

Lake Metonga Association Newsletter

Fall 2008



Do You Contribute to This Problem?

Membership Support Thanks for your continuing support of our Lake Association by renewing your membership or by joining the Association in 2008. In addition to membership fees, your generous donations will give us the financial resources to continue our efforts to control the spread of Eurasian Water Milfoil (“EWM”) in Lake Metonga by chemical treatment of this invasive exotic weed. Our members can be proud of their concern and involvement in protecting Lake Metonga. Summer seems to come to a close so quickly and possibly you may have forgotten to renew your membership for the 2008 season. Therefore, for

those who have missed the opportunity, a membership form is included for your consideration.

Why All The Weeds? If your shoreline is piled with aquatic plants, EWM, etc., when the wind is flowing in your direction, you’re not alone.

What causes this to happen?

1. The wind churns up the water and wave action causes the plants to fragment, particularly those plant beds that have grown nearly to the surface.
2. Water clarity has increased due to the filtering action of the zebra mussels.

This allows greater sunlight penetration causing an increase in plant population and growth to deeper water depths.

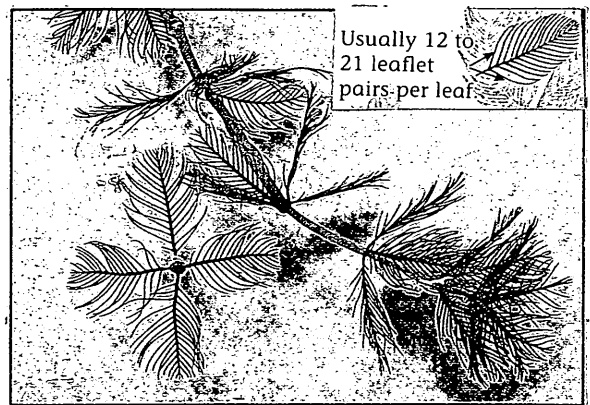
EWM grows in water depths of 5 to 15 feet.

3. The propellers on the motor boats going directly through or over a weed bed fragment the plants and wind and waves carry it to the shore.
4. Jet skis doing spins, turns, circles, figure eights, etc., in shallow water where plant beds exist cause considerable fragmentation.
5. Water skiing, tubing and boarding in shallow weed bed areas causes plant fragmentation.

All of these water activities contribute to weeds piling up on the shoreline. Its not only the invasive EWM that washes up on the shore, but also good Northern Milfoil, Elodea, Coontail, etc., which offer valuable shelter and opportunity for fish to feed on a wide variety of invertebrates using these plants as habitat. The dense EWM beds prevent the game fish from foraging on smaller fish species.

What Can We Do?

1. Chemically treat to eliminate weed bed areas. The Association treated 49.9 acres of EWM in May of 2008 at a cost of \$35,911.



Eurasian Water Milfoil

A post-treatment survey revealed that the treatment was successful; however, fragmentation causes the plants to not only wash up on the shoreline, but some pieces settle in shallow water, take root and a new plant colony is started. The Association will continue to chemically treat the EWM in accordance with our Four-year Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Management Plan.

2. If you are planning to water ski, tube, or go water boarding, please do these activities in deeper water; in the middle of the Lake, not along the shoreline in shallow water weed bed areas. Boaters and fisherman, please reduce speeds in dense weed bed areas. Raise your motor so that the propeller is not cutting into the plants.

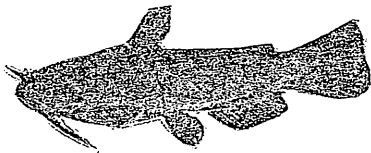
3. Observe the State of Wisconsin Boating Regulations (Publ.-LE-301-2008)

No person may operate a personal watercraft (boat or jet ski) at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake within 100 feet of any other personal water craft or within 200 feet of the shoreline of any lake.

4. Tell relatives and friends who come to enjoy water activities on the Lake to follow these guidelines. **It will make a difference.**

WDNR Walleye Stocking The WDNR has been stocking walleye fingerlings in alternate years. In 2008 Lake Metonga was stocked with 79,000 walleye fingerlings, average length of 2 inches. Approximately half of them were stocked on July 1, 2008 and the remainder on July 3rd. Read about the Association's Walleye Stocking Banquet in this newsletter.

Bullhead Harvest



The project began on May 20th and continued through June 19th. During this period, Mike Preul, Mole Lake Sokaogan Chippewa Fishery Biologist, and his staff spent nearly 40 hours using the Tribe's electro-shocking boat to capture the bullheads. A total of 12,000 pounds (6 tons) of bullheads were harvested during this period. Since each bullhead weighed approximately one pound it is estimated that 11,000 fish were removed from Metonga's waters. All 12,000 pounds were given away.

Tribe Funds Milfoil Treatment

The Mole Lake Sokoagon Chippewa Community provided \$10,000.00 to Lake

Metonga Association to help control the spread of EWM in Lake Metonga.

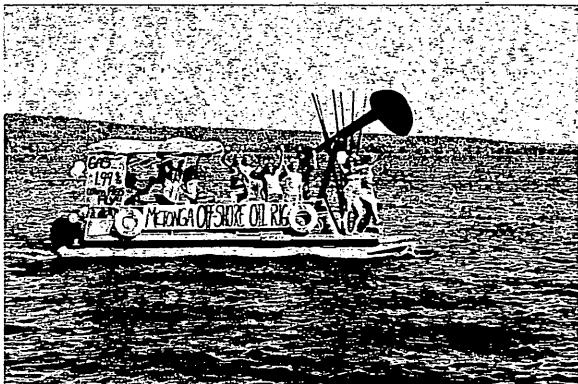
The Tribe received this grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA). Due to the excellent relationship the Association has with the Tribe and importance of Lake Metonga to the local economy, the Tribe awarded the grant funds to the Association for EWM control. We appreciate their participation and generosity.



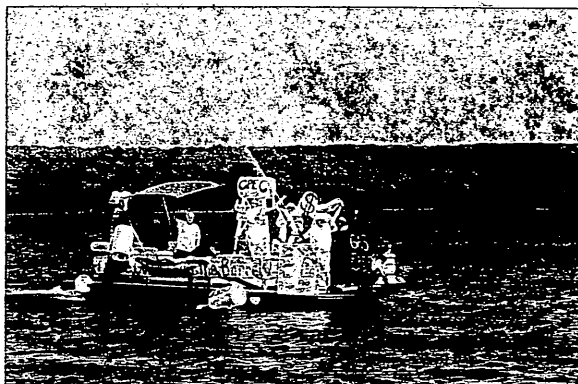
Tribal Council and Chairman, Arlyn Ackley

Boat Parade and Cookout

Nine enthusiastic boat parade participants circled Lake Metonga at 4 p.m. on July 5th. Entries were judged on theme, originality, creativity, decoration and presentation.



**First Place – Jim Sommers’ Team
“Metonga Off Shore Oil Rig”**



**Second Place – Michael Frank’s Team
“They’ve Got Us Over A Barrel”**



**Third Place – Kim Stamper’s Team
“Viva Lake Metonga”**

Following the parade a cook-out sponsored by the Association was held at Mallards on Metonga. Raffles for adults and children were sponsored by Tim Leonardelli highlighting this festive outing.

Raffles A total of 474 of the 500 Gun Raffle tickets were sold. Twenty Gander Mountain Sports prizes, plus ten \$50.00 Gander Mountain Gift Cards were included among the prizes. Thanks to our members who sold tickets. Dale Huss, again, was our top sales man. A special thanks for his devoted effort.

We were fortunate to have good weather for Kentuck Day and Art in the Square. Prizes given by local businesses enticed many people to stop and try their luck. Thank you to all those donors for helping us with these fund raising efforts.

Following is a list of raffle net earnings:

Gun Raffle	\$3,916.39
Kentuck Day	\$ 836.72
Art in the Square	\$ 707.93

These funds will be used to control the spread of EWM.

Terms of Lake Metonga Association Officers

President – Dick Czarniecki – 1 Year

Vice President – Tim Leonardelli – 2 Years

Secretary – Adam & Julie Leisten – 2 Years

Treasurer – Roger Cronce – 1 Year

Director – Dennis Klemick – 2 years

Director – Dave Patzlaff – 1 Year

Ex-Officio Director – Les Schramm

We appreciate their dedication and service.

Enjoy the change of seasons! Good luck to all the ice fishermen. Have a Blessed Holiday and healthy and prosperous 2009.

Les Schramm