



LYLPS Work Plan 2024

October 2023

Overview

LYLPS plans to continue to grow and expand activities based on the positive momentum from the past several years. These activities are guided by and in the context of the overall lake management plan. Primary activities will consist of:

- **Monitoring**
 - Monitor the lake through CSLAP
 - Expand the monitoring by developing a macrophyte monitoring program with Soil and Water (SWCD)
 - Develop a HABs monitoring program
- **Prevention**
 - Continuing support, through C-OFOKLA, of the boat steward program, CCStoptheInvasion.org and including support of the boat decontamination station.
 - Provide content for public outreach, both directly and through C-OFOKLA.
- **Treatments**
 - Assess and explore control strategies for localized VLM infestations
 - Treat starry stonewort, pondweed, and nuisance natives through weed harvesting
- **Management**
 - Continue support of septic education program
 - Refine working relationship between LYLPS and LYLPRD
- **Organizational**
 - Continue to build community
 - Maintain the lake management plan
 - Expand plans for building a “dredging” fund including conducting additional fundraisers

The following paragraphs provide details on each of the above activities as well as a proposed budget for implementation.

Monitoring

LYLPS will participate for its 15th year in CSLAP testing. This data supports long term lake management planning.

Additionally, LYLPS will develop a macrophyte monitoring program in conjunction with SWCD to build on the macrophyte mapping project delivered in 2020. This will help us monitor the spread of aquatic invasive species through the lake.

We will work to establish a HABs monitoring and notification system.

Prevention

LYLPS previously worked with SWCD to win a grant to support building a boat steward program for Cortland County: CC Stop the Invasion. We will continue to provide support to the program including online and program outreach through C-OFOKLA.

We will also provide content and support for the public outreach and education programs provided by C-OFOKLA.

Treatment

We appear to have successfully reduced the variable leaf milfoil population to a small handful of colonies. We were forced to cancel last year's planned treatment because the plant simply wasn't there. In our fall survey we identified some colonies that we will need to monitor and potentially address with alternative approaches.

In the meantime, various native plants have replaced the VLM and we need to explore treatment options and approaches.

- Monitor and manage identified VLM colonies. .
- As natives have re-taken control of many areas of the lake, we need to evaluate which tools to employ to manage the "nuisance" portion of their growth:
 - Explore re-deploying lake bottom blankets
 - Mechanical harvesting
 - Hand harvesting

These same approaches may be used on VLM.

Management

We will provide ongoing support for the county's septic education program to encourage lake homeowners to effectively maintain their systems.

We are participating in the Tioughnioga River LWRP Update project led by Thoma. As the plan reaches conclusion, we will pivot to working to fund initial implementation steps. Unfortunately its completion has been held up by a Department of State review.

Organization

In order to support our ongoing management efforts, it is important to have a vital community, including an active board. We will continue our community building efforts by:

- Recruit new board members and volunteers, particularly for the CSLAP and macrophyte programs
- Conduct two meetings
- Hold our Independence Day boat parade

- Host our annual fall picnic
- Promote various social events during the summer
- Support ongoing efforts to implement the lake special district

We will retain limnology resources to audit and comment on our lake management plan to ensure we continue to implement best management practices.

We will build on our successful 30-day raffle by exploring expanded fund-raising opportunities focusing on the broader community of lake stakeholders.

Proposed Budget

Below is the proposed budget for 2024. This is based on our 45 years of experience in treating the lake and our prior expenditures: