



P.O. BOX 466, NISSWA, MN 56468

INVASIVE SPECIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Ann Beaver and Carol Lindahl, co-chairs

In mid-February we submitted our DNR permit applications for our spring treatment of curly-leaf pondweed (CLP). We submitted our applications for DNR grant funding within hours of learning the application period had opened. We learned a few days later that although we had sent in our application materials on the first day the grant program was open, the DNR received 142 applications that day and was able to fund only the first 91 received. Sadly, we were not among those first 91 received, so we did not receive any DNR grant funding this year. On May 15, Clarke Aquatic Services treated 18.41 acres of CLP on Middle Cullen. On May 18 they treated 33.16 acres on Upper Cullen and 26.19 acres on Lower Cullen. According to the June post-treatment surveys conducted by Clarke Aquatic Services, the results of this year's treatment again appear to be very good. During these surveys Clarke also mapped CLP found elsewhere in the lakes, some of which may be considered for treatment in 2018. However, since the DNR limits the number of acres that may be treated in each lake, we will have to make careful decisions on which areas to treat, giving larger concentrations of CLP preference due to the higher cost involved in treating smaller areas.

As for purple loosestrife, we ask you to monitor your own shoreline and either pull out/dig up or poison any loosestrife you find. One mature plant can produce up to 2.7 million seeds

annually, so if this invasive species is not dealt with our shorelines can be taken over by it. *If it's on your shoreline, it is your responsibility to get rid of it.*

In early July the DNR collected plankton samples in Lower and Middle Cullen Lakes to look for juvenile zebra mussels (veligers). Veligers were found in low numbers in the Lower Cullen sample, which tells us there is a population of zebra mussels reproducing in the lake. No veligers were found in the Middle Cullen sample. Because of these findings, there is no longer a need to report zebra mussel sightings in Lower Cullen to the DNR. However, Middle Cullen folks should be on the lookout for zebra mussels in the lake or on equipment that has been in the lake and report any findings to the DNR.