



May 3, 2022

Spring Lake Homeowners

In the summer of 2021, Blue Water Science (BWS) identified the presence of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in Spring Lake. Hand pulling of identified areas was conducted by the DNR and BWS and heavier infestation areas were then treated with herbicide by PLM Lake and Land Management Corporation (PLM) and paid for by the Spring Lake Association (SLA). Together, these actions resulted in the reduction of EWM. However, additional areas were identified during a lake inspection by the DNR and SLA in late October 2021.

It was determined that a future treatment may be required in 2022 and this prompted a request for SLA member donations to help offset this cost. In addition to the request for member donations, the SLA also was informed of a newly created DNR Grant designed to combat new Aquatic Invasive Species infestations. The Grant was applied for and was awarded to the SLA to help manage and control the spread of the EWM for 2022 and 2023. The SLA is working with the Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District (PLSLWD), DNR, BWS and PLM to survey and treat EWM. We expect the first treatment of EWM to occur in June 2022. All treatment costs will be covered by funds from the DNR Grant.

Prior to this occurring SLA is notifying all landowners, whose property has shoreline adjacent to Spring Lake, the opportunity to opt out of this treatment. To have the best treatment success, we would encourage you **NOT** to opt out of the treatment. EWM may spread through root expansion in the lakebed sediment and can also spread via fragments which are cut, broken off and/or transported by boats. Full eradication of this aquatic invasive species is not believed to be possible, but the survey and treatment plan for the next two years should allow for us to mitigate and manage the issue.

If you wish to opt out of the treatment for the shoreline adjacent to your property, please fill out the enclosed waiver form and return it to the SLA so that we receive it prior to May 21, 2022. If your area is treated, signage will be placed on your shore detailing what water use restrictions should be followed. A sample document may be found at www.SpringLakeaAssociation.org

If you have any questions, please email Board.SLA@gmail.com.

Wesley Steffan
President Spring Lake Association