

Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District

www.cedarmeadow.org

Newsletter - March 2022

Mark your Calendar and Plan Join Us at the

Virtual Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 7:30 pm

Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District **virtually** by Zoom on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 7:30 P.M. A quorum of proprietors is necessary for the Annual Meeting. If you cannot attend the Annual Meeting, please mail in your proxy. A proxy form will be enclosed with the Annual Meeting Warrant that will be sent by mail 3 weeks prior to the meeting date. Zoom information to access the meeting will be sent with the Annual Meeting Warrant.

Refilling the Lake & Water Clarity

The lake remained covered in ice early March, and inches of water continually ran threw the upper channel through the winter. After ice-out, the upper channel will be closed by installing the flash boards when there is low risk for potential shoreline damage. The lower gate valve will be opened to 1/4 to simulate Spring brook conditions.

Last summer, the lake visibility remained fair throughout the summer months in 2021, but significant weed growth was reported by multiple proprietors. ESS Group conducted an abbreviated vegetation survey of Cedar Meadow Lake on June 30th, 2021. ESS discovered that the dense weed beds noted by residents are composed almost entirely of invasive variable-leaf milfoil. Coverage of this species has significantly increased compared to August 2020. The invasive weed fanwort was also observed during the abbreviated vegetation survey, but its growth was primarily concentrated in the two northern coves. Invasive water chestnut was not observed during the survey. ESS Group recommended that a thorough mapping of the lake occur in early June of 2022 so that herbicide application can be initiated early in the growing season. A post-treatment mapping event to evaluate the

effectiveness of the treatment would be also recommended. The recommended treatment plan will be discussed at the Annual Meeting.

Although invasive species can be treated chemically, it would be better to strive towards a lake low in excess nutrients to minimize weed grow. To achieve a properly balanced lake, the District urges (1) all Proprietors who use fertilizers to spread the low/no phosphorus fertilizer and (2) to curb any water from storm drainage that could potentially add nutrients to the lake. Furthermore, MA law has stated that fertilizer containing phosphorus can only be used on (1) lawns that show a phosphorus deficiency by a soil test or (2) newly established lawns. Please see the following link for further information: <https://www.mass.gov/plant-nutrient-management>

Removing the Trees Behind the Dam

As approved at the 2021 Annual meeting, the District acquired the ~3 acres land located north of Rawson Street identified as Lot B5 on Leicester Assessors Map 27 and as “Cedar Meadow Pond” on a plan of land recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 461, Plan 103. This land is useful for water quality monitoring and treatment of invasive weeds. The District also acquired the ~0.37 acres of land behind the dam identified as Lot A18 on Leicester Assessors Map 28 and as “Tract ‘A’ ” on a plan of land recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 768, Plan 47. The District is working towards removing the trees behind the dam identified by the Office of Dam Safety. These trees should be removed by the end of the year depending on permitting and weather conditions.

Boating Safety and Respect Reminder

- Please remember, it is illegal to operate a vessel at more than headway speed within **150 feet** of shorelines. Please be mindful of the safety of your fellow proprietors and our neighbors using the beaches.
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- To review the full text of the MA Boater Safety Handbook, go to the District's website, www.cedarmeadow.org, or the MA website at www.boat-ed.com/ma/handbook.
- Please be respectful to any wildlife that also inhabits our beautiful lake and its shores.
- No trespassing signage has been posted at the dam and on the Charles Street gate.
- The Cedar Meadow Skiers were quite active last summer. If you are interested, please contact John Moisan (moisan_j@charter.net) for information on joining the club in 2022.

Your Elected Officials Want to Hear From You

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the lake and/or dam, please contact one of the following elected officials.

Tommy Lee Vice-Chairman Management Committee	508 892-3750 tommyjoelee@gmail.com
Brian Waterman Management Committee	774 272-5654 b63lctr@gmail.com
Rich Carr Management Committee	508 450-8626 rmcarr@aol.com
Michele Cospier District Clerk	508 439-2443 clerk@cedarmeadow.org
Terry O'Coin District Treasurer	508 347-6863 theocoins@charter.net

Looking Forward to Seeing YOU the Annual Meeting!

The Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
