



INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE (ISC) REPORT

Onekama Township/ Portage Lake Watershed Committee

June 6, 2017

Invasive Species Control:

The Invasive Species Committee met on May 3 to continue the discussion on review information obtained to control hybrid invasive cattails and evaluated prescribed burns. Additional information has been obtained from the NWISN and Benzie Watershed Coalition members. Other lakes are concerned and have the same issue with these cattails. The consensus is that we do not recommend treating at this time.

Newsletter: The Portage Lake PLM Spring Newsletter will be sent with the next tax notice. A copy is attached.

Swimmers Itch: There will be a program presented by Thomas Raffel PhD from Oakland University on June 16th at 1PM at the Farr Center. Dr. Raffel will also be presenting on June 16th at Hamlin Lake. He will be sharing the results from our 30 days of data collection in 2016.. He is attempting to personally present the information to all lakes who gathered data for his study. He especially wants to discuss the data with Tammy Messner and Ted Lawrence who collected the data for him and to the Township, Village and Watershed Council.

Manistee Watershed Partnership and Benzie Watershed Coalition Meetings, May 23 and 24:

Discussion of watershed projects: 1. Storm Drain Crossings evaluations 2. Collecting data on Increase in saline due to large amount of road salt 3. invasive species control, 4. summer educational programs, 5. narrow leaf cattails monitoring 6. Status of new or updated watershed plans 7. Swimmers Itch updates. 8. Shoreline protection strategies. **Consensus of both groups was that what is happening on our Shorelines are the biggest threat to our lakes. In addition to riparian overlays, Shoreline Stewardship programs and demonstration projects are a better way to implement change and protect our shorelines. Plans to implement MSU Stewardship reward program.....**

Submitted by,

Mary Reed, Chair

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

