

**3/6/2016 Lake Josephine Improvement Association Homeowners' Meeting**  
**Winter Blast Recap**  
**Recorded by: Pam Newcome, Secretary**

Lake Josephine neighbors, thank you to the 40-some of you who joined us for our Winter Blast on March 6th! It was a beautiful day, a cheerful yet cozy venue, and a great opportunity to get reacquainted with neighbors we haven't seen throughout the winter. . .and to meet some new ones.

Hopefully, we struck a good balance between "business" and "social". As for **business**:

- R.J. Newcome, Lake Josephine Improvement Association President, explained that we've made good progress against the treatment plan laid out at our October 2015 Annual Meeting. Recall that plan called for:
  - Early and aggressive treatment of both Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP)
  - Participating in a Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP), which is an agreement between our lake association and DNR that allows us to treat a larger portion of our lake than normally allowed without having to go through the time-consuming process of seeking variances to do so. In return, we must conduct monitoring to ensure that our treatment is effective and is not negatively impacting the environment.
- R.J. explained that we've been working with DNR to finalize the LVMP, and that our DNR Invasive Species Specialist Keegan Lund was at the meeting to present the plan and address questions.
- He also reminded homeowners that we are fast-approaching the time when treatment funds will be needed. He thanked those whom have already contributed, and let everyone know there is still time to donate. (The 2016 contribution form is attached.)
- At the time of the meeting, approximately 45% of property owners had contributed (vs. 80% in 2015), and the average donation per property was \$477. (Note: we had recommended \$350-\$500 per property to cover 2016 treatment, monitoring costs associated with the LVMP, and to begin building a preparedness fund, should we be faced with a future threat such as a Zebra Mussel invasion in which rapid response is critical.)
- Keegan reviewed the plan's highlights and solicited questions. Some of the points he addressed:
  - The plan covers a 5-year time span, but it can be amended, if necessary, or discontinued before the 5 years are up
  - The plan currently only addresses EWM, but if our CLP invasion were to get significantly worse, the plan could be modified to include it
  - In years when the DNR grants variances to treat more than the normally allowed *offshore* acreage (as we will be granted under the LVMP), there are restrictions placed on *onshore* treatment. Specifically:
    - Onshore coverage is limited to an area no greater than 2,500 SQF, such as a 50 ft. along the shore (or half of a property's lake frontage,

whichever is less) x 50 ft. lake ward. Homeowners will also be granted a 15 ft. wide channel to open water, if needed.

- Homeowners can work with our treatment vendor Lake Management to determine how their 2,500 SQF treatment areas are configured.
- Keegan explained that the monitoring required in the LVMP is designed to ensure that we are treating responsibly, in a manner that addresses our weed problem yet also protects the long-term health of the lake and the environment. As for human safety, he said that the chemicals used have a long history of lake usage and have been deemed safe by multiple regulatory agencies.
- Once the plan is finalized, Keegan said we should be able to meet our goal of early offshore treatment.
- THANK YOU, Keegan, for taking time out of your weekend to join us! We appreciated your overview of the LVMP, your willingness to take our questions, and your thoroughness in addressing those.

As for **social**:

- It was great catching up with neighbors!
- Thank you to all who brought tasty treats and beverages to share--we had an amazing variety of choices. (Sorry, parents of young children! They were probably on a sugar high all night long!)
- A warm welcome to new neighbors:
  - Steve & Michele Olson and their adorable children Evelyn and Henry
  - Sara Darling
  - Kristine Botelho
- And a special welcome to our Josephine Hills neighbors:
  - Steve Freimuth
  - Greg Sheldon
  - Rebecca Webster
- Mark your calendars for our **Lake Josephine Flotilla--evening of Sat. July 23rd**, to coincide with Taste of Shoreview Fireworks!!

Thank you for your ongoing support! If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact any member of our Board.

Warm Regards,

**Your Lake Josephine Improvement Association Board**

R.J. Newcome, President

Emil Kucera, Vice-President

Dick Hanson, Treasurer

Pam Newcome, Secretary

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Maribelle Cushman, Board Member

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