



Summer 2021 Newsletter

Watercraft Parade



A windy and warm July 4th welcomed the many boats to ELRA's annual Watercraft Parade. The event was a great opportunity to see your neighbors, from the shore or the water.

Special thanks to Wayne Gapsiewicz for leading us around the lakes again this year. Thanks to the music man we were again treated to patriotic trumpet tunes throughout the parade. A special surprise was the candy drop from the river bridge to the kids in the boats. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the fun.

Annual Meeting

As required by the association By-laws, we will be holding our Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 14 at the Emily City Hall. Start time is 9:00 am. Registration starts at 8:30 am, with coffee, juice, and snacks for you while you wait for the meeting to begin. The agenda will be published on our website and via email at least two weeks prior to meeting.

One of the more important functions performed at the annual meeting is the election of board members. This year we have three board members whose terms are expiring. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact any board member to express your interest and have your name added to the ballot.

Our By-laws state we must have a quorum of member properties (10%) present to conduct the meeting. Please plan to attend in person or send in a signed proxy. The proxy form and instructions can be obtained from the ELRA website.

Event Calendar

ELRA Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 14, 9:00 am at Emily City Hall. *We need a quorum of members present to conduct ELRA business. Please save the date and plan to attend.*

ELRA Board Meetings

Thursday, July 15
Thursday, September 16

Membership Dues

If you have not done so, please renew your membership or join ELRA. Our dues are just \$50 per property; same as it has been for the past few years. Any additional donation you wish to make goes to help ELRA fulfill our mission.

There are two ways to join or renew your membership – by sending your form and check to ELRA, P.O. Box 111, Emily, MN 56447 or by using our website.

Aquatic Plants in our Lakes and River

As we experience lower levels of rainfall this year, we are seeing rapid growth of aquatic vegetation along our shorelines. As a property owner this can be a hindrance to our view, water quality and sporting activity. The increased presence of the aquatic vegetation is because the water warmed much quicker this season and lower water levels provided more direct sunlight to the vegetation. It is good to know that the plants growing more quickly are most likely our natural species. The faster growth is not a sign that we have faster growing invasive species.

While the appearance of aquatic vegetation is not what we want, it is important because it helps to increase the level of oxygen in the water and helps maintain a healthy habitat for fish and waterfowl. If the vegetation is a nuisance, there is a process that property owners can take to have some aquatic vegetation treated. The DNR has information about removing aquatic vegetation at the following webpage.

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/apm/aquatic-plant-types.html>

You can also contact PLM Lake Management, the company ELRA uses to treat milfoil. They can give you information about options they offer. Their website is <https://www.plmcorp.net/>.

Please note that ELRA is not recommending PLM, just mentioning them as a resource. There are other companies you can research and contact. The scope of services provided to you will not have any impact on the approach that ELRA uses. We will continue to develop and implement strategies to control and reduce invasive species.

2021 Activity Recap

Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM)

PLM, the vendor we selected to survey and treat EWM in our lakes is in the process of doing the lake surveys. We expect to receive the survey results soon and will share them with you via email and at the annual meeting. Since plant growth in the lakes has been worse this year due to the warm weather, we are anxious to see the results so we can plan our next steps.

As previously reported, the funds we have for treating EWM have increased our budget due to grants we have secured from the DNR, Crow Wing County and the City of Emily. Also, some members have donated additional funds for treatment purposes. These additional funds allow ELRA to treat as much EWM as possible.

State rules specify that before ELRA can treat the lakes, we must publish a notice of intent to treat EWM. We published that notice (see below) in the Northland Press, on our website and in this and other newsletters.

Water Testing

Monthly water testing for clarity and nutrient levels started in May and will continue until in the fall. Thanks to Randy Manlick for doing this each month. Veliger testing will be done in July in coordination with Crow Wing County. Results of this testing will be reported to our membership once the results are known.

Fish Stocking

ELRA is preparing to stock walleye fingerlings in Mary Lake again this year. This will be done in the fall and is being coordinated by Doug Tarasar. Thanks to those members who donated additional funds for fish stocking.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Emily Lakes and Rivers Association
P.O. Box 111
Emily, MN 56447

The Emily Lakes and Rivers Association has contracted to treat Eurasian Water Milfoil, an Aquatic Invasive Species in Emily Lake and Mary Lake, and if necessary, in the Little Pine River between Emily and Mary Lakes in 2021.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has granted to the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association a waiver of the requirement that the association obtain the signatures of approval of owners of lake-shore property. Instead, the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association will notify property owners of the treatment through alternate forms. This notice is one form that the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association is using to notify property owners. Other forms include but not limited to notification through the association's web page, member newsletter and annual meeting.

With regard to the treatment for this year, 2021:

The proposed date for treatment: June 1, 2021, through October 31, 2021.

The target species for the treatment: Eurasian Water Milfoil.

The method of control or product being used: EPA and MDA registered aquatic herbicides, such as but not limited to Liquid 2,4-D, Granular 2,4-D, Granular Triclopyr, Florpyrauxifen-Benzyl.

How landowners may request that control not occur adjacent to the landowner's property:

If you desire that the treatment of Eurasian Water Milfoil not occur adjacent to your property, please notify the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association immediately at the following address and email address below:

P.O. Box 111
Emily, MN 56447
elra@emilylakes.org

Emily Lakes And River Association | PO Box 111, Emily, MN 56447