

LILLY LAKE NEWS

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Advantages of Shoreline Vegetation

- ◆ Reduces shoreline erosion
- ◆ Provides habitat for wildlife and fish
- ◆ Helps filter pollutants washing off yards
- ◆ Provides a natural look

Bullrush

- ◆ Native species
- ◆ Grows in shallow water



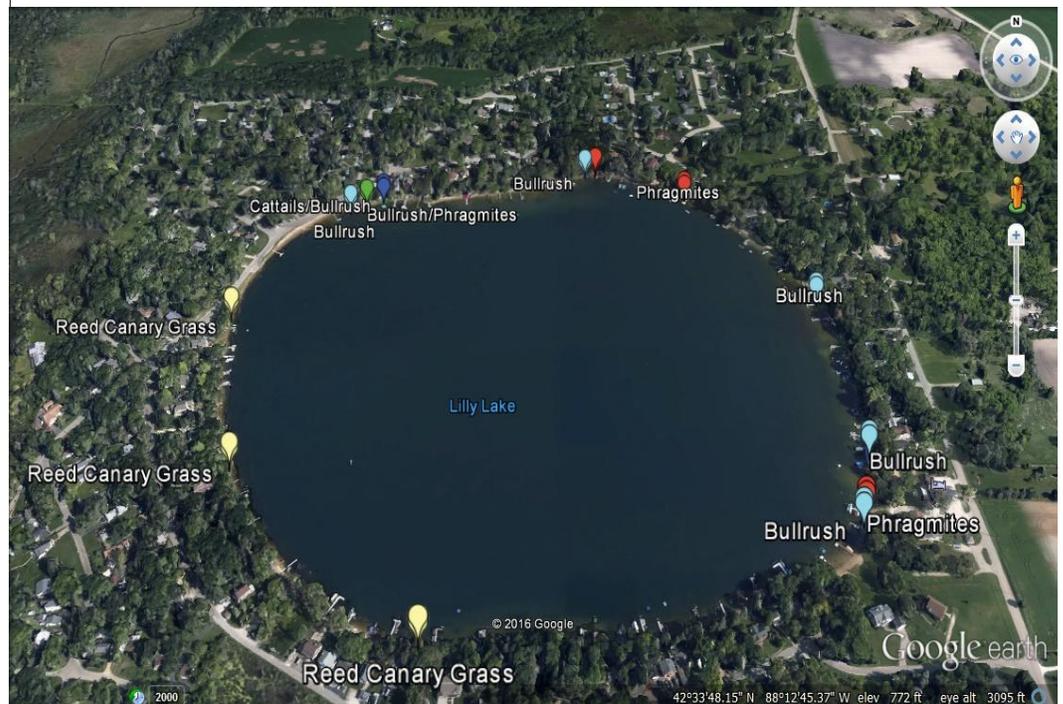
SHORELINE VEGETATION SURVEY

At the August 2014 Lilly Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District meeting, the issue of invasive shoreline vegetation was discussed. Concern was expressed that some of the plants growing around the lake may need to be controlled, particularly if they were highly invasive species like cattails.

Mark Mullins and Mike Adam conducted a shoreline assessment by boat shortly thereafter. The result of the survey can be seen in the map below, which can also be accessed online: https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=zZbfIXXh4_xw.k-z8XJ1Eh-G8

Many of the stands of vegetation consisted of native bullrushes (blue on the map). This plant is good for the lake as many small fish and insects (like dragonfly larvae) will use the plant for protection from predators. It can also help reduce wave energy before it meets the shoreline, thus reducing shoreline erosion.

Cattails were found at only a few locations. They are also native but can become a problem as they can grow aggressively. At the time of the survey, the sites where cattails were found did not appear to be a problem; however, continued monitoring should be done occasionally. Similar to bullrushes, cattails can provide good habitat for fish and insects.



SHORELINE VEGETATION SURVEY, CONTINUED

Two non-native invasive species were found: Reed Canary Grass (yellow on the map) and Phragmites (red on the map), also known as Giant Reed. Both plants were not found in large numbers, but the populations should be closely monitored as both can be aggressive. At many of the locations, the plant stands were only a few feet wide.

Overall, the shoreline of Lilly Lake is in good shape. Another survey should be conducted in 2016 to determine if any of these plants have spread.

DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Survey of Lilly Lake

On June 18th, 2015 an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Early Detection Survey was performed on Lilly Lake, Kenosha County by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Sites were randomly selected for an underwater survey. These points were selected due to higher traffic and more susceptible for invasive species to be present. The findings at these sites included Eurasian Watermilfoil and the Banded Mystery Snail (this is the snail that washes up on the shoreline).

One water tow was also performed to look for spiny water flea. First observations show no signs of the water flea to be present. Also, one tow was performed to look for veligers, zebra mussel larval stage. The samples were sent to Madison for testing. No adult zebra mussels were found during survey.

For more information about AIS in Wisconsin, see:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/species.asp?filterBy=Aquatic&filterVal=Y>



Banded Mystery Snail (L) - found in Lilly Lake



Spiny Waterflea (R) - not found in Lilly Lake

Lilly Lake Finally on Facebook!!

Lilly Lake is finally coming into the modern age; check it out on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/LillyLakeSummerhaven/>



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Planning for 2016

Do you have an idea for our community? Want to include something in the newsletter?

Please contact:
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