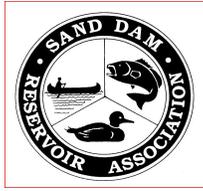


## SDRA NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER, 2021



**Trash Cleanup:** On Saturday, Nov. 13th, a handful of volunteers worked in the areas around the dam to pick up trash, which was plentiful. *Thanks to all who helped!*

**Herbicides Contract:** The final report from Solitude has been received & their recommendations follow.

The 2021 treatment program provided excellent control of the targeted variable milfoil growth. Based on the systemic properties of ProcellaCOR and our treatment experience with this product, we expect multiple years of effective control. Although the conditions observed during the post-treatment survey would suggest that active milfoil control will not be required in 2022, we feel that the SDRA should remain vigilant in their pursuit of sustained long-term control of this invasive plant. With ProcellaCOR herbicide as an available tool, the potential to achieve long-term control or even eradication are higher than ever before. For this reason, we recommend that the Association take the following steps in 2022.

- Prepare and file for a RI DEM permit to apply ProcellaCOR as a contingency.
- Conduct a thorough early season (early to mid June) survey for the presence/absence of variable milfoil.
- In the event that variable milfoil growth is identified, determine if areas can be effectively hand-pulled using the Association's existing equipment and volunteer base or if herbicide treatment should be conducted in some or all locations identified.
- If deemed necessary, perform an area specific treatment with ProcellaCOR to control designated areas of variable milfoil growth. Early identification of variable milfoil growth/regrowth moving forward will be the key to sustained long-term control and maintenance of a balanced native plant assemblage.
- Therefore, at a minimum, annual or more frequent monitoring of the vegetation growth should be performed

### Financial:

- Covid, as we know, has interfered with the running of our Bella's fundraiser for each of the past 2 years. We are hoping to conduct this event in the Spring to help replenish the coffers.
- Voluntary contributions, in any amount, in addition to your dues, are always welcome and can be sent at any time to: **SDRA, PO BOX 284, Chepachet, RI 02814, Attn: Marissa Danville**
- Anyone who has not yet paid their dues (\$100) should do so now, same address as above.

**Save the Lakes** is spearheading an effort to gain legislative attention and financial support for lakes/ponds/reservoirs; and SDRA is working closely with Judy on these efforts. Here are some of the ideas being discussed for potential legislation. Your ideas and comments are welcome and can be sent to me and/or Judy.

- **Establish a Statewide Commission** focused on integrating lake/pond interests with the work of other statewide groups dedicated to the preservation of natural resources, with emphasis on integration with rivers and the state-established watersheds.

- **Establish a funding mechanism to assist lakes in combatting AIS and other harmful occurrences.**
  - Boat fees, both for RI boats and boats using RI waters; (*CT, Maine, VT are examples.*)
  - Motor vehicles tax added, dedicated to DEM for the purposes that would become more precisely defined in the legislation. (*NH, similar to RI with not a large number of people compared to the other New England states, provides a worthy model.*)
  
- **Require that DEM:**
  - develop and implement a plan for monitoring state boat ramps on a regular basis to help halt the transport of invasive species from lake to lake;
  - develop an awareness program to alert the general public, contractors, and stores that sell lawn fertilizers to the harmful effect on all waterways of lawn-treatment chemicals containing phosphorus;
  - Develop rules & procedures by which lake associations or similar groups, along with their potential partners, can apply for and receive funds to help sustain these freshwater bodies (*with some form of matching requirements for applicants to ensure maximum value of the pool of funds established*).

***HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!***