

## January 2025 Newsletter

On December 17, 2024, the Board met to count the ballots. The Board offered an invitation to all who wanted to observe the count, five individuals witnessed the count. We are not releasing the votes totals pending a legal opinion. We have 19 ballots with deficiencies. These 19 ballots either failed to put the lot number on the first page or had one page on the ballot without an initial. All 19 ballots were signed, dated, and had the lot number on the last page. Since the ballots were signed, dated and contained the lot number, the board's position was to accept them; however, the observers objected to the Board's position. To protect the integrity of the election, on January 6 the Board voted to seek a legal opinion as to whether the ballots were completed sufficiently to identify and validate those votes. Our request for a Written Legal Opinion will confirm the legality of the overall Covenant and By-Law change process. The official vote totals will be released after the legal review.

Regardless of the 19 ballots in question, all the Actions passed with the required majority except for Action 2. A ballot is attached for your reference.

We will have two open seats on the Board. The seats held by Trudy Kemps and Cheryl Mekschum are up for election. Cheryl has decided not to run for re-election. Kevin Streetar, who filled Trudy's Board position for the remainder of her last year, will run in the election. Cheryl and Trudy will be missed. We appreciate their work and dedication to the lake. They have carried the brunt of the workload, Trudy as Treasurer and Cheryl as secretary.

If you interested in running for the board, please send a short resume with a mini bio to: <a href="mailto:info@silverspringsneshkoro.com">info@silverspringsneshkoro.com</a>. We need the resumes by March 15.

The Lake Preservation Committee summary report is attached. The full 5-page report is also on our website. More than 800 Cubic Yards of nutrient-rich cut weed and algae biomass was removed this summer. We are asking for one or two volunteers from each bay to act as Conservators. These Conservators will report to the Lake Preservation Committee on the weed growth in their bay. This information will aid us in guiding the weed cutter.

I hope everyone has a great winter and look forward to the start of this coming summer season.

Thomas Joseph Board President

#### **Lake Preservation Committee - Newsletter Summary**

(David Lester - 15Dec25)

The Lake Preservation Committee, Terry Klaves, David Lester, and Tony Mainiero, reports that the 2024 Weed Harvesting Program evaluation was a great success. Onterra Lake Management Consulting conducted lake weed bed mapping, and Aquatic Plant Management (APM) used their ILH-250 Weed Harvester to remove more than 800 Cubic Yards of nutrient-rich cut weed and algae biomass. To visualize this, if the cut weeds were palletized (1 Cubic Yad/Pallet), APM removed more than 31 truckloads of nutrients from our lake. (See photos on our website, www.silverspringslakeneshkoro.com.)

APM was also selected to treat 2.3 Acres of Invasive Weeds (EWM and CLP) followed by 7 days of Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH). The divers removed 3 Cubic yards of invasive weeds from more than 25 separate and previously mapped weed beds.

The Board wishes to thank everyone for acknowledging the importance of the Lake Preservation Program and for increasing their annual dues to support it. With this approval, the Board has contracted with APM to harvest weeds from the navigation lane and problem areas in 2025. There will be three weed cuttings, each one week (40 Hrs.) in duration.

Our experience in 2024 shows that the weed harvesting program will achieve our primary goal of slowing and potentially reversing the lake aging process while also preserving the lake's recreational (boating, lake water clarity, oxygenation and fishing) value.

The lake ecology will always be changing. Each spring, we will survey the lake to map the spread of invasive weed species (EWM & CLP). We anticipate having (DASH) invasive weed removal mandates on a second-year or third-year repeat-basis. The next Chemical treatment and DASH removal of invasive weed beds has been budgeted for 2027.

Our Lake Management Program (Weed Harvesting and DASH) appears to have the long-term potential to decrease the lake's nutrient load, reverse sediment (muck) build-up, reduce overall weed growth, and potentially reverse the lake's long-term maturation rate.

Additional and more aggressive programs, such as Dredging or installing a Sediment Basin by the lake inlet stream, might be considered to get quicker results. Funding will not be available until 2030, to seriously consider and plan this level of activity. In 2025 we will start a nutrient monitoring program, to determine whether we should place bags of nutrient absorbing material in the lake inlet stream, which is an affordable option.

For more information visit our website for the LPC's (5-page) 2024 Annual Report, and a (3-page) supplemental Lake Management Program Activity overview.

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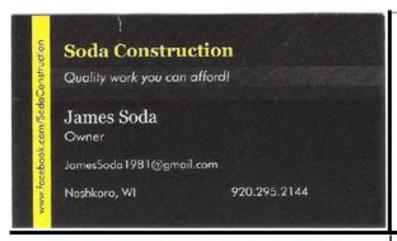
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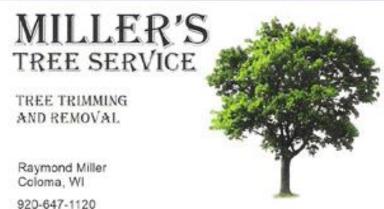
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