

News from the Boat!

A lot has happened since we last checked in with Anna and her team out on the lakes. When we called her this week, she mentioned that the team's main focus has been preparing zebra mussel and spiny waterflea samples to send to the DNR lab and collecting rusty crayfish samples. Unfortunately, a few equipment mishaps prevented the team from working at their usual fast pace. The net they were using to collect zebra mussel and spiny waterflea samples ripped apart after one too many encounters with the disinfecting bleach solution and a new one was ordered. Then, one of the tires on the boat trailer popped and was taken in for repair.

Despite all of the drama, however, the team is in excellent spirits! Volunteers Judy Schwarzmeier, Jenny Pomeroy, Bill Hastings, Ted Ludwig, and Bob and Dorsey Moe all spent time assisting with the aquatic invasive species sampling. Rusty crayfish were found on two lakes, Ladysmith Flowage and Thornapple Flowage, but both lakes were already known to have rusty's, so they were not new discoveries to anyone.

In the coming two weeks, the Aquatic Invasive Species team will be sampling the Chetek Chain of Lakes, Red Cedar Lake, and Hemlock Lake. They have several volunteers lined up to assist and if you're interested in helping, be sure to give the Citizen Science Center a call so we can get you on board the boat!

--Sarah Braun and Mike Kortness

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.



Students learn about aquatic invasive species and how to practice Clean Boats, Clean Waters techniques.

Lake Spotlight

~Bass Lake~

This week's Lake Spotlight shines on Bass Lake in St. Croix County. Bass Lake is a 370 acre lake with a maximum depth of approx. 35 feet. The Bass Lake District recently hosted their first Clean Boats, Clean Waters workshop with Beaver Creek Reserve at the St. Joseph Town Hall. Three new watercraft inspectors were trained and will begin to pave the way toward developing a more visible Clean Boats, Clean Waters presence on the lake. Participants in the workshop expressed concern over the potential for zebra mussels to infest the lake, given their close proximity to the already infested St. Croix river and nearby Minnesota lakes. The Bass Lake District also recently completed an Aquatic Plant Management Plan for their lake.

Announcements

The Citizen Science Center will host TWO potluck picnics this summer to recognize the lake groups and volunteers that have assisted us with Clean Boats, Clean Waters and watercraft inspections this summer. The dates of the picnics are Wed. Aug. 12th and Thurs. Aug. 13th. More details about when and where will follow later this week! Watch for your invitation in your email or mailbox!

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.

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