

## Spring 2015 Water Quality Report

As of May 15, 2015 both **Princeton Hydro (PH)** and **Aquatic Technologies (AT)** have surveyed the lake. PH observed from 5 shoreline locations around the lake and AT from on the lake. Both report the lake to be in excellent condition. This is what we would normally expect this early in the season.

We may see more filamentous algae throughout the lake as a result of the late winter thaw. Very high densities have already been observed in the lagoon and in some areas of the lake. Treatment of this algae will occur sometime in the next few weeks.

The late thaw will also have the affect of pushing off the growth of most rooted vegetation to later into the season. However, the Naiad and the Milfoil are both active cold water species. Although Milfoil has not been reported in shallow areas of the lake as yet, the Naiad, Curly Leaf and Bladderwort weeds have. Both the Naiad and Curley Leaf did reach nuisance levels last season and were treated accordingly. Although the contact treatment method was effective in the areas that were treated, we were only allowed to treat 1/3 of the lake at a time per regulations (and common sense) to prevent a fall out of excessive nutrients into the lake (from the rapidly decomposing plant matter) that could cause an algae bloom and a dangerous reduction of dissolved oxygen. As a result, the weeds did flourish in the remainder of the lake. As the Naiad was allowed to increase in densities over the past 3 years, for every year that the Naiad released their seeds into the lake, those seeds are effective for up to the following 3 more years. This gives the plant increased resistance to effective control. This species has been very problematic in lakes throughout our region and is becoming more, and more difficult to control.

One of the recommendations that Princeton Hydro made was that we designate an area of the lake where we would let the weeds flourish. Since the lake is completely surrounded by homes and the lake itself is completely utilized for boating, fishing and swimming as well as its overall necessity to be aesthetically pleasing and healthy; picking any area(s) for this purpose becomes very problematic. The shallow depth of the lake is another difficult part of the equation. The challenge again is to maintain some sort of balance of an acceptable weed density throughout the lake that is beneficial and yet not become a nuisance or detriment.

As a result of what we have experienced in the lake over the past 3 years, it was recommended and decided to use Sonar for this season. This systemic herbicide will effectively control (not eradicate) the Curley Leaf and keep the Milfoil in check throughout the lake and lagoon areas. We have also experienced very good control of the Naiad with Sonar in the past as well, although as I have stated before, this species is getting harder to control overall in higher densities. The plan is to return to the contact herbicide method in the following 2 years and then Sonar in the third year. This hybrid approach has been used in similar lakes in our area. However, it is prudent to reassess the dynamics of the conditions each season and make the best decision accordingly.

It was also reported that a significant amount of bass and sunfish activity was observed around the lake. Overall, the fishing is reported to be very good with a marked increase in the size of the fish. More and larger Perch have also been reported. The stocking of fat head minnows continues to be an excellent practice for the fish in Cedar Lake.

Respectfully submitted,

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Water Quality Chairman  
BOD CLPO, Inc.