



Volume 8 • First Edition

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

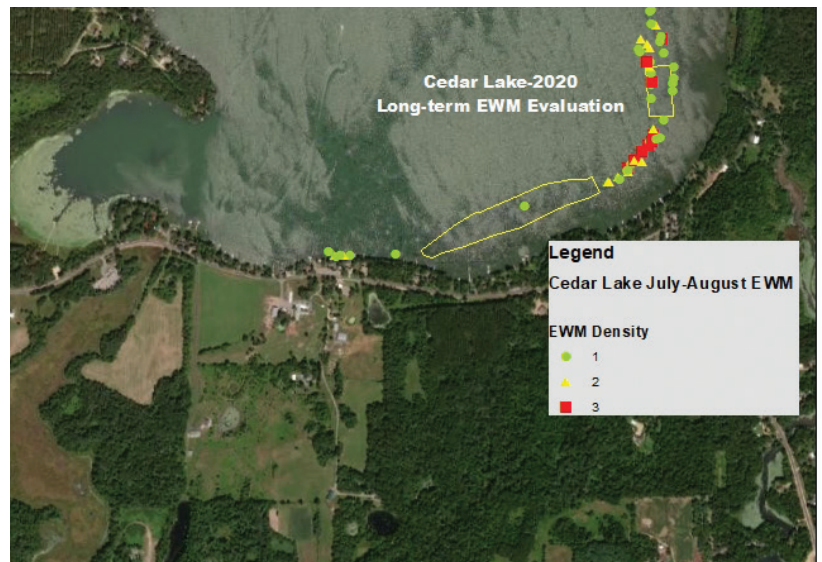
May 2021

MEETING WATER QUALITY GOALS

EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL CONTROL CONTINUES ON CEDAR LAKE

We continue to monitor the growth of non-native, invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) on Cedar Lake. The last herbicide treatment effectively removed 12 acres growing in two concentrated areas in the southeast corner of the lake in 2019. However, new growth emerged between and north of the treatment areas last year. The 2019 treatment areas are outlined in yellow in the map to the right; symbols indicate EWM found late in 2020.

The Lake District is planning another herbicide treatment in the 18-acre area shaded in pink using the herbicide ProcettaCOR again in 2021. We target EWM by treating early in the growing season before native aquatic plants are well-established.



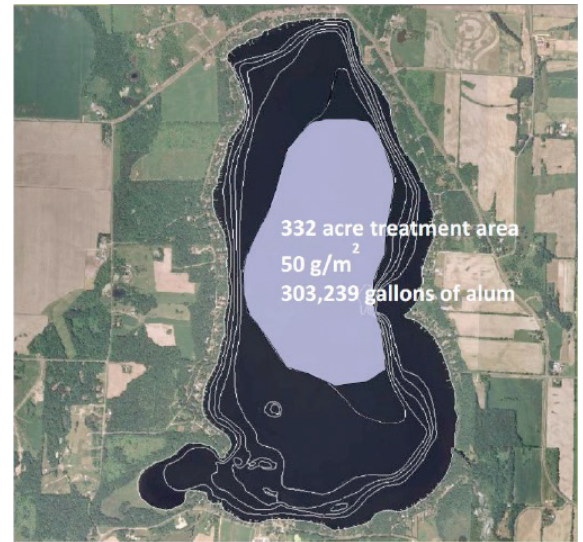
Volunteer and consultant monitoring guide Cedar Lake EWM control efforts. Volunteer monitors look for Eurasian water milfoil and other aquatic invasive species throughout Cedar Lake. Our consultant, Steve Schieffer, of Ecological Integrity Services, backs them up with overall aquatic invasive species surveys and pre and post herbicide treatment monitoring. These activities are guided by our 2017 Lake Management Plan.

If you are interested in volunteering to help keep track of the growth of Eurasian water milfoil in Cedar Lake, contact Jim Reckinger (651-895-3510 jimreck@aol.com). Monitoring results are critical to keeping the growth of EWM and other invasive plants and animals in check.

ALUM TREATMENT AND RESULTS

Alum is dosed in a series of treatments for maximum effectiveness and best use of Lake District special assessment funds. The first two Cedar Lake alum treatments occurred in June of 2017 and 2019. University of Wisconsin – Stout scientists monitor water quality and lake sediments to measure results and tell us when the next alum treatment is needed. Results of 2020 monitoring indicated it was time for another treatment, and a \$200,000 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources grant is available to help pay for the alum treatment. The total cost of the June 2021 treatment will be \$665,163.

Monitoring results in 2020 indicated that while water quality has improved since the alum treatment 1) binding ability of phosphorus applied to date was exceeded late in the season and 2) most phosphorus was released from lake sediments in water 25 feet and deeper. Alum treatment will therefore occur only in the deepest portion of the lake, totaling 332-acres. Upon completion of this treatment, we will reach about 80 percent of the total originally recommended dose in the deep portions of the lake. We have applied 42 percent of the dose to areas 20 to 25 feet deep. Doses and schedules are subject to change based on monitoring results.



2021 Alum Application Zone

Phosphorus is the limiting ingredient for algae growth in Cedar Lake. When additional phosphorus is available, more algae grows. A 2013 study demonstrated that 85% of the summer phosphorus in Cedar Lake came from lake sediments.

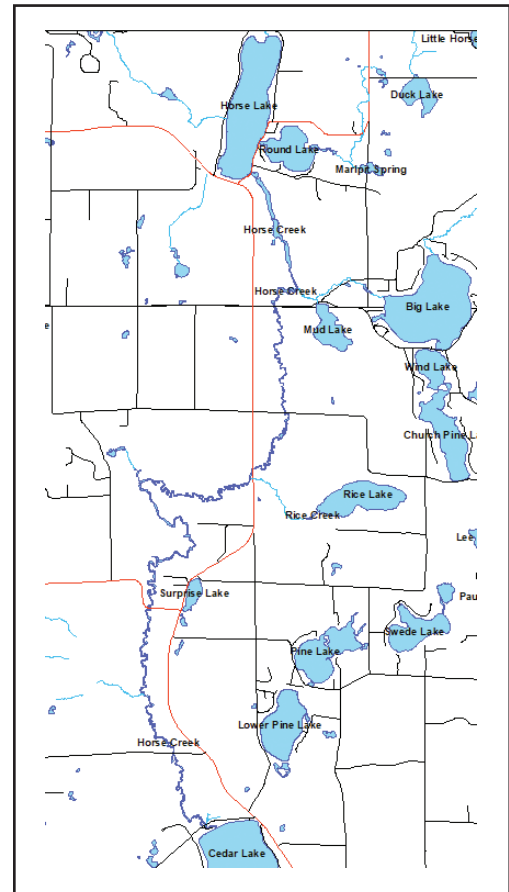
HORSE CREEK

A STORY OF CHANGE

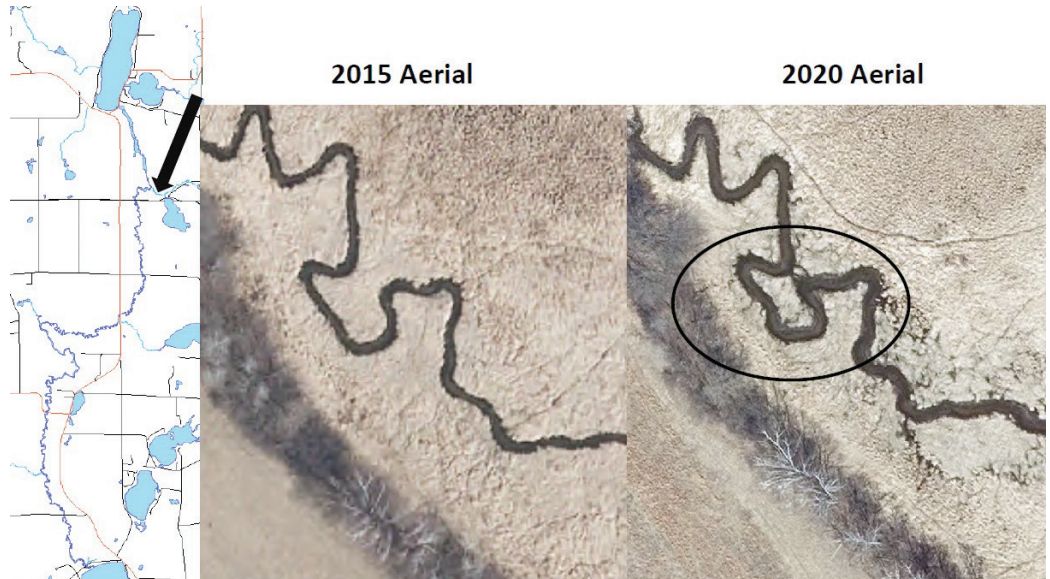
Residents on the north side of Cedar Lake have witnessed accumulations of mucky sediment along their shorelines in the past few years. The source of this sediment has been a bit of mystery. Does it wash up from deep lake bottom sediments? Is it accumulating from dead plant materials? Does it flow down Horse Creek and settle in the lake?

Staff from the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department set out to answer these questions. They suspected that Horse Creek, which flows into Cedar Lake's north end to the west of the boat landing, was a likely the source of the sediment. Streams are dynamic systems, and sediment along the banks and bottom can move with the erosive force of water.

Colton Sorensen, Water Quality Specialist, took on the task of analyzing the stream course. He carefully reviewed aerial photos from 2015 and 2020 to see if there was evidence of erosion along Horse Creek. He and Eric Wojchik, County Conservationist, presented their results at the February 2021 virtual Cedar Lake P&R District Board Meeting. The following images illustrate just a few of the dozens of examples of Horse Creek stream changes. When the stream erodes, sediment is carried downstream. Some of that sediment can reach Cedar Lake. Their conclusion: the sediment at the north end of the lake originates in Horse Creek. This sediment movement has likely increased in recent years with higher total rainfall and more intense storm events.



Horse Creek flows from Horse Lake to Cedar Lake. Polk County staff digitized the stream course on aerial photos from 2015 and 2020. They identified many areas of erosion and deposition of sediment along the way.



These images show new stream channels cut and areas where sediment has deposited. There are dozens of examples along Horse Creek from Horse Lake to Cedar Lake.



ZEBRA MUSSELS

ZEBRA MUSSEL WARNING

Nearby Deer Lake reported significant increases in zebra mussels attached to docks, boats, plants, and rocks in the fall of 2020. This expansion occurred after a single zebra mussel was discovered in Deer Lake late in 2016. Few observations occurred until this past fall. It is not known if expansion occurred from the original discovery, or if repeated introductions occurred. Other nearby waterbodies with zebra mussels present include Bass Lake and the St. Croix River in St. Croix County and the McKenzie chain in Burnett County. Wisconsin DNR lists 282 water bodies as infested with zebra mussels (<https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/BySpecies.aspx>). The Minnesota list includes 530 entries (<https://www.eddmaps.org/midwest/tools/infestedwaters/>). Undrained ballast tanks of wakeboard boats have been found to readily carry water with live zebra mussel larvae – called veligers (<https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/news/wakeboards>).

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Follow recommended measures to prevent aquatic invasive species introduction.

This is also the law in Wisconsin:

INSPECT boats, trailers, and equipment

REMOVE all attached aquatic plants and animals

DRAIN all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment

NEVER MOVE plants or live fish away from a water body

If you have been in water infested with zebra mussels, take extra precautions:

DECONTAMINATE YOUR BOAT, TRAILER, AND INTERNAL COMPARTMENTS

Wait at least 5 days before you go to another lake. Be sure all internal compartments are dry.

Use a mild bleach solution (2 TBLS per gallon of water) to spray external surfaces, and compartments like live wells, ballast tanks, and bilge areas. Wait 10 minutes for effective removal of zebra mussels. Rinse internal compartments with fresh water.

If hot water is available, spray each area with 140 degree F water for 10 seconds, or spray each area and internal compartments with 120 degree F water and wait at least 2 minutes.



PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES IT'S THE LAW

PENALTIES MAY EXCEED \$2000

Before launching and before leaving **YOU MUST:**

- ✓ **INSPECT** boats, trailers, and equipment.
- ✓ **REMOVE** all attached aquatic plants and animals.
- ✓ **DRAIN** all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment.
- ✓ **NEVER MOVE** plants or live fish away from a waterbody.*



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the spread of invasive species, it's the law



*Limited exceptions apply. Visit WWW.DNR.WI.GOV and search for "BAIT LAWS."

YOU CAN HELP PROTECT CEDAR LAKE

The Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District (CLPRD) is a unit of government. As the name states, CLPRD is responsible for “protecting” and “rehabilitating” Cedar Lake. Owners of property in the Lake District have a stake in having a healthy lake and a responsibility to contribute to that effort. Everyone in the district contributes financially through tax payments, but there are other opportunities to help out. One important step is caring for your property to protect and improve the quality of the lake.

Based on your time available and skills, there are additional opportunities to protect Cedar Lake.

First, stay informed of developments on the lake. Our website (<https://cedarlake-wi.org/>) contains:

- historical and current information about the lake
- minutes from board meetings
- a sign-up for the email list (on the HOME page of the website) to receive electronic communications.

Another way to stay informed is by attending the annual meeting in August. Also, consider attending board meetings throughout the year. They are open to the public.

For those who can be more actively involved, there are several opportunities. Volunteers are needed to manage or be a participant in:

- Clean Boats Clean Waters
- Eurasian water milfoil monitoring
- Zebra mussel monitoring.

Finally, you can serve on the CLPRD board. One or two positions are up for election every year.

Cedar Lake will be a better place for all of us if more people take an active interest in its well-being. Thank you for considering lending a hand.

If you want more information about how you can become more involved, please contact Dan Early (763-442-2666) or Jim Reckinger (651-895-3510).

COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS BOARD NOMINATION PROCESS

Elections will be held for two positions held by current board members at the 2020 Annual Meeting. In order to be included on the ballot at the annual meeting, a candidate must submit a written notice of the intent to run for a commissioner position. The notice must be received by the secretary of the Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District 60 days prior to the annual meeting. The annual meeting notice will include commissioner positions to be voted on and the candidates running for those positions. Write-in candidates are not allowed in commissioner elections nor are nominations allowed during the annual meeting. District members will be asked to vote for candidates to fill each position with an expiring term. Candidates receiving the most votes will serve as commissioners.

COMMISSIONER POSITIONS

Commissioners are elected to 3 year terms.

COMMISSIONER ELIGIBILITY

If not appointed as a Town or County representative, the board nominee must be an eligible voter of the Cedar Lake P&R District.

COMMISSIONER EXPECTATIONS

Commissioners must regularly attend monthly board meetings. Commissioners must serve as an officer of the board or lead a board committee. In order to understand Lake District operations, the board encourages Lake District members and prospective commissioner candidates to participate in monthly board meetings and Lake District committee projects and groups.



The Volunteer Monitoring Team seeks volunteers to monitor shoreline stretches for Eurasian water milfoil and other aquatic invasive species.
Training is provided.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT:

Jim Reckinger
651-895-3510
jimreck@aol.com



P.O. Box 93
Star Prairie, WI 54026
cedarlake-wi.org

CEDAR LAKE PROTECTION
AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

ANNUAL MEETING

9:00 a.m.
Saturday, August 7, 2021 (TENTATIVE)
Star Prairie Town Hall,
2118 Cook Drive, Somerset, WI

WATCH FOR POTENTIAL MEETING DATE OR FACILITY
CHANGES RELATED TO COVID-19 CONCERNS

GUEST SPEAKER: Kasey Yallaly, DNR Fisheries,
will present recent Cedar Lake fish survey results.

Final meeting date, time, location, agenda, and budget will be sent
via US mail and posted on the website cedarlake-wi.org and at the
Star Prairie Community Center and Town of Alden and
Town of Star Prairie Town Halls prior to the meeting.

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 5:30 P.M. ON THE FOURTH
TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT ALDEN TOWN HALL, 183 155TH STREET, STAR
PRAIRIE, WI
OR VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE.
CONTACT harmonyenv@amerytel.net
TO REQUEST MEETING INFORMATION FOR
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BOARD VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETINGS.



EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL ECOLOGICAL THREAT:

- It invades lakes, rivers, and other water bodies and thrives in areas that have been subjected to various kinds of natural and man-made disturbance.
- It can form large, floating mats of vegetation on the surface of water bodies, preventing light penetration for native aquatic plants and impeding water traffic.

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/fact/EurasianWatermilfoil.html>