

# Bass Lakes Area Environmental Partnership

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## 17 May 2022 - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

- Commence: 1458
- Adjourn: 1609
- Location: Lisa Adams' home and Zoom
- Attendees:
  - President: Lisa Adams
  - Vice-President: Tom Shear
  - Secretary: Heidi Haskins
  - Treasurer: Ruthanne Gilbert
  - Director: Linda Irmischer (Zoom)
  - Director: Jeanne Kavanagh
  - Guest: Jamie Fellingner, President, BBLBPOA (Zoom)
- Agenda:
  - What to do about social events/fundraisers (Jamie Fellingner)
  - Shoreline Living Magazine Distribution - Memorial Day Weekend?
  - Family Fishing Outing - Memorial Day Weekend
  - Great Lakes Energy (GLE) opportunities
    - Nominate local non-profit
      - \$7000
      - nomination sent 11 May 2022
      - selection notifications 27 May 2022
      - constituent voting 6-17 June 2022
      - grant award notifications after close of voting
    - People Fund Grant

Friday, 20 May 2022

- \$3900
- application sent 04 April 2022
- status: “application submitted”
- T-shirts
  - ready to send out newsletter and order form?
  - Deadline for first round of orders?
- Inquiries Outstanding
  - Faith Fellowship Church for 18 June public meeting
  - Joe Tomaszewski for auditing services
  - Restorative Sciences for Little Bass Lake “Lake Advise” services
  - PLM for Little Bass Lake survey and estimate
- Any Other Business
- Social Events and Fundraisers (Jamie Fellingner)
  - Lake Association needs to remain in place as face of Big Bass Lake SAD and as the property owner of Loon Island
  - Lake Association supports activities of Bass Lakes AEP and would like to explore opportunities to partner for fundraising and building engagement and interest of lake property owners
- Shoreline Living Magazine Distribution
  - will take place Memorial Day Weekend
  - Little Bass Lake: Tom and Heidi
  - Big Bass Lake: Lisa, Ruthanne and Jeanne
  - Heidi to print labels for magazines
- Family Fishing Outing
  - Memorial Day Weekend
  - Managed and executed by Tom Stinson

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- Information to be provided in separate correspondence from Tom Stinson
- GLE opportunities update
  - Local non-profit
    - \$7000
    - nomination sent 11 May 2022
    - selection notifications 27 May 2022
    - constituent voting 6-17 June 2022
    - grant award notifications after close of voting
    - if move on to voting stage, we will need to encourage community voting
  - Great Lakes People Fund
    - \$3900 for 3 days of DASH and revegetation
    - application sent 04 April 2022
    - status: “application submitted” (19 May 2022 received notification of non-selection)
- T-shirts
  - newsletter and order form ready to be published
  - deadline for order form submission is 01 June 2022
  - final draft of information card reviewed and approved; a copy will be provided with each t-shirt purchased
- Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP) activities schedule
  - Big Bass Lake
    - Burt and Jeanne: Secchi disk and Dissolved Oxygen
    - Lisa: Chlorophyll-A and Total Phosphorus
    - Exotic Plant Watch: Colleen Howes and Sheryl Steenwyk may be able to support.
      - plan to complete mid-June to early July

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- Score the Shore: planning will be coordinated in separate coordination meeting in late June/early July
- Little Bass Lake
  - Tom and Heidi: Secchi disk, Dissolved Oxygen, Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll-A, Score the Shore
    - One additional volunteer will be needed to support
- Inquiries Outstanding
  - Faith Fellowship Church for 18 June public meeting
    - Jeanne to get updated point of contact to request use of hall space for meeting
  - Joe Tomaszewski (CPA)
    - he does not perform audits, but is more than willing to review books and records and make recommendations
      - Lisa provided his contact information to Ruthanne for separate coordination
    - determined that Federal threshold for audit is <\$550,000 in revenue, but state requirements may be different
      - once state requirements confirmed, recommendation was made to amend bylaws to reflect that a review would be conducted annually, and an audit would be performed if state or federal thresholds were met
  - Restorative Lake Services
    - provided professional opinion and recommendation letter (attached)
  - PLM (Bre Grabill)
    - survey and estimate for Little Bass Lake (update: 20 May email received from Bre Grabill - Little Bass Lake survey scheduled for 27 May 2022)
- Any Other Business
  - T-shirts: confirm with O'Keefe's Reef colors available for women's V-neck (Heidi and Tom)
  - Treasurer's Report submitted; retained in file
  - Ruthanne will call to be added as authorized user to PayPal account

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- Ruthanne to add Lake Osceola State Bank to PayPal account

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- In-progress tasks:
  - Assign POC within group for each grant we may be eligible for.
    - Assigned POC conduct provide summary of grant, review to validate criteria met for grant, and generate initial draft of grant application paperwork required.
  - (Lisa Adams) State Representative Constituent meeting schedule
  - Internship development discussion
  - Michigan Anglers and Boaters pamphlet acquisition and placement locations.
  - (Lisa Adams) Bass Pro Shops - Cabela's Outdoor Fund report due upon conclusion of grant period

# **Professional Opinion for the Management of Eurasian Watermilfoil in Little Bass Lake, Lake County, Michigan**

**Dr. Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones, CLP Restorative Lake Sciences**

**May 16, 2022**

**Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*; Figure 1) is an exotic aquatic macrophyte first documented in the United States in the 1880's (Reed 1997), although other reports (Couch and Nelson 1985) suggest it was first found in the 1940's. In recent years, this species has hybridized with native milfoil species to form hybrid species. Eurasian Watermilfoil has since spread to thousands of inland lakes in various states through the use of boats and trailers, waterfowl, seed dispersal, and intentional introduction for fish habitat. **Eurasian Watermilfoil is a major threat to the ecological balance of an aquatic ecosystem through causation of significant declines in favorable native vegetation within lakes (Madsen et al. 1991), in that it forms dense canopies and may limit light from reaching native aquatic plant species (Newroth 1985; Aiken et al. 1979).** Additionally, Eurasian Watermilfoil can alter the macroinvertebrate populations associated with particular native plants of certain structural architecture (Newroth 1985). The plant is also capable of hybridization through cross-pollinating with native milfoil species.**

Figure 1. Eurasian Watermilfoil with seed head.



Recent efforts to reduce this plant on nearby Big Bass Lake have included the use of chemical herbicides. There are a few options for controlling milfoil and each has advantages and disadvantages. Here is a list of current methods most commonly used:

- 1. Aquatic herbicides**—these chemicals are deemed safe by the USDA and EPA and are regulated for inland lake use through a State of Michigan EGLE Aquatic Nuisance Control (ANC) permit. Either contact herbicides or systemic herbicides, or a combination of both, can be applied to milfoil. For optimum long-term control, only the use of systemic herbicides is recommended. I highly recommend triclopyr and ProcellaCOR. Costs for these herbicides usually range from \$500-\$1,000 per acre.
- 2. Mechanical harvesting**—this is used by some communities who refuse to use herbicides but readily accept that they will need to conduct multiple harvests per season as the milfoil grows quickly and will fragment and spread after being cut. Costs for harvesting usually range from \$450-\$800 per acre.



3. **Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH)**—This method utilizes divers that uproot the milfoil and remove it by the root. It requires a joint EGLE/USACE bottom lands permit. It is highly costly at over \$2,000 per acre, not including mobilization and other fees. It is usually recommended on small (< 5 acre) areas of dense nuisance vegetation or areas that become resistant to herbicides.
4. **Benthic Barriers**—these can be used safely in small beach areas or in confined areas to prevent germination. They will prevent germination of most plants so are not considered selective. The cost per barrier can range from \$100-\$600.
5. **Weed Rollers**—these are useful near docks only as they attach to docks with electricity and smother plants that may grow near docks. They can cost a few thousand dollars.
6. **Laminar Flow Aeration**—this was researched years ago for plant control but has not proven consistent results. This method is better for algae reduction and increasing dissolved oxygen in lakes.
7. **Biological Control**—many years ago, there were weevils commercially available, but the stocking density required for positive outcomes was so high that it was cost-prohibitive.

Based on the aforementioned management approaches, RLS would recommend the use of target- specific systemic herbicides for fast and effective control of the milfoil. It may take systemic herbicides months to reduce the milfoil, but the roots are affected for sustainable control.

If you have any additional questions, please contact me at the information below.

Friday, 20 May 2022

Sincerely,  
RESTORATIVE LAKE SCIENCES

Dr. Jennifer L. Jermalowicz-Jones, CLP 18406 West Spring Lake Road  
Spring Lake, MI 49456  
616.843.5636 [jenniferj@restorativelakesciences.com](mailto:jenniferj@restorativelakesciences.com) [http://  
restorativelakesciences.com](http://restorativelakesciences.com)