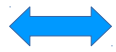


# AIS Status: Winter 2016 (AIS = Aquatic Invasive Species)

## Problems



**Curly leaf pondweed [CLP]:** Briggs, Julia Rush. Over the past decade chemical treatment has contained CLP. Annual survey and treatment required.



**Eurasian water milfoil [EWM]:** currently only on Rush, but has been spreading. Chemical treatment and hand pulling used in 2015 to try to contain EWM to Rush Lake. Annual survey and treatment required.



**Likelihood for EWM and CLP to spread** without herbicide treatment is high. Both EWM and CLP will produce heavy weedy mats impeding boating and other water activities.



**Zebra mussels:** no evidence in any lake of the lake chain. No education or prevention activities funded or planned.

## Solutions and Funding



**Individual weed donations:** Donations are trending down, with less than 30% of property owners donating in 2015, totaling \$12,000, mostly in donations of \$100.



**DNR available funding** statewide for AIS treatment being cut from \$675,000 to \$200,000. BLCA over past several years has received some AIS funds, but none for 2016.



**Costs** for lake surveys, herbicide treatment and hand pulling are increasing.



**Overall outlook** for necessary funding to chemically treat AIS is a downward trend over long term.



**\$13,000 deficit: estimated gap in 2016 budget and AIS income. Relying on individual donations and grants is neither sustainable nor predictable.**



**Best bet approach for sustainable and predictable funding to survey, treat, manage and contain AIS is the proposed Three Lake LID. Please sign the LID Petition!**

