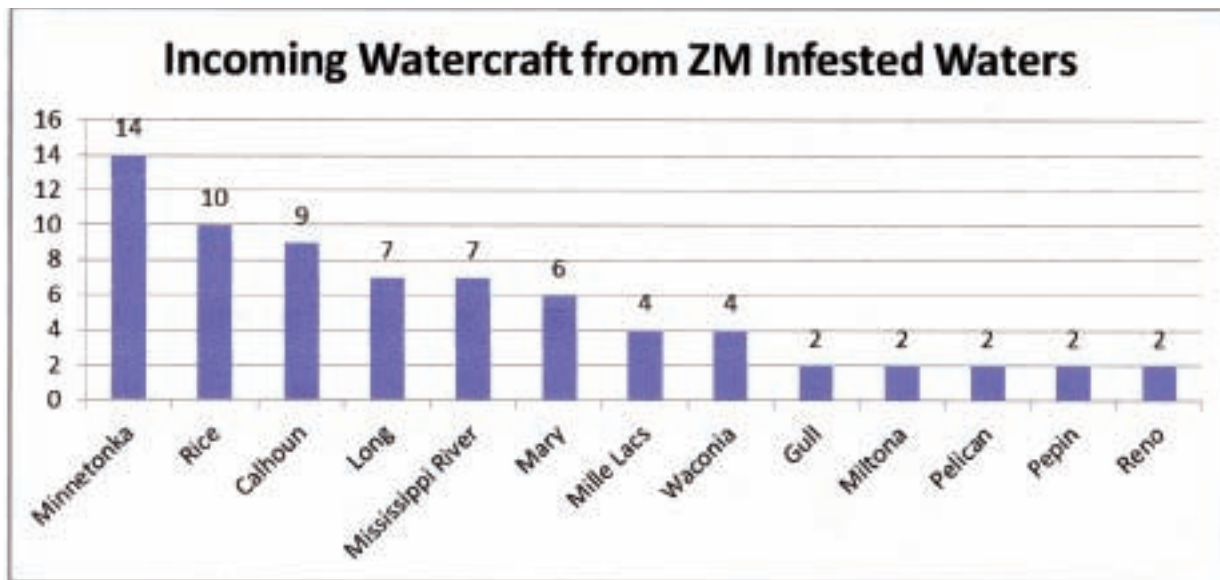


Conclusion:

Our goal was to accomplish 436 total hours, which includes both DNR (120) and Grant (316) hours at the Saulsbury (376 hours) and County Park 5 (60 hours) accesses. We accomplished 511.25 hours at the Saulsbury access and 104 hours at the County Park 5 access on Green Lake. This exceeded our Green Lake goal hours by 179.25 hours. This excess is due to having one main intern working at Green Lake throughout the summer. After he returned to school we continued to staff Green Lake after it was discovered to be infested with zebra mussels.

DNR inspectors conducted 1220 inspections from May until October on Green Lake. During these contacts, inspectors are trained to help educate users about aquatic invasive species, state statutes, and help identify areas on the individual’s watercraft that may be likely to contain invasive species.

Zebra Mussel Waters: The following graph shows previous waters for boaters coming to Green Lake that are classified as infested with ZM. Not in the graph, but having 1 incoming watercraft are: Bass, Brophy, Emily, Independence, Pelican, Pleasant, Rebecca, Reno, Turtle, Watab, White Bear and Winnibigoshish.

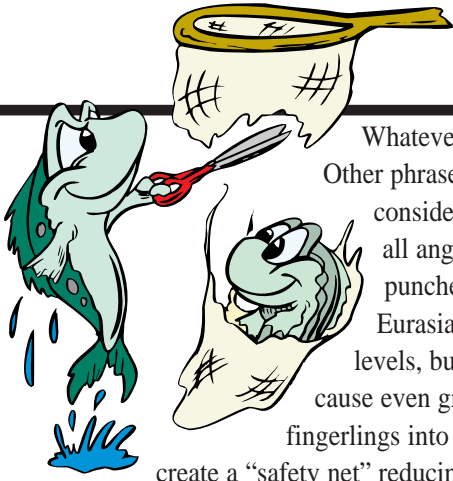


Conclusion:

Our goal was to accomplish 436 total hours, which includes both DNR (120) and Grant (316) hours at the Saulsbury (376 hours) and County Park 5 (60 hours) accesses. We accomplished 511.25 hours at the Saulsbury access and 104 hours at the County Park 5 access on Green Lake. This exceeded our Green Lake goal hours by 179.25 hours. This excess is due to having one main intern working at Green Lake throughout the summer. After he returned to school we continued to staff Green Lake after it was discovered to be infested with zebra mussels.

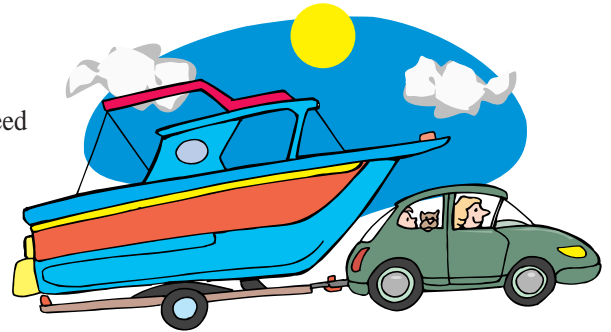
DNR inspectors conducted 1220 inspections from May until October on Green Lake. During these contacts, inspectors are trained to help educate users about aquatic invasive species, state statutes and help identify areas on the individual’s watercraft that may be likely to contain invasive species.

Green Lake Fishery Update



Whatever the opposite of status quo is would be the correct depiction of the state of the Green Lake fishery. Other phrases like “in limbo”, “unknown”, “unpredictable”, etc. would also suffice. Green Lake is widely considered the gem for this part of the state; however, the lake has taken repeated body blows lately from all angles. I remember Mike Tyson saying about his opponents that “everyone has a plan until they get punched in the mouth”. That kind of is how I feel about Green Lake right now. The first body blow was Eurasian Watermilfoil back in 2000 which despite a lot of effort has gradually increased, not to nuisance levels, but to levels that do influence Green Lake and potentially other lakes (thru transport) where it may cause even greater havoc. Other body blows are continued poor walleye natural reproduction/survival of fingerlings into their first fall; continued lack of yellow perch that are beyond their second or third birthday which create a “safety net” reducing predation on fingerling sized walleye; more frequent summer kill of tullibee leading to the population decline of that species which is sort of a “canary in the coal mine” as far as global climate change is concerned; signs that annual stockings of approximately 20 to the pound fingerlings may not be maintaining existing gillnet catch rate goals; evidence that the strain of walleye in Green Lake that has been stocked in the past 15-20 years (i.e., Pike River strain) may not be as good as possibly a more local strain of walleye, etc. And then the punch in the mouth came.... the discovery of Zebra Mussels last year. Green Lake hasn’t got knocked out, but it needed a standing 8 count.

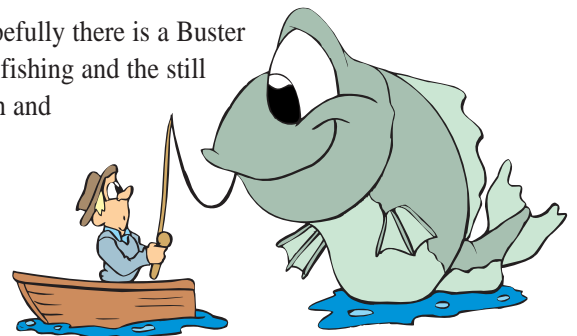
It is truly unknown what impact Zebra Mussels will have on the Green Lake fishery and we all wish that we didn’t have to worry about that, but that is not reality. We need a game plan after being punched in the mouth. The first stage of the game plan is to assess what condition we are in right now, our “baseline” condition. Zebra Mussels are filter feeders and feed on tiny microscopic phytoplankton that is the food source for critters like zooplankton which are an important food source for most species of young fish (and some species of older fish, like sunfish). We are going to sample zooplankton throughout the spring thru fall beginning this year before Zebra Mussels have a significant impact on the lake. We will compare this “baseline” information with continued sampling the next 5 or so years. We are also trying to secure funding to assess impacts on Green Lake phytoplankton which approximately \$15,000 per year will be needed, doesn’t sound like much, but there isn’t much \$\$ out there.



We have started assessing the current state of the Green Lake fishery with a winter creel this past winter which will continue into this open water season to monitor “baseline” fish catch, harvest and fishing pressure statistics. In addition, we will continue to monitor the entire fish population with our annual summer “netting” and fall electrofishing surveys. If continued stockings of walleye fingerlings are needed (I anticipate they will be), we will try to secure a larger sized fingerling (e.g., 10 to the pound, not 20-25 to the pound) with the hopes that a larger fingerling may survive better. Although southern MN walleye genetics is a new emerging topic to investigate, there is at least some evidence that walleye that originated from southern MN may be best for our lakes. Diamond Lake has been identified as the purest source of southern MN walleye since very little stockings of northern strain walleye has been needed out there since the early 1990’s. Egg harvest went well in Diamond Lake this spring. We will attempt to grow-out Diamond Lake strain walleye fingerlings in some of our best walleye ponds for stocking into Green Lake for the next several years.

Eventually, somebody came along with the right game plan and put Tyson down; hopefully there is a Buster Douglas in Green Lake’s future. In the meantime, enjoy the nice crappie and sunfish fishing and the still “better than most” walleye population with some line-stretching northern, largemouth and smallmouth bass action along the way, that ain’t all bad.

Dave Coahran, DNR Spicer Area Fisheries Supervisor





Green Lake Eurasian Water Milfoil Treatment Update

In the past, we have conducted our own annual treatment for milfoil in Green Lake. Many thanks to Bob Schemel and Roger Sowder who have performed this work most recently as well as to many of you who have volunteered your time and have helped in the past.

Effective this year, your board has elected to transfer this treatment to an outside third party specialist - PLM Lake and Land Management out of Brainard, MN. We made this change as Bob made the decision to discontinue this work and investigation of PLM as a third party provider provided many positives. These include improved liability coverage, lower costs, proven expertise, and guaranteed results. They also provide permit assistance and third party surveys.

Included in this newsletter is notice of Eurasian milfoil treatment for 2015 which should take place between June and August when the water temperature is over 60 degrees. In very rare instances, we may need to treat within 150 feet of your property shoreline. If for any reason, you do not want treatment there is notification procedure outlined.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Terry Frazee, or any other board member.

Bruce Schweitzer

Green Lake Property Owners Association • PO Box 32 • Spicer, MN 56288

Treatment of Eurasian Water Milfoil



The Green Lake Property Owners Association has contracted to treat Eurasian Water Milfoil, an Aquatic Invasive Species, in Green Lake in 2015.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has granted to the Green Lake Property Owners Association a waiver of the requirement that the association obtain the signatures of approval of owners of lakeshore property. Instead, the Green Lake Property Owners Association will notify property owners of the treatment through alternate forms[s]. This letter is one form that the Green Lake Property Owners Association is using to notify property owners. Other forms [may] include notification on the Association web page, local news publications and during the Green Lake Property Owners Association annual meeting.

With regard to the treatment for this year, 2015:

1. The proposed timing for treatment: **June-August**
2. The target species for the treatment: **Eurasian Water Milfoil**
3. The method of control or product being used: **Aquatic Herbicide**
4. If landowner does NOT want treatment to occur adjacent to the landowner's property: fill out the form below and notify Bruce Schweitzer immediately at the following address, phone number and email address:



Green Lake Property Owners Association
PO Box 362
Spicer, MN 56288
E-mail: brschweitzer@yahoo.com
Phone: Terry Frazee 320-796-2502
Bruce Schweitzer 507-440-0905

Green Lake Property Owners Association, Board of Directors

Please see back page for treating Eurasian Water Milfoil

The Green Lake Breeze
Green Lake Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 362
Spicer, Minnesota 56288
www.greenlakespicer.com

Return Service Requested



Green Lake Eurasian Water Milfoil Treatment

I request that **NO** herbicide treatment occur adjacent to our shoreline property.

Signed _____ Date _____

All requested information must be entered for verification purposes.

Year: _____ Pin Number(s): _____

Property Owner's Name(s): _____

Lake Property Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Phone Number(s) Home: _____ Cell: _____

Mailing Address (if different from lake property address:) _____
