Citizen Lake Monitoring Network Inspires Volunteer Aquatic Invasive Species Collaboration Around Silver Lake, Waukesha County

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention
April 1, 2016
Citizen Lake Monitoring History

Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) Volunteers

- **2005 – Present: Secchi Disk Monitoring**
  Training by Heidi Bunk, WDNR, SE Region Lakes Coordinator

- **2006 – Present: Chemistry Monitoring**
  DNR Small-Scale Lake Management Planning Grant
  Dissolved Oxygen Monitor
  Silver Lake Management District Petition and Organization

- **2009 – Present: AIS Monitoring**
  Training by Patricia Cicero, Jefferson Co. Land & Water Conservation Dept.
WI Lakes Partnership Training & Support

- **Wisconsin Lake Leaders Institute**
  - Crew 6: Nate
  - Crew 7: Jessica
  - Advanced Lake Leaders Training

- **Clean Boats, Clean Waters**
  - Summer 2005: Training by DNR Lakes Biologist, SE Region Lakes Coordinator
  - Refresher Training: Audrey Greene: Walworth County AIS Coordinator
  - Refresher Training: Audrey Greene and WDNR Rachel McGomey; Lake Delvan

- **WDNR Aquatic Plant Workshop**: Kemp Natural Resources Station, Lake Tomahawk, Woodruff, WI
  - Susan Knight: WDNR, Research Scientist, Trout Lake Station, Boulder Junction, WI

- **Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Conferences and Conventions**
  - EWM Hand-pull Workshop: Paul Skawinski
  - EWM Hand-pull Shadow: Lulu Lake, The Nature Conservancy, Jerry Ziegler
  - Aquatic Plant Point Intercept Survey 2014, WDNR Scott Van Egeren & Samm Posnanski

- **Point Intercept Plant Study**
  - WDNR assist: Scott Van Egeren & Samm Posnanski
EWM Partnerships

- Silver Lake Management District Invasive Species Committee
- WDNR
  - Plant ID Confirmation
  - Mapping
  - Permitting
- UW-Extension Lakes
- Riparians
- Southeast Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium (SEWISC) Grant
  - WE Energies Foundation
  - $ 766.50 (75% cost share)
- Hand-pull Volunteer
  - Underwater Connection: Delafield Dive Shop
  - Lake and non-lake residents
- Washington/Waukesha County County AIS Coordinator: Bradley Steckart
- Clean Boats, Clean Waters Volunteers
- Local Farmer: EWM Composting
Silver Lake Monitoring History

- Zebra Mussels: Present
- Banded Mystery Snail: Present
- Chinese Mystery Snail: Absent
- Curly-leaf Pondweed: Absent
- Hydrilla: Absent
- Rusty Crayfish: ???
- Eurasian Water-milfoil (EWM): Present
- Starry Stonewort (SSW): Absent
- Purple Loosestrife: Present
- Spiny & Fishhook Waterfleas: Not monitoring
- Freshwater Jellyfish: Not monitoring
EWM - Targeted Locations

Figure 2, Map 2
Recent Past Years & 2013 EWM Identified Locations
(blue color indicates hand-pulled areas)

Created: 2005
2015 EWM SCUBA Hand-pull
2015 EWM SCUBA Hand-pull Plant Biomass

One 30-GAL Trash Can 2015

Compared to

Four 30-GAL Trash Cans 2014

3/4 Less Biomass in 2015
2016 Initiatives

- Continue Monitoring Program
  - EWM (Monitor & Remove)
  - Starry Stonewort
  - Substrate Sampler
    - Zebra Mussel
    - Quagga Mussel
- Clean Boats, Clean Waters Grant
- Shore Teams
  - Recruitment
  - Training
    - Plant ID
    - Shore clean-up
  - Shoreline survey
The work that goes into monitoring for and stopping the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species can be exhausting at times, but with such an awesome team of volunteers, water resources, and education experts working together, great successes are sure to continue!
Q & A

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