

**SPRING LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**  
**P.O. BOX 237**  
**NESHKORO, WISCONSIN 54956**  
SLMD Newsletter May 2021

Dear SLMD Members:

The SLMD Annual Meeting is Saturday, June 26, 2021, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Town of Marion Hall. Although progress has been made combatting Covid-19, we request that all meeting attendees carefully maintain social distance and wear masks while attending the meeting, to minimize risks to all attendees and especially to attendees who may not yet be vaccinated.

**Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Treatment Progress**

Spring Lake has Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) and curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) which SLMD has controlled with chemical treatment and hand-pulling for the past 20 years. Wisconsin Lake and Pond Resources treated 0.5 acre of EWM and 1.25 acres of CLP on May 28, 2020. The treatment of EWM in the south basin near and across from the boat landing appears to be successful. The CLP treatment in the north basin was also moderately successful. The SLMD Board decided against AIS surveys and chemical treatment in 2021. The spread of these two invasive species will be monitored and chemical treatment may resume in 2022.

SLMD is updating its lake management plan, and will have a plant inventory completed in August 2021 by Golden Sands Resource & Conservation Council, Inc.. This plant inventory will provide SLMD useful information on the spread and concentration of AIS in Spring Lake and will assist us when considering chemical treatment of AIS in future years. The last plant inventory was conducted in 2014 as part of the original lake management plan.

SLMD members Marty Wilke and Joan Lehman have been pulling garlic mustard. Spring Lake members are requested to assist with control of this invasive species. If you require help identifying it, contact Joan or Marty for assistance. The plants should be pulled at their roots and bagged for disposal or burned.

**Canada Goose Nuisance**

In 2020 the SLMD membership authorized efforts to control the Canada goose population on Spring Lake. SLMD obtained a US Wildlife Service and Wisconsin DNR permit to addle (by oiling with corn oil) eggs in goose nests located on property surrounding Spring Lake. One nest was identified and the five eggs in it were oiled on four consecutive weekends. It appears that none of the five eggs hatched. Although we were not successful in locating additional nesting geese with viable eggs, a number of SLMD volunteers assisted with the search including: Bill Hutchinson, Joan and Ron Lehman, Pam Stevens, Derek Stone, Eric Kopp, Richard Dill, JR Siewert, Josh Daubner, Kevin and Sharon Milliken, Mark & Lauren Lewis, and Phil and Lisa Gilbertson.

This year's effort was a learning experience. SLMD may consider this control method in future years.

**Carp Weir Maintenance**

Arnie Wilke served as Treasurer of SLMD for a number of years and maintained the carp weir by periodically removing debris from the weir tines. He spearheaded the installation of the replacement structure in 2019. He was also actively involved in community volunteer organizations supporting clean and healthy lakes and the environment. Arnie passed away in December 2020. His stewardship of the lake and his many volunteer efforts will be sorely missed by SLMD, Waushara County, and the Central Sands community.

SLMD members Derek Stone and Ron Lehman have volunteered to maintain the weir for SLMD.

### **Financial Audit**

Missy Daubner and Lisa Graser will be doing the financial audit of the SLMD accounting records for this fiscal year..

### **Healthy Lakes Grant**

In April 2019 SLMD was awarded a Healthy Lakes Grant in the amount of \$17,050 by the Wisconsin DNR. Eight SLMD property owner/members participated in the original grant application with proposals for shore line plantings and rain gardens. Five of these eight have completed their proposed projects. Two of the original property owners elected not to proceed with projects, so SLMD has grant funds available to any other members who would like to install a project. The Wisconsin DNR extended our grant by one year. The remaining or new projects must be completed by December 31, 2021, to receive the 75% reimbursement, not to exceed \$1000 per project. If anyone has an interest in installing a Healthy Lakes project, contact Kevin Milliken for additional information.

### **Spring Lake District Management Plan Update**

In 2020, the SLMD membership approved funds for updating the lake management plan. SLMD has contracted with Golden Sands for the plant inventory at a cost of \$2,237. The Board seeks volunteers to assist with the plan update. The current plan is available for you to view at: <https://waushara.municipalcms.com/files/documents/document1544013925111715.pdf>. Primary areas for membership input are:

1. Have the goals and priorities changed since 2015? See pages 9-28 of the plan.
2. Are there additional goals and priorities?
3. What additional efforts could or should be made to maintain or improve the water quality and habitat of Spring Lake?

### **Board of Commissioners Election**

An election for two positions on the SLMD Board of Commissioners (Directors) will be held. Arnie Wilke's term had one year remaining when he resigned in 2020. Joan Lehman volunteered and was elected a commissioner in 2020, but agreed to serve only one year. Pam Stevens', not Arnie Wilke's, Commissioner position expired in 2020. Unfortunately, SLMD Chair Kevin Milliken did not realize Pam's term expired in 2020, so no one was elected to her Commissioner position. As a result of this undiscovered mistake, Pam continued to serve as a Board Commissioner in the 2020-21 fiscal year. Pam has informed the Board that she will not be seeking an additional term as Commissioner.

In addition to the election of two new Commissioners, the membership will be asked to ratify the additional year of service by Pam Stevens for the fiscal year 2020-21, during which she was the Secretary of the Board.

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