

## News from the Boat!

Beaver Creek Researcher Anna Mares (formerly Anna Brady) is out surveying lakes in Barron and Rusk Counties for six aquatic invasive species. Anna has been in the field for three weeks and is joined by volunteer Ted Ludwig, Service Learning student Philip Rynish of UWEC and assistant Zoe Hastings of Macalester College. Currently the team is monitoring their way through the Chetek chain of lakes.

We checked in with Anna to see how things are going in the field. Despite recent rain, she is pleased to announce that the team is right on schedule. They've surveyed the Fireside Lakes (Mud and Rice), Dairyland Reservoir, Grass Lake, Chetek Lake, Ten Mile Lake, Ladysmith Flowage and Potato Lake.

In the lakes surveyed, curly-leaf pondweed was found in Fireside Lake, Potato Lake, Sand Lake, Chetek Lake and Ten Mile Lake. Curly-leaf pondweed provides very little food for other aquatic life and crowds out native plants. Banded mystery snails and Asian mystery snails were found in Chetek Lake and Ten Mile Lake. Both of these snails are native to southern Asia and were discovered in Wisconsin waters in the early 1900's. Both snails absorb toxins into their bodies and are poisonous if ingested.

The team is looking forward to surveying more of the northern lakes in Rusk and Barron Counties in the upcoming weeks. We will be checking in with Anna again soon to see how things are progressing!

--Mike Kortness and Sarah Braun

You're receiving this newsletter because you are either a volunteer for the Clean Boats, Clean Waters Project; a volunteer for the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Monitoring Project; or a landowner / resident of one of the listed lakes. This newsletter, produced biweekly by Beaver Creek Reserve Citizen Science Center, is designed to keep you updated throughout the summer about these projects, whether as a volunteer or an interested party.



Anna Mares and Jodi Swanson look for Eurasian watermilfoil on Lake Wissota. 5 May 2009

## Lake Spotlight

### ~Lake Wissota~

This week's Lake Spotlight shines on Lake Wissota in Chippewa County. The Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association (LWIPA) is tackling aquatic invasive species with a vengeance through volunteerism, research, and collaboration. The LWIPA recruits volunteers to educate boaters about aquatic invasive species through the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program, has received several DNR grants to conduct rapid response treatments of Eurasian watermilfoil, is developing an aquatic plant management plan for their lake, and recently worked with Beaver Creek Reserve to create a shoreline restoration brochure specific to their lake and plant community types. The LWIPA has many other projects as well! Check out their website: [www.lwipa.org](http://www.lwipa.org) to generate ideas for your lake organization!

## Announcements

Watercraft inspections are a great way for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts to fulfill service projects! Scouts can volunteer with one of the Beaver Creek Reserve Watercraft Inspectors or on their own and we can work with you to set up a project that meets your service needs. Contact us if you'd like to set a program up with your scout or scout group!

## Volunteer Needs

We are in need of volunteers to assist with Watercraft Inspections on lakes in St. Croix, Dunn, Eau Claire, Chippewa, Rusk, and Barron Counties every day this summer! You can volunteer with one of our trained watercraft inspectors for these counties to learn the ropes and volunteer alone or with a friend! Call Sarah at 715-877-2212 for more information.

### Contact Information:

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