



Farr Center Phragmites May 2009

INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE (ISC) REPORT
Onekama Township and Portage Lake Watershed Committee
January 7th, 2014

The Lake Management Report for 2013 has been received. Copies are available for the Township, Village, Watershed, Village and Invasive Species Committee members. The draft has been reviewed and revised by the committee and Herb Lenon has done a summary of the 2013 report which is attached.

The following is the **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**:

Portage Lake has been managed over the past six years with goals of identifying and reducing the presence of exotic species throughout the Portage Lake watershed, tracking plant trends, improving water quality readings and protecting Portage Lake into the future. The following report breaks down the specifics of the previous management, the management of the 2013 season and the need for future management.

In 2013, nearly 140 acres of EWM, Phragmites and Purple Loosestrife were controlled via chemical and biological control methods. Extensive lake mapping, vegetation mapping and water quality testing was performed. The vegetation mapping allowed for detailed description of what is occurring within the water column with the new **ciBioBase** technology as well **AVAS Survey** mapping showing numerous native and non native plants present throughout the lake. The abundance of healthy native plants in Portage Lake increases the long term stability of the lake. While some water quality parameters have maintained themselves with little change over the years, other parameters have shown fluctuations. Some of these fluctuations include showing that the tributaries around Portage Lake are bringing excess nutrients into the lake. This information is vital in determining the areas within Portage Lake that need to be focused on reducing nutrient loading to help reduce the productivity in Portage Lake. The ability of Portage Lake to produce algae and aquatic plants is directly related to the overall health and use of Portage Lake. While the main goal of the management is to protect the long term ecological health of the lake, it is also important to protect the recreational, aesthetic and financial aspects of the lake as well. +

After 5 years of treating the invasive species in and around Portage Lake our phragmites is under control but our eurasian watermilfoil continues to be a challenge. It has formed a hybrid and moved to deeper areas of the lake. We have done extensive surveys with the latest state of the art equipment to monitor our weed growth and water quality. Several products and varying concentrations have been used to optimize treatments. We have continued to network with other communities and organizations to assure we are using state of the art management practices. The

data in the 2013 report clearly shows that for the 5 years we've treated the lake, we have not harmed our native plants. **Our natives are doing great. The agents used have been specific for the invasives and we have in fact improved the fish habitat.** We need to continue to be vigilant in our surveys and in using best management practice for treatment

The Invasive Species Committee is working with the Watershed and Township Board to implement a management plan for the next 5 years. We have started the process of renewing our SAD. This will require that the Township Board pass several resolutions and hold public meeting as was done in 2009. The timeline has been developed so we can have the renewal of the SAD completed by May. This will give us time to obtain permits, complete an early spring survey, develop contracts for the applicators and do a community education program. The community education program will begin as soon as the Resolution of intent is passed by the board.

Proposed Budget

The following budget is proposed based on previous requirement on Portage Lake and the budget is limited to the management and treatment of Portage Lake. If additional costs are required in the formation of the SAD or from outside factors, they may not be included in this budget.

Table 10: Proposed Budget	2014 - 2018
Emergent Control	7,000
EWM Control	55,000
Permit	1,500
Lake Management	12,500
Contingency Funds	7,600
Total	83,600

(Using the previous assessment method to give us this total:

- 1 unit (51-150ft of lake front) = \$130.00
- 151 - 250 = 2 units
- 251 - 400 = 3 units
- 400 and above = max of 4 1/8 = 16.00

Mary Reed, Chair Invasive Species Committee
(Committee members: Dan Behring, Herb Lenon, Chuck Reed, Jim Simons)

TENTATIVE TIMELINE FOR ESTABLISHING A RENEWAL OF THE 2009 SAD FOR 2014-2018

- January 7th - Township Board passes Resolution of Intent (#8, 2009)

- January 8th - All resolutions, public notices, public hearing documents/procedures and tentative timeline are reviewed by the Township lawyer Tom Gier

- January 8 - February 4 - Township Supervisor reviews and determines amounts of individual property owners in the assessment district

- February 4th - Township Board reviews lawyers recommendations and supervisors tentative assessments

February, March April - Community education program

2 community education programs to update past 5 years - April and May

Onekama.info

Facebook

PLA Newsletter - Jan and April editions

emails to key persons with information on invasives

Flyers included in notices sent for Public Hearings

Distribute information with Watershed packets

April 1st (Tues)- Notice mailed to property owners in the SAD and 1st notice in paper of Public Hearing

April 8th (Tues) - 2nd notice in paper of the Public Hearing

April 14th (Mon) - notice posted that there will be 2 board meetings after the Public Hearing

April 15th (Tues) - 1st Public Hearing - Resolution of Intent (#8,2009) 2 Board meetings follow

April 15th - 1st Board meeting - supervisor hands roll to the clerk and minutes note this was done - Resolution passed (#11,2009)

April 15th - 2nd Board meeting - passes a resolution to set date of 2nd Public Hearing (#12, 2009)

April 30th (Weds) -Written notice sent to all property owners in the SAD and 1st notice in the paper for the 2nd Public Hearing

May 7th (Wed) - 2nd notice in the paper of the date/time of 2nd Public Hearing

May 12 (Mon) Notice posted that there will be a board meeting after the 2nd Public Hearing

May 13 (Tues) - 2nd Public Hearing (Hearing to Implement the roll (Tues)

May 13 - Board meeting to pass a resolution to implement the roll (#13 - 2009)