

# THE SCUTTLEBUT

## Center Lakes Association

FALL 2015

### Aquatic Invasive Species

This summer, Center Lakes Association has been working very diligently on the problem of invasive aquatic plants in our lakes. A group of volunteers met with Christine Jurek, our local DNR Aquatic Invasive Species specialist. She joined us on a pontoon tour of both North and South Center Lakes.

The purpose of the tour was to review the kind of weeds we have, learn how to recognize and map the problem areas, and how best to treat what invasive species are found. It was very informative, and we learned a lot! The 2 main invasive species that have affected Center Lakes is CLP and EWM. Pictured here is Christine, using a weed rake to pull up assorted weeds, then evaluating the amounts and types of weeds found. Can you identify the weeds in the pictures?

Curly Leaf Pond Weed grows from the shore to depths of up to 15 feet. The leaves are somewhat stiff and crinkled, approximately 1/2-inch wide and 2 to 3 inches long and have serrated edges. This invasive begins growing in early spring before most other pondweeds; dies back during midsummer; the flower stalks, when present, stick up above the water surface in June; appears reddish-brown in the water, but is actually green when pulled out of the water and examined closely. The best time to survey for CLP is in May/June when the weed is visible at the surface of the water and has become densely matted.

Eurasian Watermilfoil was accidentally introduced to North America from Europe and spread westward into inland lakes primarily by boats. It grows best in 12-15 ft water depths. The plant's floating canopy crowds out important native water plants. A key factor in the plant's success is its ability to reproduce through stem fragmentation and runners. A single segment of stem and leaves can take root and form a new colony. EWM spreads by small fragments clinging to boats and trailers as they move from lake to lake. Eurasian watermilfoil has difficulty becoming established in lakes with well-established populations of native plants. The best time to survey is in July/August when plant growth is at peak

We will be using this information to work on a whole lake management plan for aquatic invasive species.



**FALL MEETING****SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2015****SWEDISH VILLAGE FAMILY RESTAURANT****CENTER CITY, MN****ROLLS AND COFFEE***(While they last-**Suggested \$5 donation to cover costs)***9:30AM - 11: 30AM****Business Meeting and****Guest Speaker****George McMahon, County Commissioner****County Rd 20 Bridge Update****LID Boundary Adjustment**

It is proposed that the existing Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District boundary be adjusted to match the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes watershed drainage area. In 2009 the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Board of Directors adopted the official Minnesota Department of Natural Resources map of the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed. The Board made the decision to work on projects throughout the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed and not limit projects to the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District taxation area identified in 1984. The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Water Resource Management Plan, mission, goals, objectives and by-laws are based on the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Need more information? Check out the website at <http://www.co.chisago.mn.us/300/Lake-Improvement-District>

**Website**[www.centerlakesassociation.org](http://www.centerlakesassociation.org)**E-Mail**[centerlakes@frontier.com](mailto:centerlakes@frontier.com)**Facebook**[www.facebook.com/centerlakesmn](http://www.facebook.com/centerlakesmn)**Mailing address**

**Center Lakes Association  
P.O. Box 568  
Lindstrom MN, 55045**

**Other important invasive species**

Carp can grow to be from 50-99 pounds each. A single carp lifespan is 15 years or more. A single female carp can lay millions of eggs a year. Carp are one of the most damaging aquatic invasive species because of their severe impacts in shallow lakes and wetlands and their wide distribution. Their feeding disrupts shallowly rooted plants, muddying the water. They release phosphorus that increases algae growth. The decline in water quality that they cause leads to decreased numbers of aquatic plants needed by waterfowl and fish.



Purple Loosestrife invades marshes and lakeshores, replacing cattails and other wetland plants. The plant can form dense, impenetrable stands which are unsuitable as cover, food, or nesting sites for a wide range of native wetland animals including ducks, geese, rails, bitterns, muskrats, frogs, toads, and turtles. Many rare and endangered wetland plants and animals are also at risk. Purple Loosestrife likely spreads when seeds escape from gardens and nurseries into wetlands, lakes, and rivers. Once in aquatic systems, seeds are easily spread by moving water and wetland animals. Seeds can grow even after being submerged in water for 2-3 years.

From Page 1: What weeds were found in our lakes? Did you identify them correctly?

Picture A shows, from left to right, Curly Leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Watermilfoil, and White Stem pondweed (a native species)

Picture B shows Coontail (another native species)

# Center Lakes Association

## Annual Membership Application

- New Member**
  - Renewal Member**
  - Associate Member**
- Annual Dues \$25.00**  
Please print legibly

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I PREFER TO RECEIVE THE CLA NEWSLETTER BY;  
please circle one

- US MAIL (non-computer user only).
- E-MAIL
- Remove from list

MY LAKE SHORE PROERTY IS ON

- SOUTH CENTER LAKE
- NORTH CENTER LAKE

Please check one

- I am a full-time resident
- Seasonal
- Snowbird

\*Free will donations of any denomination are accepted for the Aquatic Invasive Species Fund. Donations are not in place of membership.

- Please contact me I am interested in volunteer opportunities.**

Mail to: CLA, PO Box 568 Lindstrom, MN 55045

Referral Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cell or land line# \_\_\_\_\_

This page authorized to be reprinted or photocopied for membership referrals.  
Nkm2014

### Membership Options

*New member is-any lakeshore owner who has never joined CLA or missed one consecutive year of paid dues. Members are entitled to one vote per parcel of land.*

*Renewal Member is any lakeshore owner who has consecutively been a member within the previous year. Members are entitled to one vote per parcel of land.*

*Associate member is a non-lakeshore property owner or renter. No voting rights*

### Center Lakes Association Objectives

- *Maintain and improve the water quality of South and North Center Lakes*
- *Promote and educate lakeshore owners and users responsible use of the lakes*
- *Bring about a spirit of cooperation among the lakeshore owners and surrounding communitites*

*Center Lakes Association encourages members to volunteer.*

### Benefits of Membership

- **Invasive aquatic weed management and education**
- **Boat and aquatic recreation safety**
- **Shoreline Education-protect your home resale values**
- **Get to know the lakeshore community**

### **Did you know ...**

- Weed treatment occurred on both lakes again this year-for the 4th year in a row. A grant was obtained from the DNR and the LID also contributed financially. Thanks to the Weed Committee for their ongoing hard work!
- CLA and 2 other local lake associations (known as the “Lakes Area Coalition of Lake Associations”) worked with the Boy Scouts to again offer an educational opportunity about lakes at Harmony in the Park this summer.
- Center Lakes Association has hats, t-shirts, wind-shirts, and denim shirts and are offering these for sale or special order. Please support the lake association.
- **Zebra mussels confirmed in Forest Lake in Washington County**-The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in Forest Lake, which will be designated as a zebra mussel infested water to limit further spread of the invasive species. The number and distribution of the zebra mussels indicate a population is likely established and natural reproduction is occurring in Forest Lake. Because of these factors, treatment would not be effective and is not planned. This is the third Minnesota lake in 2015 with a newly discovered zebra mussel population. Anglers and boaters need to be vigilant and do their part by following aquatic invasive species laws. Boaters are required to clean aquatic plants and debris from their boats, remove drain plugs and keep them out while traveling, and dispose of unused bait in the trash. The DNR also recommends letting boats and equipment dry for at least five days or washing them with high pressure or hot water before launching in other waters.

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