

The Voice of Squash Lake



Volume 11, Issue 4

October, November, December 2019

Mission Statement

The Squash Lake Association's mission is to preserve and protect Squash Lake and its surrounding ecosystems, and also to enhance the water quality, the fishery, the wild natural habitats, of Squash Lake, as a public recreational facility for today and for future generations.

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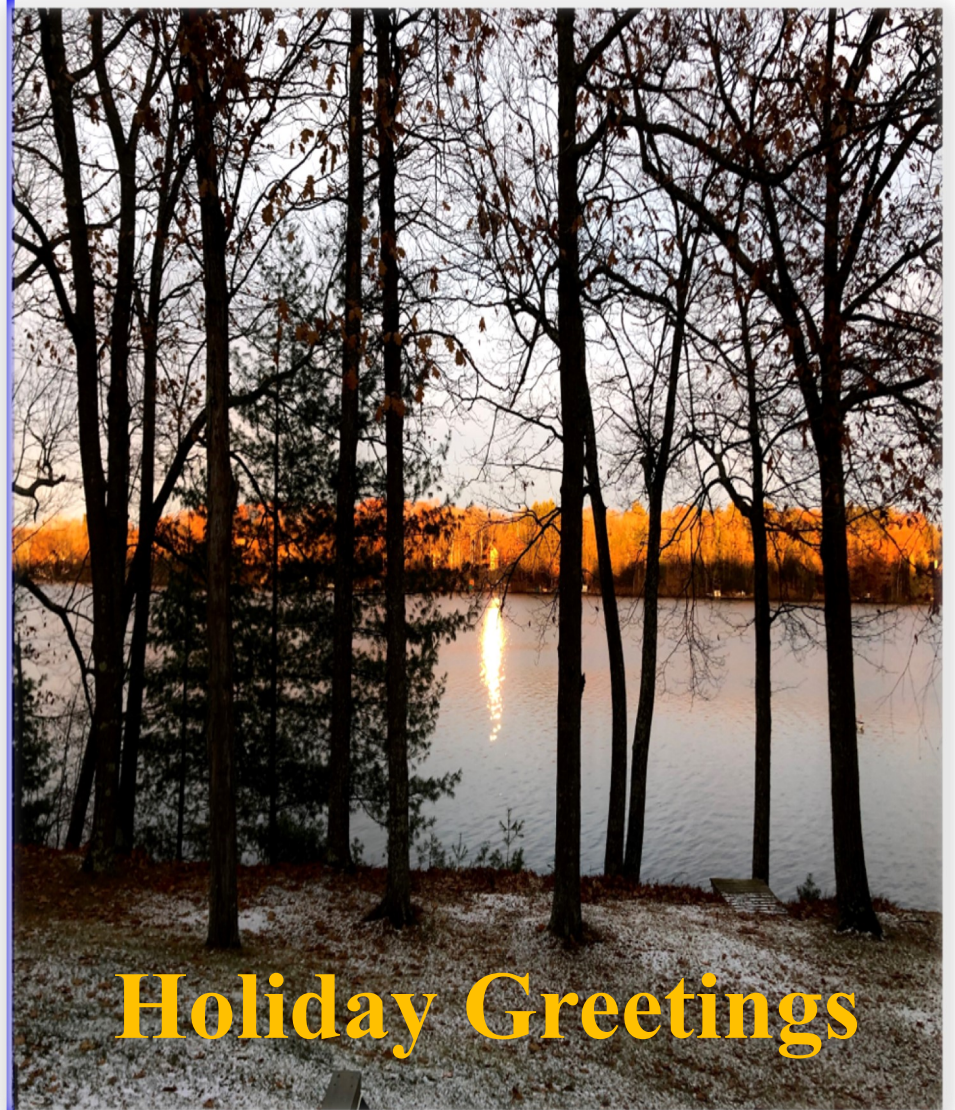
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The newsletter is published on the 1st of the month. Please submit your articles, pictures & submissions to:

Linda Tennesen
russ.linda.tennesen@gmail.com

**Next newsletter deadline is
May 23, 2020**

*There will not be a March Newsletter
since I will be away*



Holiday Greetings

The Squash Lake Association proudly participates in the Wisconsin DNR and the UWEX Lakes, Clean Boats Clean Waters Program.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Kathy Tournour

Greetings, Friends and Neighbors.

The approaching holiday season is the perfect time to reflect on the successes of the past year and look forward to the future. In doing so, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the board members, volunteers, and SLA members who contributed their time and talents and made 2019 another great year on Squash Lake.

I would like to take a moment to recognize and thank everyone who volunteered with the SLA this year. A special thanks goes to the milfoil monitors, who looked for invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil along the shore, and the boat landing volunteers who monitored boats entering and leaving the lake and educated boaters. Both teams of volunteers played an integral role in the work done to control EWM. Additionally, I greatly appreciate the hard work of our board members, whose passion for Squash Lake shows in their dedication to attending meetings, coordinating education opportunities, and improving fisheries. I would also like to thank Bill Akan, our boat landing volunteer coordinator, and Linda Tennessee, the editor of the SLA newsletter, who are both invaluable volunteers. Finally, I want to thank all the members of the SLA. Your contribution shows your love for and dedication to Squash Lake.

As the weather turns cold, I am looking forward to winter on Squash Lake. The 2020 Farmer's Almanac is predicting a "polar coaster" promising "another winter ride, full of thrills and chills." I'm not sure how accurate the Farmer's Almanac is but a polar coaster sounds a bit exciting (as long as I don't have to drive in one!). I wish everyone a safe and happy winter.

Kathy Tournour
SLA President
920-912-3883



*If you have something to sell
or give away, or are looking
for something, this is the place
to post it.*

Just send an email with pictures to: russ.linda.tennessee@gmail.com.

Squash Lake Association Membership Form

Thank you for your generous donation and support.
The Squash Lake Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

(Your donation is tax deductible)

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Lake Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone# _____

We will email you a receipt.

I would like to help with (circle your choice): boat inspections, EWM monitoring, mailings, or ?

Instead, I would like to contribute towards hiring an inspector (\$12/hr. increments, please use "Landing Inspector" below)

\$ _____ Yearly Membership (limit 2 per property) \$25.00 Dues are for January 1– December 31

\$ _____ CBCW & Landing Inspector

\$ _____ Educational Programs

\$ _____ Other _____

\$ _____ **Total** (Check # _____)

Mail to: Marj Mehring, Squash Lake Association
Treasurer
PO Box 511
Rhineland, WI 54501

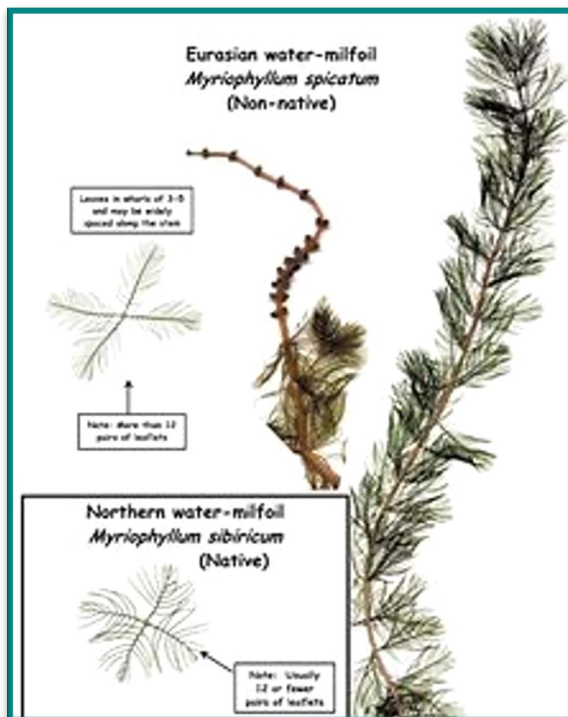
Lake District News – 2019 EWM Control Update

by Dan Butkus-District Treasurer

Overall, the hand harvesting program was successful again in 2019. While some area lakes again experienced moderate to heavy EWM growth, Squash Lake experienced static conditions. Of the 8 priority areas identified by Onterra for 2019, seven areas showed a decrease in EWM population density as measured by data from the Early Season AIS Survey in June and the Peak Biomass Survey in September. One area showed no significant change. However, the divers did revisit this area after the fall survey to clear the area. The goal for the DNR grants is to demonstrate maintaining or decreasing EWM population densities in the priority areas. Therefore, this year's efforts were considered successful.

Below are the statistics on this year's removal of EWM.

	2019	2018	2017
Dive Season	June 10 to September 10	June 20 to September 14	June 8 to September 22
Diving Days	34 days	31 days	42 days
Diving Hours	461 hrs	425 hrs	535 hrs
Pounds EWM Collected	694 lbs	745.5 lbs	1585 lbs



2019 Priority Locations	Pounds EWM Collected
A-19	29
B-19	31
C-19	10
D-19	188
E-19	6
F-19	16
G-19	95
H-19	85



SLA Board Members

Officers:

President: Kathy Tournour
 ktournour@gmail.com
Vice President: Craig Zarley
 Craig.zarley@gmail.com
Secretary: Dale Smith
 dws2621@gmail.com
Treasurer: Marj Mehring
 dm.mehring@gmail.com

At-Large Members:

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Greg Nevinski
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Russ Tennesen
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Jacquelyn Whitney
 Jacqlyn302@gmail.com



Squash Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District
www.Squashlakedistrict.com

District Meeting Notice

January 12, 2020
1:00 PM
Crescent Town Hall

Squash Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Officers

Tom Johansen, President
 tomandmegjohansen@gmail.com

Dan Butkus, Treasurer
 dan.butkus@yahoo.com

Jerod Bennet, Secretary
 jerod@alterrahomes.com

Bob Mott
 bobmott329@msn.com

Steve Richardson
 steve@shakyacres.com



SQUASH LAKE, A PLACE TO COME HOME TO

Newly Discovered Native Plants

by Dan Butkus-District Treasurer

During the Point Intercept Survey this fall, Onterra LLC noted three native plants that have not been recorded previously in our lake. Two are listed as native aquatic plants of Special Concern in the State of Wisconsin, and the third, though not listed as Special Concern, Threatened, or Endangered, is rare in Wisconsin. The designation of special concern means that there may not be enough information on the plant or its habitat, but it is suspected of being at risk. Placing a plant on the list of special concern means that more monitoring and data needs to be collected before making any determination on whether it should be listed as threatened, or endangered. Reports of plants of special concern get uploaded to the National Heritage list of recorded observations.

Vasey's Pondweed, having special concern status in Wisconsin, has been known to exist in Squash Lake since the first Point Intercept survey performed in 2009. There are approximately 25 known locations of this species spread out around the lakeshore. In 2019, two more aquatic plants of special concern were identified and reported to the DNR. Robbin's Spikerush and Thread-like Naiad (aka Northern Naiad) were discovered in the far southeast end of Squash Lake's longest arm. As plants of special concern, the DNR recommends that intentional removal of these plants, use of herbicides near these plants, and disturbing the plants' habitat be avoided. While these activities are not prohibited, should these plants move to the threatened or endangered lists, these activities would be prohibited. A third aquatic plant, Alpine Pondweed, was also discovered in the far Northwest end of the lake. Only two plants were documented. This plant is not on any conservation list, but it is rare for our region. It occurs across the Northern Hemisphere, but in many areas of the world, it is considered endangered. Not enough information is available for this species to make a determination in Wisconsin. However, New Jersey lists it as endangered, and both New Hampshire and New York list it as threatened. All four plants appear to prefer large, deep to very deep lakes with soft to very soft water. All four plants require sandy substrate and silt for root development. Vasey's Pondweed and Robbin's Spikerush have a high sensitivity to water quality, and Alpine Pondweed is suspected to be sensitive to water quality. One of the Naiad plants was discovered rooted in 22 feet of water, though it was generally found in shallow water.

Newly Discovered Native Plants (continued)

Squash Lake has a very high Floristic Quality Index (FQI) for aquatic plants. This is based on a weighted formula for the species identified in a lake and their coefficient of conservatism. The addition of the newly discovered plants will certainly increase the lake's FQI. Additionally, Squash Lake has a high Simpsons Diversity Index. The likelihood that two random samples of plants would be different species is around 90%. Once again, Squash Lake proves to be a special place for native aquatic plants.

Schedule of Events

Squash Lake Association Board Meetings

March 14, 2020	10:30 AM
May 16, 2020	9:00 AM
July 18, 2020	ANNUAL MEMBER'S MEETING
August 15, 2020	9:00 AM

*The meetings are held at the Crescent Town Hall.
Everyone is welcome to attend.
The annual meeting location & time will be
determined at a later date.*

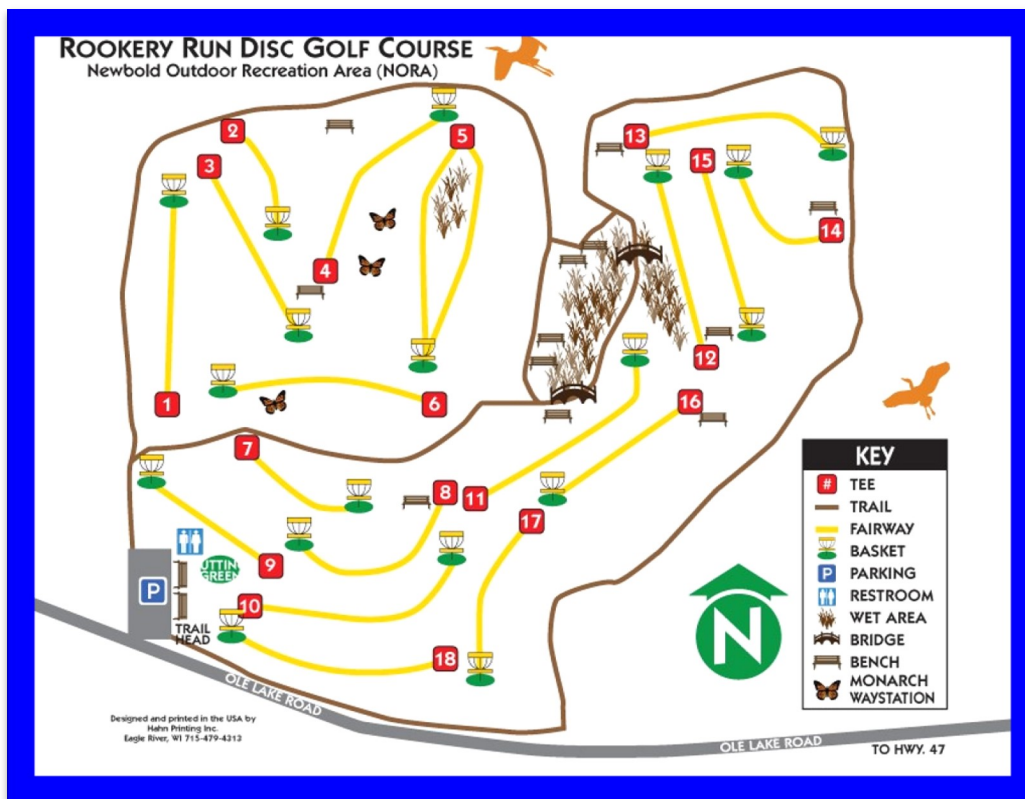


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*In Case You Haven't
Been There Yet...Rookery Run*
By Linda Tennesen

Next year, put this on your calendar for an outing.... Even if you've never played, get yourself some discs and head out to see the course. I had never played but we had a great time with lots of laughs. If nothing else, walk around and enjoy the scenery or go bird watching. You may see some herons flying to the nearby heron rookery (which is where the name was taken from). It was beautiful in the fall or you can also enjoy it this winter since the 1.25 mile trail is also open for snowshoeing.



The land where the Rookery Run Disc Golf Course is, was once the town dump. After laying in remediation for over 30 years, and after nearly four years of hard work, \$42,000 in fundraising, and thousands of volunteer hours, it now has a new use.



The course consists of 18 holes, with a hiking and walking trail encircling the course. There are three monarch waystations located on the course in an effort to protect the milkweed habitats. The patches are part of the nationally recognized Monarch Watch program.



Rookery Run is located on Ole Lake Road, about seven miles from north of Rhinelander left off Hwy 47. The course is three quarters of a mile down the road on the right at the Newbold Outdoor Recreation Area (NORA).

Squash Lake Association News & Events



Visit our Facebook page,

*...Follow it, ...Like it,
...Share your photos*



**The Squash Lake Association is
a Member of :**

*Wisconsin Lakes Association
Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association*



www.squash-lake.myshopify.com

*This is a new website so please
update your records!*

Please visit our website for more up-to-date news and info.

If you think something should be listed on our website,

contact Kathy Tournour at:
ktournour@gmail.com



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\$100 per year—4 quarterly issues

For more information, contact Linda