



ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE (ISC) REPORT
October 1st, 2013

Phragmites: The phragmites treatment was completed on Sept 30th. Several small new areas were found and treated. The required public hearing was held on September 16th. Letters were sent and notices were posted. Vickie Smith from Wildlife and Wetlands will prepare a report with maps of all the areas treated. Her impression is that we are in a maintenance stage. They are treating smaller plants each year, but are consistently finding new ones. The committee will consider pros and cons of treating every other year. The Japanese knotweed that was treated last year shows no signs of dying. She will use another agent this year to treat. We will not know the effectiveness of the purple loosestrife beetles treatment until next spring.

EWM Surveys & treatments 2013: - . A total of 130 acres of ewm were treated this year. 145 were treated last year. This may be about what we will have to treat each year in order to keep ewm under control. The committee will meet with the lake manager and evaluate the success of the various products and concentrations that were used. We will do an analyses of the last 5 years and what we might predict for the future. .

Future - This is the last year of our 5 year SAD. The 2013 assessment will be collected in 2014. The expenses this year were very similar to last year. A 5 year summary will be done when all of the bills have been received. We will need to review options for funding the future protection of our lake. Once a lake has aquatic invasives, they will always need to be carefully monitored and controlled.. Our phragmites and shoreline invasives are currently under control and should be able to be maintained at a cost which will probably be about the same as this year.. Although the costs to control ewm and other aquatic invasives remains very unpredictable, we expect our costs to be similar to the last 2 years of treatment. The committee plans to meet with the lake manager this month to review the past 5 years and work on a budget, management plan and options to finance. A renewal of our SAD will require that we follow the steps outlined in PA#188. The first step is to present a resolution to the board for a renewal of our SAD. An alternative plan would be for the Township to make this a budget item. We will present our recommendations to the board at the November Township meeting.

Mary Reed, Chair, Invasive Species Committee