



# Clearwater Lake

## Property Owners Association

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### 2019 Fall Newsletter

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### Save the date:

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**Saturday, June 6, 2020:** 9 AM Annual CLPO Meeting at Corinna Town Hall

**Saturday, August 1, 2019:** 10:30 AM-1 PM Annual CLPO Picnic: Lower level of the Annandale City Park



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### Membership:

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Thank you for all that have already paid their lake association dues. We currently have 216 paid members out of 541. We encourage everyone on Clearwater Lake to become a member in order to help maintain and protect the lake. 2019 Dues are \$50 and you may pay your dues via check (a Dues form is attached) or online at our website at [www.clpo.org](http://www.clpo.org). All donations are tax deductible and if you pay on-line, PayPal will issue you a receipt. Please remember that all the activities of the Lake Association benefit everyone! If you have already paid your dues for this year, we've noted this on the last page by the mailing address with a paid thru date.

Also, please make sure we have your current contact information, especially your email address. We send many updates throughout the year and it helps us to save on postage. To update your information, please complete the membership form attached and check the box that your information has changed or send us an email at [clpomn@gmail.com](mailto:clpomn@gmail.com) with that information. Thank you!

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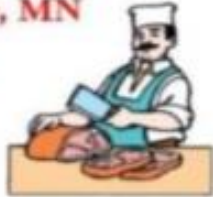
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## A word from our president...

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Post Labor Day: The weather is changing, kids are back in school, and summer is ending. It will soon be time to get the boats ready for the long winter and time to get the docks and lifts out. It's been an odd year weather-wise. I reported in the last issue some of the eye-opening changes in the climate that we're already experiencing as well as a few predictions.

In early August, the CLPO held its first annual golf tournament at Whispering Pines and it was a smashing success (pun intended) – Not so much in the scores, but we all had a great time. The annual picnic was held the next day at Founder's Park in Annandale and was attended by many of you.

This was a relatively quiet year with respect to lake issues. We report in this issue that we did not treat for milfoil this year and we explain why. We did treat for swimmer's itch at the sand bar ahead of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday but conditions for treatment were not favorable and the treatment results were not completely successful (some reported they got swimmer's itch anyway). We continued to fund watercraft inspections at the two DNR ramps on the west end of the lake and we have prepared to do the same in 2020. We also laid the groundwork for possibly treating curly-leaf pondweed in 2020, but much work remains before a decision is made.

Board elections take place at the Annual Meeting on the first Saturday in June. If you're interested in serving the community and the lake and having a lot of fun doing it, please consider nominating yourself or another for this important role. Look for a Call for Nominations in the early spring.

Have a great fall and winter, and whether you're sticking around or heading elsewhere stay safe!

And remember: **Clean! Drain! Dry!**

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## Annual Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment: by Jim Kutzner, CLPO Pres.

Good news! CLPO has been treating for Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) since 1994, but there was a dramatic change this year. Following two inspections by both the DNR and CLPO's independent contractor, substantially less EWM was found this year; and while it still exists, the density of EWM plants is way down. In fact, the density fell below minimum DNR standards for allowable treatment. Therefore, we did not treat for EWM this year. We don't know whether this is a one-year blip or a continuing trend and so we will take a wait-and-see approach and see what happens next year.

As previously reported, the EWM Project through the Clearwater River Watershed District (CRWD) remains active, but we stopped paying into it this year when the new broad-based AIS Project was implemented. The EWM Project funds previously paid into by all of us remain "in the bank"; it's our money, and it isn't going anywhere. We plan to review the situation next year to see whether EWM treatment needs to resume and from there decide on next steps.

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## Volunteers Helping with Starry Stonewort Searches: by Tim Isle, AIS Committee

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In all cases that Starry Stonewort has been found in Minnesota lakes, the discovery and location of the Starry Stonewort has been found very close to landings. It is very important that Starry Stonewort be located as quickly as possible so that prevention steps can be taken to limit its spread to other areas of the lake. In order to find Starry Stonewort as quickly as possible, the CLPO is using a two-part approach to identifying it.

The first part has been to hire Blue Water Science to conduct Starry Stonewort searches around the four most commonly used landings on Clearwater Lake. They conduct these searches, via dives, snorkeling and rake tosses, at three different times during the summer. Fortunately, our first search of 2019 turned up no evidence of Starry Stonewort. While the searches do not allow us to determine that there is not any Starry Stonewort in the lake, it does allow us to know that there are not any large patches of Starry Stonewort at the time of the search.

The second part of our strategy has been to involve members of our lake association in looking for Starry Stonewort. For the past three years, our lake's volunteers have been conducting rake toss searches for Starry Stonewort at various landing sites around Clearwater Lake. The intent of this volunteer project has been to locate any Starry Stonewort as soon as possible so that the invasive species can be confined and treated in as small an area as possible.

The following individuals have donated their time in order conduct these searches and deserve thanks from all of our lake residents:

Mark Bertelsen	Joel Dehmer	Andrew Fink	Cheri Fink
John Fogel	Tim Ilse	Jim Kutzner	Steve Maeyaert
Blaine Petersen	Brian Tommerdahl	Mark Wilkins	

If you would be interested in helping with these searches next summer or if you have questions surrounding issues with Starry Stonewort, please contact Tim Ilse, our AIS Coordinator, at phone number 651-231-9377 or by email at [t\\_ilse@yahoo.com](mailto:t_ilse@yahoo.com).




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## CLPO Website

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The new website is live - Our address has not changed, it's still [www.clpo.org](http://www.clpo.org).

They are still currently working on the member and admin tools. Once more of the tools are functional, we will send an email to everyone with the login link. Your login user name will be the email address we have on file for you and then it will require you to setup a password.

We have loaded all property owner's info into the database. So, for most, you will click the "login" button. You will only want to select the "join" button if you truly just purchased a property on Clearwater or we don't have your email address on file for you. If you do select "join" and you already have an account setup, we will update your information to our existing account and delete the new one you just created. The next time you login though, you'll have to follow the prompts to reset your password, as we do not have access to that information.

If you have never received an email from us, please email, mail, or call us with the information. We'll update and send you your login information.

As always, if you are interested in submitting an article of interest for our up-coming newsletters, or pictures to post to the website, please email them to: [clpomn@gmail.com](mailto:clpomn@gmail.com).



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## Curly-leaf Pondweed: by Jim Kutzner, CLPO Pres.

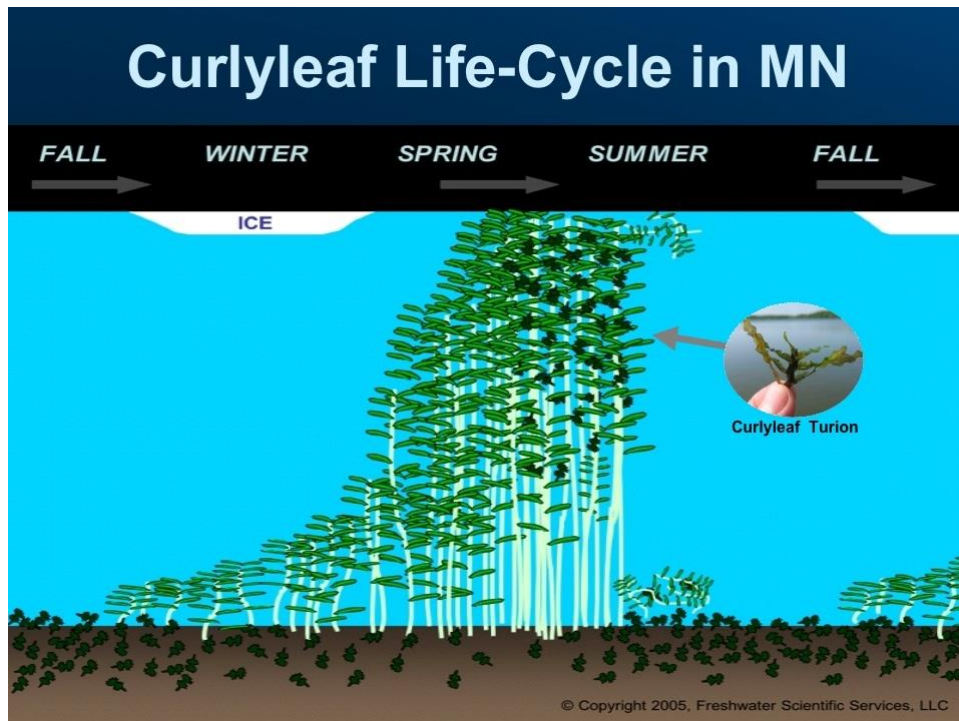
Curly-leaf Pondweed (CLP) is a widespread invasive species and it exists in many parts of Clearwater Lake. CLP is native to parts of the eastern hemisphere and was first found in Minnesota around 1910. CLP is so widespread in many lakes that it's barely considered or discussed in AIS conversations, but it is an invasive. 'Curly-leaf' is a perfect name for the plant as the leaves are curled on the edges. With the low water level the plants can be seen just at the surface of the water and the stems are hardy making it easy for them to wrap around your prop.



*Curly-leaf Pondweed leaves (from [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov))*

The CLPO is this year conducting a survey of the lake to determine both the spread and density of CLP that will help us decide whether treatment is possible and warranted. CLP plants start early in the spring, they seed early in the summer, most plants typically die off by early August, and the dead plant mass then settles to the bottom. Therefore, CLP treatment is normally done in the spring before the plants go to seed and a treatment regimen will usually extend into multiple years. Our work this year is in preparation for possible treatment next year. When this year's surveys and follow-up analysis are complete, we'll be able to report our findings and make a decision.





*Curly-leaf life-cycle showing when the turions (seed pods) are produced*

What if we did nothing? While the plants are alive the added plant mass becomes a nuisance to boaters and swimmers and they often out-compete with native plants reducing the diversity in the local ecosystem. The plants are generally unsuitable as food, shelter or habitat for native animals. When the plants die early, they add to the mass at the bottom or litter the shorelines with dead plants. Treatment can be mechanical through harvesting or simply hand-pulling, or through herbicide. Since CLP is an early spring plant, herbicides need to be applied early in the season – late May to early June – and consequently the CLPO is conducting the early work this year so that we can be prepared early next year should it be determined to take action. Also, unlike EWM where the herbicides directly kill the EWM plants, herbicidal treatment for CLP is a multi-year effort. The herbicide primarily attacks the reproductive process meaning the effects of the herbicide will mostly be seen the following year.



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Ready In  
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*Recipe By:* Stephanie Phillips

"A great alternative to pumpkin pie, especially for those cheesecake fans out there. Serve topped with whipped cream."

### Ingredients

2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened	1/2 cup pumpkin puree
1/2 cup white sugar	1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract	1 pinch ground cloves
2 eggs	1 pinch ground nutmeg
1 (9 inch) prepared graham cracker crust	1/2 cup frozen whipped topping, thawed

### Directions

- 1 Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).
- 2 In a large bowl, combine cream cheese, sugar and vanilla. Beat until smooth. Blend in eggs one at a time. Remove 1 cup of batter and spread into bottom of crust; set aside.
- 3 Add pumpkin, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg to the remaining batter and stir gently until well blended. Carefully spread over the batter in the crust.
- 4 Bake in preheated oven for 35 to 40 minutes, or until center is almost set. Allow to cool, then refrigerate for 3 hours or overnight. Cover with whipped topping before serving.

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Printed From Allrecipes.com 9/10/2019

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## Floating Bogs: by Jim Kutzner, CLPO Pres.

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Floating bogs have always been a problem on Clearwater but the exceptionally high water and high winds earlier this summer resulted in a number of small bogs and few monsters breaking free and floating around the lake. With the lake level down this fall we likely won't have a bog problem until spring so please keep this info in mind next spring. We have clarification from the DNR of what to do with floating bogs. When a floating bog has broken free from its natural location and floats to private or public property, the property owners where the bog landed are responsible for moving or removing the bog. "Moving a floating bog away from your property requires a [DNR aquatic plant management permit](#) issued through the [DNR Regional Fisheries Office](#)." Our nearest office is in Sauk Rapids (tel: 320-223-7878). The DNR's responsibility includes but is limited to "providing advice and approval on bog disposition" and removing "floating bogs lodged on state owned dams or other DNR property." Permits have been approved for nearby lakes and so this is not a dead end. For more information see <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/permits/water/needpermit.html> and scroll down to "Floating Bogs."



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## 2019 CLPO Picnic

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Thank you for all that attend the 2019 Annual Picnic!

Also, thank you to Mark & Beth Wilkins for coordinating the Annual Picnic again this year!



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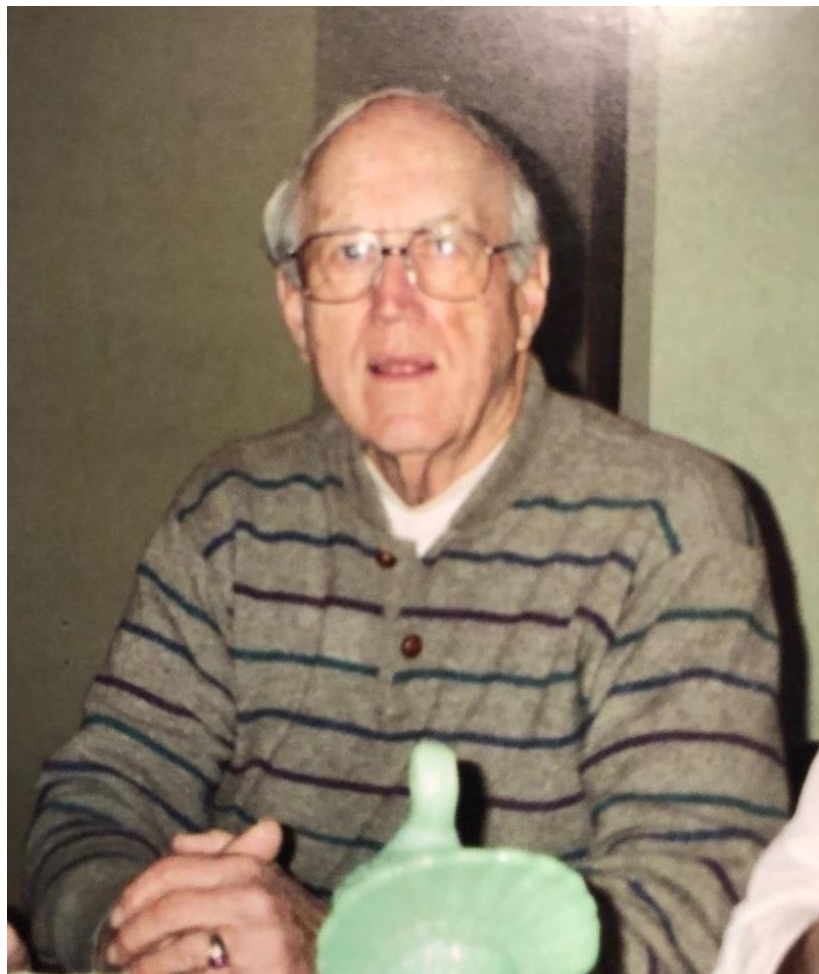
## **Marvin C. Brunsell: by Jim Kutzner, CLPO Pres.**

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I want to take this opportunity to honor a man I came to know during the last few years of his life. Long-time Clearwater Lake resident, Marvin Brunsell, passed away on July 30, 2019. 'Marv', as his friends and family called him, was my next-door neighbor and I got to know him in the few years that our lives crossed. Marv was a little cantankerous at times, but once you got past that you realized that it was because he was a very principled, dedicated, and caring individual. Throughout his life, he stood up and took on many responsibilities that affected all of us, and he cared deeply about the environment.

Marv was instrumental for many years in the health and welfare of Clearwater Lake. I'm told that at one-point Marv could not drive his boat straight across the open water without fouling his prop with milfoil, which to Marvin meant he had to act. In those earlier days of Eurasian Watermilfoil treatment, Marv was a manager of the Clearwater River Watershed District. In the early 90's, Marv went to bat for us with the DNR to secure the necessary permits and critical funding. Over the years, Marv continued his service to the lake as a member of the board of the CLPO in helping us to continue to address the lake.

Professionally, Marv was the finance director for the city of Fridley and then later held a similar role for the city of St. Cloud. Marv served in the US Army Signal Corp during the Korean War and then returned to the area to start and raise a family. While working fulltime, Marv completed his bachelor's degree from Metropolitan University. He was a lifetime member of the Rotary, a member of the Clearwater American Legion, and many other similar organizations. The more I read about Marvin, the more I realized how principled and dedicated he was. We will miss him!







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# Clearwater Lake

## Property Owners Association

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## 2019 CLPO Member Form

Please encourage your neighbors to do the same and join. We have made a big difference in the lake quality in the past 15 years and will be able to continue in the years to come if we get your support. Thank you!

**2019 CLPO Annual Membership Dues Payment:** \$50.00

**Yes, I'd like to give an additional donation:** \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Total:** \$\_\_\_\_\_

Check the box if you'd like to have the additional donation kept anonymous: ☐

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## Talents

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**\*\* Don't forget to Join or Renew your membership - Thank you! \*\***