

Dewart Newsletter



"The Dewart Lake Protective Association was founded in 1965"

FALL, 2011

Visit <http://www.dewartlake.org>

Dewart Lake Officers

President:	Ken Brehob	658-3636
Vice Pres.:	Jim Redslob	658-9330
Secretary:	LuAnne Yentes	527-8877
Treasurer:	Rebecca Tusing	658-3434
Newsletter:	Linda Jamiel	658-9200
Website:	Alex Barrett	658-4895

Lane Directors

Lanes 1,2,25	Alex Barrett	658-4895
Lane 3,4,6	Vacant	
Lane 5	Roger Saxon	658-5563
Lane 7,8,9	Nicole Miller	529-4273
Lane 10	Sue Lenz	(708)301-8371
Lane 11	Jim Tarr	658-9518
Lane 12	Mike Gill	658-4766
Lanes 13	Lorelei Haab	658-4305
CR 1000*	Jim Redslob	658-9330
Camp Logan	Jeff Kelsheimer	457-2841
Lane 15	Barb Sheets	457-8682
Lane 16	Peggy Arnett	(765)241-0242
Lane 17	Jim Long	658-3391
DeFreese RD**	Ralph Blust	658-9408
Lanes 18 A,B	Jeff Drummond	528-0632
Lanes 18 C,D	Betty Busch	658-4874
Lanes 19, 20	Jerry Crowl, Jr.	658-9876
Lane 21	G. Couwenhoven	658-3084
Lane 22	Andy Brown	658-9746
Lane 23	Linda Jamiel	658-9200
Lane 24	Peggy Bucher	658-9305

* Between Lanes 12 & 13

All (574) Area Code

** Between Lanes 17 & 18

DEWART LAKE MILFOIL HISTORY

Milfoil was first found in the lake in 2004. In 2006 a LARE grant was received from the Indiana DNR to treat the entire lake with chemicals. This was a successful treatment. In 2007 no milfoil was found. It reappeared in 2008 and was spot treated with chemicals and DNR funding. In 2009 spot treatment was done on part of the 45 acres of milfoil with chemicals and DNR funding. In 2010 90 acres were found, but we were only able to treat 25 acres with no funding from the DNR. This year we had more than 90 acres of milfoil and were only able to treat 25 acres again using DLPA funds only as no money was available from the DNR.

ATTENTION:

Watermilfoil Solution Proposal

On **Monday, October 10th at 7:00 p.m.** the final Director's Meeting of the year will be held at the Girl Scout Camp – Webster House. This meeting is extremely important to **all property owners** on our lake. A lane directors vote will be taken at this meeting on whether or not we will enter into a \$65K 4 year (\$16K /year) contract with EnviroScience Inc. to begin a non-chemical watermilfoil control program in early summer 2012. This vote may be contingent on possible DNR funding. This is your opportunity to voice your opinion pro or con. If you cannot attend the meeting, call your Lane Director and advise him/her of your views.

If you have been reading the newsletters, or checking our website (WWW.dewartlake.org) you will have read information pertaining to the invasion of Eurasian watermilfoil weed that has been growing and increasing in large areas in the lake.

A special meeting was held on September 20th that was attended by DLPA members, the DNR, and Rebecca McMenamin, a representative of Enviro Science, Inc. This company has a patented method to reduce Eurasian watermilfoil in natural lakes. Their program attempts to control milfoil by introducing an aquatic weevil, which eats only watermilfoil as its diet. The **weevils** are very small (about flea sized) and are:

1. a natural predator to the watermilfoil plant;
2. a native weevil found in lakes, but normally in small numbers. The **method**:
 1. can be a long term sustainable control measure;
 2. promotes the health of the lake ecosystem;
 3. uses no chemicals and is safe for people, fish, and pets;
 4. has mixed results from independent studies, but recent studies are more positive;
 5. has been used in approximately 300 lakes in the last 12 years. Most, but not all, have been successful.

FACTS ABOUT WATERMILFOIL WEEVILS

1. Watermilfoil weevils are found in all 50 states.
2. They only eat Northern or Eurasian Milfoil.
3. They are entirely aquatic and hibernate in the winter along the shoreline.
4. When the water reaches a temperature of 60 degrees they will reproduce by laying eggs.
5. There can be 3-4 generations each summer.
6. Adults live for a 90 day cycle.
7. Adults lay eggs on the tips of the plant. The larva invades the stem of the plant and lives off of it, causing it to die and fall to the bottom.
8. Weevils will move on to new plants to continue to eat.
9. In Sept. the weevils move to the shoreline to hibernate for the winter.
10. Weevils do not harm, grass, plants, pets or people. They are only the natural predator to the watermilfoil plant.

STATE OF INDIANA DNR FUNDING

There is a possibility we can receive a DNR LARE grant for 80% of the cost of this program. At this time, the DNR cannot guarantee the funds, but advised us to apply for the grant. If the program is approved by the Directors and the DNR money is granted, the program could begin in June of 2012. LARE weed grants have been given sparingly to lakes for the last two years due to State budget restraints. The DNR is now open to finding non-chemical solutions to control weeds in Indiana lakes. The weevils could be far less costly to the State over the long term than chemicals. The DNR would use Dewart Lake as a "regional test lake" to evaluate weevil effectiveness in controlling milfoil.

**DEWART LAKE PROTECTIVE ASSN.
P.O. BOX 152
SYRACUSE, IN. 46567**

Address Correction Requested

FACTS ABOUT WATERMILFOIL

Milfoil enters lakes and rivers either on boat hulls & motors or on water fowl. When conditions are right, milfoil can grow an inch a day. It thickens and forms a mat on the top of the water and can cause boats to stall and become stuck in the weeds. It chokes out natural weeds that are so necessary to the balance and health of the water and fish. Eventually it can eliminate species of larger fish as they are not able to navigate through the maze of weeds. The weed cannot ever be completely eradicated, but it can be controlled and will stay at the bottom of the lake and become sparse. You may have seen this weed in recent summers if you were out boating as there are many large areas all around the lake.

Details of Weevil Program If Approved

EnviroScience recommends weevil stocking to continue over a 4 year period to increase program success. The cost of the 4 year program of stocking 65,000 weevils will be \$64,900.00. The worst milfoil areas away from the shoreline will be stocked. These small stocked areas (10X10 ft.) will be marked by buoys for a few weeks in early summer to keep watercraft out. Annual surveys would occur to evaluate results and determine re-stock areas. The DNR would only grant chemical (2,4-D) weed control application permits for lake channels and shoreline areas at least 300 feet from weevil stocked areas. The use of copper sulfate to control shoreline weeds will be discouraged since it is toxic to many lake invertebrates, including weevils. We may have more weeds for a couple of years in anticipation of long term non-chemical control.