

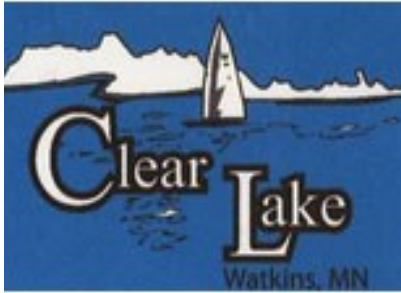
Reflections

Clear Lake Property Owners, Inc.

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 2

FALL EDITION 2019

Weed Harvester to be at August 24 Members Picnic



Clear Lake association President Guy Bobendrier was very pleased to accept the keys to our new Eco-Harvester weed control machine which will be on display at our Saturday, August 24 annual members picnic, beginning at noon at the Sportsmen's Park on Little Mud Lake. All Clear Lake property owners are invited to attend the picnic lunch and meeting.



Plan to attend our picnic meeting where we will pay tribute to all who have contributed financially to our two year plan to fully retire the \$90,000 budget for the purchase and operation of the machine:

- 83 members have paid their first year "buck a foot" contributions which continue to be received weekly and which will exceed our \$10,000 goal for this year.
- The Meeker County Aquatic Invasive Committee contributed a total of \$25,000 in 2019 matching grants to Clear Lake and our harvester project partner, the Watkins Sportsmen's Club.
- The Watkins Lions Club contributed \$2,000.
- The Watkins Chamber of Commerce contributed \$1,000.
- The Watkins Farmer's State Bank provided a \$44,000 loan on favorable terms to be repaid in full in 2020, based on 2020 grants, property owner "buck a foot" payments and other contributions. The bank is also the sponsor of our members picnic – a free lunch for members and their families.
- CLPO reserve funds have been directed to the Harvester, while we will continue to maintain sufficient reserves to support other association projects.

Watch for the Harvester to be in operation on Clear Lake soon as Eurasian watermilfoil matures. Our initial priority is to harvest the milfoil wherever it impedes property owner access to the lake and where it is present at public access locations. Under DNR regulations the weeds in property owner shore areas (the first 150 feet toward the lake) may not be harvested under the lake-wide permit allowing harvesting of weeds.

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Special points of interests

- Eco-Harvester
- Clothing Order
- Clear Lake News on website:

www.clearlakewatkins.org

**Annual
Membership Meeting
& Lunch
August 24th!**



Association Volunteers on Board

The purchase of our Weed Harvester has been “captained” by Guy Bobendrier and its operation is being “captained” by lake association member Bruce Hall, a biology teacher at ROCORl High School in Cold Spring who is a former Conservation Officer for the Minnesota DNR.

Bruce has recruited and is training a group of Harvester volunteers who will join him on board to operate the Harvester targeting outer lake weed problems impairing recreational use of the lake.

Our initial group of Harvester Volunteers are Mark Brutger, Mike DeJuliannie, Tony DeJuliannie, Harvey Geislinger, Jeff Hilsgen, Doug Stenger and Rick Thoman.



Thanks for Terrific Member Support

The strength of our lake association is the result of the high rate of property owner participation we have achieved – the payment of our \$25 annual dues, volunteering in support our projects and participating in our meetings.

Our modest annual dues of \$25 provide for member communication services and our strong member participation creates the basis for advancing special lake improvement projects.

It is a well established fact that key lake quality projects do not happen unless a lake association creates the impetus for such improvements. And a lake association cannot function without the participation and financial support of a strong majority of its property owners.

We thank you for your membership support.

Just a reminder that our dues are now payable January of each year. You can pay your 2019 dues at the Fall Meeting.

We began a new cycle of membership renewal so that the 2019 dues will be payable beginning in January, 2019.

This put us on a membership renewal cycle corresponding to the calendar year rather than our previous August to August cycle which was confusing to members.

Clear Lake News and Information at Our Website

Stay informed about how you can enjoy and protect the value of your Clear Lake property and participate in our association by visiting our web site at www.clearlakewatkins.org.



Clear Lake Blue Algae Bloom

Bruce Hall observations of lake quality the first days of August.

Below are several photos from August 1 and 2 showing the extent of the latest algae bloom on the lake, in large portion blue-green algae. These photos are from different sides of the lake. This is the 7th and worst algae bloom to date. Last year we saw 7 total algae blooms on the lake, but none this bad.

Another FYI is that this is not the kind of surface algae (pictured) that we can remove from the lake with our mechanical harvester. It is too infused in the water column and would go right through the skimmer unlike the surface blobs of green algae we did harvest earlier in July. Water temperatures need to drop; cold rain and wind helps when we get it. We have had little wind the last couple of days, thankfully air temperatures have not been too extreme, but water temp. is still near 80 F. at the surface.

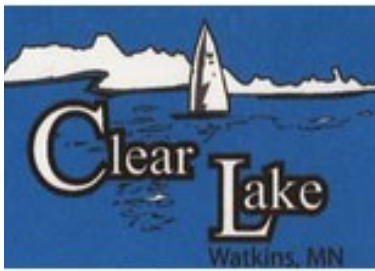
There is no oxygen in Clear Lake to speak of below 10' in depth at this point; the break line for oxygen is right between 9' and 10'. Fish are all 2-6' below surface where some daytime aquatic vegetation photosynthesis is providing for adequate dissolved oxygen to date. Water clarity continues to reduce due to green algae throughout water column.



New CLPO Clothing Available Online

A new line of CLPO clothing was introduced last April. Many members took advantage of the new look and the online options. Once again, our clothing will be made available to purchase online beginning August 24 until September 7 through a local Watkins printing company, hometownscreenprinting.com. Make sure to check out the great options for your family and friends!

All orders will be available around September 22nd. Denise DeJulianne will organize an exact date, time and location for pickup.



CLEAR LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS, INC.

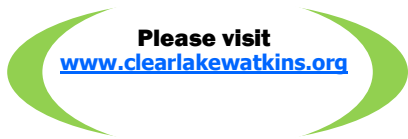
PO Box 244
Watkins, MN 55389-6058

Mission Statement:

Working toward making Clear Lake once again worthy of its name.

Vision:

“Clarifying our Waters”



First Class Mail

2019 CLPO Board

- President — Guy Bobendrier
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Calendar of Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for the following CLPO events:

- Annual Membership Meeting/Picnic - Saturday, August 24th at Noon
- Watkins Sportsmen's Picnic - Sunday, September 1st - Noon - 9pm

Visit our website at clearlakewatkins.org to learn more!

**Questions?
Comments...**
The Board invites
your calls.

New to the Lake?

Do you have new neighbors?

We would love to add them to our mailing list.

Visit us online: www.clearlakewatkins.org

Or contact Denise DeJuliannie at
clpoinc@aol.com with new owners name, lake
address, email and phone number.