

(MISSION STATEMENT: NO BY-LAWS, NO CONSTITUTION.....JUST A VISION!)

Summer 2008 Newsletter 6/18/08

Dear Friends of Clear Lake (FOCL),

Well, we all know all good things must come to an end and that is about where we are with our Clear Lake EWM funds. We've come a long way since the first fund raising efforts began in August of 2005 & I'm so very proud of the pristine lake quality we currently enjoy. Thanks to a lot of hard work and generous gifts, Clear Lake is widely viewed as one of the true success stories in the fight against AISs. Perhaps the most amazing thing is that this was done with **100% PRIVATE DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS!**

Instead of launching a labor-intensive door-to-door campaign, we would like to simply ask all of the FOCL to again please give their fair share by matching your 2005 gift and increasing it if possible. If unable to do so, please consider gifts in kind such as volunteering for upcoming FOCL activities including lake monitoring and/or education, fish habitat improvements, the Clear Lake Cup golf tournament and/or the potluck social and annual meeting scheduled for August 2, at Inshalla & on the Club House deck. I'm hopeful that if we can at least match the success we had in 2005 we will be adequately funded for perhaps 6-8 years.

Some other guidelines we've decided to follow for this campaign are:

- All donors will be recognized but the amounts donated will not be published
- Checks are payable to
Friends of Clear Lake WC
c/o Becker and Kumm CPA
320 W. Grand Ave #301
WI Rapids, WI 54495
- Future fund raising will be on a as-needed basis & not annual
- The campaign begins **immediately**, as our current available balance is only \$921.

A successful campaign needs to provide answers to the obvious questions. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you have on any of this information.

Q. What were our funds spent on since we started EWM treatment?

PAST EXPENSES 2005-JUNE 2008

WDNR Permits	\$2490
WDNR mandated Lake Management Plan	
Onterra LLC Consultants	\$2230
Nor. Environmental Consult.	\$8358
Lake weed buoys & signs	\$1553
Weed Harvesting, divers, etc	\$1544
Chemical Treatment-Schmidt	\$24982
Misc & postage	\$172
Total Expenses 2005-June 08	\$41499

Q. What future costs do we anticipate?

FUTURE KNOWN EXPENSES

Onterra, LLC Monitoring	
2008 Project setup	\$715
Educational Component	\$510
Trans of Treatment info	\$50
Pretreat Survey Spring	\$1090
Post treat Survey Summer	\$595
2009 Post treat Survey-Spring	\$595
EWM Peak-Biomass Survey	\$715
Pretreat Survey Summer	\$360
Treatment area creation for conditional Permit	\$175
Travel (Onterra)	\$2390
Equipment	\$300
Data, Annual Mapping, Reporting	\$525
Misc	\$928
Total known needs	\$8948
Less WDNR AIS Grant (\$6711)	
Net known Expenses	<u>\$2237</u>

FUTURE UNKNOWN EXPENSES (EST)

WDNR PERMITS	\$2490
2010 Treatment 12 acres @ \$500	\$6000
2010 Monitoring	\$1600
2011 Monitoring	\$1600
2012 Treatment 6 acres @ \$550	\$3300
2012 Update 5 Yr Lake Man. Plan	\$7300
2012 Monitoring	\$1600
2013 Monitoring	\$1600
2014 Treatment 3 acres @ \$600	\$1800
Total Unknown Expenses	<u>\$27290</u>

Grand Total for known /unknown Expenses now thru 2014 (Est.) **\$29527**

(MISSION STATEMENT: NO BY-LAWS, NO CONSTITUTION.....JUST A VISION!)

2010	12	?
2011	4.5	?

Q. Is FOCL a voluntary organization?

Yes. We have no paid staff and all time, labor, boats & equipment is donated. The only paid labor is for consultants who prepared the lake management plan, monitoring, and treatment and the DNR permitting process. Miscellaneous expenses are either reimbursed at cost or donated by individuals.

Q. I don't have the funds to contribute at this time but want to help in other ways.

Other Tasks that we need volunteers for:

- Thank you notes to Donors for giving
- Clear Lake Cup golf outing
- FOCL social & annual meeting
- Fund Raising Committee
- Lake monitoring-boat inspections (FOCL is reimbursed \$8/Hr per person via our grant)
- Fish Habitat improvement
- Deliver flyers for the Clear Lake Cup
- Placement, removal & storage of buoys
- Provide articles for newsletter
- Mailings

Q. Why doesn't the WDNR help with funding for the expensive chemical treatment?

Clear Lake has no public boat landing. While this obviously helps keep the lake remain pristine, it almost eliminates our ability to receive funding for future chemical treatment. FOCL is also not a qualified Lake Association or Lake District.

Q. Will we continue to receive grants for Future Lake monitoring & education?

Other lakes are essentially competing with us for the same limited grant monies. While we will continue to apply for all known available funding, lack of a public access and a formal lake association or Lake District limits our chances.

Q. Is our Lake Management Plan working?

Yes. The 5-year goal (2006-2011) was to reduce EWM by 90%. Based on the following chart I'd say we right on or a little ahead of plan:

Year	Plan Acreage of EWM	Actual Acreage treated
2006	42	42.3
2007	34.5	0
2008	27	23.1
2009	19.5	?

Q. What happens if we decide to not do anything?

EWM eventually chokes out all native vegetation, growing so thick and matted that swimming, water skiing, and fishing become next to impossible in depths less than 12 feet. The dense beds cause massive loss of invertebrates, wildlife, degrade water quality and reduce habitat and feed particularly for game fish (leading to stunting of pan fish). Property values for pristine lakes such as ours are reduced As much as 30%, based on recent discussions with area real estate professionals!

Q. Will we ever rid our lake of EWM?

It is widely agreed that given the current remedies & technology, we will never entirely eradicate it. We can however manage it's spread & growth through monitoring, education, harvesting and as a last resort, chemical treatment.

Other Clear Lake News:

Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) Update Grant Application

GREAT NEWS as we've been tentatively approved for 75% matching funds for monitoring via the WDNR's Aquatic Invasive Species Grant Program! What this means is that of the estimated \$8948 that expected to be spent on pre & post treatment surveys, monitoring education & inspections the WDNR will reimburse us \$6711. Note that this does not include the physical cost of chemical treatment. But there is a catch..... As required by our grant application, we were required to have at least (2) FOCL volunteers to be trained in the Clean Boats Clean Waters program & use that training to train others within FOCL. On Thursday May 29th Pete Hulka, Fred Koth, Alex Degnan and I attended a workshop in Minocqua. We are now able to train others in order to monitor boats at the landing.

As another condition of the WDNR grant, we are planning an informational meeting with Tim Hoymann CLM, Aquatic Ecologist with Onterra, LLC at 7:00 PM Tuesday 7/15/08 on the ESSEX common area dock. Tim will provide information regarding AIS with hands-on demonstrations and will answer all your questions regarding our grant project, results of the spring treatment, lake management and Clear Lake issues. All FOCL are invited. Please

(MISSION STATEMENT: NO BY-LAWS, NO CONSTITUTION.....JUST A VISION!)

RSVP to me know NLT Friday 7/11/08 in order to plan for seating and materials.

EWM Treatment

23.1 acres of Clear Lake were chemically treated May 16th for EWM. The good news is that this area was increased as a result of our spring 08 pre-treatment survey from the original plan to treat 15.5 acres. The bad news is that this additional acreage put a deep dent in our EWM-WC finances. Cliff Schmidt reported that the treatment went very well. A copy of the treatment area map is attached for your review.

Clean water tied to lake property values

By Dennis Thornton, Shawano Evening Leader correspondent

GREEN BAY — Waterfront property owners have a financial incentive in keeping their lakes or streams clean and free of invasive species, two speakers told a workshop at the 30th annual Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Green Bay Thursday.

“Everything you do around a lake affects it,” said Dave Ferris of the Burnett County Land Conservation Department. He said pollutants, fertilizer or chemicals that drain from a home, garage, driveway or road into a lake diminish water clarity and promote weed growth.

A study has shown that better water clarity is directly related to increased property values, Ferris said. He encourages use of vegetative buffer zones along shorelines to prevent erosion and catch sediments before they wash into the water.

MaryJo Gingras of the Iron County Land Conservation Department and Ferris presented a “shoreland owner’s toolbox,” steps to maintain water quality.

“Ninety percent of lake life organisms are raised and fed where the land and waters meet,” Gingras said, including 80 percent of endangered species.

Development around lakes often includes stripping away some of the habitat of these plants, animals and fish, she said. She encourages landowners to leave pine needles and leaves to build up the soil around trees.

Ferris said aquatic and emergent plants with deep roots along a shoreline prevent erosion from waves as boats pass by. They also help prevent ice shoves because the ice slides up the bank, rather than pushing against it.

He said studies have shown that more and bigger fish are found in lakes that have fallen trees in the water. “Downed trees can stay in a lake for hundreds of years,” he said, providing habitat and spawning areas for fish.

Other threats to lakes are a variety of invasive species, they said, including aquatic plants such as Eurasian water milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed as well as zebra mussels and rusty crayfish. What they have in common is aggressive, rapid growth displacing native species. Milfoil and pondweed form dense mats that can inhibit boating and swimming.

One solution is to encourage native plants to compete with these invasives, Ferris said, by limiting phosphorous washing off lawns that promotes weed growth. One pound of phosphorous can produce 500 pounds of algae, he said. “A healthy system keeps invasives out,” he said.

The newest Wisconsin invasive plant threat, found only in one place in Wisconsin so far, is hydrilla. “It’s a mean, nasty cousin of Eurasian water milfoil,” Ferris said and Florida spends \$50 million a year on hydrilla treatment.

Gingras presented a list of native plants that could be used in a buffer zone along the lake shore, depending on soil conditions and the size of plants, from wildflowers and shrubs to trees.

Are you interested in receiving *Lake Tides*?

The newsletter for people interested in Wisconsin Lakes, free of charge? Email them at uwexlakes@uwsp.edu or call them at (715) 346-2116 to subscribe. This month's articles include Q & A's regarding Lake Districts, amphibians, and the DNR's new task force called “Water Guard” which will be patrolling WI boat landings this summer.

Fur

Bob Koth (#89) reported a bear feeding on his north shore bird feeder last week (6/13/08).

(MISSION STATEMENT: NO BY-LAWS, NO CONSTITUTION.....JUST A VISION!)

Fishing

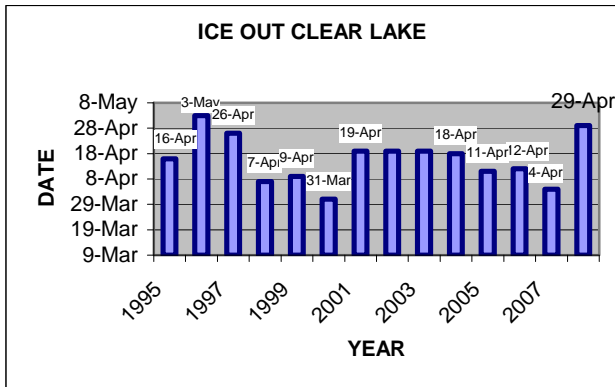
The crappie harvest was quite good this spring as we managed to put 21 in the freezer using primarily minnows on 5/29/08. Bass population appears to be growing, as it now is not uncommon to pickup several almost every day we fish. Fred Koth, Bill Sparr & I are looking into improving fish habitat by using WDNR's tree drop techniques and permitting (<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/waterway/permits/TreeDrop.pdf>). Anyone with diseased, unsightly or unwanted shoreline trees can contact any of us to discuss. This is the WDNR's preferred method to improve fish habitat on Clear Lake versus the conventional sinking of log cribs (and is hopefully free of any permit fees). Our hope is to perform this next winter after game fishing closes in March.

Nothing but "Firsts"

First swimmers- Freddy Koth & birthday buds
4/19/08

First Boat in- Jim "Fred" Koth pontoon in **4/30/08**

Ice Out- 4/29/08



Thoughts & Prayers:

Donna Smith (#55).... get well soon!

Changing Faces:

Kevin & Cynthia Baumann from Wausau are building between the Marks (#42) and the Zimmerman's (#43a) on the south end of the lake. Jeff & Janet Lewis from Wausau built the cottage just to the right of the outlet. Welcome to Clear Lake!

Friends of Clear Lake

Dave & Sue Hawkinson #12 ESSEX

N11563 Lakeshore drive

(FOCL#'s start with Clearwater resort & continue counter clockwise)

715.453.0738, cell 715-966-1201

Treasury Report:

FOCL General Fund is @ \$585.65

FOCL EWM-WC Fund is @ \$1921 with a min balance of \$1000 (\$921 usable).

Upcoming area events:

June Tues/Thurs/Sat, Kwahamot Ski shows start, 7:30 PM

June 21st, Lawnmower & barstool races-FREE

June 26, 8-12:30 Lake Management Planning workshop Nicolet College \$20 Lake Julia Campus

July 3-4, Tomahawk Lions POW Wow days

July 15, Tuesday 7:00 PM FOCL informational meeting by Tim Hoyman of Onterra, LLC ESSEX Dock & common area (Dave & Sue Hawkinson's if raining)

August 1-2, Antique Boat & Motor show

August 2nd, 17th Annual Clear Lake Cup Golf Tournament & potluck social to follow and annual FOCL meeting. Inshalla GC, Additional details & registration to follow.

23rd Kwahamat All-Star Water ski Tourney

September 5-8 Tomahawk Fire School

11-14 Fall Ride for MDA

November 21st, Annual Venison Feed

Lake Links:

- <http://wisconsinlakes.org/Publications/06e-lake/May06.htm>
- Map of Clear Lake July 1941
<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/lakemap/1555400a.htm>
- WI Valley Improvement
<http://www.wvic.com/default.htm>
- WI DNR
<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/>
- <http://basineducation.uwex.edu/headwaters/index.htm>
- WI Lakes Partnership UW St. Point
<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/>

Past Newsletters, FOCL roster, and other info are available by email or snail mail. Please contact Dave Hawkinson @ 715-966-1201 or 715-453-0738.

(MISSION STATEMENT: NO BY-LAWS, NO CONSTITUTION.....JUST A VISION!)

CLEAR LAKE RESIDENTS

Please contribute to the Friends of Clear Lake Weed Control!

We are again asking for a minimum contribution of \$250 from each property owner and we need everyone's help in our continuing fight to control this invasive species. As a guideline for minimal giving, please use 1/10 of 1% of your property value. \$250,000 property = \$250 (Note that we can always use more if so inclined!)

Checks are payable to:

Friends of Clear Lake WC
c/o Becker and Kumm CPA
320 W. Grand Ave #301
WI Rapids, WI 54495

Please complete the following and return with your donation. All residents will be informed of treatment and fund raising progress. Thank You!

(Please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Date _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Are there other Clear Lake needs, concerns or ideas you have in improving the quality of our lake?

