



Farr Center Phragmites May 2009

INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE (ISC) REPORT
Onekama Township/ Portage Lake Watershed Committee
April 1, 2014

PUBLIC ACT #188: Michigan Townships are governed by special assessment statutes that require a two-hearing process. The first hearing allows the township board to explore the question of creating a district, the estimate of costs, and the improvement itself. The second is a hearing on the special assessment roll.

Resolution #1 (Resolution of Intent) passed by the Township Board (February 4th, 2014).

Notices of the 1st Public Hearing will be mailed this week to all property owners by first class mail. Notice will also be published twice in the paper. It will be posted at the Township Hall and on the website. This is the HEARING OF INTENT and it will be held **April 15th, 7PM** at the Onekama Township Hall. The hearing is to explain the reasons for the program and to hear public comments. If there is community support for this program the Township will then conduct 2 board meetings after the hearing is closed. 1st Meeting - **Resolution #2** 2014 will be read and discussed prior to voting.

- a. Resolution of intent to pursue eradication and control of invasive species in and around Portage Lake.
- b. Directs Township Supervisor to prepare a Special Assessment

Roll

for the district.

Roll call vote and close this meeting

2nd Meeting - **Resolution #3** 2014

- a. Special Assessment Roll to be filed in the office of the Township Clerk.
- b. Date set for the second and final public hearing.
- c. Hearing properly noticed by 1st class mail etc

Notices of the 2nd Public Hearing will be mailed by first class mail to all property owners at least 10 days prior to the scheduled date (**May 13**). It will be posted twice in the paper, at the Township and on the website. **Resolution #4 "Finalizing the Special Assessment Role"** will be drafted prior to the hearing. Focus of this hearing is to discuss the tax role. After the hearing is closed, Township board

will hear **Resolution #4**, discuss, and vote. If the resolution is passed, the township will then put the assessment on the winter tax role.

Notice of confirmation published in local newspaper.

For the 2009-2013 SAD, the costs were less than estimated and the assessments were adjusted accordingly. The last year was a very small amount. (\$26 per unit on the lake and \$3.25 for all others). Public Act 188 requires that no more that 5% over the assessment can be left at the end of the 5 year period and this was accomplished. The amount left from the prior 5 years has been used to submit the application for the 2014 permit, hire the lake manager, and do an early spring survey. If the assessment is passed, the Township will pay for the treatment expenses throughout the summer and the assessment will be collected with the winter taxes.

Before we began treatment of invasive plants in 2009, the we did extensive research of best practice. We based our estimates on information obtained by calling other lakes and by studying the literature. We were constantly reminded that each lake is different and will react differently to treatments. Today, with our 5 years of experience, this is our best estimate. We feel that our ewm is now under control at the level it has been for the last 2 years. It is important that we plan to continue to control it and closely monitor for any new invasives. The estimated 2014-2018 Invasive Species Budget would be \$83,600 per year. This would be a \$130 per lakefront unit and \$16 for all others using the same method of assessment as we did in 2009.

**Proposed Estimated 2014-2018
Invasive Species Budget:**

Emergent Control	7,000
EWM Control	55,000
Permit	1,500
Lake Management	12,500
Contingency Funds	7,600
Total	83,600

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
Approved amount/year	144,733 \$207.32/unit 25.92 per1/8	109,980 \$155.52/unit 19.44 per 1/8	58,840	58,840	58,840	431,233
Actual Amt Collected/year	132,036 \$207.32/unit 25.92 per1/8	\$98,906 155.52/unit 19.44 per 1/8	67,186 103,68 12,96 per 1/8	34,329 51.84 6.48per 1/8	17,164 \$26/unit 3.25 per 1/8	349,621
Costs/yr	96,558	44,958	27,505	86,330	81,449	335,354
Total number of acres of invasives treated	244acres				130 acres	Decrease 114acres

2014-2018 annual	\$83,600 \$130/unit \$16per 1/8					418,000
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Information is available at the Township Office, at the public hearings and on the website.