

Crookneck Lake Improvement District (CLID)

March 2019 Newsletter

Aquatic Invasive Species Update: During the fall of 2018, the presence of Eurasian Water Milfoil was identified along the south shoreline of the main body of the lake (as you depart the west bay) and limited to one plant within 150 feet of the shoreline. A few adult stage Zebra Mussels were found at the lake access. Both species were confirmed by the DNR. No additional findings have been reported. Similar to Curly-leaf Pondweed which the CLID has managed historically by chemical treatments Eurasian Water Milfoil can also be managed albeit by a different chemical and at a different time of the year. To date, no successful treatment program for Zebra Mussels is available for Crookneck. For your reference, included with this newsletter are informational reference cards.

The CLID will have the lake surveyed twice this year for invasive plant species. The spring survey typically occurs within a month of the ice going out and targets the presence of Curly-leaf Pondweed which has an active growth cycle during the winter months. The second survey will occur during July/August and focus on Eurasian Water Milfoil. In order to treat within 150 feet of your shoreline the DNR requires notice be given to property owners and they be afforded the opportunity to opt out. As such, the following notice is provided:

NOTICE

Crookneck Lake Improvement District
2009 Birchcrest Dr.
Motley, MN 56446

The Crookneck Lake Improvement District has contracted to treat Curly Leaf Pondweed and Eurasian Water Milfoil, Aquatic Invasive Species in Crookneck Lake in 2019.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has granted to the Crookneck Lake Improvement District (CLID) a waiver of the requirement that the CLID obtain the signatures of approval of owners of lakeshore property to treat within 150 feet of their shoreline. Instead, the CLID will notify property owners of the treatment through alternate forms. This notice is one form that the CLID is using to notify property owners. Other forms may include but are not limited to notification through the Crookneck Lake website, a newsletter and or a meeting.

With regard to the treatment for this year, 2019:

1. **The proposed date for treatment:** May 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019
2. **The target species for the treatment:** Curly Leaf Pondweed and Eurasian Water Milfoil
3. **The method of control or product being used:** EPA and MDA registered aquatic herbicides, such as but not limited to: Endothall (Aquathol A), Diquat dibromide (Tribume), Triclopyr Granular (Renovate OTF), Florprauxifen-Benzyl (ProcellaCor).
4. **How landowners may request that control not occur adjacent to the landowner's property:** If you desire that the treatment of Curly Leaf Pondweed or Eurasian Water Milfoil not occur adjacent to your property, please notify the Crookneck Lake Improvement District no later than April 30, 2019 at the following address or email address below (please provide a brief description of your property enabling the treatment applicators a means to locate and identify your property):

Crookneck Lake Improvement District
2009 Birchcrest Dr.
Motley, MN 56466
dseanger@gmail.com

Call for Officers: The CLID Board of Directors is comprised of resident (homestead) and non-resident (non-homestead) members with the majority being resident by statute. Election to the board is by ballot which is mailed to all riparian owners prior to the August meeting. Nominations are not accepted from the floor during the meeting. Each year both resident and non-resident members are elected to the board. If you are interested in being on the ballot or have any questions about time commitments or responsibilities please contact a board member.

Meeting Dates:

May 25 at 9:00 a.m. at the Scandia Valley Township Hall: **Lake Crookneck Improvement Association (LCIA) annual business meeting** (coffee and donut social at 8:30 a.m.)

Aug 10 at 9:00 a.m. at the Scandia Valley Township Hall: **Crookneck Lake Improvement District (CLID) annual meeting** (coffee and donut social at 8:30 a.m.)

Passing Along Important Information:

Staying current: Crookneck Lake Improvement District (CLID) updates and information is posted on the CrookneckLake.com website located under “CLID” on the tool bar.

Address updates: The annual tax roll certification address database, provided to the CLID each October by Morrison County, is used to prepare mailing labels. The database is an annual snap shot in time and your mailing address may change after this date. I’d greatly appreciate a quick email or letter with address updates. If you have a new neighbor please pass along their address also, since notification of new property ownership is not made to LIDs. Please provide me the name of the previous property owner for cross referencing.

From Morrison County:

I received an email from Amy Kowalzek with Morrison County Land Services. She asked the following info be shared with you. The email stated: “...Lake Shamineau and Crookneck Lake Flood Plan Protection Ordinance the Morrison County Board of Commissioners adopted. This ordinance was enacted for the benefit of residents on Lake Shamineau and Crookneck Lake that are experiencing structure damage due to high water conditions. The ordinance is under DNR review, and I expect final approval shortly. This ordinance essentially relaxes the limits for grade and fill within the shore impact zone and does not treat elevation as non-conforming structures as an expansion. This will allow property owners to undertake grade and fill and elevation projects without the requirement of a variance. Since variances are expensive, take time and are uncertain, this peels back some layers of regulation that often times stand in the way of projects.”

“It should be noted that projects under this ordinance still require permitting from the Land and Services Department and may require wetland delineation and mitigation through the Morrison County Soil and Water Conservation District. This ordinance will sunset on December 10, 2020. This allows a two-year window for residents to undertake flood protection projects under this ordinance. We encourage affected property owners to work together on “neighborhood” projects that are mutually beneficial to each other. This may reduce the design expense and impact to neighboring property.”

I received a “Save this Date” email from Galen Gruber with Morrison County Land Services. The next Lake and River Day will be held on June 1st from 8:30-12:00 pm at the Initiative Foundation, 405 First Street, Little Falls, MN. Information will be posted on the CrookneckLake.com website as it is received.

Dan Seanger and the CLID Board
(218) 575-2333 or dseanger@gmail.com