



## McKenzie Lakes Association

### March 2020 Newsletter

#### Zebra Mussels Update:

The results of the plate monitoring showed a very large increase of adults and juvenile ZM in Big McKenzie. Most of the plates from BM were completely covered with some plates that had ZM stacked on 2 to 3 deep making it too difficult to get an accurate count. Many of you sent in pictures showing boat lifts covered in ZM. Middle McKenzie showed an increase in plate counts as well. All deployed plates had ZM. In 2018 MM plates had an average of 0.22 per sq. ft. and in 2019 ZM plates average 45 per sq. ft. There were no reports of ZM on plates deployed on Lower McKenzie.

Our Rapid Response Grant has been completed and our final report and final reimbursement has been accepted by the DNR. Although we will not be working under a DNR grant the ZM Committee has asked that MLA to continue to deploy monitoring plates on all three lakes. The plan will be to deploy fewer plates on BM and use a different protocol to determine ZM density on the plates. The plan for MM and LM will continue as is for 2020. More information will be forthcoming to the monitoring volunteers in April.

#### Clean Boats Clean Waters Grant

MLA was successful in obtaining a Clean Boats Clean Waters grant from the DNR for 2020. The grant is for \$4,000 per landing for each of the three public landings on the three lakes for a total of \$12,000. MLA will have to match 25% of the total with volunteer time at \$12/hr or in-kind match. This means we will need approximately 250 hours of volunteer times to provide boat inspections. More information and the call for volunteers as well paid inspectors is provided in the next section.

### **VOLUNTEER AND PAID BOAT INSPECTORS NEEDED**

TO HELP PROTECT THE HEALTH OF BIG, MIDDLE AND LOWER MCKENZIE LAKES

Dear MLA Members:

Great news! MLA is the recipient of a 2020 DNR Clean Boats/Clean Waters Grant to support boat inspections at the landings on *all three* McKenzie Lakes. **Acquiring grant dollars is a crucial objective** that will help advance our goal of clean boats and clean waters. To that end we ask that you consider and then commit to serving as a boat inspector as either a volunteer or paid participant.

Our experience has shown face to face interaction, educating boaters on the methods to battle the spread of invasive species, goes a long way. Without boat inspections we are creating a large gap in our efforts to control the spread of invasive species.

Your intention to commit to serve as a paid or volunteer boat inspector is needed **TODAY**. Please indicate your degree of participation on the form included with this correspondence and return to Sandy Swanson via email or postal mail, **NO LATER THAN APRIL 15**.

**Here is what else you need to know:**

- Paid inspectors are hired as contract employees and work at least one 4 or 5-hour shift per weekend. Pay is \$12 per hour.
- All inspectors, paid or volunteer, will be provided a brief training session.
- The goals are to protect the health of our lakes and to educate boaters on the dangers of spreading aquatic invasive species.
- Members and non-members are eligible to help in our efforts. HOWEVER, a broad membership base will provide a solid foundation for a *sustained volunteer program* of inspectors.

**PLEASE TAKE ACTION TODAY. FILL OUT AND RETURN THE FOLLOWING FORM INDICATING YOUR INTENTION TO COMMIT TO THIS URGENT NEED – FOR THE HEALTH OF OUR LAKES.**

With sincere THANKS for your participation,

McKenzie Lakes Association Aquatic Invasive Species Committee

**BOAT INSPECTOR SIGN-UP FORM**

**YES!** I will serve as a boat inspector and educate boaters on the necessity of clean boats to prevent invasive species from entering or leaving our lakes.

**STEP 1 – CIRCLE possible months, days, times, number of shifts available and preferred lake(s)**

MONTH	DAYS	TIMES	# OF SHIFTS	PREFERRED LAKE
MAY	Saturday, Sunday, Holiday	Morning, Afternoon		BIG MIDDLE LOWER
JUNE	Saturday, Sunday	Morning, Afternoon		BIG MIDDLE LOWER
JULY	Saturday, Sunday, Holiday	Morning, Afternoon		BIG MIDDLE LOWER

<b>AUGUST</b>	Saturday, Sunday	Morning, Afternoon		BIG MIDDLE LOWER
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	Saturday, Sunday, Holiday	Morning, Afternoon		BIG MIDDLE LOWER

**STEP 2** – Circle your preference for a volunteer or paid position. Members/non-members are eligible.

**VOLUNTEER** – Urgent need for all three lakes.

**PAID** – Ideal for college students, retired persons or others who want to earn some summer cash.

**STEP 3** – Provide your contact information, including lake and in-town addresses.

<b>NAME</b>	
<b>LAKE ADDRESS</b>	
<b>HOME ADDRESS</b>	
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>	
<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>	

**STEP 4** – MAIL ASAP TO ENSURE YOUR RESPONSE IS RECEIVED NO LATER THAN **APRIL 15**.

Copy and paste your responses into an email and return to **Sandy Swanson** at [sandy@northescape.com](mailto:sandy@northescape.com)

OR Print out and return via postal mail to **Sandy Swanson** at 1161 Carson Rd., Spooner, WI 54801

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!**

### Up Coming Events

**Roadside Clean-up: April 25<sup>th</sup>.** All picked-up trash must be brought to the trailer parked at McKenzie Landing by 11:30 so that we can get it to the dump before closing.

**First MLA meeting of 2020: May 30<sup>th</sup>:** 9 am McKenzie Landing