

Ecology Committee Report: Spring Membership Meeting 6/7/2025

- 1.) Cooperative Lakes Management Program (CLMP)
 - a. Weekly sampling mid-May thru mid-September
 - b. Overall lake score TSI (Trophic Status Index) for 2024 was 39
 - c. BWL is classified on that index as Oligo-Mesotrophic (young middle age)
- 2.) Current Status
 - a. Water clarity excellent at 16.5' last Monday
 - b. Cool Spring = water temperature still lower than normal for early June (67F Friday AM)
 - c. Thermocline is set-up around 15'. Oxygenated all the way to bottom still.
 - d. Bluegill and Bass are actively spawning
- 3.) PLM/Weed Treatments
 - a. No algae bloom yet this spring
 - b. Invasive Species Management: EWM, Curly Leaf, and Starry Stonewort
 - i. Minimal EWM observed so far this year
 - ii. Curly Leaf is topping out at the surface on the 7-10' breakline
 - iii. No Starry observed, but it typically appears later in the year
 - c. Management
 - i. Goal is to keep the lake ecosystem stable and control invasive species
 - ii. Not shocking the lake ecosystem with massive weed treatments should minimize the availability of nutrients (Phosphorus) and reduce the number and severity of algae blooms
 - iii. Treat when we need to control invasives and let the native plants establish themselves in the areas they should belong.
 - d. PLM
 - i. Brad Quist and I had a conference call yesterday with Jason Broekstra yesterday to discuss spring treatment (which must be done before 6/15).
 - ii. Plan is to treat approximately 30 acres of Curly Leaf and embedded EWM with a herbicide that kills the 2 invasives but mostly leaves the native vegetation.
 - iii. Also plan to treat the cove area inlet with a product that removes P from the water column, to minimize algae growth in that area.
 - iv. Treatment cost will be \$30-\$35,000, so the majority of our 2025 budget.
 - v. Reminder – Algae treatments are limited to a total of 1 in May – June and cannot use Copper Sulfate. State (EGLE) regulation.
 - e. Boaters
 - i. Surf boats have been doing a great job staying in the designated area
 - ii. Pontoons, etc be mindful of your motor trim and speed in shallow water. Don't rip-up the Chara and disturb the bottom sediments.