

KIMBLE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S 2018 REPORT

EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL

2017 was another successful year for the Kimble Lake Improvement District. I am pleased to say that Eurasian Water Milfoil continues to be under control thanks to the efforts of your KLID.

During summer 2017, Central Minnesota Aquatic's, Inc. completed five full lake surveys. EWM was found in five locations. All five infestations were small and instead of treating infestations with herbicides the plants were hand pulled. We were encouraged by the DNR to try hand-pulling small infestations. We will be vigilant in areas where we handpulled and will treat those areas with herbicides in 2018 if EWM growth seems to be more aggressive than what we might consider normal. EWM is like getting rid of the dandelions in your yard. Despite your best efforts there is always another seed and bright yellow flower ready to sprout and bloom. If you delay your diligence, your yard quickly becomes infested. We need to stay on top of this battle against EWM.

ZEBRA MUSSELS

Despite finding five Zebra mussels in 2016 we found only a couple in 2017. During summer 2017, the DNR and the University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Research Center at separate times dove the lake seeking evidence of a ZM breeding colony. Despite hours of searching and numerous dives they were unable to find any evidence of Zebra mussels. Even though we were unable to find evidence of ZM's we know they have made a home in Kimble. Both of the ZM's found this year were adult sized meaning they have been in Kimble waters for several years.

Treatment options are still limited but we have glimmers of hope that the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Research Center at the University of Minnesota will provide some options for eradication at an affordable cost within a few years.

ACCESS MONITORING

Over the past several summers KLID has been supporting the efforts of Kimble Lake Homeowners Association (KLHA) to monitor incoming and outgoing watercraft traffic at the public access. Many people will now question the need to continue this effort now that we have Zebra mussels in Kimble Lake. Watercrafts are inspected in hopes of keeping our lake free from numerous other AIS, some of which present a far greater problem than Zebra mussels and keep Kimble Lake AIS from being transported to other lakes. Several years ago, Crow Wing County (CWC) started to provide \$5,000 annually in unanticipated support to KLID for the purposes of finding and eradicating EWM. Since the support was unanticipated, KLID at the same time decided to support KHLA access monitoring by contributing \$4,000 toward the effort in 2016 and \$5,000 in 2017. KLID was essentially turning over the unanticipated Crow Wing County EWM support to KLID for help with the access-monitoring program. CWC has now altered the way it hands out the \$5,000 and KLID can no longer count on receiving this money and even if we did receive it the maximum reimbursement has been reduced to \$4,000. If we apply the new formula to 2017 activities, we would have received only \$1,340 in reimbursement. Not only did CWC change the formula for EWM reimbursement it also reduced the number of paid access-monitoring hours for Kimble Lake. A joint KHLA and KLID committee re-evaluated the number of access-monitoring hours required given the change in CWC paid hours and the reduced EWM reimbursement. We have approved a 2018 budget that provides \$1,000 in access monitoring support and we propose to provide another \$1,000 in 2019. KHLA has Access-Monitoring as a main topic for the annual meeting.

2019 BUDGET AND PROPOSED ASSESSMENT

The proposed 2019 budget requires KLID to maintain the annual assessment at \$115.00. The 2019 budget shows income of \$11,500 with expenses of \$12,950. This unbalanced budget leaves KLID with \$1,450 more in expenses than revenue. The budget assumes that by 2019 we no longer receive any reimbursement for EWM treatment. We are hopeful that either we receive some nominal CWC support or that EWM treatment expense is less than we budgeted. \$98 of the \$115 proposed 2019 assessment is directly used to find and treat EWM, \$16.50 covers the cost of insurance, Crow Wing County expenses, printing and postage, \$10.00 is earmarked for access-monitoring. The remaining portion of \$5 pays for the toilet at the access. These numbers do add up to more than \$115.00 as we expect to spend slightly more than we receive in 2019. If KLID continues to spend more than it receives it will at some point have to re-adjust the annual assessment. For the year 2019 we project annual expenses of \$12,950 and we end the year with a reserve balance of \$24,991. The budget and the assessment are in line with our fiduciary duty to try to run a balanced budget and keep reserves approximating 2 times our expected expenses.

YOUR KLID BOARD

Davee Olson, Vice President, Gary Schwartz, Treasurer and Jack Larsen, Secretary are in the final year of their board terms. Ellen Miller, Mike O'Neil and Nels Johnson are in the second year of their terms. Steve Erickson and Dick Bredehoft and Tom Hansen, President are in the first year of their board terms. Davee Olson, Gary Schwartz and Jack Larsen have agreed to stand for re-election to the KLID board. Please thank current and past LID board members for all they have done for Kimble Lake. Our success in fighting EWM didn't just happen by itself.

We need a few new members to add to our board as several of our members have been in their positions for a number of years. If you would like to be part of the LID board and help guide future Kimble Lake AIS risk management, please let one of the board members know.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Please make sure all who provide lake services to your home have been trained and certified by the MN DNR. There is no need to compromise the quality of our lake because someone has been too busy to receive the training.

If you purchase a dock, boatlift, float or associated equipment that has been in use in another lake, by law it must not be placed in Kimble Lake until 21 days have passed. Please make sure your friends and family follow laws established to protect our lake against invasive species as they bring their watercraft to Kimble Lake. Please ASK them before they unload their watercraft.

Do not short cut Kimble Lake. Please check your septic systems to make sure they are in compliance. It is recommended that all septic systems be inspected every three years. Leaking septic systems cause great harm to our lake. Be especially mindful of what you put on your lawn and of changes you make to your shoreline. We all need to make sure we do not apply excessive fertilizer to our yards. Much of it ends up in Kimble Lake and encourages weed growth. Please do all you can to keep Kimble Lake clean and pristine.

Have a wonderful summer.

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