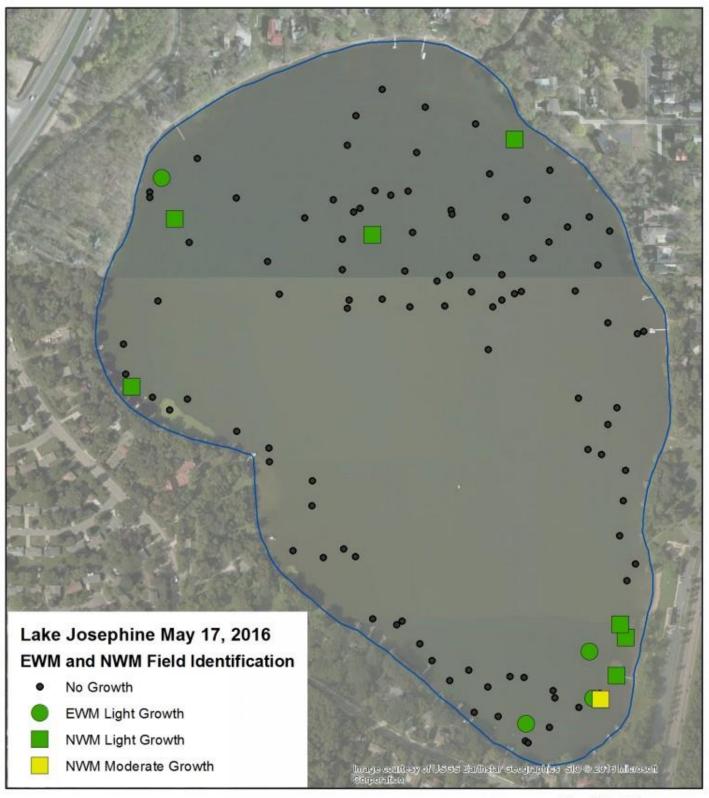
OFFSHORE 2016 TREATMENT PLAN

- Both offshore and near shore treatment (for those who contracted for it) occurred on June 7. The chemical used to treat EWM offshore was Triclopyr, a systemic herbicide. See specifics below:
- At our March Winter Blast meeting, we discussed that Lake Josephine would be entering into a Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP) with the DNR and that our goal was to treat offshore early and aggressively for both Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP).
- An LVMP is an agreement between the lake association and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) authorizing us to treat more than our normally-allowed littoral limit of invasive weeds.
- In return for treatment variances allowed under the LVMP, a lake association agrees to monitor to ensure that treatment is effective and is not negatively impacting the lake and/or surrounding environment.
- Our intent in 2016 was to get ahead of our weed problem, making the lake more usable and enjoyable earlier in the season and hopefully eradicating some of the invasive weeds before they had a chance to seed and spread.
- Rice Creek Watershed conducted our official weed delineation on May 17. Given fluctuating temperatures that
 spring, we conducted the delineation later than initially planned to ensure we didn't miss any late growing crop of
 EWM. Prior to that, Lake Management and our own resident experts searched for EWM on at least four different
 occasions but found very little, if any.
- To the surprise of all involved, our EWM infestation had gone from being one of the most aggressive cases DNR had ever seen to being very difficult to detect. This may have been due to our past treatments being extremely effective, or it could just be due to the cyclical nature of EWM. Only a handful of stems were found throughout the lake. This was unexpected but very positive news.
- CLP was found to be moderately abundant and fairly dense in a few limited areas.
- Please keep in mind that a healthy lake is not meant to be weed-free. It's important to differentiate between native weeds (ones that are naturally occurring and in balance with other species and the environment) and invasive weeds (those that were introduced into the lake and negatively impact other species and the environment). Native weeds should reside in a healthy lake, and the goal is that these native weeds will return to fill the void left by the invasive weeds that had previously choked them out.
- Regardless of whether or not we are operating under an LVMP, we must get approval from DNR for lake treatment.
- DNR deemed that our EWM contamination level did not warrant treatment in more than one approximately 5-acre spot near the fishing pier.
- Since CLP naturally dies down on its own in mid-summer AND the herbicide used to treat it could potentially negatively impact surrounding native vegetation, the decision was made to not treat CLP in 2016.
- Despite requiring little treatment, we were very appreciative of the support and collaboration we received from DNR and all the other state and local entities we worked with.
- We also received a DNR grant of \$1,687, to be put towards our 2016 treatment costs. Additionally, we requested and received an allocation of \$2,000 from state legislative funds for invasive species education and prevention. Those funds were used for watercraft inspections throughout the summer and other educational initiatives.
- Most of all, we were appreciative of our homeowners, who responded to our rally cry for funding. THANK YOU for your overwhelming generosity! Your efforts were not in vain. Through your generous and proactive support, we've begun to build a solid base of funding that will be used towards future lake treatment, whether it be for EWM or other contaminants such as CLP and/or algae. It also helps with preparedness for a future catastrophic event such as a Zebra Mussel invasion.

Lake Josephine Eurasian Watermilfoil and Northern Watermilfoil Field Identification



Lake Josephine Curlyleaf Pondweed May 17, 2016

