

**CHIPPEWA TOWNSHIP**  
**Chippewa Lake Weed Control**  
**MEETING**  
**April 26, 2019**

The Chippewa Lake Weed Control meeting was called to order by the Chippewa Township Supervisor, Bryan Roels at 6:30 p.m., in the Chippewa Township Community Building.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ROLL CALL: Present:** Bryan Roels, Julie Austin, Kristin Lytle, & Debbie Zielinski.  
**Absent:** Duane Scott

***Let the record show a quorum of the Chippewa Township Board was present.***

At this time, Bryan Roels, Chippewa Lake Weed Advisory Committee Chair, presented a slide presentation on the 2018 data report of Chippewa Lake. He explained that over 50 samples were tested in 2018, and the lake is in good condition. The Water Clarity, Nutrients, Plants, & Fisheries are all in good range. He reminded everyone that Starry Stonewort is moving into lakes in Mecosta County and we need to continue to monitor closely. On March 21, 2019; new boating laws took effect. You must now Remove all drain plugs from bilges, ballast tanks, and live wells. Draining all water from any live wells and bilges. And Ensure that the watercraft, trailer, and any conveyance used to transport the watercraft or trailer are free of aquatic organisms, including plants. Bryan updated on Public Act 671 which requires the DEQ to establish an inland lake aquatic invasive plant species control and eradication program. The program shall provide grants to eligible applicants for eligible projects to control or eradicate inland lake aquatic invasive plant species using chemical, physical, or biological methods, or a combination of these methods. A grant may include funding for costs associated with preparation of a vegetation management plan, required monitoring, and any necessary permit fees associated with the eligible project. We will continue keeping a close eye on the progression of PA671 to ensure that we apply for Grant funding as soon as it becomes available.

BreAnna Grabill, from Professional Lake & Land Services gave a short presentation. She explained the Goals of aquatic plant management is to promote a balanced and diverse native plant community, improve fisheries, and maintain property & recreational values. Native plants “typically” do not cause problems and perform important functions; stabilizing sediment, supporting aquatic insects, and maintaining oxygen levels. Although Chippewa Lake looks good after the 2018 treatment year, we still have to treat for Eurasian Water Milfoil, Curley Leaf Pondweed, Algae and closely monitor for Starry Stonewort. There is a new (Approved July 2018) chemical on the market for fighting against non-native weeds, ProcellaCOR. At this time, it is not financially feasible to treat large inland lakes with this because it is expensive and it only works in water 5 feet or less. BreAnna explained that none of the chemicals that PLM uses require lake restrictions. The DEQ requires the 24 swimming restrictions after

treatment for a couple of reasons; to keep people out of the way of applicators and because some chemicals work best when undisturbed for hours after treatment. For the most updated postings, please check the township website at [www.chippewatwp.org](http://www.chippewatwp.org) under the weed tab or call the Chippewa Township offices. At this time, BreAnna turned to meeting over to public questions. The following questions were asked:

1) Can you post the lake without putting multiple staples in my trees?

*If you provide PLM with your address, we will try to not use staples. Staples are used because it is the best method to keep the posting intact and visible. There are rules and regulations to posting that PLM must follow,*

2) Can cottage/home owners report if they find Starry Stonewort?

*Absolutely! If you notice a suspicious weed, please contact Bryan Roels or one of the Chippewa Township Board members at 231-867-3777*

3) In your presentation; it showed the Curly Leaf pondweed was at 45%. Has it taken over the Eurasian Water Milfoil?

*When you kill off the non-native invasive weeds, it is normal for the native weeds to grow better. Our goal isn't to treat the native weeds, but to treat the non-native weeds. It's important to keep a good balance,*

4) Does Wild Celery hit the top of the water:

*Yes, the female portion of Wild Celery will reach the surface, while the male portion will not.*

5) The 'muck' seems to be worse in the channels than in previous years.

*'Muck' builds when plants don't fully decompose. PLM MD Pellets are a natural product that focuses on the reduction of muck and creates an optimal environment for healthy decomposition of organic material. The more active you are in the water; the less muck will be present.*

6) Are Zebra Mussels still a problem?

*Yes, Zebra Mussels usually have a 7-year cycle but don't completely go away. They are currently testing a new chemical for Zebra Mussels, however, because it is new, its not economically feasible on inland lakes.*

7) Algae was worse in 2018.

*Correct. Excess phosphorus, high temperatures, & plant die off all contribute to algae. Chippewa Lake was treated for algae 3 times in 2018 and it will be closely monitored in 2019.*

8) Now that Public Act 671 has taken effect, is it possible to have a boat washing station at the DNR lake access?

*We will continue to monitor PA671 and apply for any grant funding. There are only 4 permanent boat washing stations in Michigan. A mobile washing station maybe possible in the future.*

9) Are there new rules for fish bait?

*Yes, A person shall not release baitfish in any waters of this state. A person who collects fish shall not use the fish as bait or cut bait except in the inland lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught, or in a connecting waterway of the inland lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught if the fish could freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release.*

*A person, who catches fish other than baitfish in a lake, stream, Great Lake, or connecting waterway shall only release the fish in the lake, stream, or Great Lake where*

*the fish was caught, or in a connecting waterway of the lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught if the fish could freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release.*

**BEING no further business or public comment to be brought before the Board; MOTION J.Austin/D.Zielinski to adjourn the April 26, 2019, special meeting of the Chippewa Township Board. MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by:  
Kristin K. Lytle  
Chippewa Township Clerk