

## Moose Lake News by

Jim Onarheim

On Monday April 8, 2024, the Wisconsin DNR held the annual Spring Conversation Congress Hearings. The Hearings were held at the Winter High School from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. About five people from around the Moose Lake area attended the Hearings.

Moose Lake is fortunate not to have a milfoil problem like several area lakes do in Sawyer County. The Chippewa Flowage was lowered last fall to expose many acres of the bottom of the Chippewa Flowage that had milfoil growing. This was done, hoping to freeze out and kill most of the exposed milfoil's root system. The lake was brought down eight feet to accomplish this.

Some lake associations in our area are thinking about the possibility of using chemicals to kill off the milfoil. This has been somewhat of a debate between many people. This year the DNR included a question in the Spring Conversation Hearings that read Prohibit the Use of the aquatic herbicide 2,4D in all aquatic Ecosystems in the state of Wisconsin.

2,4D has been used in an unsuccessful attempt to eliminate nonnative aquatic plants in Wisconsin aquatic ecosystems for decades. This has been an expensive and in general unsuccessful endeavor. A recently completed seven-year study in Ellwood Lake, Florence County Wisconsin has documented the detrimental effect on the plant and animal communities of the lake. Extensive research has documented shifts in adult reproductive capabilities, egg quality degradation, larval mortality, and reduced egg hatching percentages of many fish species at various concentrations and formulations of 2,4-D. Complete elimination of crappie and pumpkinseed populations were recorded in Ellwood Lake. A significant decrease in total zooplankton populations and zooplankton community changes have been documented. Zooplankton, being the primary food source for larval and prolarval fish of many species, are of utmost importance for successful fish communities.

Total elimination of non-native vegetation using approved concentrations and types of 2,4-D has never occurred. Rhizomes and accumulated seeds are not killed by exposure to 2,4-D resulting in reestablishment of undesirable populations post treatment. Hybridization and herbicide tolerance in non-native species is well documented when subjected to long term exposure. Native plant species express the entire gamut of response from complete elimination to intolerance.

This year question number 34 read. Do you support the elimination of the use of herbicide, 2,4D in aquatic ecosystems in the state of Wisconsin? The results of all questions voted on at the spring hearings should be available this week. Look on the DNR website for the results / answers to all 49 questions.

The Six Aquatic Herbicides Registered for use in Wisconsin, but are they safe for our lakes?

### 1. CUTRINE®- PLUS (copper compound)

ALGAECIDE and HERBICIDE This pesticide is toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates. Waters treated with this product may be hazardous to aquatic organisms. Treatment of aquatic weeds and algae can result in oxygen loss from decomposition of dead algae and weeds. This oxygen loss can cause fish and invertebrate suffocation.

Certain water conditions including low pH (< 6.5), low dissolved organic carbon (DOC) levels (3.0mg/L or lower), and "soft" waters (i.e., alkalinity less than 50 mg/L), increases the potential acute toxicity to non-target aquatic organisms.

## 2. ENDOTHALL TECHNICAL

This pesticide is toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates. Do not discharge effluent containing this product into lakes, streams, ponds, estuaries, oceans, or public waters.

## 3. Nufarm Diquat 2 L Herbicide

This pesticide is toxic to aquatic invertebrates. For Terrestrial Uses, do not apply directly to water, or to areas where surface water is present, or to intertidal areas below the mean high-water mark. Do not contaminate water when disposing of equipment wash water.

## 4. GLYPHOSATE 41%

**ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS** Do not apply directly to water, to areas where surface water is present or to intertidal areas below the mean high-water mark. Do not contaminate water when cleaning equipment or disposing of equipment.

## 5. AMINE 400 2,4-D WEED KILLER

**Environmental Hazards** This pesticide is toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates and may adversely affect non-target plants. For Terrestrial Uses: Do not apply directly to water, or to areas where surface water is present, or to intertidal areas below the mean high-water mark. Drift and runoff may be hazardous to aquatic organisms in water adjacent to treated areas. Do not contaminate water when disposing of equipment wash water or rinsate. This product contains a chemical with properties and characteristics associated with chemicals detected in groundwater. The use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in groundwater contamination. Application around a cistern or well may result in contamination of drinking water or groundwater.

## 6. Fluridone SC

**Environmental Hazards:** Do not apply it to water except as specified on the label. Do not contaminate water by disposal of equipment wash waters. Do not apply in tidewater/brackish water. The lowest rates should be used in shallow areas where the water depth is considerably less than the average depth of the entire treatment site, for example, shallow shoreline areas. Trees and shrubs growing in water treated with Sonar A.S. herbicide may occasionally develop chlorosis. For water treatments, it is important to maintain the specified concentration of Sonar A.S. in contact with the target plants for a minimum of 45 days. Rapid water movement or any condition which results in rapid dilution of Sonar A.S. in treated water will reduce its effectiveness. Under optimum conditions, 30 to 90 days are required before the desired level of aquatic plant management is achieved with Sonar A.S.

Pool results this week. Christinas Y-Pines had five teams show up to battle it out. First place went to Vaughn Christison and Gaitlin Gunn. Second place Mike Williams and brother Jeff Williams, Jack Brown and Joan Linahon took the TP prize. Notice: The Pool League will play one more night on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April and then finish out the year with the year end party on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April. This change was made last week in my absence because of the spring ATV ride that will take place on the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Round Lake, the Town of Hayward the Town of Spider Lake Fire Departments and the DNR had a grass /brush fire Saturday afternoon April 13<sup>th</sup>. They fought the fire that burned a little over one acre of grass and fallen trees and brush for about 2 hours. This occurred on Hummingbird Lane in the Town of Round Lake. The fire started with the owner starting a campfire and leaving it unattended. The fire danger as of this day, Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> is Very HIGH. Presently there is NO outside burning allowed.

Birthday wishes this week will go out to Mike Seeger and Jackie Olson both on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Marge McCormick has her birthday on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Tammy Graham's birthday is on the 20<sup>th</sup> with Chris Graham and Brianne Sanders both on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Our last birthday for the week is Howard Lueschen who will be celebrating on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There are three anniversaries this week. Mike and Linda Seeger, the 18<sup>th</sup>, Ken, and Kathy Brisel the 22<sup>nd</sup> and Daryl and Terra Neibauer on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April. Happy Birthday and Anniversary to all of you.

Stay safe everyone and enjoy your beautiful week. Please send your items of interest to my new e-mail address [emta984@gmail.com](mailto:emta984@gmail.com) or call my landline at 715-462-4448 or my cell at 715-577-8880. Moose Improvement association website is <http://mliahaywardwi.org> The Town of Round Lake Web site is <https://www.townofroundlakewi.org> and the NEW Round Lake Fire Department website is <https://townofroundlakefire-rescue.org>