



Lake Soundings

The Gilmore Lake Association Newsletter - Fall 2024



Emily Moore from Moore Lake and Garden LLC presented a workshop for members of Gilmore Lake Association to identify and safely remove invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil from shallow locations.

EWM Report: Training to Help Residents Stop the Spread

By Larry Stokes, GLA Board Member

During the 2024 season, our efforts to manage Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) faced challenges due to lake flooding and reduced water clarity. Unfortunately, this prevented us from using divers or Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) to remove milfoil.

The annual EWM mapping survey, conducted in
...Continued on page 3

Annual Meeting and Boat Parade

The 2025 Gilmore Lake Association Annual Meeting will be held at 10:00am on **July 5** at the Jack Link Aquatic & Activity Center in Minong. Free membership lunch to follow.

This year's Annual Boat Parade will be at 1:00pm on **July 4** (rain date is the following day). The parade theme will be "Born to be Wild."

President's Message

Dear Lake Neighbors,

As the summer season wraps up, I want to express my gratitude for all of the support that you provide to the GLA. Whether through volunteer efforts, financial contributions, attending our annual meeting, or joining the educational session on August 3rd, your involvement makes a difference. The GLA board is dedicated to preserving the pristine quality of our lake, and we need everyone to participate in some way.

The board remains committed to our mission of protecting and improving the waters, shoreline, watershed, fishery, flora, and fauna of Gilmore Lake. This winter, we'll be focusing on securing WDNR grant funds, advocating for effective treatments for invasive species like Eurasian Water Milfoil, and enhancing our website to improve communication about our initiatives.

This newsletter plays a key role in keeping our community informed. Due to the high cost of mailing paper newsletters, we began transitioning to electronic newsletters several years ago. This Fall 2024 issue will be the final paper copy. To stay connected, I encourage everyone to join the GLA and provide us with your email address for future newsletters. You can join or renew your membership by mailing in the completed form (see the back page of this newsletter) with your \$25 dues or renewing online via the QR code on the membership form or this PayPal [link](#).

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to Gilmore Lake.

Fran McCloskey
President

Gilmore Lake Association Board

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Committee Chairs:

ALS/Eurasian Milfoil: Larry Stokes

Membership: Kristi O'Kane

Fundraising: Joan Mellor

Website: Jim Schneider

Newsletter: Dave Walsh
iamdwalsh@gmail.com

Milfoil Fundraising Goal Achieved

By Joan Mellor, GLA Board Member

I'm thrilled to announce that we've reached our fundraising goal for the milfoil project and have earned the matching grant! Thanks to your generous contributions, we now have at least \$20,000 to support our Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) management program. This achievement is a testament to the incredible commitment of our community—thank you to everyone who donated! In addition, the GLA is submitting a two-year grant application in mid-November to the Wisconsin DNR to help fund our EWM management plan.

While this is a fantastic milestone, please remember that these funds will only sustain our efforts for a limited time. By making annual contributions to both our Milfoil Fund and general fund, you'll help us continue our vital work for Gilmore Lake. The GLA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, so your donation is tax deductible.



There are several ways to support the GLA:

- Mail a check
- Use your credit card via this [Donate Link](#) or the QR code below
- Make contributions from Donor Advised Funds
- Donate gifts of appreciated stock
- Arrange a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA (if you're over age 70½)

If you have questions about giving through DAFs, stocks, or IRA distributions, please reach out to our Treasurer, Dick Johnson, at silverwing83@gmail.com.



Thank you for your support!



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Milfoil Report from page 1...

mid-August, indicates that EWM presence in the North Basin remains similar to last year. However, individual plants are beginning to spread into shallow areas elsewhere in the lake. It's crucial for everyone to help by avoiding the milfoil beds as much as possible. While accessing your own docks and shoreline is fine, please stay mindful of nearby EWM beds and try to reduce "prop-chop." To assist with this, GLA will continue posting signs and placing buoys in the North Basin to discourage boat traffic near the larger EWM beds.

In early August, we held an informative education session led by Emily Moore, our lake consultant. She gave an excellent presentation on identifying EWM versus native plants and performed a live demonstration on water plant removal. We've uploaded videos from the session to our new [YouTube channel](#). We hope they will help you safely identify and manage EWM in shallow waters (less than 4 feet) near your shoreline, which can help slow its spread.

Looking ahead, we plan to resume milfoil treatment in the 2025 season and are actively pursuing a WDNR grant to help fund these efforts. Our commitment to managing EWM remains strong, and we are prepared to use all available methods, including herbicides, DASH, and hand-pulling.

If you're interested in volunteering for on-the-water surveys or other tasks related to EWM management, please contact Larry Stokes or Kristi O'Kane.

Your help is invaluable in preserving the health and beauty of Gilmore Lake.







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Photo by Mike McCloskey

Grace on the Water: Trumpeter Swans Return to Gilmore Lake

Gilmore Lake is currently a fall home to a family of Trumpeter Swans, recently spotted in the North Basin. These elegant birds, nearly driven to extinction in the 19th century due to hunting and feather use in women's hats, had dwindled to just 69 individuals in the lower 48 states by 1932. Thanks to restoration efforts, their population in Wisconsin has rebounded, though they still face threats from lead poisoning caused by fishing sinkers and spent shot, as well as wetland habitat loss.

Mature Trumpeter Swans can reach five feet in height with wingspans of seven to ten feet. Known

for their unique, trumpet-like call that resembles an antique car horn, these swans create a loud slapping sound when their large wings strike the water during takeoff. They prefer shallow wetlands or lakes with abundant vegetation and minimal human disturbance, making the North Basin of Gilmore Lake an ideal spot.

Sightings of Trumpeter Swans have become more common in the Minong area, including on Gilmore Lake. If you have a wildlife sighting, story, or photo you'd like to share, please send it to [Fran McCloskey](#).



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Gilmore Lake Association

The Gilmore Lake Association (GLA) is committed to protecting our lake and your investments through the proactive management of Eurasian Water Milfoil and monitoring water quality in our lake. By joining the GLA, your dues help support this work. Use the QR Code or fill out the form below and mail it, along with your \$25 check or money order to:

Gilmore Lake Association
P.O. Box 188
Minong WI 54859



PLEASE SIGN ME UP! 2025 MEMBERSHIP IN THE GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION

Name: _____ Lake Address: _____

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