

LAKE SARAH IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



Spring on Lake Sarah

LSIA Spring 2020 Newsletter
Issue #73



Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendar!

- **April 27 – Spring General Membership Meeting**
(Cancelled due to COVID-19)
 - City of Independence Hall
- **July 4th - Boat Parade (more details to come!)**
 - 2:00pm gathering near the public landing
- **July 19 - Summer General Membership Meeting and Picnic! (tentative date, more details to come!)**
- **October 19 – Fall General Membership Meeting**
 - 6:30 social hour/7:00pm meeting
 - Caboose at the Choo Choo



Hello Spring!

We have made it through another winter and are all looking forward to a fun summer on and around the lake! The Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA) board decided last year to print and mail one of the 3 newsletters in 2020. In the recent past we have been sending out notices and newsletters all by email from the secure list we maintain. The 2020 Spring newsletter was sent via email late in March. However, we are aware that only about 50% of the time do our correspondences actually get opened and read. We get it. People are busy and we all get lots of emails. So, we have also printed and mailed our newsletter this spring. Please take a moment to read it and we look forward to another great year on Lake Sarah!

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Spring Membership Meeting

Due to Covid-19 precautions, our 2020 spring meeting is cancelled.

This is our biggest and most important meeting of the year because we typically discuss the water quality of Lake Sarah and treatment plans for the year. Eric Fieldseth from AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) Consultants had agreed to present an update on our aquatic plant management program. **Given the cancellation we have included an overview of Eric's presentation in this newsletter.** As indicated we have made significant progress since our treatment program began and the LSIA board believes maintaining our treatment regimen in accordance to our Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP) is crucial to sustaining the progress to date and the long term improvement goals of the association stakeholders.

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2020 Membership Drive

It's time to renew your LSIA membership! Once again, the annual membership fee is only \$35.00. Thank you to those who have already sent in their membership donation!

Our LSIA supports efforts to improve the water quality, adds fish (walleye!) to the lake every fall, and provides a neighborhood directory annually, sponsors 3 general membership meetings a year and a number of community events such as the July 4th boat parade and the summer picnic!

So please help support our lake and community by renewing or joining LSIA. There is a membership form included in the newsletter. Please complete the form (including your current email) and mail it along with your tax-deductible check to the address listed.

There is an option to pay with PayPal on the lakesarah.com website. However, we prefer to receive a check along with the COMPLETED membership form so we can be sure we have accurate information for our database and directory. For administrative ease, please consider combining your membership fee with your \$150 lake treatment donation for a total donation of \$185.

Thank you!

New LSIA discount for paid members!

In addition to getting a discount on your trash pick-up from Randy's Sanitation and water services from Finkens, we are happy to announce a new discount available to LSIA paid members!

Group Boat Storage Rate

As part of our ongoing effort to add value to the LSIA members, the LSIA board has partnered with a boat storage provider to obtain a group rate for the 2020 winter season (which we are in no rush to think about)

More information to follow, please contact Marcus Zahn at marcus.zahn@gmail.com to learn more.

Lake Sarah Neighborhood Directory

Did you know that LSIA updates and distributes a neighborhood directory every year? It's a wonderful way to know who your neighbors are and contact them. The 2019/2020 directory was distributed by email last fall. If you did not receive one and would like us to send one to you please send us an email with your request to lakesarahassociation@yahoo.com. We also have a limited number of printed copies that are available upon request. If you notice that a change or correction is needed in the directory please send a note to the email address listed above. We will make the correction for the next edition this fall.

Love Lake Sarah?

Do you care about our water quality?

Do you want to meet some new neighbors?

Come join the LSIA Board!!



The Lake Sarah Improvement Association is a group of residents who volunteer to protect and improve this wonderful lake we all share.

We are always looking for neighbors who can give a little bit of your precious time to work on the board. There are a number of opportunities to become involved.

We have about 4 board meetings a year and 3 general membership meetings. It is a great way to learn about the water quality of our lake, meet some great neighbors and donate some time

to this great lake and community which we all share and enjoy. Whether you are new to the lake or have been here many years, consider becoming part of a group dedicated to improving our lake. If you are interested and would like some more information please contact Anne Horn at 612-889-0275 or send us an email at lakesarahassociation@yahoo.com

Lake Treatment Update

2019 was another successful year for our Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) treatment efforts, thanks in no small part to resident involvement and the timely efforts from our partners at AIS Consulting, Aquatic Solutions, and the DNR. We were able to substantially knock down our primary AIS nemeses curly leaf pondweed and Eurasian milfoil, and in so doing helped support a great year for lake recreation use and navigation! Looking forward, we will again be partnering with AIS Consulting and Aquatic Solutions to tackle the AIS treatment efforts in 2020. We plan to conduct a lake wide treatment to address new vegetation given its past success and economic savings relative to a piecemeal approach. We want to thank you all for your generous support of this effort, and as a reminder you can contribute to our efforts via the pay pal link on lakesarah.com web site, or by sending a check for \$150 to our PO Box 25, Loretto, MN 55357 with the attached membership form.

FAQ's!

“Why do I have weeds on my lakeshore when we treat the lake?”

“I contribute to the lake treatment but I have weeds on my lakeshore. Why?”

On many occasions the LSIA board is asked these questions by lakeshore owners.

The lake treatment plans for Lake Sarah are designed to control the growth of AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) such as Curly Leaf Pond Weed and Eurasian Water Milfoil. After independent surveys are completed each spring recommendations are made to the LSIA board on where to treat the AIS and how many acres. This recommendation is presented to the DNR for approval and to obtain a permit. Even though it may be referred to as a “whole lake treatment” we basically are only able to spot treat the problematic areas for general recreation and navigation.

“How do I get rid of the weeds on my lakeshore?”

If you have weeds on your lakeshore that interfere with your boating or recreation it is your personal preference/responsibility to remove them.

There are a number of options available to lakeshore owners to make your boating and beach area more accessible and enjoyable. There are a number of private companies who will come and treat for weeds and other concerns. **Any chemical treatment of lakeshore requires a permit from the DNR.** The private companies will apply for your permit and treat your property. The treatment is typically limited to a 50ft x 50ft area.

Another option is purchasing an electric “weed roller”. You must have a permit from the DNR to operate one on your lakeshore.

Or you can do it the old fashion way and rake them out!

The Bogs are Coming!

For the past several months, we have stared at the ice waiting for the water underneath to once-again emerge. Soon, the docks and lifts will be returning to their rightful place and residents and guests will recreate on Lake Sarah. But alas, an obstacle may loom: BOGS!

Due to the higher water levels last fall, many residents experienced the occasional nuisance bog floating by or, in some cases, getting cozy with their docks, lifts, and/or shorelines. It is likely, we may see bogs meandering around the Lake again this spring.

If a floating bog becomes a nuisance, it is the responsibility of the property owner(s) where the bog is grounded to move the bog to an acceptable location or remove the bog altogether. Moving a floating bog away from your property or removing a bog from the lake requires a DNR aquatic plant management permit issued through the DNR Regional Fisheries Office.

Permits are free and take approximately 1-2 days to receive. The following is the link to the Minnesota DNR Permitting and Reporting System (MPARS):

<https://webapps11.dnr.state.mn.us/mpars/public/authentication/login>.

Additional information can be found on the DNR website: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us>

It is worth noting that bogs are generally very heavy. Cutting bogs into smaller pieces makes them easier to pull up on shore. Once dried, they are much easier to move.

Grant Update

Fortin Consulting and our environmental consultant, Jenny Winkelman, conducted the first leg of our AIS grant effort in partnership with Hennepin County last summer. The first leg included public access observations, questioning, and assessments. It is safe to say we have learned a lot about Lake Sarah visitors in just a short time. This info will be of great value as we seek the best way to prevent the spread of new AIS to our shared resource, Lake Sarah. We hope to have some information on the findings to share as well as kick off leg two of the effort (a survey of lake homeowners) in the near future.

Please contact Marcus Zahn at marcus.zahn@gmail.com to learn more!

Lake Sarah Improvement Association
Financial Statement
12/31/2020

Prepared by Mike Malone
4/6/2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	YTD Feb 29	APPROVED	NOTES
					ACTUAL	BUDGET	
Assets:							
Beginning checking (Jan1st)	\$ 24,916	\$ 35,897	\$ 31,981	\$ 31,256	\$ 28,211	\$ 28,211	
PayPal cash balance	-	-	83	34	68	68	
21st century CD - 6 month (7378)	6,991	-	-	-	-	-	
21st century CD - 12 month (0805)	8,967	8,976	8,985	8,994	23,092	23,092	
21st century CD - 6 month (0003)	30,038	-	-	-	-	-	
21st century CD - 6 month (0389)	-	37,019	37,056	37,092	23,208	23,208	
Total Beginning Cash Balance:	\$ 70,912	\$ 81,892	\$ 78,105	\$ 77,376	\$ 74,579	\$ 74,579	
Receipts:							
Membership for 2018	-	-	4,690	-	-	-	134 members in 2018
Membership for 2020	-	-	-	35	700	4,900	21 members to date in 2020
Membership for 2019	-	-	-	4,925	-	-	141 members in 2019
Membership for 2016	5,310	-	-	-	-	-	140 x \$35 budgeted in 2020
Membership for 2017	-	4,790	-	-	-	-	
Contributions - Walleye Fund	505	565	380	845	-	600	0 donations to date
Contributions - Water Quality	-	70	15,125	15,555	1,400	-	10 donations to date in 2020
Contributions - Curly Leaf	-	17,130	-	-	-	16,500	110 x \$150 budgeted in 2020
Contributions - Other	-	400	1,594	500	-	500	channel treatment / RBC
Interest -- checking	14	6	6	6	1	6	
Interest -- CD's	46	47	46	326	93	782	new CD rates
	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Receipts:	5,875	23,008	21,842	22,192	2,193	23,288	
Disbursements:							
Supplies, Printing/Mailing, PO box (news letters, po	102	56	134	64	-	350	
Directory	47	21	35	21	-	25	
Membership/Board meetings	-	-	-	-	-	200	
Spring Meeting	63	46	-	82	-	150	
Boat Parade (prizes)	150	258	200	150	-	250	
Biff at Public Access	250	-	-	-	-	250	
Biff at Picnic Grounds	367	302	283	266	-	300	
Water Quality materials / equipment	-	-	100	-	-	100	
Water Quality Seminars / insurance / membership	-	-	-	654	150	900	
Summer Picnic/Annual meeting	597	531	741	693	-	850	
Fall Meeting	-	41	84	78	-	150	
Winterfest	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Walleye Program	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,400	-	1,500	
Lake Improvement Projects (Cost)	40,943	44,893	31,354	34,798	-	36,000	CLP \$30, EWM \$4, AIS \$2
Lake improvement Projects (Proceeds)	(49,203)	(20,177)	(11,551)	(13,398)	-	(14,000)	DNR \$0, PSC/TRPD \$14
Hennepin County AIS Survey Grant (Cost)	-	-	-	4,203	1,861	17,607	Paid to Fortin Consulting
Hennepin County AIS Survey Grant (Proceeds)	-	-	-	(4,203)	(1,861)	(17,607)	from Hennepin County
PayPal fees	233	170	155	181	54	200	
Other Fees	-	(346)	35	-	-	-	reconciling item
Total Disbursements:	(5,451)	26,795	22,569	24,989	204	27,225	
Overage / (Deficit)	11,326	(3,787)	(727)	(2,797)	1,990	(3,937)	deficit budgeted in 2019 \$3,770
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE:	\$ 82,238	\$ 78,105	\$ 77,378	\$ 74,579	\$ 76,569	\$ 70,642	
Reconciliation							
6-mo CD - 7378	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PayPal cash balance	-	83	34	68	2,011	-	
12-mo CD - 0805 at 1.6% rate at 7/1/19	-	8,985	8,994	23,092	23,185	-	
6-mo CD - 0003	-	-	-	-	-	-	
18-mo CD - 0389 at 1.8% rate at 7/1/19	-	37,056	37,092	23,208	23,208	-	
Outstanding checks written	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Deposits in transit	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Checking	-	31,981	31,256	28,211	28,165	-	
Total		\$ 78,105	\$ 77,376	\$ 74,579	\$ 76,569		
Difference		-	2	(0)	(0)		



Lake Sarah Curlyleaf Pondweed & Eurasian Watermilfoil Management Update

Background

Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP) Management

- Pilot treatment of 49 acres in 2012
- Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP) completed with MN DNR in 2013.
- LVMP allows treatment of greater than 15% of littoral area for CLP.
- LVMP effective 2013—2018, extended 2018—2023
- LVMP limits native plant control to a 50'x50' area
- Partners: LSIA, Three Rivers Park District, Pioneer Sarah Creek Watershed Commission, AIS Consulting Services, Aquatic Solutions of MN

Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) Management

- Not part of LVMP, control is limited to no greater than 15% of littoral area (56 acres)

Progress Update by the Numbers

- Significant reduction of CLP abundance from occurring at over 70% of sample points in 2011, to only 15% of sample points in 2019.
- CLP turion density has decreased from 1200 (west basin) and 1400 (east basin) turions/m² in 2012, to 135 (east basin) and 196 (west basin) turions/m² in 2019.
- Number of native species has increased.
2011: 4 species west basin, 5 east basin.
2019: 10 species west basin, 6 east basin.
- Native plant abundance has increased.
2011: Native plants found at 46% points in west basin, 56% east basin.
2019: Native plants found at 51% of points in west basin (high as 62% in 2018), 51% in east basin (high as 73% in 2018).
- Water clarity has fluctuated. Overall, clarity has increased since treatments began. Annual avg. clarity in 2010 and 2011 (pre-treatment) was 1.2m and 1.5 m respectively. In 2018 and 2019 it was 2.2m and 1.6m.

LVMP Goals for CLP Management

- ⇒ **Increase native plant abundance & diversity**
- ⇒ **Control CLP to reduce interference with recreational use**
- ⇒ **Maintain or increase water clarity**

Management Approach

Curlyleaf Pondweed

- Reduce CLP abundance over consecutive years by early spring treatment of CLP before it produces turions. Turions are a vegetative structure that develops on CLP plants by late spring, and by early to mid-summer drops off plants to the lake bottom where they sprout new plants in the fall. Treatment of CLP before it produces turions will help reduce the number of turions in the sediment available to sprout new plants over time.
- CLP also can spread via seed production, but this doesn't appear to be the main source of spread for the plants, but is another contributing factor.

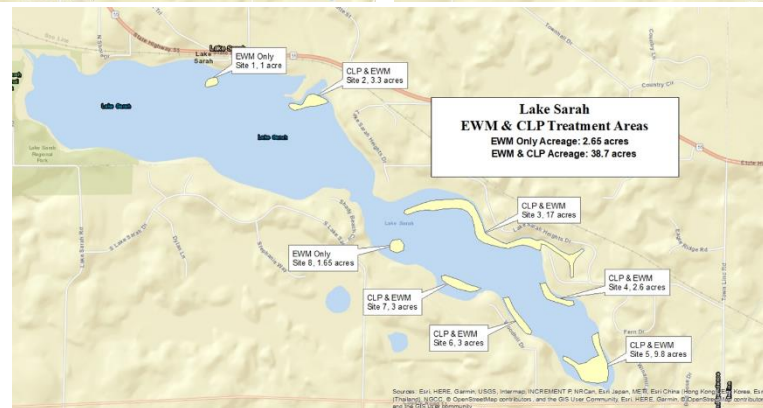
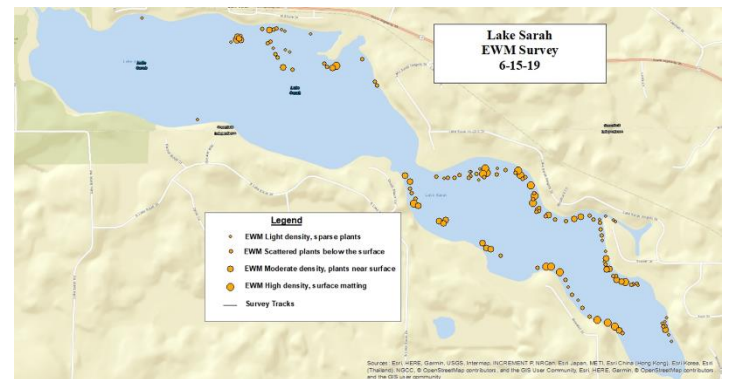
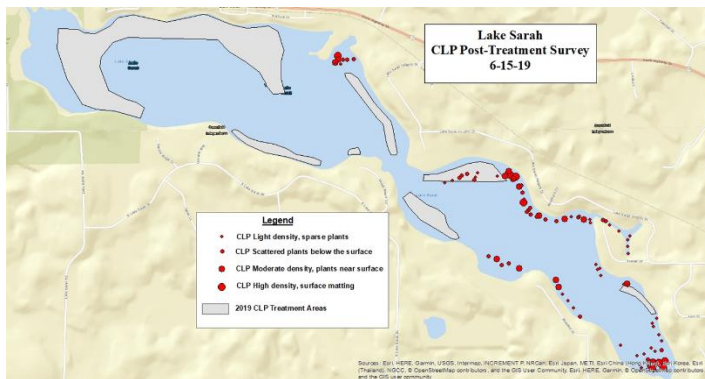
Eurasian Watermilfoil

- Control nuisance areas of EWM that may interfere with navigation when plants are tall enough to allow good control, but before surface matting occurs.
- Annual survey will identify nuisance areas for treatment.

Lake Sarah Curlyleaf Pondweed & Eurasian Watermilfoil Management Update

2019 Treatment Review

- Pre-treatment survey occurred on May 10, 2019
- 111 acres of CLP was identified for treatment. (90.8 acres west basin, 20.3 acres east basin)
- Combination of Aquathol K and diquat was used
- Post-treatment survey/EWM survey occurred on June 15, 2019
 - Great control in West Basin, with one new patch of CLP emerging outside the treatment areas.
 - High abundance of new CLP emerged in East Basin. Late bloom occurred sometime after initial survey which occurred on 5/10/19 and treatment which occurred on 5/20 and 5/29.
 - CLP and EWM was abundant and often found co-occurring throughout much of the east basin shoreline. EWM in west basin was found out from North Shore drive and West Lake Sarah Heights Drive.
 - Diquat herbicide was used to treat EWM and remaining CLP. Residents reported great control following treatment.



2020 Tentative Treatment Plan

- Early spring survey will identify treatment areas for CLP (likely in April)
- Aquathol is the main herbicide to target CLP, diquat may be used for smaller areas or if CLP distribution is limited.
- If CLP growth appears slow in East Basin, treatment will be delayed and monitoring will occur for late growth. Treatment may occur later, and possibly timed with EWM treatment for dual control with diquat.
- Growth conditions of CLP and EWM will ultimately dictate treatment plan. The goal is to be adaptive to provide the best treatment for each basin.



Lake Sarah Improvement Association

2020 Membership Form

2020 Membership Fee:	\$35.00
\$150 suggested for the annual AIS weed treatment program	Water Quality Fund
Your donations have provided 10,400 fingerlings and 290,000 walleye fry since 2006!	Walleye Stocking Fund
	Other
*All fees and donations to LSIA are tax deductible	Total:

Please complete this form to ensure correct information. Make checks, corporate matches, or other gifts payable to LSIA and mail to:

LSIA , P.O. BOX 25, LORETTO, MN 55357

You may also pay your dues with PayPal on www.lakesarah.com (We prefer you mail us a check with this form rather than renew by PayPal as they charge us transaction fees and the completed form allows us to maintain accurate information in our database.)

Interested in getting involved? Volunteer on one of our many committees!

Member Information:		
Name		
Address		
City	State	ZIP
Lake Address (if different from above)		
Telephone(s)		
Email(s)		

Please check here to be contacted with more info!

Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ice Clean up	<input type="checkbox"/>
Summer Picnic/Boat Parade	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bog/Outlet Army	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fishery	<input type="checkbox"/>

Thanks for supporting LSIA! We are looking forward to another great year on Lake Sarah!

Lake Sarah Improvement Assoc.

PO Box 25

Loretto MN. 55357