

PLEASE READ

September 12, 2017

Dear Clearwater Lake Property Owner(s),

The purpose of this letter and information enclosed is to inform you of action being taken to improve our lakes. The Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association (CLPO) representing Clearwater Lake is petitioning the Clearwater River Watershed District (CRWD) to act as fiscal agent for a project managed by the CLPO to treat and manage aquatic invasive species in our lakes.

The CLPO has been operating under a CRWD project to conduct activities to manage the aquatic invasive species (AIS) known as Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). This CRWD project and its funds is specifically limited to EWM and cannot be used to manage other AIS. The petition requests that another project be created to treat all AIS, including but not limited to Starry Stonewort, Zebra Mussels, and EWM. The existing project to treat EWM will then be closed upon passage of this new project.

Determination of Project

This project is being pursued by the CLPO for the following reasons:

- To provide preventative measures to prevent aquatic invasive species from entering Clearwater Lake, and to provide aquatic invasive species management methods including watercraft and water equipment inspections and decontamination
- To address the expressed interest in collective treatment methods among property owners and those with deeded access
- To address the impaired status of our lakes affecting our property values
- To address the diminished recreational use of our lakes
- To lower the costs of collective treatment of aquatic invasive species versus individual treatment methods

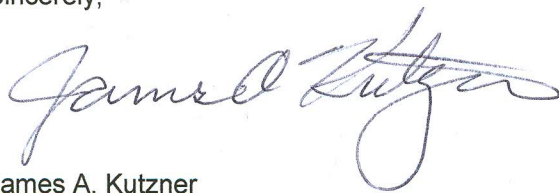
Costs & Scope

The scope of the project is outlined on the following page. There are currently 593 identified property owners on Clearwater Lake, including both Wright and Stearns Counties. The project would be an ongoing to effectively manage all AIS, including EWM. The petition will be submitted to the CRWD once 25% of the property owners have signed.

Petition

We will be holding a special meeting on September 30, 2017 at 10 AM at the Corinna Town Hall (9801 Ireland Ave. NW Annandale, MN 55302) with website (<http://corinnatownship.com/>). At this special meeting we will discuss the petition and our rationale for it. This is open to all members of CLPO as well as interested non-members. Any questions can be directed to Jim Kutzner (jkutzner@mindspring.com).

Sincerely,



James A. Kutzner

President of the CLPO and on behalf of the CLPO Board

Petition

The undersigned, being at least 25 percent of the property owners or the owners of more than 25 percent of the property within the limits of the area proposed to be improved (the "Petitioners") hereby petition the Clearwater River Watershed District ("CRWD"), pursuant to Minn. Statutes Section 103D.705, to undertake a project described as follows:

1. Description Of The Proposed Project And Purpose To Be Accomplished:

The Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association (CLPO), a non-profit association made up of dues paying members generally consisting of riparian property owners and those with deeded access to Clearwater Lake (located in Stearns and Wright Counties, MN) and other individuals interested in the wellbeing of the lake and lake management petitions the CRWD to establish a project for the control and management of aquatic invasive species.

- In keeping with the mission of the CRWD to promote, preserve, and protect water resources within the boundaries of the district and the CRWD's goal to maintain biologic integrity as indicated in its Watershed Management Plan, a new Aquatic Invasive Species project would be established for the prevention and control of all aquatic invasive species (e.g., Zebra Mussels and Starry Stonewort). The new project would include Eurasian Water Milfoil.
- The current Eurasian Water Milfoil project would be discontinued upon passage of this new project.
- CLPO intends to manage all aspects of the aquatic invasive species prevention and control including payments to contractors. Prevention techniques may include inspection and decontamination activities and public education. Control techniques may include mechanical harvesting and chemical treatments.
- The role of the CRWD would be to collect reimbursements through property assessments of riparian property owners and then reimburse CLPO for expenses incurred.
- The role of the CRWD is necessary because it is the only way to assure that all benefitted properties are paying for the benefit received from aquatic invasive species control.

2. Description Of The Property Where the Proposed Project Passes Over or Is Located:

The project would include all riparian property owners of Clearwater Lake. Riparian is defined for these purposes as any property that has direct and/or deeded access to Clearwater Lake.

3. A General Description Of the Part Of the Watershed District Will Be Affected:

There will be 3,158 acres of Clearwater Lake affected by this project.

4. Necessity Of the Project:

The control of aquatic invasive species in Clearwater Lake is vital to protection of the lake's ecological integrity and health, as well as the preservation of the local economy and the protection of other waterbodies in the CRWD.

The proposed project will be conducive to public health, convenience, and welfare. The Petitioners hereby agree that it will pay all costs and expense that may be incurred by the CRWD if the proceedings are dismissed or an implementation contract is not awarded for the proposed project.

In witness whereof, the undersigned have executed this Petition as of the _____ day of _____, _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Please mail petition to:

Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association
PO Box 476
Annandale, MN 55302

Or fax to:

320-274-5955

Or print, scan, sign, and email to:

clpomn@gmail.com