

LILLY LAKE NEWS

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Invasive Species in Lilly Lake

Plants (Water):

- ◆ Eurasian Water Milfoil
- ◆ Curlyleaf Pondweed

Plants (Shoreline)

- ◆ Phragmites
- ◆ Reed Canary Grass

Others:

- ◆ Banded Mystery Snail
- ◆ Common Carp



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

NEW INVASIVE SPECIES

NOT FOUND IN LILLY LAKE...YET!



Starry Stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtuse*)

The latest invasive species that we have to be on the look out for is this one. It has been showing up in lakes in our region where it is causing a host of problems. First of all, while it looks like a lake "weed", it is actually a type of green algae. It looks similar to a native green algae, Chara, which we have in Lilly Lake. However, the main characteristic that is different are these white star-like structures. Interestingly, only male individuals in North America have been documented and reproduction is via fragments or vegetative structures called "bulbils".

The main issue with this species is that control efforts are difficult, if not futile. It can grow very dense and cause issues with boaters, fishermen, and swimmers.

The most likely place for it to show up is around the boat launch since boats moving between lakes is the most likely means of introduction. However, it can grow as deep as 30 feet. Please keep an eye out for this and if you find it let the Town know or you can contact Mike Adam (contact info on p.2).

Chara (*Chara sp.*)

A common plant in Lilly lake is not actually a plant. Chara looks like a lake "weed", but it is actually a macro-algae. It is good for the lake as it utilizes nutrients and stabilizes sediments. Another name for it is muskweed. If you pick it up and crush it, it has a musky smell to it.



CATCH AND RELEASE

Catch and release is a practice within recreational fishing intended as a technique of conservation. After capture, the fish are unhooked and returned to the water. Using barbless hooks, it is often possible to release the fish without removing it from the water.

In many circumstances, catch and release is a good idea, particularly for species that are prone to overfishing. In Lilly Lake, since it is a small, some fish such as northern pike may be susceptible to overfishing. Catch and release of northern pike is encouraged on our lake since we are trying to build up the predators, who in-turn will keep the overabundant bluegill population in check. Education of fishermen is very important. Northern pike are more active in cooler water so they are frequently caught by ice fishermen.

Catch and release may not always be a good idea. Some species, such as trout, are very sensitive to capture and may not survive a release. Others such as our bluegill in Lilly Lake are stunted due to an over population. Keep as many bluegill as regulations allow. This will help the whole lake's fishery.



Please release Northern Pike



Barbless Hook



Blast from the Past

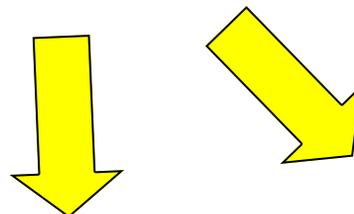
This picture was taken circa 1980 during a "Save Our Lake" event. Can you name these kids? Hint: some are still around the lake.

Have any more old pictures that you'd like to share? Send them to Mike or on our Facebook Page.

Planning for 2017

Do you have an idea for our community? Want to include something in the newsletter?

Please contact:
Mike Adam at
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or 262-537-2413.



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