



INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE (ISC) REPORT

Onekama Township/ Portage Lake Watershed Committee

March 7, 2017

Lake Management Plan 2016:

The final report expected to be received this week. It will be posted on the website and hard copies will be distributed to the Township, Village, Library and committee members.

Exotic Invasive Species Control:

The committee will meet this week to review the information that has been obtained on controlling hybrid invasive cattails and prescribed burns. They will also review the final Lake Management report and other current watershed issues. Reports will be given to the Township, Village and Watershed. 2017 could be an interesting year due to our unusual winter and the predicted early spring.

The estimated cost for our current SAD was based on data from our first 5 years of management. We were slightly over budget for the first year (2014) and slightly under in 2015. In 2016 we treated 21.35 acres of ewm and treatment costs were significantly lower than anticipated. There are several possibilities for the small amount of growth

We have 2 more years of our current 5 year SAD and we will make adjustments to the amount we collect accordingly. We are recommending that we decrease the amount collected in 2018 for the 2017 treatments by half of the approved yearly amount and collect 41,800 with the winter taces. Treatment and cost data charts are attached.

This will be the 3rd and last year of our research project to study on our specific hybrid milfoil species and the results of different treatments.

Water Quality

Our water quality indicators continue to be good. The Carson Trophic State Index (TSI) is a method of classifying the state of a lake based

on 3 indicators...total phosphorus, clarity, and chlorophyll-a. We remain an oligotrophic-mesotrophic lake which suggests a highly desirable lake for recreation, beauty and fisheries - an excellent state to be in. Although our dissolved oxygen at the bottom of our two 60 feet deep basins went to almost 0 in September, we did not see the increase in phosphorus from sediment release that would be expected.

We plan to continue to expand our upstream monitoring and attempt to capture after a storm samples on McCormick, Scheimke, Hanson and Stream #9. We are continuing to review the results and will do a follow up restoration project with the watershed grant money that was obtained in 2016 if an area is identified.

Narrow Leaf cattails: The ISC continues to study and evaluate the cattails at the East end of the lake. The committee will continue to evaluate and make recommendations to the Township early this spring. If treatment is recommended, it will be done in August followed by a burn and/or cut and burn.



Submitted by,

Mary Reed, Chair

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