



Touch lightly...enjoy deeply
Cedar Lake Conservation Club
www.cedarlakecc.org

Cedar Lake Conservation Club

Maple Lake – Annandale, MN *Early Summer Special Edition* June 2020



CLCC 2020 Summer Events are Cancelled

The CLCC Board of Directors made the decision to cancel this year's July 4th pontoon parade as well as the CLCC picnic and music on the water events scheduled for July 18th.

This difficult decision was not made lightly. These traditions are near and dear to all of us and promoting fellowship among our members has been a central part of our mission since the beginning. However, given the COVID-19 crisis, the health and well-being of our members, and the population in general, became paramount. After investigating multiple options, reviewing the Governor's Stay Safe Minnesota order, the guidance from the DNR, and the recommendations from health experts everywhere, we decided the only safe path forward was to cancel these events.

However, the lake is still ready for fun! We encourage everyone to enjoy the lake and community with friends and family, while being mindful of social distancing and taking precautions to ensure your health and safety.

We understand the importance of our events and traditions at Cedar Lake and intend to resume these in 2021.



Good Weed or Bad Weed?

Included with this mailing is a page of common lake vegetation in Cedar. Again this year we are seeing some **native clasping pondweed on Cedar**—often confused with curly leaf pondweed.



Good Weed

Over 95% of the aquatic vegetation in our lake is a **good weed**—native vegetation. We have a wonderful assortment in our lake including the highly desired hard-stemmed rushes and lily pads. Some scientists believe a robust native population may reduce invasives. Our diverse native vegetation is a sign of a healthy lake with a balanced system to provide food and shelter for wildlife.



Bad Weed

The aquatic invasive species—curly leaf pondweed (CLP) and eurasian water milfoil (EWM)—are in our lake. See more information to the right about how we control these invasive weeds.



The newest bad weed in Minnesota is **starry stonewort**. The threat is close to Cedar given nearby infestations in Sylvia, Pleasant, and Koronis. **Starry stonewort spreads by fragments.**

If you wish to reduce some vegetation for recreation at your shoreline, please check the DNR Aquatic Plant regulations. Should you elect to cut or rake the aquatic vegetation, remove the vegetation so it doesn't end up on your neighbor's shoreline.

When cruising the lake, try to steer clear of the EWM areas (see red areas on the map to the right) and stay in 12 feet of water or deeper to reduce fragment spread.

Aquatic Invasive Species Updates

Plans are well in place to control aquatic invasive species (AIS) on our lake. Here's the bumper sticker of what is happening:

2020 PROPOSED AIS Treatment
Yellow Areas | CLP 13.5 acres
Red Areas | EWM 5 acres



- Treatment of 13.5 acres of Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) was completed on May 19th.
- Treatment of about 5 acres of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) is planned for late summer. If the water within 150 feet of your property is treated, there is a sign posted on your shoreline. There are very few restrictions should your property be in the treatment area.

Cedar Lake is infested with zebra mussels. If your watercraft is "resident" to Cedar (e.g. in the lake all summer) there is a good chance it will have zebra mussels. Given this knowledge, and the time and difficulty for a complete decontamination, **consider not visiting other lakes with your watercraft.** Likewise, docks and lifts are favorite hiding places for zebra mussels, so sell or buy used equipment only if it has over-wintered before moving to a different lake.

Please remember to remind all your guests of the importance of a clean and dry launch of their watercraft.

Watercraft Cleaning Station at Schroeder Park on Cedar Lake First of a Kind in Wright County Installed

Because of your generous donations to the CLCC Visionary Fund, CLCC is delighted to announce that a cooperative effort has been formed with Wright County Parks to establish a watercraft cleaning station at Schroeder Park. The cleaning station was installed on May 18th, 2020.

The cleaning station is called CD3 (for clean, drain, dry, dispose) and is free for boaters to use. The cleaning station is designed to be a self-serve, easy-to-use system that reduces the spread of aquatic invasive species. The lighted station at Schroeder Park is solar powered and the tools available for watercraft cleaning include: wet/dry vacuum, air blower, brush, grabber, and wrench. The station is "smart" and includes telemetry to provide detailed reporting about the use of the

station.

The CD3 stations have been used at numerous lake accesses in Hennepin County and their experiences will be leveraged to maximize the effectiveness of the Schroeder Park unit.

CLCC and Wright County Parks and Recreation shared the initial purchase cost 50/50—each contributing about \$16,000. The CLCC also will also be providing 5 years of annual maintenance funding estimated at \$1,500 per year.

Again, the CLCC portion of this cooperative effort for the cleaning station is again made possible by the generous donations to the CLCC Visionary Fund and funds from Cedar's Clearwater River Watershed District



CD3 Station at Schroeder Park
(from the left Mike Cole - CLCC Board of Directors, Marc Mattice-Wright County Parks Director)

Corinna Township Vacation Rental Regulations Passed

At the May 5th, 2020 Corinna Township Board meeting, an ordinance impacting private/vacation rentals was passed. All of Cedar Lake resides in Corinna Township. The implementation of the regulations will be phased over 2020 and 2021. For 2020, requirements include that owners provide their renters and nearby property owners information about a contact who is available 24/7, and who can respond by phone in 30 minutes and in person within 60 minutes. Also in 2020, the maximum number of parking spaces is to be communicated to renters. In 2021, there are capacity limits and septic requirements. The regulations can be found on the Corinna Township website: www.corinnatownship.com, under Ordinances, 2020-01 Corinna Ordinances, section 7, #781.

Cedar Accesses | Monitoring & Summer Gate at Ireland

Good news! Even with the challenges of the pandemic, the program to have aquatic invasive species inspectors at Cedar boat accesses is happening.

Cedar will have about 4 shifts of weekend monitoring (2 shifts each at Cty Rd 6 and Schroeder accesses) and 4 shifts of weekday monitoring each week during the boating season. The cost of the planned monitoring this year is \$25,000 — certainly a major commitment for CLCC.

Also, Corinna Township has installed a gate at the Ireland access (just to the east of Schroeder Park). The gate will be closed during the summer season. Boaters are encouraged to use the Schroeder Park access or the DNR Cty Rd 6 access where the access monitoring is conducted.

For Everyone's Sake Own Your Wake

There are active conversations state wide about the popularity and impact of wake boats. Given Cedar's narrow and long shape, the impact of wake boats can be amplified. Under Minnesota law, the damage caused by wakes is treated the same as damage caused by an actual collision.

Wake boats create artificial wakes that are:

- Four times as powerful and destructive above and below the water as motorboat wakes;
- Two times as high as motorboat waves;
- Two times deeper than motorboat waves.

To minimize the damage caused by wake boats, stay 1,000 ft from shore (2,000 ft radius) and operate in at least 16 feet of water.

Loon Update

The CLCC Fish and Wildlife Committee put up four loon nesting platforms this year. We are delighted to report all four platforms attracted nesting pairs.

The south pair had one chick about May 18, and we are anxiously waiting for other new arrivals.

Please be mindful of the loon families during this critical time when the young chicks are not yet diving. The chicks do not go back to the nest so they are exposed to the many perils of open water. Give them plenty of space on the water when enjoying the lake.

Kids Don't Float Free Loaner Life Jacket On Hold



The very popular CLCC sponsored lifejacket loaner station at Schroeder Park (north side of lake) is temporarily on hold due to COVID-19.



The Problem: Artificially-enhanced wakes created by wake boats and wake enhancing devices cause environmental damage to lakes and lakeshore, safety risks for people on the water and on shore, and physical damage to property and shorelines.