



INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE (ISC) REPORT

OnekamaTownship/ Portage Lake Watershed Committee

August 3, 2016

Invasive Species Updates: We have treated the lake for Eurasian watermilfoil twice this year and expect to treat one more time as the survey findings indicate.

June very small amount treated in the canal by Easy Street

August 2: The AVAS survey that was conducted on July 27 had **far less ewm** than normal for this time of year. In general there were fewer plants and a decrease in clarity compared to some years. There are likely many causes of this. The warmer weather is causing more algae than normal, which will decrease clarity in the water column. The hot temperatures can cause some species to crash out if they reach maturity to soon/quickly or other plants are out competing them. The previous EWM treatments have been successful and we are holding systemic control in those areas. As you know, we attack the root system to hold control and that can be for a season or multiple seasons, even better. It is important that we continue to monitor the lake for new growth and for growth in previous areas that are resurging. Root crowns can lay dormant for years as well.

We will continue the research project this year with Northern Michigan University to test samples of hybrids for effectiveness against various agents and concentration.

We did a small treatment August 2, 2016. Only a few areas were treated and those areas were posted and restricted. A majority of the lake did not have any restrictions. The marina at the Point Inn and the Marina on the SE side were the biggest treatment areas. (Because of mechanical problems with the boat the Portage Point Inn area was not treated and will be treated in September.)

Based on location and depth, different products and concentrations were used to treat an estimated 18.5 acres at an estimated cost of \$12,461. PLM will survey the lake again in August and additional treatment may be required.

Yellow iris – will be treated in the fall with the phragmites treatment.

Purple Loosestrife – Beetles were placed in some areas around the lake during the week after the 4th of July by Wetlands and Wildlife. Some beetles from our last planting 2 years ago were found. Beetles on plants in pots were used this year to increase the chances of success.

Japanese Knotweed – We treated a large patch in 2009 behind the Township offices and the treatment was very successful. We have a few more areas around the lake. The Northwest Invasive Species Network will treat on Industrial Drive in Manistee next week. They treated Japanese barberry on the Hensel property on the South side of the lake.

Other – Treatment of other native plants that have become invasive are being coordinated with our applicators and the private lakefront owners.

Submitted by,

Mary Reed, Chair
(ISC: Herb Lenon, Ted Lawrence, Jim Simons, Chuck Reed)