

CRESCENT LAKE DISTRICT

Board of Commissioners | crescentlakedistrict@gmail.com

June 25, 2024

To: **All Crescent Lake Property Owners**
From: **Crescent Lake District Commissioners**
Re: **Eurasian Milfoil Update (EWM)**

Dear Fellow Property Owners,

Our battle against the spread of Eurasian Water Milfoil continues. Our spring meander survey of Crescent Lake indicated continued EWM growth in some areas, especially along the north end of the lake (highway 8 near the boat landing). Unfortunately, the EWM growth in this area was **denser this spring than our fall 2023 survey**. The survey also found spot areas of EWM in several other areas of the lake.

What is our plan?

In early June, we submitted our survey results to the DNR along with a permit request to chemically treat approximately 20 acres near the boat landing with ProcellaCOR. We believe this is the most at-risk area of the lake where high boat activity will disturb and clip the EWM plants, allowing them to spread throughout the entire lake. This was essentially the same permit application as our 2023 request which was frustratingly denied by the DNR. We hoped our 2024 request, supported by the mapping data indicating increased growth, would convince the DNR to approve our permit and allow treatment in late June before the 4th of July holiday. Unfortunately, the DNR has not responded to our application, and we are stuck in waiting mode. At this point, even a permit approval would force treatment into the week following the holiday. Note the DNR has deemed ProcellaCor **safe** for use.

What can you do?

As we await permitting or in the event we are denied again, we ask you recognize and accept the risk of spreading EWM by **avoiding close-to-shore boating near the landing or its nearby bays or in other areas such as Wausau or Engstrand Bays**. Just one boat pass can set loose several pieces of EWM that will float away and eventually take root in another part of the lake.

Future CLD action?

We remain hopeful for a positive DNR response to our application, and we will initiate treatment as soon as possible after the holiday. If we are again denied, we will utilize our funds to hire again a contractor with paid divers to hand pull EWM in the boat landing and other areas. **This is a costly and imperfect solution** but is the only course of action left at our disposal versus just allowing the unmitigated EWM spread.

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Long-Term?

We remain worried continued denials by the DNR will eventually lead to greater spread and the need for a far more costly **whole shoreline treatment**, wasting the previous efforts and **taxpayer money** previously spent to keep the EWM under control.

Thank you for your cooperation, support, understanding and volunteerism.

Tim Kilgore – Crescent Lake District Chairman