



# HARRISONS BAY NEWS

FALL 2022

Photo by Steven Bernstein  
Above Lake Minnetonka

## UPDATE: The Invasive Curlyleaf and Milfoil weeds

### The GOOD, the BAD, and the UGLY!

Many residents have noticed the significant reduction of Curlyleaf on Harrison's Bay. In May, sixty-seven of the 215 acres were treated with a diquat specific for Curlyleaf and young Milfoil. The Curlyleaf died back within a few days, as did the young Milfoil. That is the **GOOD** news.

When it came time to survey for Milfoil in August, none was found, however, a weed looking like Milfoil, called Coontail, was in abundance in shallow waters.

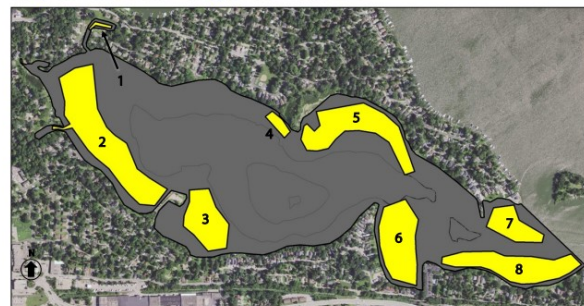
### Why was there no Milfoil?

Here's the **UGLY** news: the algae bloom was so thick that sunlight did not reach the bottom of our bay at depths where Milfoil grow. Our bay is phosphorous-rich due to street run off and nutrients entering from Painters Creek. The planned milfoil treatment is expensive. The money raised for treatment this year has been put in a savings account for next year.

We will need to continue the process of survey and treat each year. Curlyleaf drops turons that can live in the bottom of the bay for 7 years. By treating annually we hope to reduce the amount of turons and the area that needs treatment each year.

(To learn more about what we can do about run-off, please see Sheri's article about rain gardens.)

Harrison's Bay (Lake Minnetonka, #27-0133)  
Curlyleaf Pondweed Management Plots: 2022



Curlyleaf



Milfoil



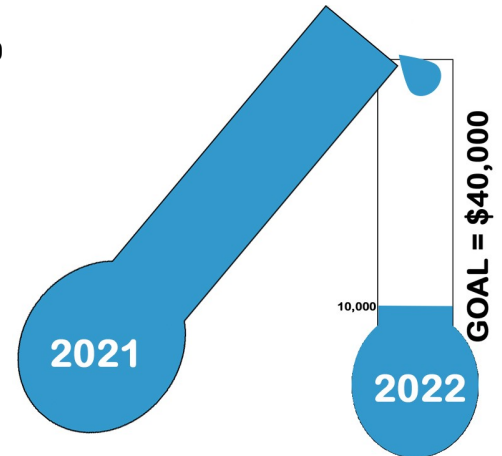
Coontail

## 2022-2023 FUNDRAISING GOAL = \$40,000

We surpassed our fundraising goal by over \$17,000 and we didn't need to do a Milfoil treatment leading to our carryover of \$24k. Our spending budget is \$50,000 for 2023 and our carryover will be used to help us get there!

For 2023 season we are looking to continue to monitor and treat the invasive weeds and we are kicking off initiatives to manage carp and develop a plan to improve water quality in our bay.

It is our goal to be good stewards of your donations and will be looking for grant opportunities to extend our programs.



### 2021 –2022 by the Numbers

#### Our Financials

9/1/21 - 8/31/22

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>    | <b>\$ 47,141</b> |
| Donations         | \$ 42,220        |
| Grants            | \$ 4,921         |
| <b>Expenses</b>   | <b>\$ 23,030</b> |
| <b>Carry-over</b> | <b>\$ 24,111</b> |

#### Our Donors

| Category      | # Possible | Donors | % Donors | Donations        |
|---------------|------------|--------|----------|------------------|
| Lakeshore     | 219        | 96     | 44%      | \$ 33,952        |
| Dock Program  | 91         | 17     | 19%      | \$ 2,570         |
| Deeded Access | 38         | 10     | 26%      | \$ 1,975         |
| Association   | 9          | 6      | 67%      | \$ 1,250         |
| Grants        |            |        |          | \$ 4,921         |
| Friends       |            | 8      |          | \$ 1,505         |
| Other         |            |        |          | \$ 968           |
| <b>Total</b>  |            |        |          | <b>\$ 47,141</b> |

### YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED

Donors of \$275 or more get a yard sign.

#### 2022-23 Fundraising Goal: \$40,000

Use the QR Code to make your tax-deductible donation via PayPal or mail or drop-off your donation with this form to: Harrisons Bay Association, PO Box 464, Mound MN 55364



YES, I would like to help by contributing to the Harrisons Bay Conservation Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ \$275  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **Harrisons Bay Association**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

HBA is a 501(c)(3) organization



**LIVE MUSIC BY  
Greg Sletten**



**Special  
Guest Speaker  
Przemek Bajer,  
PhD**

Przemek is a research assistant professor at the University of Minnesota (MAISRC) studying common carp behavior and ecology. He is also the founder & owner of Carp Solutions.

## Join us for our FUNdraising

**WHEN:** Monday, October 3rd  
**TIME:** 5:30 - 8:30 pm  
**WHERE:** Back Channel Brewing  
**DINNER:** German Brats meal and dessert  
**COST:** \$15 in advance & \$50 family,  
 \$20 at the door & \$60 family  
**GAMES:** Hammerschlaggen, Bags, Giant Jenga



### Silent Auction (partial list):

- ♦ Big Sky Vacation Home (\$2500 value)
- ♦ Paddletap FREE rental (1 hr 18 ppl, \$500 value)
- ♦ Private eFoiling lesson (1 hr, \$300 value)
- ♦ Rain Barrel plus consult (\$150 value)
- ♦ Shirley's pies of the month (6 months, \$200 value)
- ♦ Custom Charcutery board Lake Minnetonka (priceless)
- ♦ Dinner for 6 at Cole Cove (\$500 value)
- ♦ SheShuttle Private ride (\$100 voucher)
- ♦ Private Cooking class 6 ppl (\$450 value)
- ♦ PLUS many more local restaurant and business gift certificates



**BUY YOUR  
ADVANCE  
TICKETS  
NOW!**



**Learn more at [harrisonsbay.org](http://harrisonsbay.org)**

## How impaired is Harrisons Bay compared to others?

Water clarity is currently an issue on our bay. Harrisons is on the impaired water list for high nutrients. High nutrients = high algae = low clarity = green water. This summer we experienced blue green algae which can be toxic to you and your pets.

### So what can we do?

- 1) Understand the factors that churn up the nutrients in the sediment of the bay, such as carp and wakes.
- 2) work with the city to understand the current storm water management and work for change where needed
- 3) educate lakeshore residents on clean water gardening
- 4) advocate for the watershed to take on projects to lead to improved water quality in Painters Creek.

The Clean Water Act designates funding for improving water quality specifically within impaired bays. We are reaching out to experts that can help develop plans to improve our bay and apply for these grants.

| Bay                   | Date     | Depth of water (ft) | Secchi Disk Depth (ft) |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Harrisons Bay         | 08/09/22 | 16                  | 2.0                    |
| Harrisons Bay         | 09/05/22 | 17                  | 2.5                    |
| West Arm Bay          | 08/09/22 | 28                  | 2.0                    |
| Jennings Bay          | 08/09/22 | 18                  | 2.0                    |
| Upper Lake Minnetonka | 08/09/22 | 25                  | 17.0                   |
| Lafayette Bay         | 08/09/22 | 26                  | 13.5                   |
| Browns Bay            | 08/09/22 | 21                  | 17.0                   |
| Crystal Bay           | 08/09/22 | 66                  | 10.0                   |
| Black Lake            | 08/16/22 | 22                  | 5.0                    |
| Cooks Bay             | 08/16/22 | 20                  | 9.0                    |
| North Arm Bay         | 9/5/2022 | 16                  | 7.5                    |
| Stubbs Bay            | 9/5/2022 | 20                  | 7.0                    |

## What's Up in the Hood

By Venus Steffensen

What's happening at the west end of Harrisons Bay? Well, the lagoon has filled in to the point that navigating out is almost impossible.

With each storm comes the rushing waters down the roads and properties from the south, west and north side of Commerce Blvd, all converging down to a drain south of the Lift Station near Three Points Blvd. These rains move through the culvert that swells over 15ft wide and becomes a vision like the Colorado river, with mud and silt pouring into Harrisons Bay. We are at a point again where the end of the bay has filled up with silt and will require dredging for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in 27 years. Over the last 30 years residents have requested help from the DNR, LMCD, MCWD and the City of Mound and an effective solution has not been found. As one can imagine, you cannot witness this much runoff coming into the bay and not ask the next question "What else is coming in with the sand and gravel?"

In 2007 the City of Mound approved the 2007 Drainage Improvement Project. This project at The Port Harrison Townhomes on Commerce Blvd, involved the installation of a storm water treatment structure that consists of three cisterns that collect water to run through a gravity settling process. This solution is meant to collect the water and allow the sediment to settle to the bottom of the cisterns before flowing into Harrisons Bay. Sounds good, right? However, we don't believe this system is big enough to handle the volume of water.

On **September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**, The City of Mound will be reviewing its Minnesota Stormwater (MS4) permit during the City Council meeting. At that time, the public can weigh in with any concerns that they have with the current stormwater system. Harrisons Bay Association members are encouraged to attend this meeting to request the City Engineers audit this structure to understand its true capacity and effectiveness.



## END OF STREET RAIN GARDEN

**DID YOU KNOW,,,,, Stormwater run-off is the NUMBER 1 cause of urban pollution in our lakes and rivers?**

In June, a demonstration rain garden was constructed at the end of Overland Lane to filter pollutants from the stormwater that makes it way from the roofs, driveways, lawns and patios into the streets and then into Harrisons Bay. This garden was the capstone project for Sheri Wallace and Julie Moore's training to be Minnesota Water Stewards.

Rain gardens allow the polluted storm water to stay on the land, soaking in and removing pollutants. They are planted with native perennials that attract birds and butterflies and require little watering once established and they look fabulous!

Harrisons Bay has many streets that end at the bay. As an association we will be looking at funding opportunities to help us finance more rain gardens.

We'll have an information table at Oktoberfest so stop by and learn more about what we can do to be lake stewards.

If you have questions please feel free to reach out to Sheri at [sheri.L.wallace@gmail.com](mailto:sheri.L.wallace@gmail.com) or call 763.234.6016.



### You can make a difference!

1. **Keep streets, gutter & storm drains clean** – never use them for dumping
2. **Compost your yard waste** or take it to the Mulch Store (free for Mound residents). Lawn Clippings & leaves should be kept out of the lake
3. **Divert your gutters into gardens or lawn**—NOT into the street!
4. **Wash vehicles at the car wash** or on your lawn
5. **Clean up after your pets**
6. **Garden for water quality**
  - Plant a buffer near the lake
  - Use a rain barrel
  - Plant a rain garden
  - Minimize the use of fertilizer & herbicides
6. **Keep your car in good condition** – fix any leaks
7. **Adopt an end of street right of way** and install a buffer of plants or rain garden



**Learn more at [harrisonsbay.org](http://harrisonsbay.org)**

## CARPe Diem!

By Bart Halling

Did you know that there are over 2000 species of carp (Cyprinidae) across the world? The common carp (Cyprinus Carpio) grows up to 47 inches and 88 pounds. Carp were introduced as a game fish by early settlers as far back as 1880 and have long made Minnesota waters, including Lake Minnetonka, their home. Concern around their negative impact to our natural, amazing waterways in the last 10-15 years has increased dramatically, and for good reason.



Carp represent a risk to our water quality across the lake, but specifically in Harrisons Bay, in several key areas:

- Carp uproot and suspend native submerged vegetation, making it difficult to establish a healthy system
- Carp create higher levels of suspended sediment, reducing water clarity and making it difficult for native, healthy vegetation to grow
- Carp often times re-suspend sediment bound phosphorus that historically made its way into the lake through upstream and local runoff (and can create dangerous algae blooms)
- Carp activity creates turbid, nutrient rich water that reduces dissolved oxygen concentrations
- Carp directly impact and disrupt feeding, spawning and nursery habitat for various game fish

Many organizations across Hennepin and Carver counties are banding together to address the challenge of carp overpopulation in our impacted waterways. Support continues to build with large grants and community funding drives to finance efforts aimed at reducing the population to healthier, manageable volumes. **Since Harrisons, Jennings, Forest Lake and West Arm are connected, it makes sense to evaluate and manage carp holistically in all 4 bays.**

### Our Plan for 2023

- 1) Engage our neighbors in West Arm, Jennings and Forest Lake
- 2) Assess the current carp population in Harrisons, West Arm and Jennings and tag 100-200 carp (estimated cost \$4,500 less \$1500 grant from LMCD)
- 3) Monitor Spring migration of tagged carp
- 4) Create a management plan
- 5) Engage with key partners locally to execute the plan, including local bay fundraising & grants—budgeting \$20,000 in 2023

Success stories continue to develop on a variety of lakes across the metro area, including Long Lake, where the community implemented a multi-phase carp management program that included supporting growth of natural bluegill populations (carp eggs are a favorite delicacy on the bluegill feeding menu).

If you are interested in learning more or getting involved, please send an email to [harrisonsbayassoc@gmail.com](mailto:harrisonsbayassoc@gmail.com) or visit the website's carp initiative page [harrisonsbay.org/carp-management](http://harrisonsbay.org/carp-management)

**The road to better water quality and healthier bays is within reach if we can all work together to seize the day! (or seize the CARP, as it were).**



## Hello Harrisons Bay Association from the FUN Committee!

We have really enjoyed putting together a few FUN events for our bay this last year. Thanks to you we have had great turn-outs for the events so far. Our goal as a committee is to have at least 1 event each season. Our first event was at the end of 2021 collecting items for [WeCan](#). They were so thankful and we will definitely do this again as a community. This past year we kicked off 2022 with [Frozen Funday](#)...and it was such a "fun" time with lots of people showing up from around our bay. We are already looking forward to planning this event next winter.



Neighbors enjoying Frozen Funday



Boat Parade Enthusiasts

Our [1st Annual 4th of July Boat Parade](#) was a HIT! WOW! How fun to have well nearly 30 boats joining in the parade...and so many lakeshore friends watching and cheering from their docks; yet another annual to look forward to. Thanks again for all your support and participation. As we continue putting on these FUN events, we just love watching our community come together and get to know each other from all areas in our wonderful bay!

**Do you know who  
your skipper is?**

**Want to join us?**

We can always use  
more helpers.

We have Skippers in  
all neighborhoods  
except 2 (Baywood  
Shores and Seton  
Village townhomes.  
These fun people help  
us get the word out  
about what's  
happening.





**Harrisons Bay Association**  
**PO Box 464**  
**Mound, MN 55364**



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## Harrisons Bay FUNdraiser

**Monday, October 3rd**  
**5:30 - 8:30 pm**  
**Back Channel Brewing**

## JOIN US

for German food, games,  
entertainment, & silent auction

PreSale tickets  
\$15 per person (\$20 at door)  
\$50 family (\$60 at door)



**Special Guest Speaker**  
Przemek Bajer, PhD  
Carp & Impact on Lakes



Proceeds benefit the Harrisons Bay Conservation Fund - learn more at [harrisonsbay.org](http://harrisonsbay.org)