

June 6, 2024 Healthy Lakes Meeting Summary

5 members in attendance

Update from BLCA board

- **214 BLCA members, 4400 Facebook members**
- **Fish stocking has taken place, the DNR stocks walleye**
- **Several reports of floating Curly Leaf Pondweed–this is an invasive plant that emerges early and then dies back. This year we sprayed for it earlier than usual because it has to be sprayed when the water is a certain temperature. MN COLA is seeing the same issue on other lakes.**
- **The updated directory has gone to print and will be available soon**

TLID Update– no representative was in attendance to give a report

Alum grant update

- **A preliminary report has been completed but will be finalized in the fall after the Carp survey is done this summer. Stantec will be out several times this summer. Right now, Briggs appears to be a good candidate for an alum treatment, and possibly Julia as well, but no recommendations will be made until after the Carp survey data is added to Stantec’s modeling. The current model they are using compares our lake against 300 other similar lakes in the state.**

Plant Bank update

- **4 projects in process, 2 others waiting to be reviewed**

Gentle Footprints

- **4 meetings in May**

Lake Steward program update

- **First evaluations will take place Tuesday, June 11.**
- **We will begin promoting the program this month.**
- **MLR suggested that signs not be ordered until we are ready to award them.**

Water testing update

- **Lily pads are almost gone in some areas where they have been prevalent before.**
- **Water testing has been done once so far. The first week, the water was too high.**
- **Water clarity is lower than last year at this time. 3 ft for Julia and Rush, 4 ft for Briggs. When Walt took the samples to Instrumental Labs in Fridley, they said they had been hearing the same from many other lakes this summer also.**

Summary of MLR Leadership event

- **Bre and Ruth attended a leadership event put on by MN Lakes and Rivers (MLR) at the St. Anthony Falls Lab (SAFL) at the U of M. They were impressed by the work being done by MLR, the DNR, and SAFL to support water quality issues. SAFL is doing amazing research on numerous issues related to water–flood plains, wake boats, etc... The facility was very impressive. They build models for researchers to use, and can pump the Mississippi River through the facility to test theories.**

Other

- **We are working on establishing a YouTube channel. Bre and Ruth will work on this so that we can share more educational videos.**
- **Bre was recently interviewed by Sherburne SWCD on a podcast focused on native plants. It has been posted on our Facebook page.**

Extra note:

The MLR Shoreland Guides arrived in the mail on Friday and were given to all attendees of the BLCA general meeting and picnic that night.