

DATE

Little St. Germain Lake Property Owner
St. Germain, Wisconsin 54558

Re: Proposed Herbicide Treatment for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), Little St. Germain Lake, Vilas County, Wisconsin

Dear Little St. Germain Lake Property Owner or Occupant:

The Little St. Germain P & R District (LSGPRD), with support from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (the WDNR) and Stantec, Inc., will be chemically treating areas of Eurasian water-milfoil (EWM) and curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) in Little St. Germain Lake. Areas to be treated include up to 32 acres of EWM.

EWM is a submergent (growing underwater to water surface) aquatic plant native to Europe, Asia and northern Africa. Aquatic biologists know this plant as, *Myriophyllum spicatum*, a cousin to the native northern water-milfoil. Most submergent aquatic plants are beneficial to the health of a lake providing food and habitat for many animals using the lake including fish, frogs, and insects. EWM, however, is an exotic (not native to the region) plant with aggressive growth habits that can grow to nuisance levels and cause problems for navigation and recreation.

Aquatic plants are extremely important to the health of a lake like Little St. Germain Lake. Non-invasive aquatic plants, such as small pondweed and water lilies, are desirable and contribute to the overall health of the lake. Aquatic plants also improve water quality by protecting shorelines and the lake bottom and improving water quality. Killing exotic aquatic plants may increase the nutrients available for algal growth; consequently, a proper balance of aquatic plants must be maintained to ensure lake health. However with an early season herbicide application and plant growth having little biomass, internal loading due to the treatment is greatly minimized.

A copy of the permit application is included and details the location of proposed treatment areas. Proposed treatment areas were identified based upon the presence of nuisance levels of EWM and/or CLP during a recent survey of the lake. Only those areas that are designated in the permit application will be treated with the final determination of where treatment may occur to be made by the on-site WDNR supervisor.

The proposed treatment is likely going to take place in late May depending on water temperatures and is designed to target EWM. The area to be treated near your property will be selectively treated to help reduce a nuisance population of EWM in an effort to help restore native aquatic plant populations in Little St. Germain Lake. On the day of treatment a bright yellow sign will be placed on each dock or shoreline within 200' of any of the affected treatment areas. **Areas of EWM will be treated with *Sculpin G*[®]. Please read the yellow treatment sign carefully for any restrictions.**

***Sculpin G*[®] (granular 2,4-D) Treatment Areas for EWM:**

Lake users are able to use the treated water for any recreation activities (boating, swimming, fishing, etc) without restriction immediately after treatment, but should refrain from agricultural and ornamental

irrigation uses for 21 days after treatment, or until an approved assay indicates the 2,4-D concentration is 100 ppb (0.1 ppm) or less.

A public notice regarding the treatment was published prior to treatment in the legal section of the Vilas County News - Review. LSGPRD will hold a public informational meeting on the proposed treatments if five or more individuals, organizations, special units of government, or local units of government request one in writing. The person or entity requesting the meeting shall state a specific agenda of topics including problems and alternatives to be discussed. The request for the public informational meeting must be sent in writing to: Little St. Germain P & R District, 7651 Pietz Lane, St. Germain, WI 54558 and to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 107 Sutliff Avenue, Rhinelander, WI 54501 within five days after the public notice is published.

If you have questions regarding the treatment please contact Mark Kordus at Stantec (715) 344-9480 or to request a current copy of the manufacturers' label for the herbicide to used for this treatment. Neither LSGPRD nor the applicator can answer specific questions about herbicide use and possible effects other than what is represented on the approved label. The Department of Trade Agriculture and Consumer Protection (DATCP) regulates and register herbicide for use in the State of Wisconsin, and the U.S. EPA registers all products for use within the U.S. and answers to many questions can found at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/about/index.htm>.

Sincerely,

Little St. Germain Protection & Rehabilitation District