



## Weed Control

Have you been out on the lake recently? It really looks nice, but it took us too long to get to this point. We apologize. First, we had trouble hiring weed cutters because of other commitments early in the year and then, the DNR held up our permit to use herbicides for three weeks, as they were behind in their work. Next year we will apply for the permit much earlier and hire weedcutters to be ready to go in early May.

## Weeds

There is a lot less milfoil in the lake this year as our focus has been to reduce milfoil for three years. Milfoil is the most invasive weed affecting our lake. Early this year we had a fair amount of a weed called curly leaf, but it dies back in mid June and is now gone. We do have Illinois pondweed and chara, which is a native species and cannot be clear-cut per the terms of our permits from the DNR. If it becomes a nuisance around your pier, you can remove it by hand or rake. Our weed cutter cannot operate in less than three feet of water and prohibits us from cutting all the way into shore. Your weeds will be picked up on Fridays from the end of your pier. The weed cutter cannot go into shore or maneuver around boats to retrieve weeds. Weeds full of mud and stones will not be picked up as they

damage the conveyers on the cutter and the truck loader.

## Clear Water

Our lake water is the clearest since I've been on the lake for 7 years. You can actually look down and see fish swimming. This can be partially attributed to the chara weed which is holding down the sand and muck from filtering throughout the lake. Chara is one of the weeds that have started growing in the areas where milfoil has been eradicated. There also appear to be less carp in the lake which might be another reason for clearer water.

Here are the water clarity readings, in feet, from the last few years. They clearly point out the improvement in our water.

### Secchi readings (avg)

2001	3.5 feet
2002	3.7
2003	4.1
2004	4.0
2005 (7 readings)	6.5

Of the seven readings this year, one exceeded 8 feet and two exceeded 7 feet.

## Two Important Lake District Meetings

The regularly scheduled quarterly meeting will be held on August 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm at the Town hall. The meeting will include the public budget hearing and give you the opportunity to voice your opinion on the budget and how the dollars collected are spent.

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, the District annual meeting will take place, at the town hall at 7:00pm. There will be committee reports and voting on the 2006 budget.

## Where is the Purple Loosestrife?

If you have looked around the lakeshore, you won't find much purple loosestrife. You can find some of the plants with the leaves eaten, but not many blooms. It appears the beetle program that Bill Blazich and those that worked with him, has taken hold and helped to control the invasive plant. THANKS BILL and his helpers.

## Lake Committees

Volunteers are welcome to serve on various lake committees. Call Ernie Chiodo at 857-3961 to participate.

## Shoreline Plantings

Several lake residents have planted grasses and flowers along the shoreline. All evidence points to the

fact that this will help keep geese off your lawns because they are reluctant to cross barriers such as this. These plantings also keep nutrients and other runoffs from entering the lake.

## Fertilizers

The most common nutrient affecting weed growth is phosphorous. Phosphorous-Free fertilizers are available at the Union Grove feed mill, Reinemans True Value in Paddock Lake, Trevor feed mill and at Steins Garden Center in Kenosha. Twin Lakes and Paddock Lake recently passed an ordinance banning fertilizers containing phosphorus. Talk to your Bristol Town board members about a similar ordinance for Bristol regarding phosphorus free fertilizer for the health of our lake. George Lake thanks those of you already using phosphorus free fertilizers.

## Dredging

The dredging committee has met since our last newsletter and continues to explore the options concerning dredging and forming holding ponds to collect sediment before it enters the lake. SEWRPC has taken lake bottom samples to determine the amount of sediment present.

## E-Coli Testing

Bob Chudy tested the water at both beaches on June 22 and found bacteria levels very low. The North and East beaches tested at 3 and 30 colonies per 100 ml. respectively. The upper limit for safety is 230 colonies.