

S U M M E R 2 0 1 4

the Lake Breeze

Lake Josephine Improvement Association Newsletter

What is the Lake Josephine Improvement Association?

- An association of homeowners on or with lake access
- Mission: enhance and preserve the health & safety of Lake Josephine
- Formed in 1996 as 317A nonprofit corporation
- Liaison with Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Rice Creek Watershed (RCWS), Pollution Control Agency (PCA), Ramsey County and other entities
- Recent activities:
 - working with DNR & Lake Management (treatment co.) to address weeds
 - monitoring water quality
 - public boat launch repairs
 - muskrat & geese removal
 - fostering fellowship
- 11 Board Members:
 - Emil Kucera, President
 - R.J. Newcome, Vice-Pres.
 - Dick Hanson, Treasurer
 - Pam Newcome, Secretary
 - Maribelle Cushman
 - Judie Hanson
 - Angie Kucera
 - John Scheller
 - Brett & Jamie Schreiber
 - Jill Shwiff

Summer is here! After a long winter, it's wonderful to have the weather warm up and our community begin to enjoy the lake. This letter is intended to share news & views surrounding Lake Josephine from the perspective of lake homeowners.



Lake Josephine Weed Situation

In 2012, Lake Josephine was diagnosed with Eurasian Water Milfoil. It's a contamination that cannot be eradicated, and requires aggressive and ongoing treatment to control. Left unchecked, it can overtake a lake, making it unnavigable by boats and unsafe for swimming and water sports.

We began offshore treatment for the weed last year, and growth was effectively knocked down in treated areas. Unfortunately, the weed will tend to pop up in other areas, as we've seen this Spring.

Just as keeping the weeds in check will be an ongoing process, so will the need to collect funds from lake residents to support treatment.

Read more inside about the Association's current & future plans.

Upcoming Events—Save the Date!

Slice of Shoreview

July 25 – 27

Night to Unite

August 5

1st Annual Lake Josephine Flotilla

July 26 at 8 p.m.

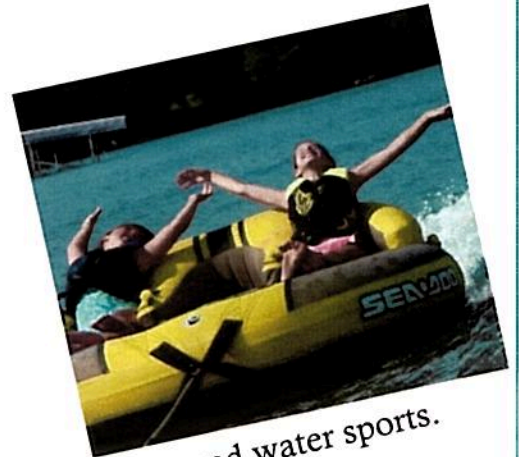
What is a "Flotilla" you ask? Get in your boat, bring an appetizer & something to drink. Tie-up and spend some social time getting to know your neighbors. We'll enjoy the Slice of Shoreview Fireworks at dusk.

Rules Around Lake Treatment

- DNR restricts weed treatment
- Treatment area cannot exceed 15% of a lake's littoral area (15% Rule)
- Lake Josephine is 116 acres, with 81 of those considered littoral, which gives us approx. 12 acres to work with
- Treatment plan has traditionally been:
 - 3.2 acres of shoreline spraying, individually contracted by homeowners
 - 7.9 acres of offshore spraying, contracted by association to benefit entire lake
 - 1 acre must be held in reserve
- If DNR agrees that a lake has an aggressive weed infestation, it can allow a variance to treat a larger area
- Coverage area for variances differ, based on the type, nature & extent of the weeds
- A variance must be applied for & granted before additional acreage can be treated
- For Eurasian Water Milfoil, DNR waits until late Spring/early Summer so it can diagnose the prevalence and the pattern of the weed before allowing any treatment and/or granting a variance
- As we have both a limited amount of chemicals we can put into the lake and \$ to work with, DNR tailors the treatment plan (location & coverage) to optimize both.



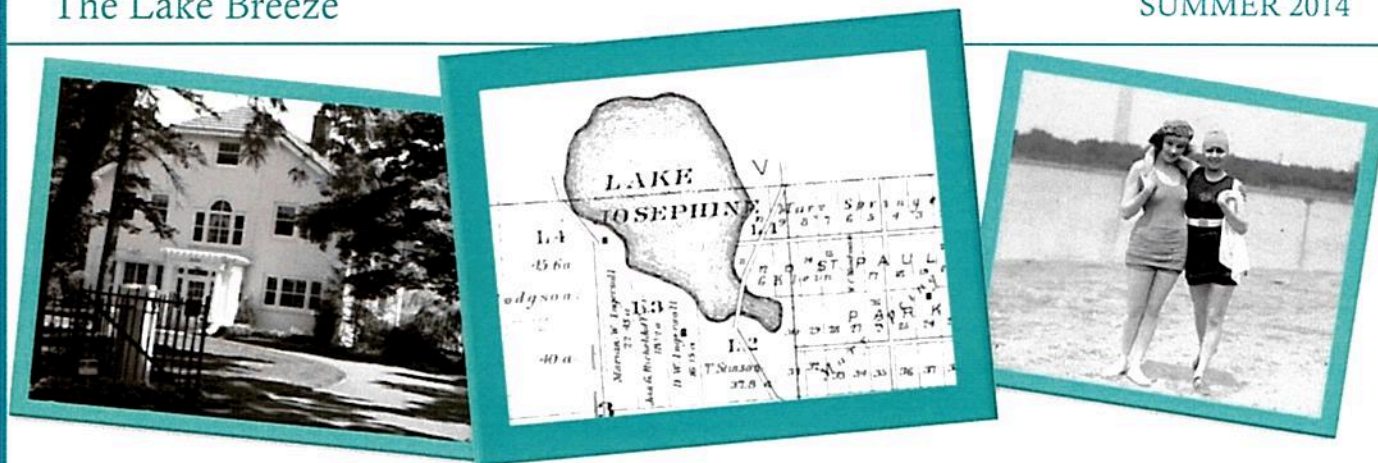
Help keep our lake safe
for swimming. . .



and water sports.

What's Lake Josephine's 2014 Treatment Plan?

- Lake Josephine Improvement Association applied for—and was granted—a variance from the DNR to treat beyond the 15% littoral limit due to our large infestation of Eurasian Water Milfoil
- The DNR is allowing up to 20.4 acres of offshore treatment in 2014, which is more than 2.5 times our normal allowance of 7.9 acres
- The DNR determines the “map” of offshore areas to be treated based upon where the milfoil is the most dense and most hazardous to lake users—the Board has no jurisdiction
- A condition of this year's *offshore* variance is that any second round of *shoreline* spraying that was scheduled for this summer be reduced to a 50 ft. x 50 ft. maximum area per property so that *overall* lake treatment stays within DNR limits. (In effect, instead of treating 100 ft. from a property's shoreline lakewards, the vendor would only treat 50 ft. from shoreline lakewards. However, if weeds were still present 50 ft. from shore, they would treat an *additional* 15 ft. path to clear water.)
- All efforts were made to notify affected homeowners prior to the offshore treatment, which took place the week of June 23rd



The History of Lake Josephine

As recounted by Maribelle Cushman, longtime resident and historian

In the early 1900's, Lake Josephine looked a bit different than it does now. There were two beaches, the earliest one located along the south side of the lake (Josephine Rd.) and a later one on the east side of the lake (Lexington Ave.). There were also a few homes and at least one farm scattered around the lake.

George & Ida Kowalske bought a large stretch of property along the south side of Lake Josephine and opened a private beach on that land in 1910. They—and later their daughter Gertrude & her husband John Waggoner—operated it for 50 years. Beachgoers were able to enjoy all kinds of activities. Halfway down the south shore was a beach house that sold homemade ice cream and popcorn, and featured a large dock where boats could be rented. Stretching westward was a tall diving tower, followed further down by a giant water wheel. Just beyond that was a 10 ft. tall raft with a sun-bathing tower. Admission to the beach was a whopping 10¢ in 1910! Lockers were available for an additional 15¢.

The other beach that ran along 800 feet of Lexington Ave. was called Josephine Beach. It was initially the property of a German immigrant Fred Schlichting, who settled here in 1920. The Schlichtings—then later their daughter Pauline and her husband Albert Muggenberg—operated the beach from 1931-1941. The property also offered a bathhouse, snack bar, dock, and rowboat rentals.

Beachgoers paid an admission, and they could rent dressing rooms. They could also rent ill-fitting swimsuits for an additional 10¢! In 1959, the Muggenbergs sold the property to Ramsey County, and it is now home to Lake Josephine Park.

We've all driven or walked by the beautiful property at 3030 Hamline Ave., which is part of Roseville's Heritage Trail. It was built by State Senator Joseph Hackney in 1920. He also owned Arden Dairies, which was located on the SW corner of Hamline and Lydia. The property changed ownership throughout the years. In the late 1920's it was called the Carroll Mansion. From 1945-1962 it was home to two Archbishops. In 1983, Raye Kanzenbach and Joni McDonald purchased the property and still reside there today.

In the early days, the north side of the lake was predominantly private property, with just a few homes. One of the largest properties was that of Dr. Ingerson, who was a prominent and influential resident. The city of Arden Hills later named the street for him.

Over the years, both Roseville and Arden Hills grew, and properties were subdivided and sold. Today, there are roughly 70 properties located on the shores of Lake Josephine. In addition, Lake Josephine Park continues to be a gathering place and source of enjoyment for all.

How can we help protect Lake Josephine?

We've been extremely fortunate in past years to enjoy a relatively clean lake, and have not had to seek contributions from homeowners to cover offshore weed treatment, but that all changed a few years ago after the lake was diagnosed with Eurasian Water Milfoil.

That's why in Summer/Fall of 2013, the Board sought a voluntary \$100 contribution from lake homeowners. We are happy to report that 45 out of 68 homeowners contributed to the fund, raising approximately \$5,600. We also had an existing amount of roughly \$4,500, collected many, many years ago for use as a "rainy day" fund in the event something like this were to happen.

Between the cost of 2013 spraying (\$2,400) and 2014 spraying (\$6,400) and a \$1,000 MN state grant, we now have just under \$2,500 left in the fund. Should the DNR require lake assessment testing (to measure impact of the chemicals on natural plant life & vegetation), that amount could be used up quickly. That's why we need your help!

Eurasian water milfoil cannot be eradicated, it can only be controlled. Just as the need to control it will be ongoing, so will our need to collect contributions to cover both offshore treatment and any lake testing that the DNR may require as a stipulation of that treatment.

In September, we will hold another Lake Josephine Improvement Association Meeting at the Roseville Oval. (You will be notified in advance.) We will review lake status following 2014 treatment, future treatment options, and solicit input from homeowners regarding the recommended amount of future contributions. Based on preliminary analysis, the need is likely to be even higher than last year's, most likely in the \$125+ range. Many of you have asked if you can contribute now. Thank you—the answer is YES! See the donation form attached to this email for more information.

We are very fortunate to live on such a beautiful lake. No doubt, we all want to continue to enjoy it for years to come. . . and protect our property values. THANK YOU for your continued support in this effort, and we look forward to your input & engagement.

Please be considerate of your fellow homeowners when water levels are high. Stay a good distance from shore & watch your speed (wake) to minimize erosion and other damage to shoreline & properties.

Water, Water Everywhere!

- Due to our snowy winter & rainy spring, lake levels are exceptionally high
- Lake Josephine has an overflow grate on the NW side of lake, but it's been clogging due to weeds
- The Board has worked with Ramsey County to arrange for weekly maintenance checks, with more frequent visits, as needed

Lake Josephine Water Clarity

Intuitively, many of us judge the health of a body of water by its clarity. If we can see the bottom of a lake or some distance into its depths - it's clean; if we cannot see the bottom, even in shallow water - it's dirty.

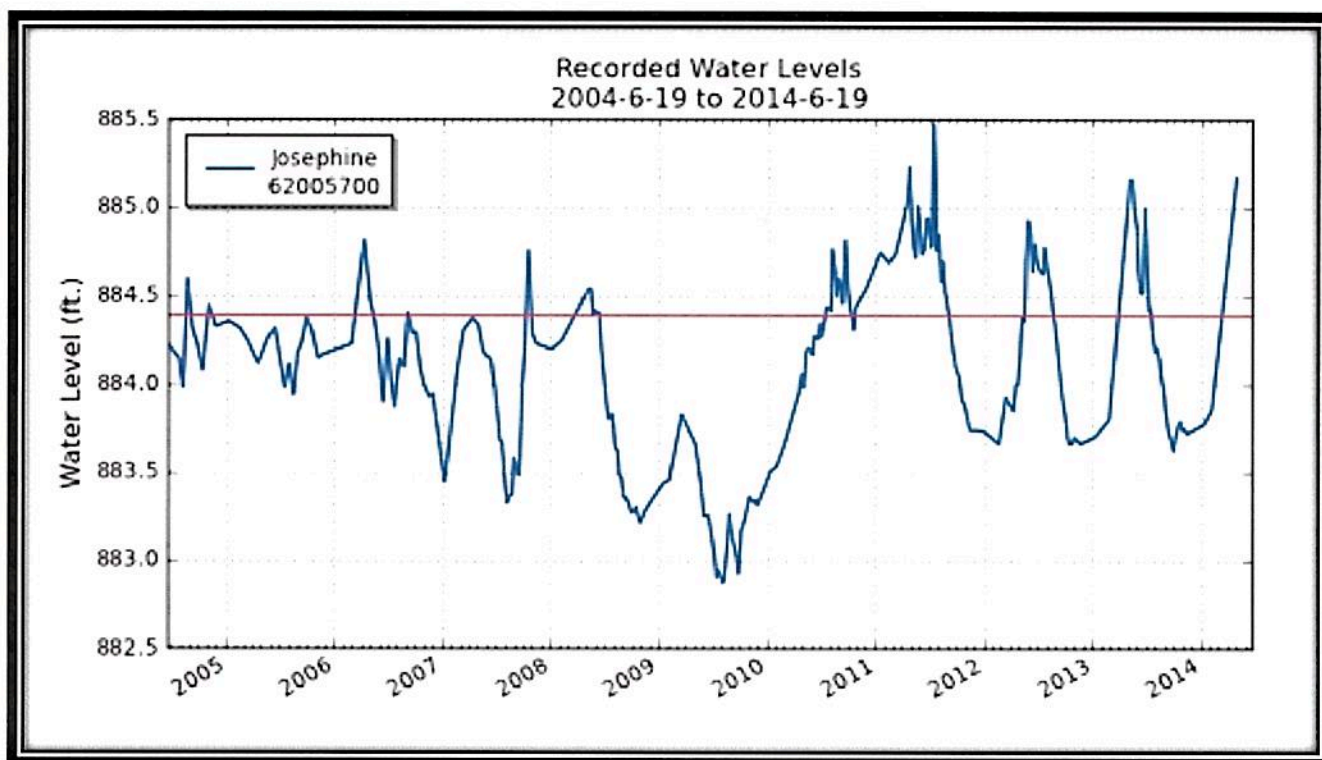
Following that same principle, a Secchi measurement is used to determine water clarity. A disc is submerged into a body of water, then the depth at which it is still visible to the human eye is measured.

Below are recent statistics from Ramsey County reviewing some of the lakes in our area. As shown, Lake Josephine is relatively clear, scoring in line with Lake Owasso and Lake Gervais.

Ramsey County Data					
Lake	Nearby City	Size (Acres)	Littoral Area (Acres)	Max Depth (Ft.)	Water Clarify (Ft.)
Josephine	Roseville	118	81	44	6.8
Johanna	Arden Hills	213	96	43	9.5
Owasso	Shoreview	384	293	37	7
Gervais	Little Canada	234	91	41	6.5
Snail	Shoreview	150	130	30	9
Turtle	Shoreview	409	245	28	4.5

Lake Josephine Water Levels

Normal water level for Lake Josephine is just under 884.5 ft. As shown, water levels have fluctuated by 1-2 ft. over the past 10 years.



Watercraft Operation Regulations

Speed limit 40 mph.

Boat ramp hours: 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Personal watercraft operating hours: 9:30 a.m. to one hour before sunset.

Slow no-wake zone within 150' of shore.

Motorized watercraft shall only travel in a counter-clockwise direction except when operating at a slow no-wake speed.

Motorized watercraft or person being towed shall not pass between a raft and the nearest shore when a swimmer is present.

Operation prohibited in designated swimming areas.

Operating a personal watercraft at greater than slow no-wake speed within 150' of any shore, dock, swimmer, raft, moored or anchored watercraft, or any non-motorized watercraft is prohibited.



Based on provisions of City Ordinances and State Statutes; Park Ordinance enforced by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Department. Call 651-484-3366.

Let's Keep the
Lake Safe for All



Lake Josephine Fish Facts

Fish Sampled for the 2012 Survey Year

Species	Gear Used	Number of fish per net		Average Fish Weight (lbs)	Normal Range (lbs)
		Caught	Normal Range		
<u>Black Crappie</u>	Trap net	13.60	1.8 - 18.1	0.19	0.2 - 0.3
	Gill net	3.50	1.9 - 18.0	0.15	0.1 - 0.3
<u>Bluegill</u>	Trap net	93.60	6.5 - 59.6	0.15	0.1 - 0.2
	Gill net	7.00	N/A	0.12	N/A
<u>Common Carp</u>	Trap net	0.30	0.3 - 2.6	3.22	2.0 - 4.5
	Gill net	0.25	0.5 - 4.0	3.31	1.0 - 3.2
<u>Green Sunfish</u>	Trap net	0.20	0.3 - 2.0	0.12	0.1 - 0.1
<u>Hybrid Sunfish</u>	Trap net	2.20	N/A	0.22	N/A
<u>Largemouth Bass</u>	Trap net	0.20	0.3 - 0.8	1.28	0.2 - 1.1
<u>Northern Pike</u>	Trap net	0.30	N/A	0.97	N/A
	Gill net	11.00	2.5 - 7.9	2.94	1.8 - 3.3
<u>Pumpkinseed</u>	Trap net	2.30	0.8 - 5.3	0.12	0.1 - 0.2
	Gill net	4.50	N/A	0.08	N/A
<u>Walleye</u>	Trap net	0.10	0.3 - 1.2	5.07	0.8 - 3.2
	Gill net	2.50	0.5 - 3.5	2.69	1.1 - 3.0
<u>White Sucker</u>	Gill net	0.25	0.5 - 2.0	2.07	1.0 - 2.2
<u>Yellow Bullhead</u>	Trap net	3.80	0.8 - 5.0	0.55	0.4 - 0.7
	Gill net	12.00	1.0 - 6.9	0.46	0.4 - 0.7
<u>Yellow Perch</u>	Trap net	0.10	0.3 - 1.5	0.05	0.1 - 0.2

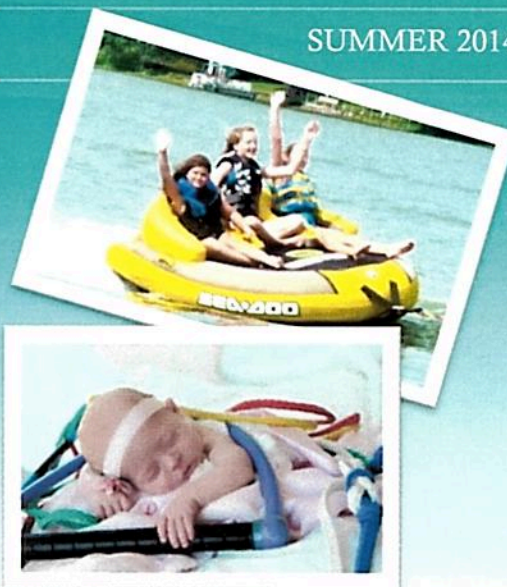
Normal Ranges represent typical catches for lakes with similar physical and chemical characteristics.

Length of Selected Species (Trapnet, Gillnet) Sampled for the 2012 Survey Year

Species	Number of fish caught in each category (inches)								Total
	0-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30+	
black crappie	4	137	5	0	0	0	0	0	150
bluegill	685	270	3	0	0	0	0	0	964
common carp	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
green sunfish	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
hybrid sunfish	5	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
largemouth bass	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
northern pike	0	0	0	1	3	33	10	0	47
pumpkinseed	38	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	41
walleye	0	0	0	1	6	3	1	0	11
white sucker	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
yellow bullhead	0	38	39	9	0	0	0	0	86
yellow perch	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Welcome New Neighbors!

WELCOME to the Coblantz family, who recently moved to the NE shore of the lake and the Fryd family who are building on Hamline Ave. Also, a special welcome to Lake Josephine's newest addition, Reese Schreiber, born this spring!



A special thanks to Emil Kucera, who has served as President of the Lake Josephine Improvement Association for 17 years! We owe him a debt of gratitude, as he's tirelessly worked with multiple governing bodies to ensure our lake remains clean and safe. THANK YOU, EMIL!

Stay Connected!

- If you have neighbors who are not receiving this newsletter but would like to, we need their email addresses.
- All contact information is treated as confidential, used only to share pertinent information, and will not be shared beyond a few members of the Board.
- All recipients are blind-copied on all correspondence so no one has visibility to others' email addresses.
- To sign up for future correspondence, contact any member of our board

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ENJOY
YOUR
SUMMER!