

Tame Fish Lake Association

2020 Annual Newsletter

The mission of the Tame Fish Lake Association is to promote positive environmental and recreational stewardship of Tame Fish Lake for further generations through member involvement, communication and information sharing.

Website

We have a brand-new website! <http://tamefishlake.com/> The site will continue to be improved as we use the website and get feedback from members.

- Newsletters: The current newsletter and annual meeting minutes will be displayed. Past newsletters and meeting minutes are archived by year at the bottom of the page
- About Us:
 - The member directory is a protected document so that your contact information is available only to other members. The password will be provided to all members in an email. If you are a member and need the password, please email contact@tamefishlake.com.
 - The association by laws
 - Contact info for the board members
- Gallery: We posted a few photos of our own. We would love to add your photos in the gallery as well. Please email any photos you would like added to the gallery to contact@tamefishlake.com
- Membership: Information about what it means to be a member. There is also a form for new members to provide contact information and for existing member to make changes. It is in the Membership section.

Annual Meeting

The 2020 annual Tame Fish Lake Association meeting will be held on June 20th at 10 am at Farrell's beach. In case of bad weather, the meeting will be held in their pavilion. A reminder email will go out in early June.

Meeting agenda:

- Treasury report
- Milfoil mitigation plan for 2021, including funding
- 4th of July weekend social gathering
- TFLA apparel

If you have additional items to add to the agenda, please email contact@tamfishlake.com by June 13th.

Proxy voting forms can be found on the website if you are not able to attend the annual meeting.

Membership

Membership is \$30 annually and due by the annual meeting in order to be eligible to cast votes during that meeting. New members can sign up on the website in the membership section. Existing members should use the same form to make changes to contact information.

2020 Milfoil mitigation plan

At the 2019 annual meeting, a vote was taken and passed to treat the lake with Hydrothol R to mitigate the milfoil infestation. At the end of this newsletter is a position paper written by Jack Gabois to explain the approach to managing milfoil on Tame Fish Lake.

Key things you need to know:

- Planned treatment date is the week of May 11, with the week of May 18 being a back-up in case of poor weather conditions. State COVID-19 social distancing will be observed. Unfortunately, we cannot wait till later in the year to place the treatment.
- We will mark the treatment areas with buoys the week prior
 - We need about 30 more empty milk or water jugs with handles to use as buoys to mark the treatment area. Drop them off at Jack & Deb's place by May 2nd if you have any.
 - Once the buoys are in place, please do not move or drive over them.
- For spreading the chemicals, we will need 3 pontoons each with 3 people each. If you are able to help, please let us know.
- The map below shows the planned areas of treatment. If you would like to purchase Hydrothol R for treating your property frontage, please email contact@tamefishlake.com by April 15th. The cost is \$120 per 20 lb. bag. One bag should treat about 3 properties, so please coordinate with your neighbors if you would like.

Lake news:

George Griffiths III passed away peacefully with his children by his side on October 18, 2019. His son Geordie will maintain ownership of the cabin on Tame Fish Lake.

George was a history buff, and was especially proud of his family's coal mining history. He enjoyed socializing with his fraternity brothers, volunteering for Habitat for Humanity, and playing cribbage with his friends. George loved to fish, play golf, and spend time outside at the cabin, either tinkering on projects or taking long boat rides on the lake.

Northern Pike: Bay Lake and our lake both have an excess of Northern Pike that are over-consuming the small panfish. In an effort to preserve the panfish population, please don't throw back any Northern under 20" this season.

TFLA Clothing: We are creating new apparel with the loon logo and Tame Fish Lake. We will post pictures of available styles on the website as soon as it's ready. We will send out an email to let you know to go check it out. Currently, the plan is to place orders with the supplier for paid orders from members in the spring and mid-summer.

MILFOIL POSITION PAPER
Prepared by Jack Gadbois, B.S. Oceanography
March 2020

1. Intent of this Document

It is the hope that this paper will provide, at best, a framework for a reasonable and cost-effective milfoil mitigation plan.

Please note that I am not proposing a milfoil eradication plan. Once milfoil has a significant presence, total elimination is impossible. The goal of this paper is to offer up suggestions that may lead to a significant reduction in certain problems of the main lake which would provide more boating access and slow future spread.

2. Method of Treatment

Based on the best information available, a chemical treatment is the most effective control. A granular herbicide trade-named Hydrothol R appears to be a newer herbicide with very good results.

It is a mostly non-selective, systemic compound which works through root absorption with some ancillary topical action also occurring. It should be applied during the target plants' peak nutrient up take. This begins when surface water temperature approaches 60 degrees F. This condition typically occurs by mid-May. The greatest influence on thermal gain is sunlight. With longer days and higher sun angles comes faster thermal gain. Prolonged periods of cloud cover will reduce this gain from 10 to 30%.

The granules are applied by boat with a manual broadcast spreader capable of covering a 25ft swath with each pass. Two spreaders, on pontoon boats should be able to cover 40-foot swaths with some overlap.

I would suggest the application take place the week of May 11 with the week of May 18 being the weather alternative, we need a dry day with light wind for best results.

3. Areas of Treatment

I am providing you with bathymetric maps of our lake with five problem areas highlighted. These areas are subjected to significant power boat traffic resulting in large-scale plant shredding. A single four to six-inch piece with one leaf bundle is all that is required to establish a new plant. This is the primary method of propagation. Reductions in plant shredding will result in a significant reduction in new plant formation.

4. Treatment Cost

Total treatment area: (5 sites)	approx. 90,000 ft ²
Chemicals: 32 20lb bags	\$3980 incl tax* and shipping
Spreaders: qty 6	\$150
N-95 masks **: qty 6	\$60
Masons line: 2000ft	\$20

* This cost will be slightly lower by 5% subject to manager's approval.

** In the event N-95 masks are not available. We will provide homemade cloth masks with equal protection from dust.

In addition, we should have a surplus of 6 to 8 20lb bags for individuals to purchase for their property frontage. Each 20lb bag should cover 300 linear feet at the 8 to 10 ft depth contour.

5. Miscellaneous

We have queried the State of MN regarding a sales and use tax exemption for our purchase. We were directed to form ST16 which specifically states Lake Improvement Organizations are NOT exempt. Surplus chemicals can be purchased by members for \$120 per 20 lb bag. Each bag should treat three to four properties. We can order more if needed.

While the statement from the manufacture states there are no restrictions to swimmer or anglers, we would advise a 3-day waiting period after application.

2 ←



JONES AREA
 ~8000 ft²
 7 buoys

BARTH/KNOX
 ~3200 ft²
 10 buoys

STEARNS AREA
 ~4000 ft²
 6 buoys

#1 DURING/JANZEN
 ~35,000 ft² 8 buoys

#2 NORTH OF #1
 ~6000 ft² 9 buoys

TOTAL AREA
 ~85,000 ft²

TFLA Annual Meeting Minutes
Tame Fish Lake Association, Deerwood/Aitken, MN
June 27, 2020

The Annual Meeting was held at 10:00 AM.

Place: Vila Vino Pavilion (Thank you Farrell Family for hosting)

2020 Meeting Minutes

John Farrell, President, called meeting to order and had everyone introduce themselves.

Treasury Report: Balance \$3,983.01

Milfoil treatment was around \$3,000. 8 boxes are remaining. Planning re-treat a couple of areas before the end of June that had some growth. Will have at least 6 boxes left for next year's treatment.

Bay Lake Association spoke with John & Geordie about having the DNR check our lake for zebra mussels. Given that we do not have a public landing, it is unlikely the lake is infested. However, both Bay and Farm Island do have zebra mussels. Move to decline the request and elect to self-monitor was made and seconded. The association will publish materials on how to identify zebra mussels on docks when they are taken out this fall.

Tame Fish Lake apparel is now available on the website. Order by June 23 for delivery July 4th weekend. A second round of ordering will be made available in the fall. We receive 20% of the price of the apparel, which will help with next year's milfoil treatment.

This year both Farrells and Barta/Larson's will be doing fireworks on Saturday, July 4th. They will coordinate with each other on timing. The request was made for contributions to help defray the cost. Please work directly with the folks doing the fireworks if you wish to contribute.

There will be a pontoon parade at 1 pm on Saturday, July 4th followed by a flotilla. Deb Gadbois will be sending out more details.

As you do fall and spring clean-up, please do not put leaves or grass clippings into the lake.

The recycling dumpsters around town are gone. There was too much trash being placed in the dumpsters. Aitken/Nisswa Sanitation still has recycling as far as we know. Please check with them to be sure they are still open.

There were questions about the low lake level. The precipitation in April, May and June has been extremely small and is affecting all the lakes in the area. We simply need more rain.

We have 2 baby loons again this year.

Meeting was adjourned

Tame Fish Lake Association Fall Newsletter

October 2020

Another wonderful cabin season has come to an end. It was a unique year with navigating social distancing. For many working remotely allowed for extended time at the lake.

Our 4th of July celebration was a huge success! The boat parade and concert were so much fun, and the fireworks were fantastic! I've posted pictures on the website gallery. If you have any you would like to share, send them to contact@tamefishlake.com and I will post them as well.

I've added some other photos of lake life as well. Be sure to check them out at <http://tamefishlake.com/gallery/>

You can still order lake apparel on the website. Until next Spring, please arrange to have Red Threads ship your order or pick it up in Crosby at their store. <https://www.redthreadsmn.com/tame-fish-lake>

Reminder as you do your Fall and Spring clean-up, please do not put leaves and yard waste in the lake. While it seems 'natural', the lake is not meant to have that much extra organic matter added. And, it will end up on someone's shoreline for them to clean up. Your consideration of the health of the lake and your neighbors is appreciated.

For the bad news this year, unfortunately, is that zebra mussels have been discovered in our lake. John, Geordie, Jack and Deb met with the DNR and got recommendations for what to do. Below is a write up with a link to the DNR fact sheet on zebra mussels.

Zebra Mussels Present in Tame Fish Lake

Introduction

In August and September Bay Lake Marine reported the presence of zebra mussels on at least 2 pontoons removed from Tame Fish Lake for service. In response to this we contacted the DNR's area supervisor for aquatic invasive species. He performed a brief inspection and confirmed the presence of the mussels.

Based on the size of the samples, he believed they were the result of a first-year spawn. Because our lake is not an ideal habitat for zebra mussels due to the lack of structure in 3+ feet of water, it was his opinion that we would not experience a serious infestation but may see annual fluctuations in populations.

Potential Effects

The most serious potential for negative impact of Tame Fish Lake would be the clogging of water intakes of outboard motors. He recommended boat lifts or motor tilts to reduce the impact. Larger shells are quite sharp and can cause lacerations but, again, Tame Fish Lake does not present a potential for this as the threat comes from three to four-year-old shells.

Treatment

While there are on-going studies, there is no current treatment available to reduce or eradicate zebra mussels that does not involve serious ecological damage to the lake.

Recommendations

Zebra mussels generally establish themselves on surfaces that are shaded from sunlight such as boat/pontoon hull bottoms, inside lower units of outboard and IOS, the undersurface of dock steps and the shaded areas of dock pipes. These can all be cleaned with a wire brush quite easily. There is no value in using non-mechanical (i.e. chemical) means to clean the affected areas.

The mussels will die in about 10 – 14 days after removal from the water. But the shells will remain adhered to the surface of their bonding and become a point of future accretion, so removal is highly recommended.

Any mussels in shoreline rocks or rip/rap are subject to 100% winter kill.

If you have any questions, please contact Jack Gadbois at jackgadbois@gmail.com

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticanimals/zebramusel/index.html>