

LAKE SARAH IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



Spring on Lake Sarah

LSIA Spring 2022 Newsletter

Issue # 78



Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendar!

- **April 25** – Spring General Membership Meeting
 - Independence City Hall
 - 6:30 pm social followed by 7:00 pm meeting
- **July 4th** - Boat Parade (more details to come!)
 - 2:00pm gathering near the public landing
- **July 18** - Summer Ice Cream Social/General Membership Meeting
 - 7:00 pm gathering at Shady Beach Circle

Welcome Spring! Come join the fun!



Well, it may not be all fun but come join your neighbors and learn about Lake Sarah water quality initiatives. Please join us at the newly remodeled Independence City Hall for the annual LSIA Spring General membership meeting. We will review the 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species Management update provided by AIS consulting and review the treatment plans for 2022. Additionally, we will have Joe Baker from the Watershed Commission speak about projects and plans affecting Lake Sarah and Brian Vlach from Three Rivers Park District will present Lake Sarah water quality and monitoring data. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Water Quality Update

By Marcus Zahn

This December, LSIA was part of a productive meeting with our partners from the DNR, the Watershed Commission, Three Rivers Park District, as well as our Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Consultant and chemical applicator. We discussed the considerable progress made on our Lake Vegetation Management Plan to-date, the challenges of 2021 - namely a drought and the ensuing low water levels - and best approaches for moving forward. It was agreed that we would stay the course given the considerable progress we have made against Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP) over the last ten years (*please reference following 2021 Lake Sarah AIS Management Update*). Alternative options were also discussed should future conditions dictate a change in approach.

AIS Grant funding is again available to Lake Associations across the state in 2022. Recall, in 2021, we successfully obtained \$10,000 in funding for treatment which was split evenly for the East and West basin. We have again applied for funding in 2022, and expect to learn of our grant application status sometime in the coming weeks. Keep your fingers crossed!

Lake Treatment Donation

The estimated cost to treat the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP) and Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) in 2022 is around \$32,000. This amount is consistent with the amount spent the last few years. We continue to get some financial support from our partners:

Thanks to Three Rivers Park District and Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission. In order to continue the treatment and improve the quality of our lake we need your continued financial support.

We are again asking all lakeshore residents and dock owners to donate \$150.00

Thank you to all who already donated!

We all love this lake and everyone benefits when the overall water quality is improving. Not only is it more enjoyable, a healthy lake adds to the value of your property!



2021 Lake Sarah AIS Management Update

Background

Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP) Management

- Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP) completed with MN DNR in 2013. Extends through 2023.
- LVMP allows treatment of greater than 15% of littoral area for CLP.
- 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

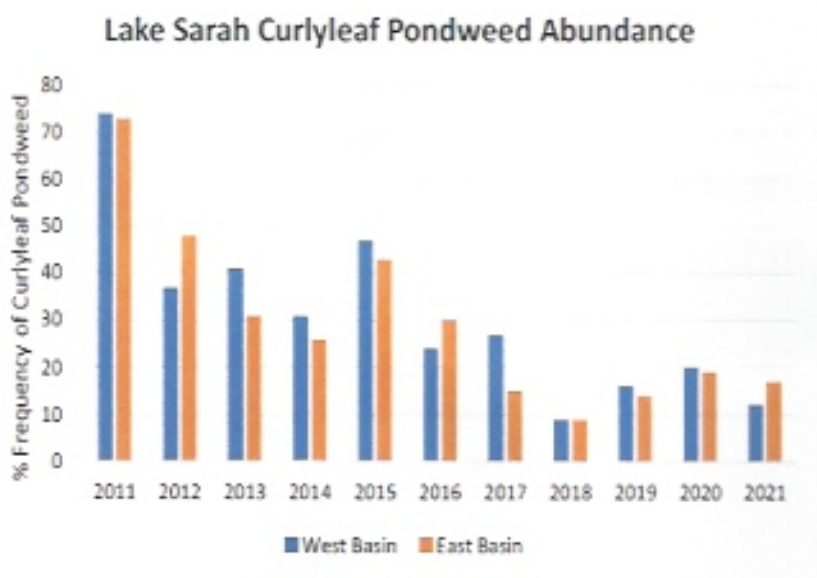
Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) Management

- Not part of LVMP, control is limited to no greater than 15% of littoral area (56 acres). EWM is managed to reduce nuisance areas and improve navigation.

LVMP Goals for CLP Management

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

Figure 1. Historical Curlyleaf Pondweed Abundance Lake Sarah 2011—2021



Progress Summary

Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP)

- 2021 was year 9 of large scale treatments for CLP
- Treatment acreage has been reduced from 260 acres in 2013 to 95.25 acres in 2021
- Number of native plant species has increased on each basin, and abundance of native plants has increased. This was one of the goals of the LVMP.

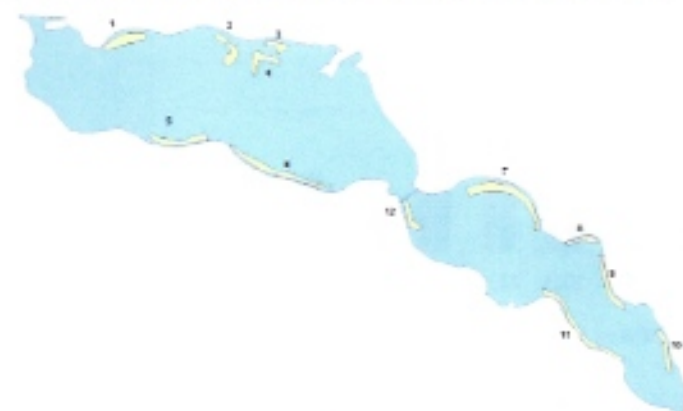
Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM)

- DNR allowed treatment of 29 acres in 2021 in areas that limited navigation through the lake
- June survey in 2022 will identify EWM distribution in the lake, and that will be used apply for EWM treatment permit with DNR. DNR ultimately determines which areas are allowed for treatment.
- We continue to evaluate other treatment options for EWM with the DNR. Pilot treatments with other products are being used on several lakes in MN, we expect a meeting with the DNR later in 2022 to determine if those options would a good fit on Lake Sarah in future years.

Figure 2. Curlyleaf Pondweed Before Management (2011) and year 9 of management (2021)



Figure 3. 2021 Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment Areas (29 acres)



Watershed Update – from Joe Baker

Hope all in the LSIA are doing well and looking forward to Spring!

The watershed completed its study of the Dance Hall Creek area and identified the following Best Management Practices (BMP's) for this strategic site just north of Lake Sarah's west bay:

BMP ID	Description	Net TP (lbs/yr)	Capital Cost	Lifecycle Cost	Normalized Lifecycle Cost (\$/lb)
1	Wetland Enhancement (Bounce)	38.5	\$ 94,700	\$ 113,250	\$ 98
2	Stormwater Pond/Wetland Restoration	54.0	\$ 1,067,751	\$ 1,166,971	\$ 720
3	Stormwater Pond and Filter	29.0	\$ 307,096	\$ 406,316	\$ 467
4	Wetland Enhancement and Filter	5.4	\$ 261,242	\$ 360,463	\$ 2,225

With this study now complete, the watershed and our key partners (Hennepin County and the city of Greenfield) will be engaging with 7 key property owners to gain their permission (via an easement) so we can pursue grants this fall to fund the implementation of BMP's #1 and #2 above. As you can see wetland restorations are not cheap, however, they are the most cost-effective projects we can do to reduce the external phosphorus loading into Lake Sarah.



Additionally, the watershed's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has been meeting to prioritize all of the projects which require funding over the next 5 years and we will be finalizing this Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) in the coming months. The projects we'll have on the CIP list for Lake Sarah include the Dance Hall Creek BMP's, the analysis of Lake Sarah sediment for phosphorus (which will allow for a TMDL study refresh), a carp population study (& potential carp reduction if needed), and an Alum treatment project. I will share the CIP projects list for Lake Sarah in the next LSIA newsletter.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (612) 868-8702. Thank you!

Lake Sarah Neighborhood Directory

As a courtesy to all neighbors, LSIA updates and distributes a neighborhood directory annually. It's a convenient way to know who your neighbors are and be able to contact them. The 2021/2022 directory was distributed by email in February. 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 available upon request. If you notice a change or correction is needed in the directory, please send a note to the email listed above and we will make the correction in the next edition this fall. It is a MAJOR task to keep this updated so any help in keeping it current is appreciated!



**Want to stay connected and current?
Want to know when important events are happening on Lake Sarah?
We need Your Email Address!**

One of the ways LSIA is able to communicate with everyone on and around the lake is through email. We use a service called Mail Chimp to send out our emails. We have an extensive PRIVATE list that we use. However, we know that we don't have everyone's current/preferred email and that only about 53% of the emails we send out are actually opened. We get it. People are busy and get a lot of emails. Current information and events are often published on Lakesarah.com (thanks to Brad Spencer!!). If you have not been receiving emails from the lake association, please send us an email at lakesarahassociation@yahoo.com and we will add you to the list.

2022 Membership Drive

The annual Membership Dues will once again be only \$35.00

The membership dues help support a number of projects including our annual meetings, our neighborhood directory and a number of community events. There is a membership form included with this newsletter. Please complete [the form](#) (including your preferred email) and mail it along with your tax-deductible donation to the address listed. If you prefer, there is an option to pay your dues, lake treatment donation and walleye donation via PayPal on the lakesarah.com website. However, we prefer you mail us a check rather than use PayPal as they charge us transaction fees and the completed form allows us to be sure we have accurate information in our database.

All paid memberships will receive a discount for Randy's/Republic Sanitation! This year, Randy's/Republic has offered to continue the discounts (same as 2021) to those who use the 65- and 95-gallon size! Info at lakesarah.com (LSIA membership discounts)

Thank you to all who have already sent in their membership dues!

Proposed Bylaw amendment:

The LSIA board proposes amending Article IV I. Meetings, of the Bylaws (last amended in 2008). Discussion and voting on the proposed amendment is planned during the Spring general membership meeting scheduled for April 25th at Independence City Hall. The full version of the bylaws may be found on Lake Sarah.Com website.

Change from:

There shall be a minimum of three (3) regular meetings per calendar year to be held generally in April, July, and October each year. The meeting held in July shall be the annual meeting.

Change to:

There shall be a minimum of two (2) regular meetings per calendar year to be held generally in spring and summer each year. One of the meetings shall be the annual meeting.

Fishing Update

What a great winter fishing season! This has been another busy season of ice fishing on Lake Sarah this winter. Many anglers have been catching walleye, crappie and spearing northern.

Did you know that we privately stock walleye in Lake Sarah? Since 2006, LSIA and many generous neighbors have contributed money to stock walleye in our lake. Your donations have provided 13,300 fingerlings and 290,000 fry! Why do we need to stock walleye? The short answer is that Lake Sarah is capable of growing and sustaining walleye but there are insufficient spawning areas for the walleye to be self-sustaining. Oh... and we stock walleye cuz who doesn't like to catch and eat walleye!



FISHING LIMIT CHANGE Reminder for Lake Sarah

Beginning March 1, 2021, Sunfish and Crappie limit was reduced to 5 each per day for Lake Sarah. This is a new special regulation from the DNR beginning in 2021 and still in effect. The DNR Quality Sunfish Initiative is intended to allow more of these fish to mature to a bigger size. Any questions? Please visit the DNR website: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fish/sunfish/index.html>

Financial Report

By Mike Malone

Please view the most recent Lake Sarah Improvement Association financial report.

Lake Sarah Improvement Association Financial Statement 12/31/2022					Prepared by Mike Malone 3/13/2022	
	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD 1/31/22	2022 BUDGET	NOTES
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL		
Assets:						
Beginning checking (Jan1st)	\$ 31,256	\$ 28,211	\$ 24,605	\$ 36,013	\$ 36,013	
PayPal cash balance	34	68	34	-	-	
Outstanding checks written			(600)	(27)	(27)	
21st century CD - 12 month (0805)	8,994	23,092	23,395	23,498	23,498	
21st century CD - 18 month (0389)	37,092	23,208	23,628	23,710	23,710	
Total Beginning Cash Balance:	\$ 77,376	\$ 74,579	\$ 71,062	\$ 83,194	\$ 83,194	
Receipts:						
Membership for 2022	-	-	-	-	5,250	150 x \$35 budgeted in 2022
Membership for 2020	35	5,180	-	-	-	0 members to date in 2022
Membership for 2019	4,925	-	-	-	-	149 members in 2020
Membership for 2021	-	70	5,250	-	-	141 members in 2019
Contributions - Walleye Fund	845	1,170	1,895	-	1,750	152 members in 2021
Contributions - Water Quality	15,555	15,860	16,210	-	-	0 donations to date in 2022
Contributions - Curly Leaf	-	-	-	-	16,500	0 donations to date in 2022
Contributions - Other	500	500	500	-	500	110 x \$150 budgeted in 2022
Interest -- checking	6	5	6	-	5	channel treatment / RBC
Interest -- CD's	326	723	185	-	177	current CD rates
Total Receipts:	22,192	23,507	24,046	-	24,182	
Disbursements:						
Supplies, Printing/Mailing, PO box (news letter)	64	561	783	-	750	hard copy newsletter / updates
Directory	21	-	27	-	25	
Membership/Board meetings	-	-	-	-	100	
Spring Meeting	82	-	-	-	-	cancelled for COVID
Boat Parade / Ice-Out contest (prizes)	150	-	-	-	-	
Biff at Public Access	-	-	-	-	-	
Biff at Picnic Grounds	266	-	-	-	-	
Water Quality materials / equipment	-	-	150	-	-	
Water Quality Seminars / insurance / member	654	754	654	-	750	
Summer Picnic/Annual meeting	693	-	278	-	500	
Fall Meeting	78	-	-	-	-	
Winterfest	-	-	-	-	-	
Walleye Program	1,400	2,200	3,000	-	3,500	match donations
Lake Improvement Projects (Cost)	34,798	35,694	25,422	-	32,000	CLP \$24.2, EWM \$5.8, AIS \$2 budgeted
Lake improvement Projects (Proceeds)	(13,398)	(12,326)	(18,592)	-	(10,043)	DNR \$0k, PSC/TRPD \$10k
Hennepin County AIS Survey Grant (Cost)	4,203	6,861	6,755	-	-	Paid to Fortin / AIS
Hennepin County AIS Survey Grant (Proceeds)	(4,203)	(6,861)	(6,755)	-	-	from Hennepin County
PayPal fees	181	141	193	-	200	
Other Fees	-	-	-	-	-	reconciling item
Total Disbursements:	24,989	27,025	17,914	-	27,782	
Overage / (Deficit)	(2,797)	(3,517)	12,132	-	(3,600)	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE:	\$ 74,579	\$ 71,062	\$ 83,194	\$ 83,194	\$ 79,594	
Reconciliation						
6-mo CD - 7378	-	-	-	-	-	
PayPal cash balance	68	34	-	-	-	
24-mo CD - 0805 at 0.40% rate matures 07/	23,092	23,395	23,498	23,498	-	
6-mo CD - 0003	-	-	-	-	-	
18-mo CD - 0389 at 0.35% rate matures 06/	23,208	23,628	23,710	23,710	-	
Outstanding checks written	-	(600)	(27)	(27)	-	
Deposits in transit	-	-	-	-	-	
Checking	28,211	24,605	36,013	36,013	-	
Total	\$ 74,579	\$ 71,062	\$ 83,194	\$ 83,194	\$ 83,194	
Difference	(0)	(0)	0	-	-	

LAKE SARAH IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



Lake Sarah Improvement Association

2022 Membership Form

Please complete the form below and return to ensure that we have your correct information.

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

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

2022 Membership Fee:		\$ 35.00
\$150 suggested for the annual AIS weed treatment program	Water Quality Fund	
Your donations have provided 15,900 fingerlings and 290,000 walleye fry since 2006.	Walleye Stocking Fund	
	Other	
*All fees and donations to LSIA are tax deductible	Total:	

Make checks payable to LSIA and mail to: LSIA, P.O. BOX 25, LORETTO, MN 55357

You may also pay with PayPal on <http://www.lakesarah.com/lakesarahassociation/lsiamembershipinfo.html>

Interested in getting more involved?

Volunteer on one of our many committees!

Please check here to be contacted with more info or contact any board member!

Board of Directors ☐ Water Quality / Weed Control ☐ Summer Picnic/Boat Parade/Special events ☐
 Membership / Directory ☐ Ice Clean up ☐ Public Access Cleanup ☐ Spring mailing help ☐