



May 2010 – Issue # 11

Lake Montcalm News



Everyone ready for summer!!! Spring is upon us once again, and many around the lake are gearing up for another beautiful season. It is time once again to go over the summer topics like boat safety, swimmers itch, and weed control. We had a great summer last year and we hope to have a safe and enjoyable season for everyone again this year. The Swans and Loons are back to watch as one by one docks and pontoons return to their places.

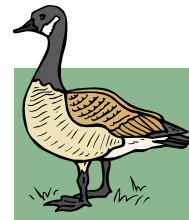
Boating safely on Lake Montcalm is a priority for us every year. It is vital for all our lake residents to remember to follow the proper boating laws as well as operating with common sense. Another vital key to everyone's safety is passing on the traffic laws of the lake to friend and relatives as they visit. Our lake does not get much traffic from boaters who don't know anyone on the lake, and many of our close calls from last season were from our visitors that did not know how to navigate through our channel and shallow areas. PLEASE, PLEASE remember to have a quick conversation with friends that wish to operate a boat/jet ski on our lake, before they head out to the open water.



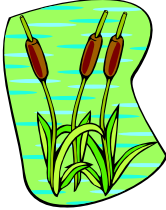
Similar to last year, the buoys will mark shallows around the lake as well as provide a barrier to the extreme shallows in the middle of the channel area. We are experimenting with transplanting some aquatic plants to the middle again this year in hopes of being able to not place buoys there. However, until we can keep Jet Ski's from zipping through the middle of it, nothing will take root. For those that have been around awhile, the buoyed area in the narrows was once covered with Bull Rush (green reed like plants) as a natural barrier for the shallow waters.

The Sherriff Department Marine Division will supply anyone with a boating laws handbook if asked. Please try to keep a copy of this publication at your home or cottage as it can be a helpful resource to friends and neighbors that have not been on the water in some time. If you have internet capabilities, the same information can be optioned online. Feel free to follow the link on our website: www.LakeMontcalm.com

Every year I get a couple of questions about swimmers itch. Our lake seems to be somewhat lucky in the fact that we do not have many long shallow areas in front of residents. However, there are a few. Some key things to remember about swimmers itch is that it is a parasite. Therefore, if you have birds/ducks/geese/swans/snails/etc in your beach area, you have a chance to contract swimmers itch. To help avoid problems swim in deeper water if possible (usually not possible with small children) and towel dry immediately after exiting the water. The parasite can not survive with a human host. If you see signs of swimmers itch parasites like itchy/burning skin or a red rash like area there are a number of solutions that can help. Bathing in Epsom salts, applying a cool compress to the area, or slathering a baking soda paste to the affected areas can all relieve some of the discomfort. Anti-itch lotions can also help as you do not want to scratch the infected areas as to cause an infection. It is not usually needed but if problems persist you should consult a physician. This information was obtained from the CDC and for more information please visit: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/cercarialdermatitis/swimmers_itch_factsheet.pdf



Our weed control program is in the last year of its cycle. We will be working to produce another 5 year plan that will start in 2011. Many have feared that this means we start over, but rest assured, it does not. We will be working with Progressive A.E. the company that put together our initial program to craft a direction for our continuation. The Lake Improvement Board is required under the Public Act that governs it to retain the services of an engineer to create the plan. We will have a meeting at the Douglass Township Hall, similar to the one we had 5 years ago, where lake residents will be presented with the information about the plan and to voice their thoughts and concerns. Please keep an eye out for notices of the date and time that will come out later.



The Board has been asking for support from residents that wanted to help with crafting our next program as well as voice their opinions about other lake projects and ideas. Very, very few responded, but thanks to those that did. Also, thank you to everyone that took the time to fill out their tax roll apportionment questionnaire. We have been reviewing them and will look for more alterations that need to be completed by the summer meeting.

America the Beautiful Lake Montcalm the Beautiful

Many of us have had a summer home or lived on the lake for a long time. We have witnessed our lake change for the better in many different ways. The water has been treated to control the non-native weeds and we continue to explore other ideas to improve the water quality, not only for fishing and swimming, but in other ways as well. We all know how much effort is required to maintain our lake properties. We have watched our friends and neighbors add on, rebuild, paint, landscape, and more in an effort to make our homes more beautiful and a source of pride. I'm sure that we've all had visitors that have commented on how nice our lake has become since the last time they were here. For the most part, these improvements don't cost a lot. Let's all continue to work hard to make our lake a beautiful place in which we can all take great pride.



God bless America; God bless Lake Montcalm

Thank you
Your friend and neighbor
Mike Dunn

LAKE TREATMENT NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THIS NOTICE: IT IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION!!

RESIDENTS IN THIS AREA ARE PLANNING TO HAVE THE WATERS IN THIS AREA TREATED FOR CONTROL OF LAKE WEEDS AND/OR ALGAE. This notice is being circulated at least 7 days and not more than 45 days in advance of the treatment in accordance with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) procedures. A permit for the treatment has either been secured or will be secured from the DEQ before the treatments are to begin. You are receiving this notice if you are within 100 ft of the treatment area.

-Our company does two types of treatments: Algae control and Weed Control.

If we are treating for weeds (including lake dye) then there are restrictions on the use of the water and we will post the shoreline with 14 x 11 inch yellow signs before these chemicals are applied to the lake. In some cases we treat for both algae and weeds. In those cases we may be treating with the copper products while the signs are being posted. We do not treat with the weed chemicals without posting first.

-We treat each lake according to a schedule or season plan worked out with the persons in charge of your lake treatment program. However, due to the differences in season plans and the uncertainty of weather please watch your shoreline for the posting of the 14 x 11 inch yellow signs, particularly in **April, to late August. YOUR LAKE MAY BE TREATED MORE THAN ONCE EACH SEASON.** CHECK THIS WITH YOUR ASSOCIATION. The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the chemicals used, and the restrictions as to the use of the water for swimming, irrigation and the consumption of fish taken from these waters. We use **NEW SIGNS** for each application.

Only chemicals, which have been registered by the State of Michigan and the Federal Government, are to be used. These chemicals are applied in amounts approved by the DEQ.

Method of Application: Chemicals are applied as either liquid or granular formulation, liquids are either surface sprayed or sub-surface injected, granular formulations are applied with broadcast spreaders.

-Another requirement of our permit is that we locate all wells (when using granular 2,4-D or granular Endothall products Aquathol-K and Hydrothol 191 only) and maintain a distance of 75 ft from all wells and 250 ft from any well that is less than 30 ft in depth. **IF YOU ARE AWARE OF SUCH A WELL, PLEASE NOTIFY OUR OFFICE.**

-We anticipate using one or more of the chemicals listed below. Please be aware of the restrictions on each. We will post signs as necessary. If we have not posted it means we are using products that require no posting. If the DEQ changes any restrictions they will be noted on the signs we post. **PLEASE READ THE SIGNS WE POST!**

CHEMICAL/RESTRICTIONS

Reward (Diquat Dibromide): Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated water for watering lawns or gardens, animal watering (farm stock—not incidental drinking by a domestic pet), or drinking for 5 days after treatment. There is **NO** restriction on fish consumption.

2,4-D(Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid,Butoxyethyl Ester): Do not use the treated water for swimming for 1 day. Do not use the treated water for irrigation, agricultural sprays, watering dairy animals, or domestic water supplies. "Irrigation" includes water gardens—however, it does **NOT** include watering lawns. 2,4-D is often used by lawn spray companies to kill weeds in lawns—watering lawns when only 2,4-D has been applied will not hurt your lawn (but see restrictions on the other products). "**Domestic use**" means using lake water inside your house. Fish and wildlife are not effected. There is no restriction on fish consumption.

Renovate (Triclopyr)

Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated water for irrigation for 120 days following application. As an alternative to waiting 120 days, treated water may be used for irrigation once the Triclopyr level has reached a non-detectable level. This can be done by laboratory analysis (immunoassay). **There are no restrictions on the use of water from the treated area to irrigate established grasses.**

Aquathol-K,Aquathol(Dipotassium Endothall), & Hydrothol 191 (Mono(N,N-Dimethylalkylamine) salt of Endothall):

Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated waters for household uses, irrigation (lawn or gardens), animal watering (farm stock), or similar uses for 14 days. You cannot take fish from the treated water for food consumption or feed for 3 days.

SONAR/AVAST(Fluridone): Do not use the treated water for swimming for 1 day. And do not use water for irrigation (turf-non food crops for 30 days).There is no restriction on fish consumption. When using Fluridone there may be more than one treatment bumping the concentrations back up.

Rodeo,Eagre(Glyphosate): Rodeo is used primarily for lily and cattail control. There is a 1-day no swimming restriction. There is no restriction on watering or fishing.

Copper Sulfate(Pentahydrate), Cutrine-Plus(Cutrine Alkanolamine Complex) **NO RESTRICTIONS.**

Nautique(Copper Carbonate): 24 hours No swimming.

If you have any questions, please contact the homeowners association or Board who is in charge of the treatment. If they cannot answer your questions we can be reached at the number below.

AQUATIC NUISANCE CONTROL, INC. P.O. BOX 316 REMUS, MI. 49340-0316, (989) 967-3600 FAX (989) 967-3447