

August 2007

Fisher Lake Association Members and Riparian Property Owners,

As an association member and a lake property owner, it is important that you are involved with and aware of items involving the health of our lake. At the annual 2007 FLA meeting, the members decided that the following information concerning native and exotic aquatic plants would be available on the website.

We received information and training through the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program at the Lakes and Streams Conference in April, and our lake is one of twenty lakes in Michigan to begin identifying and tracking these plants. The CLMP requests that we monitor the lake twice a year in early summer and late summer. An excellent volunteer, Cindy Moyle, and your representatives, Howard and Molly Roth, have completed the first check for this year.

This task is large and time-consuming, and we welcome and ask for your assistance with this twice a year monitoring. Contact Howard and Molly Roth at the number below if you are interested. Although the monitoring is only twice a year, everyone can help throughout the year.

When you are out enjoying the water, especially in depths less than fifteen feet, look at the plants and use the attached pages to help identify some of them. The pictures show three native aquatic plants (good) and three exotic aquatic look-a-like plants (bad). Note that the native plants, northern water-milfoil, fern pondweed, and elodea are to be encouraged for a healthy lake environment. Let them grow. On the other hand, **Eurasian water-milfoil**, **curly-leaf pondweed**, and **hydrilla** are the look-a-likes and the exotic aquatic species that we need to identify and locate if they are present in the lake. Please note that the hydrilla is actually smaller than it appears on this document, which has been enlarged. If you find a plant that appears to be an exotic aquatic plant, please follow these directions. Cut a two inch piece of the plant; pat it dry; wrap it in a damp paper towel; seal it in a plastic bag; note the location of the plant; deliver the sample to Howard and Molly Roth.

We will mail the sample to the appropriate location and will only report positive identification of **exotic** aquatic species to our board president, Eric Shafer.

Thank you,

Howard and Molly Roth
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