

## Healthy Shorelands Summer Canvas – 2015

82 primary property owners

62 owners contacted

2 owners – contacted by letter since home vacant (1), attended Town of Marion board mtg/their lot (1)

9 owners could not be contacted during summer canvas/weren't at property

2 owners have vacated property/for sale

7 owners have undeveloped lots/no homes on property, could not be contacted/weren't at property

27 surveys returned = 43% response as of 9/24/15

### Comments

- Issues: weed control, aquatic plants - invasive ones. Bad concerns: Too many cattails; relaxed weed management; Good concerns: great mgmt. dist BOD! Concerned/active; water quality is good

- *Shoreland health* - fix, *Flowers, plants (aquatic/shoreland)* – fix; fix piers

- Concerned about our wildlife, namely the geese. For the past 3 yrs, in early spring, one goose would show up with a broken wing. A week ago a goose started showing up on my property and as of 2 days ago also has a broken wing – what can be done? **Suggest contacting DNR Warden, who knows resources available/can help**

- *Quiet/Tranquility* - Love no-wake speed (Prefer only electric motors on our lake). *Nature* – most excellent.

*Fishing/fishery habitat* – Great for some of our families. Appreciate checks on licenses and life jackets.

*Swimming, water activities* – Fabulous – no skiing, no loud motors. *Flowers, plants (aquatic and shoreland)* –

very nice – keep it native – cinquefoil has to go. *Shoreland Health* – Great in places, and we do our part to help. *Water quality* – Good and let's keep it improving. *Other*: appreciate your communication.

Issues/Concerns: 1) Cinquefoil and other invasive weeds. Should we have no public access? 2) Where are the geese? May we have bird feeders again? 3. Watch for CARP invading thru the channel. 4) Red squirrels need a predator. **Eurasian watermilfoil at this point is controllable, we could do more thru volunteer monitoring at public access (Clean Boats-Clean Waters program) to educate boaters re: Wisconsin laws re: remove all plant/animal, mud materials from boat/trailer/equipment; drain all water from boat/bilge/motor/live well/bait container before leaving water access (unless returning to same lake); store any fish caught on ice; don't dump bait in lake; don't add lake water to bait shop water when preserve bait and then go to different water body to use; dispose of bait/animal/aquatic plant material in the trash (at home or at landing if containers provided) or as fertilizer in your garden. Bird feeders are not banned, but be aware of type of birds you will attract by feeder type/placement.**

- None – we love living here!

- Shut public landings down

- Value/appreciate - Other: friendly neighbors, slower pace of life. Issues/concerns: 1) Over-fishing (winter); 2) In general lake appears much more weed infested, this year! 3) Need presence of lake official – monitor fishing licenses, other regulations. 4) Have town (fees & services) contribute to lake management.

**Not all aquatic plants are bad – fish/wildlife habitat needs native plants to provide food/protection. Town of Marion boat officer and DNR Warden may be contacted if there are specific concerns that they can address.**

**Without expanded public parking at our landing, Spring Lake isn't eligible for fee collection/revenue gained.**

- Air Quality in Marion – Wautoma: I am concerned that the new anaerobic digestion process will enable (Amoebas) and Mad Cow Disease to prevail – both brain eating disorders which usually end in death... (letter enclosed re: Air Quality in Town of Marion & surrounding areas; copy of notice to Town of Marion Residents)

- Geese population and getting it under control

- Issues/concerns: Floating grasses weeds scum. Closing off the narrows and cat tails by the carp trap  
Carp trap was cleared summer 2015 and will continue to be monitored per member concerns. Cattail issue will be addressed at annual meeting 2016 and management plan determined by members.
- Over management of a natural resource. We enjoy the lake as it is and the less interference with individuals and their property the better. We have a wonderful community.
  - Value/appreciate – nice neighbors, good dogs. Issues/concerns: Maintaining the quality/cleanliness of the water not only for human benefit, but for the fish, birds, and other wildlife we share the lake with. Protecting the lake for all creatures to enjoy is numero uno...si!
  - Our concerns is the amount of Algae and weed growth, it seems to get worse every year. If this is not controlled what is going to happen to our lake in the future.  
Native plants are desired for healthy fish/wildlife habitat. As invasives are minimized, there will be more native plants that will thrive. Algae is result of warming climate effects, runoff/phosphorous into lake from chemicals (lawn fertilizers, aging septic systems that may be leaking, agriculture fertilizers, salt runoff).
  - Invasive species being introduced. Fish population maintained as a healthy ecosystem. We love Spring Lake and appreciate all your work!
  - Value: nice neighbors, lifestyle, undeveloped areas of lake. Issues/concerns: weeds-cover costs; chemicals (use of)
  - Continued concern about weeds & water quality on N.E. end of the lake; Some kind of annual maintenance or improvement of the boat launches. Town of Marion provides maintenance for landings.
  - Use minimal amount of spraying only when weeds get out of hand. Some weeds are OK for fish habitat. Educated hand pulling should be encouraged. Spring Lake's shoreline is rated one of the best. Some people think the lake is still being polluted. Not true. Water samples show stability. Problem of small fish is Spring Lake is being over-fished like DNR states. Keep doing what we've been doing & believe lake will be just fine.
  - Value/appreciate – all of the above are very important to us. Issues/concerns: The expansion of the weeds and their impact on the areas above.
  - Keeping ahead of invasives, maintaining excellent water quality.
  - Value/appreciate by priority: 1) quiet/tranquility; 2) water quality; 3) fishing/fishery habitat; 4) swimming, water activities. All other would fall together as 6) (nature, flowers/plants, shoreland health). Issues/concerns: assurance of water levels.
  - Value/appreciate – quiet, birding, fishing, water quality.
  - Value/appreciate – each & all of these in equal measure. Issues/concerns: 1) night light pollution; 2) geese population; 3) milfoil; 4) Ag/manure runoff; 5) Carp
  - Value/appreciate - water activities – no wake and all electric motors; Other – Ban all “harmful to Lake” fertilizers and pesticides for greening grass. Issues/concerns: Are there ANY “green grass “fertilizers “SAFE” for Spring Lake?! If so, please list them. Our family DOES NOT fertilize or use PESTICIDES for “greening” our grass.  
Wisconsin law requires that all fertilizers sold must be “phosphate free”. Look at fertilizer label and should state zero phosphorous in product. Also recommended – stay back 35' from water when fertilizing.
  - What's the consensus on leaving rafts out in lake for entire Summer season? Our family takes our raft out every late afternoon to allow safe fishing & boating. No known requirement to pull raft out when not in use during summer season.
  - Issues/concerns: Boats not following no-wake requirements. Buildup of Marl/Muck.
  - Issues/concerns: Milfoil invasion, Cattail; Increase Fishery habitat