



CROOKED LAKE

area association

January 26, 2015
Volume 9, Issue 1



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Gary Nereson, President

Did you enjoy your lake last year? What about the year before? I believe that we have recently had some very successful years in our efforts to minimize the invasion of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM)! And, we hope for many, many more. However, we can use your help – both monetarily and otherwise. Please contact your quadrant leader, or any CLAA Board member to volunteer.



You may learn about last year's treatment, future steps, and our recently completed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan at our annual Winter Meeting. Please mark your calendars for it now:

**Thursday, February 26, 2015
At the Crooked Lake Elementary School cafeteria
6:30 PM, sign-in and social
7:00 PM meeting starts
The meeting will be educational, and rewarding.**

While our recent EWM control efforts have been quite successful, they are also growing more expensive. The Lake Vegetation Management Plan that we developed, enables us to apply for treatment variances (the ability to treat more than 12 acres). However, for that variance, the DNR requires a pretreatment Delineation Report, and a post-treatment Aquatic Plant Point Intercept Survey. So, beyond the cost of treatment we are obligated for another \$3000 for these reports – annually!

To help defray these costs we embarked on a fund raising campaign two years ago, asking for a one time \$200 donation from lakeshore owners. Many of you have already made that donation. Thank you! If you have not, please add that one time \$200 to your 2015 dues. (Remember, CLAA dues and donations are tax deductible – we are a 501(c)3 corporation.)

Continue reading to learn about all the activities of your Lake Association.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- 4th of July Boat winners
- Polar Plunge
- Winter General Meeting scheduled for Feb 26.

CROOKED LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATED



The 2014-18 Comprehensive Lake Management Plan has been approved by the CLAA membership and the Coon Creek Watershed District Board. This Plan details lake trends, management priorities & activities and implementation plans. The CLAA responsibilities are listed on page 56. The

main CLAA activities include leading the annual management of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM), including financing pre-treatment and post treatment plant surveys. Also included are boat inspections for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), to help prevent the spread to and from the lake. The last Appendix contains the first 5-year Plan. It is online at www.cooncreekwd.org.

D. Doering, CCWD

5 year—Crooked Lake Management Plan was updated in 2014 by CCWD

CROOKED LAKE—NO WAKE ZONE ORDINANCE

To protect lakeshore owners property and maintain water quality during times of unusually high water, the cities of Coon Rapids and Andover have started the process to implement a No Wake Zone Ordinance.

Under the proposed ordinance a No Wake Zone will be implemented if the water level exceeds 861.6ft above sea level and removed when the lake level falls below 861.5ft for three consecutive days.

Public input will be taken at the Lake Association Winter Meeting and in each respective city council prior to implementation of a No Wake Zone Ordinance.

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FROM THE SE QUADRANT REPRESENTATIVE

There are upcoming events that you might enjoy and an event that is going to be mandatory for all boat owners who trailer a boat.

Among the fisher people on the lake this winter, there are other activities that might be of interest to you.

On February 14, 10-12 Noon, Crooked Lake will host the Youth Ice Fishing Tournament for the 2015 Coon Rapids Snowflake Days.

On February 28, 1:00PM, the Crooked Lake beach will be the site for the 4th annual Polar Plunge.

This has been a successful event where many have sponsored those taking the plunge. Many donations have helped the Special Olympics. Please come enjoy the festivities. It is a blast to watch the courageous take the plunge. Their costumes are absolutely outrageous... truly great fun. See www.plungemn.org/events/anoka-county to participate or sponsor .

This year the DNR is taking a more active role requiring those who trailer a boat to go through a short educational course and become *certified*...The goal is to stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species from lake to lake. The guidelines are spelled out at trailers.mndnr.gov.

This winter, we have noticed that more and more fisher people are cleaning up after themselves. In fact, we have enjoyed more sport fisher people to be returning their catch back to the lake. This will indeed provide future enjoyment for others for many years to come.

Jerry Piche





*Above: vegetation density of EWM
Right: GIS survey on Crooked Lake*

CROOKED LAKE POINT INTERCEPT SURVEY

A Point-Intercept survey of Crooked Lake was conducted on Sep 16, by Clarke Aquatic Services. A Geographic Information System (GIS) was used to generate sample points in a 200 foot by 200 foot grid.

Vegetation samples were consistently taken from the same side of the boat using a 2-sided aquatic vegetation sampling rake. The areas sampled were ~3 foot square in size. Depth measurements were taken at each site to determine the lake's littoral zone. At each site, all taxa of plants sampled was determined and recorded on a scale of 1 to 4 where 1 means the plant is present and 4 means the plant is high density.

A total of seven native and one non-native plant species were identified. Plants were found to a depth of twelve feet, but most were restricted to depths at eight feet and shallower.

Native plant species found included: Muskgrass (*Chara* sp.), Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*), Sago Pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus*), Illinois Pondweed (*Potamogeton illinoensis*), Large Leaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton amplifolius*), Water Celery (Eelgrass) (*Vallisneria americana*) and White Waterlily (*Nymphaea odorata*).

Non-native plant species found included: Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*). The Eurasian Watermilfoil, was found at 25 points throughout the lake (20% of the sample points). Eurasian Watermilfoil was found at an average depth of five feet and at a max depth of twelve feet, intermingled amongst native species. The locations of the Eurasian Watermilfoil is shown here.

**DO YOU HAVE A
NEW NEIGHBOR?
WE NEED YOUR
HELP!**

We would like to give a proper welcome to any new lakeshore residents by giving them a “welcome to the lake” letter. The purpose of this letter is to give an explanation of why we have a lake association, and how they can be a part of the team. Along with the pertinent information contained in the letter, there is a special gift offer of free “Crooked Lake Apparel”. If you know of someone new in your neighborhood, please contact your quadrant leader with the name and address and they will take care of the rest.

HOW DO PLANT SURVEYS HELP US MANAGE PLANTS IN CROOKED LAKE

We all know that lakes need some aquatic plants to stay healthy. However, when invasive plants like Eurasian water-milfoil and curlyleaf pondweed begin to grow densely, our first instinct is often to attack them with herbicides without considering the effects that such treatments might have on beneficial native plants. If we are only treating a few small areas, the damage to natives may not be too concerning. But when invasive plants are widespread, like in Crooked Lake, and large areas are targeted for treatment, the potential for severe damage to native plants is much greater. In such cases, a careful assessment of the plant community is needed to guide our decisions and to ensure that treatments are not doing more harm than good.

Crooked Lake has experience with the down-side of treating large areas. In 1992, the lake received an experimental whole-lake treatment with the herbicide fluridone to kill off Eurasian watermilfoil. This treatment did kill milfoil, but also severely damaged the native plants in the lake. Although this was a very aggressive treatment, the milfoil returned after only a few years and continues to cause problems today. In hindsight, the results did not justify the risk.

In the 25 years since that experimental treatment, lake researchers and managers have learned a great deal about how to attack invasive plants while minimizing the damage to natives, but there are no magic bullets. Every treatment has risks, and the stakes are much higher for large-scale treatments. Consequently, the Minnesota DNR only permits larger treatments that have been planned to minimize the effects on native plants. Such planning requires a thorough understanding of where invasive plants are causing problems and how herbicide treatment in those areas may impact the native plant community. The only way to get this information is by surveying the plants in the lake.

Crooked Lake has conducted two different types of plant survey in recent years: point-intercept surveys (PI), and bed delineation surveys. For the PI surveys, we used a rake to collect plants at about 120 evenly-spaced points over the entire lake. This provided a detailed statistical description of the plant community in the lake and has allowed us to track changes and answer important questions like, "How much did the 2013 treatment reduce milfoil?" or, "Did the treatment severely impact native plants?"

Although PI surveys are very useful for tracking changes, the fact that they use samples from widely-spaced points means that they are not detailed enough to accurately map which areas should be considered for treatment. This is where we turn to the bed delineation survey. Delineation surveys are not limited to a set grid of points, instead, they focus on finding all of the areas that support invasive plants in a lake. Although this type of survey does not tell us anything about native plants, it does a great job of mapping beds of invasive plants and allows us to focus our treatments on these beds to maximize control of invasives while minimizing damage to native plants. Together PI surveys and bed delineation surveys give us the information we need to make the best decisions for managing plants.

James A. Johnson, Freshwater Scientific Services, LLC

POLAR PLUNGE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS



4th Polar Plunge
Sat, Feb. 28, 2015

Plunges begin at 1 pm
13180 Crooked Lake Blvd NW
Proceeds go to Special Olympics.

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FIRST ANNUAL CLAA APPRECIATION EVENT

The first CLAA Appreciation night was held at the Pizza Ranch in Andover on December 7, 2014.

The people invited were the volunteers that helped at CLAA events this year, past President (Rachael Sullivan) and Secretary (Sherri Ruf), three people from Coon Creek Water District, Andover and Coon Rapids staff members that have partnered with us on tasks for Crooked Lake, Julie Trude Andover Mayor-elect, two business places that donated items for our summer picnic and the current board members.

During the event we ask for 2 or 3 more volunteers to help out with the CLAA summer picnic -- two people (Steve Smith & Bruce Lindenberg) have come forward and said to put their names on the list.

I heard a couple comments like this: **"You truly do have reason to meet and celebrate as your hard work and efforts to educate, inform and seek support have led to a much-improved lake for the benefit of our whole community."** **"It is important we all seek ways to maintain and improve water quality so this generation as well as the next may enjoy a beautiful lake".**

Based on conversations and comments I believe everyone had a good time -- we did have good food!

By: Paul Martin

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EMAIL: anokalandscaping@comcast.net
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EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL TREATMENTS 2013 & 2014

Lake Restoration has conducted the Eurasian Watermilfoil treatments on Crooked Lake in 2013 and again in 2014. To the right, you will find treatment maps from each of the treatment years. In 2013, Lake Restoration treated a horseshoe shaped 34 acre treatment site in the north end of the lake with a post treatment assessment finding no Eurasian Watermilfoil within the designated treatment site. In 2014 Lake Restoration treated multiple treatment sites totaling 22.6 acres. Lake Restoration again conducted a post treatment assessment and did not find any Eurasian Watermilfoil within the designated treatment sites on the lake.

Chad Hadler, Lake Restoration

Lake (Anoka) EWM Treatment 2014



PLM Aquatic Plant Survey—shows EWM & Curly Leaf Pondweed down in 2014.

CLAA SEEKS COMPANY DOLLARS

Crooked Lake Area Association (CLAA) is a non-profit organization. Perhaps your company has a gift program. Please consider applying to company sponsors for CLAA. Thank you.

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Winter General Meeting

Date: Thurs, Feb 26, 7:00-8:30

Social starts at 6:30

**Crooked Lake Elementary
School Cafeteria**

Welcome and introductions

Program:

- No Wake Zone Policy - (D. Prom) CLAA
- CLMP updated - (TJ Helgeson) CCWD
- Clarke Aquatic Services - (Robert Olson) CAS
- Delineation report - (J. Johnson) Freshwater
- 2014 treatment - (C. Hadler) Lake Restoration

Business meeting:

- New business
- Old business
- Elections



2014 boat parade creativity winner Firehouse.



2014 boat parade

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FROM TREASURER'S DESK

We had 70 of 120 families donate their membership of \$35 in 2014, that is 6 families less than 2013. We have six families that have made a donation already for 2015 and two for 2016. THANK YOU!

The membership suggested donation amount to the lake association is \$35 per year. You can donate anytime from January 1 – November 30th. After November 30th, the suggested amount is \$45. We are a 501(c)3 corporation which means that all money donated by you is tax deductible. If you have **not** sent in your donation for this year (since January 1, 2015), now is a great time to do so!

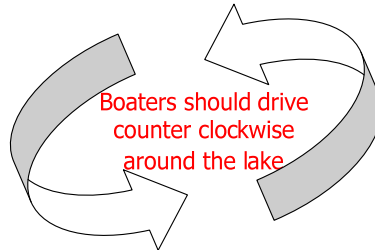
Fundraiser report

NE	8	families	out	of	27	Paid
NW	18	"	"	"	23	"
SE	21	"	"	"	34	"
SW	17	"	"	"	36	"
TOTALS	64	"	"	"	120	"

Although the Fundraiser started in 2013 and ran through 2014 and each family was ask to donate a onetime \$200 donation, the Treasurer will still accept your Fundraiser donation at any amount. Thanks!



For Safety Reasons



List of Officers and Phone Numbers:

- Gary Nereson 763-422-0682 President
- Gary Spiering 763-593-0839 Vice-President
- Paul Martin 651-755-4656 Treasurer
- Josephine Larson 763-323-9255 Administrative Assistant
- Darren Prom 612-234-7766 Quadrant Leader - SW
- Cynthia Nelson 763-427-9216 Quadrant Leader - NE
- Jerry Piche 612-719-1199 Quadrant Leader - SE
- Ann McCann 763-422-4197 Quadrant Leader - NW
- Dan Anderson 763-427-0964 Andover City Watchdog
- Steven Sibinski 763-862-3950 Coon Rapids City Watchdog
- Catherine Kurdziel 763-427-9795 CLAA Shirt Sales

2015 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____
 Address _____
 City/Zip: _____
 E-mail address: _____
 Phone: _____

Please include your
Lake Owner Annual donation of \$35.00 or
Lake Watershed Annual Membership donation of \$20.00

Make check payable to: **CLAA**
 Send to: **Paul Martin**
12961 Kerry Street NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

CROOKED LAKE

area association
 Paul Martin
 12961 Kerry Street NW
 Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Phone: 651-755-4656
 E-mail: paulmartin@comcast.net



Hope to see you at the **Winter General Meeting –**
 at *Crooked Lake Elementary School*—Feb 26, 7:00 pm, social 6:30

PLEASE
 PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE

current resident or

The mission of the Crooked Lake Area Association is to act as an advocate of the lake and to establish and promote a strong sense of community among the residents in and around Crooked Lake .

- Mailing Address Line 1
- Mailing Address Line 2
- Mailing Address Line 3
- Mailing Address Line 4
- Mailing Address Line 5



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

CLAA volunteers for re-election:
 Treasurer & Administrative Assistant
 Quadrant Leaders—SE & NW
 Coon Rapids Council Watchdog
