



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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Minutes of Regular Meeting November 12 2014

Attending:

P. Schaer	Sherman
H. Berger	Sherman
E. Hayes	Sherman
H. Mayer	New Milford
M. Toussaint	New Milford
J. Wodarski	New Milford
N. Gyle	New Fairfield
B. Brown	Brookfield
J. Murphy	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield
C. Robinson	Danbury
D. Rosemark	Danbury

Absent:

E. Siergiej	Danbury
B. Kemble	New Fairfield
J. Hodge	New Fairfield

L. Marsicano, CLA Executive Director
F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator
M. Howarth, CLA Public Education Director

Recorder: M. Toussaint

Guests: M. Propper, Danbury
S. Wodarski, New Milford
S. Randall, Sherman
T. Sigillito, New Milford
B. Tinsley, Brookfield First Selectman
Dr. Mark June-Wells

Prior to the Regular meeting (7:35 PM), Mark June-Wells, Ph.D. presented on the Candlewood Lake Study that he had done for the Towns regarding long term trends on the Lake. Dr. June-Wells concluded his presentation at 9:18PM. There was a short recess where all the guests except Dr. June-Wells and Mr. Randall left the meeting.

Phyllis Schaer, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 9:25 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. She thanked Dr. June-Wells for his very informative presentation.

Secretary's Report: Howie Berger, Secretary, noted there were a number of additions suggested to the minutes of the October 8, 2014 meeting proposed by John Hodge. After a brief discussion, the discussion and approval of the October meeting minutes were tabled to next month.

Mr. Berger noted three additions to the minutes of the November 5, 2014 Special meeting:

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
DANBURY TOWN CLERK

2014 NOV 17 P 12:55

BY: 

1. During discussion with the auditors the amount of money the CLA has expensed on legal expenses and additional insurance was stated as \$55,783. Since these expenses were not part of the CLA budget they were paid from the cash reserve account.

2. During the discussion, the issue of the restricted fund was discussed and the CLA was seeking council of our attorney to remove the restriction on the funds.

3. During the discussion, it was established that the CLA has \$20,000 or more in its unrestricted reserve fund.

With no discussion on these additions, Dan Rosemark moved to accept the minutes of the November 5, 2014 special meeting as corrected, seconded by Bill Brown and voted with all in favor, with Mark Toussaint and Chris Robinson abstaining, motion carried and minutes accepted as corrected.

Mrs. Schaer noted that the audit shows that the CLA funded 34% of its budget through donations and grants and that there was a 7% decrease in appropriations by the Towns

Chairman's Report: Mrs. Schaer reported that she had received a Conservation Award from the Northwest Conservation District last month. She has been working on an improved budget presentation to better understand the income and expenses of the CLA. She has sent emails to the CEO's to meet with them to discuss programs, issues and concerns of the CLA for the coming year and a meeting with their delegates to discuss the audit and proposed budget. Mrs. Schaer advised that tonight is Harold Mayer's last meeting as a CLA delegate from the Town of New Milford and thanked him for his thirty years of dedicated service to the Authority and the Lake. She reported that at the CLAMP dinner he was presented with a certificate and that a bench in his honor will be placed on the Trail that Northeast Utilities has planned through Vaughn's Neck. There will be a dedication in the spring. Mr. Marsicano suggested that there should be a "Delegate Emeritus" designation, delegates agreed and *Chris Robinson moved that Harold Mayer be designated the first "Delegate Emeritus" of the CLA, seconded by Bill Brown and voted with all in favor the motion carried.*

Watershed Management Committee: Harold Mayer reported that he had advised the Mayor of New Milford that he did not wish to be reappointed at the end of his term (November 30, 2014) and that this would be his last meeting as a delegate but would be available to help out when needed.

Mr. Mayer noted that twelve years ago Mr. Marsicano did an extensive report on the water quality of Candlewood and Dr. June-Wells just confirmed the results of that study. The Towns need to adopt land use regulations to protect the lake, suggestions were included in the Action Plan for Candlewood Lake that the CLA did over ten years ago.

Mrs. Schaer thanked Mr. Mayer for all he has done for the Authority and he was given a standing round of applause.

Vice Chairman's Report: Mark Toussaint reported that the email fundraising appeal has brought in about \$3500.00 and the annual appeal is being prepared to go out after Thanksgiving.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Lohan, Treasurer, reported that 80% of receipts from the Towns have been received - Danbury owes 50% of their appropriation, New Fairfield (\$4308.00) and New Milford (\$11,646.00). Fundraising and grants will be needed to make up the difference. He advised that three line items have already gone over budget and *made a motion to allow the committee to go over the line items so long as they do not exceed the total of their committee budget, seconded by Bill Brown and voted with all in favor. Mark Toussaint made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended October 31, 2014 as presented, motion seconded by Bill Brown and voted with all in favor. Motion*

carried and Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended October 31, 2014 has been filed for audit.

Executive Director: Mr. Marsicano advised that his report is attached to these minutes and reported that the Technical Committee had its conference call regarding the drawdown schedule which was proposed to be at 423' (half way to the target depth) by January 1, but will go to 418' for a period of time in January. He advised that he recommended that the lake be down to 420 by January 1 to allow more time for dewatering. He was advised that the schedule proposed was ISO New England driven. The Technical Committee is waiting to receive the drawdown schedule in writing as requested by CT DEEP. The Lake Advisory Committee will meet on November 25th this includes the Recreation Management and Shoreline Management Plans. Lastly, Mr. Marsicano reported on the passing of Jack Farley on Monday, November 10th. Mr. Farley has been the landlord of the CLA's New Milford Office and an avid supporter of the lake and the CLA – he will be missed.

Public Education Director: Mark Howarth had left the meeting at 9:15 PM and his report is attached to these minutes.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety: Ed Hayes reported that the Committee had met and worked on its proposed budget for 2015-16. This was the last meeting until spring.

Public Awareness: Mr. Toussaint had nothing to report.

Equipment/Facilities: In the absence of the Committee Chairman, there was no report.

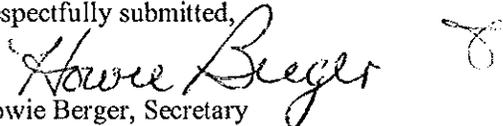
Old Business: Mrs. Schaer thanked all the delegates for their dedication and service this past year.

New Business: None

Any and All Business: Mrs. Frattini reminded the delegates that the December meeting is the Annual meeting and anyone wishing to be on the ballot for an elected position should get his or her name to her as soon as possible.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, *Chris Robinson moved to adjourn, seconded by Jerry Murphy.*
Meeting adjourned at 9:55 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,


Howie Berger, Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/lm

These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority.



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

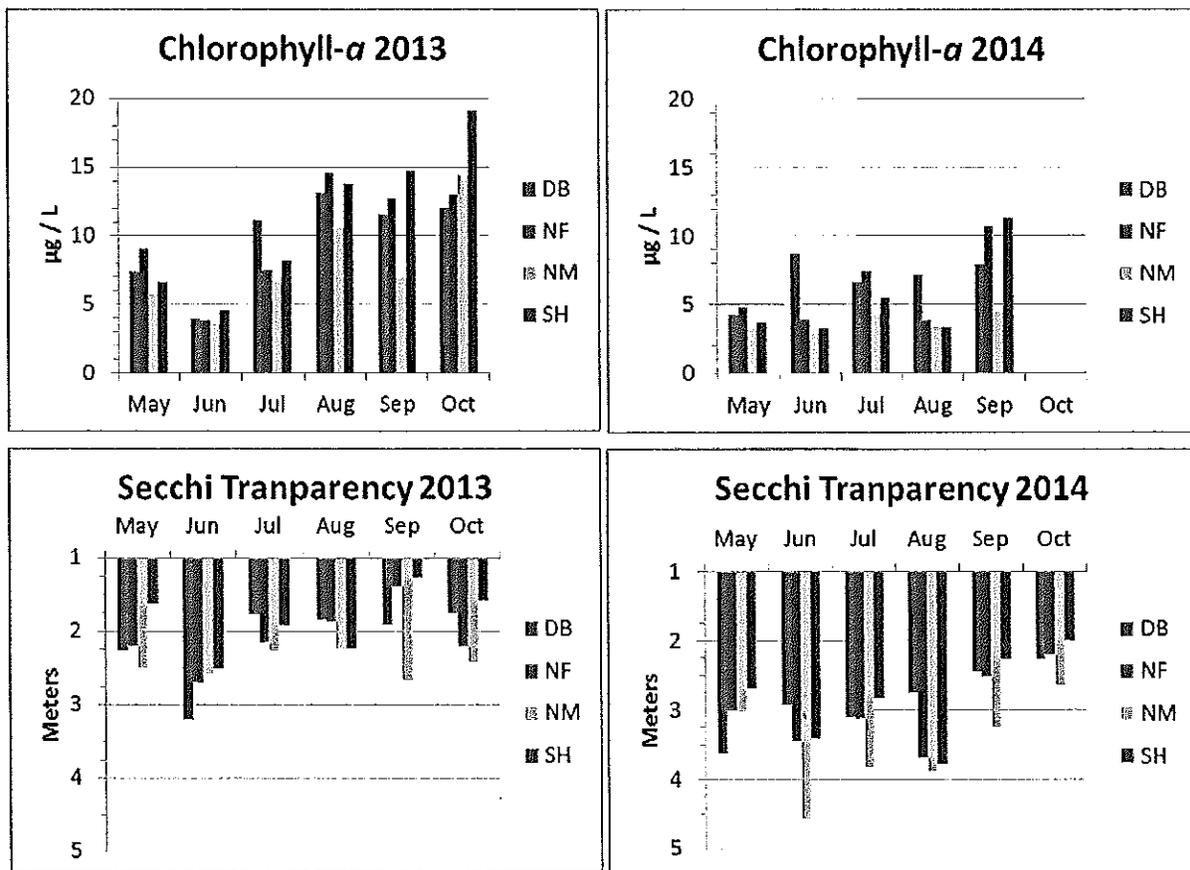
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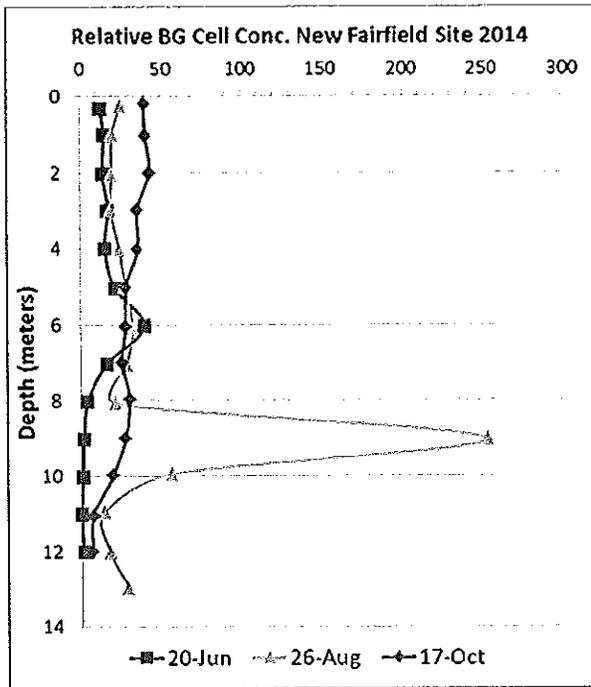
Executive Director's Report
November 6, 2014
Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities from October 3, 2014 to November 6, 2014.

Water Quality

Water quality monitoring field work was concluded at Candlewood Lake on October 17th and at Squantz Pond on October 29th. Below is a comparison of chlorophyll-*a* and Secchi transparency from Candlewood Lake in 2013 with that observed this past year.



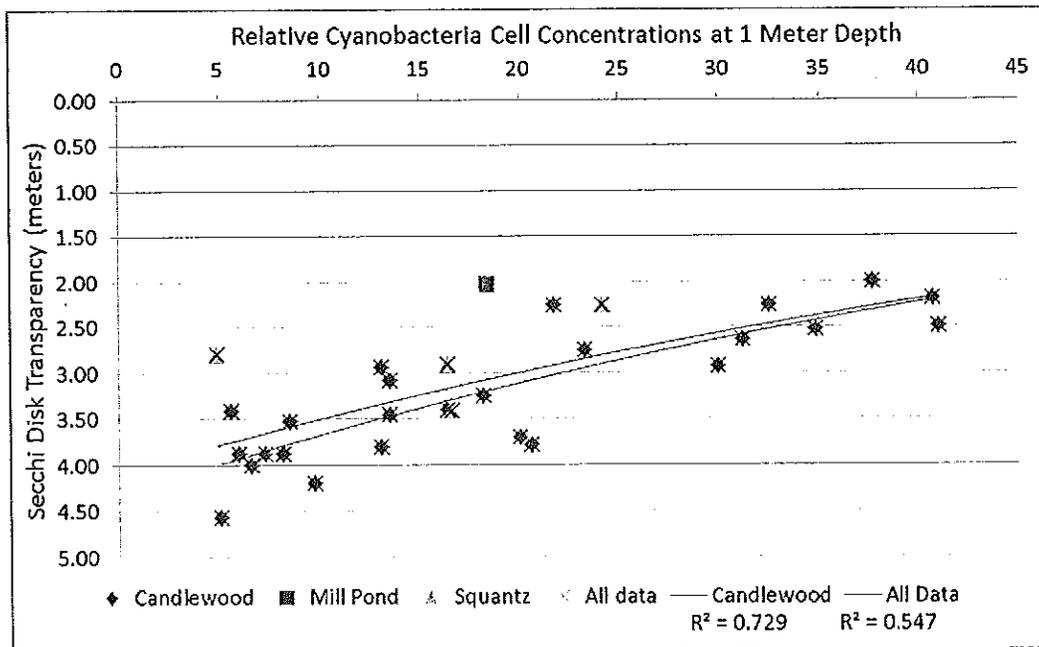


We were also able to gather data on the seasonal and spatial characteristics of blue-green algae populations in Candlewood Lake. Our new field instrumentation with the optical probe that measures relative blue-green cell concentration was used thirty times to profile relative cell concentrations from the top to bottom of the water column at approximately one meter intervals. The figure to the left shows three profiles observed at the New Fairfield site.

The June 20 profile exhibited modest relative concentrations down to six meters where a modest spike in relative cell concentration was then observed, and then tapered down to very low levels. Relative cell concentrations were still generally low on August 26 until 9 meters depth where a much more

pronounced spike was observed denoting a high cell concentration at that depth.

By October 17th the entire water column generally exhibited greater relative cell concentrations and there was no spike since much of the water column was mixed due to fall turnover. So instead of the blue-green algae concentrated at one depth, they were through out the water column.



The new optical probe is essentially a fluorometer set a specific settings to measure the photosynthetic pigments unique to blug-green algae. We assessed its sensitivities by regressing relative cell concentrations measured at one meter depth against Secchi transparency measured at corresponding sites in Candlewood Lake, Squantz Pond and Mill Pond (see above). There was good correlation between the two variables using all data and very good correlation when regressing just the Candlewood Lake data.

Presentation to Brookfield Selectmen

I was asked by Brookfield First Selectman Bill Tinsley to provide a presentation at a workshop on water quality and aquatic invasive species at Candlewood Lake. That presentation was provided on October 15th. Also attending from Brookfield was Jerry Murphy and Bill Lohan. Members of the public and other town departments or boards were also present. The presentation was well-received.

Public Outreach

We participated in Brookfield Days on Sunday, October 12th. Helping man the booth in addition to Mark and me were Jeff Dunkerton, Jerry Murphy, and Joe & Sui Wodarski. The event was well done and well attended.

Noise Issues on the Lake

CLAMP Chief Doug Vane, Phyllis and I met with First Selectman Susan Chapman, State Rep. Richard Smith and others regarding the issue of loud music and noise on the lake that is impacting shoreline homeowners. Rep. Smith has since shared legislative research on municipalities that have implemented noise ordinances which he suggested would be a good step. The First Selectman had concerns on whether it would be passed and believed it is an issue to be resolved by the State. Eleanor Mariani of the Boating Division of CT DEEP checked with colleagues in other states and found that it is usually dealt with at a local level. I will follow up with those members of the public who contacted us regarding this issue and update them on our efforts and results.

2015 Winter Drawdown

A conference call was held for the Drawdown Technical Committee on Wednesday, October 15th. FirstLight explained its plans for a deep drawdown:

- Will begin November 1st and be back up by April 19th. CT DEEP Fisheries noted that Opening Day in 2015 is April 11th and would like lake up by then.
- By the beginning of December they plan to be at 425 feet above sea level (CL&P datum)
- By the beginning of January at 423 feet above sea level or half the distance to the target depth
- By the end of January - at 418 for some period of time but they want to also have a two foot operating range meaning. So that means they may hit 418 at some point, but they are reserving the right to get back up to 420.

It was emphasized that this schedule is ISO New England driven.

I expressed a position that we could better support the two foot operating level if they got the lake down to 420 by January 1st. I explained that the schedule they are planning has potential to diminish effectiveness of the drawdown based on the recent published research. Chuck Lee from CT DEEP asked for the schedule in writing along with minutes/notes from the meeting. We have not yet received this as of November 7th.

We did send a copy of the research paper along along with a cover letter to the CEOs back on October 9th.

AIS Prevention

Phyllis and I have participated in two follow-up meetings with those that visited Lake George in September. These occurred on October 16th and November 5th. Others participating have included Bill Hyatt and Eleanor Mariani from CT DEEP, Jim McAlister and Bob Stryker from CWI, and Bill Tinsley, the First Selectman of Brookfield. A plan is being crafted to improve preventative efforts at Candlewood to prevent introductions of other aquatic invasive species, e.g. zebra mussels or hydrilla.

CLA Chairman Receives NCD Conservation Volunteer Award

It was my pleasure to present our Chairman the Conservation Volunteer of the Year Award at the Northwest Conservation District's Annual Meeting on October 22nd. The NCD Annual Meeting was held at the Candlewood Lake Club Clubhouse.



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

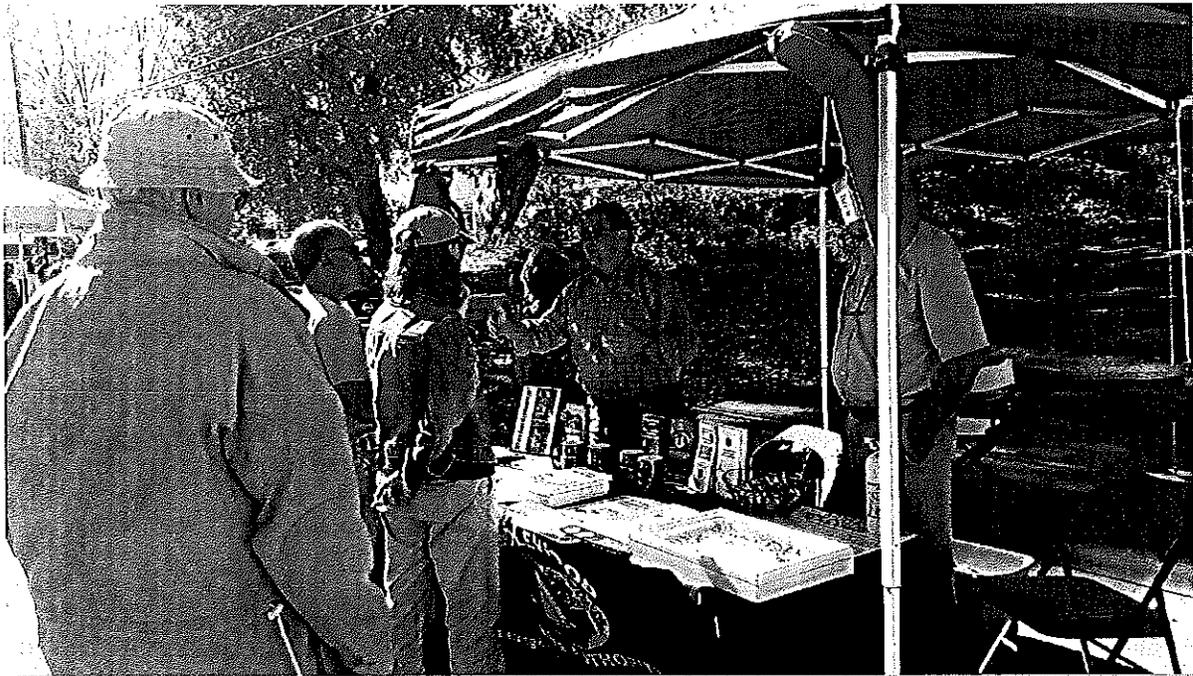
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November 12, 2014
Public Education
Mark Howarth

Brookfield Four Corners Day:

On October 12th the CLA participated in the first Brookfield Four Corners Day, having a booth at the event where we met with residents to discuss the Lake and lake issues. It was a well-run and also well-attended event that the CLA was happy to be a part of.

In addition to Larry and Mark from the office staff, also in attendance that day were Jeff Dunkerton from the CLA Marine Patrol, Jerry Murphy and Joe and Sui Wodarski.





Mailed Appeal:

We are in the process of writing and editing our mailed appeal, which we will then send out to area residents in our annual fundraising effort. We anticipate this letter to go out around or just after Thanksgiving.

October eNewsletter:

On October 10th we mailed out a newsletter. Topics included our sterile grass carp grant application, an article about the Marine Patrol, our new hazard buoy supplier and our new radar detector, fall buoy removal, the 2014/2015 drawdown announcement, the CLA's ramp stenciling efforts and the CT Agricultural Experiment Station's annual mapping of Candlewood's aquatic vegetation among others.

We also sent out a separate notice to our readers reminding them not to blow their leaves into the water because of the negative effects that has on the lake.

Citizen News:

We have submitted two articles to the Citizen News, which have both been published as part of a regular column we will be writing. If you don't have access to that paper, they have been included following this report.

HTML 5 Website:

We are working on building a completely new, modernized CLA website. We are building it in a HTML 5 website builder, which is now the more common format and will eliminate some of the shortcomings of the old flash-based site. It will now be able to be viewed on mobile Apple products (iPads, iPhones) and it will also have a mobile version and be easy to view across all mobile platforms. The structure of the site is in place and we are currently filling it with content.



Candlewood Lake Authority

October 15th 2014

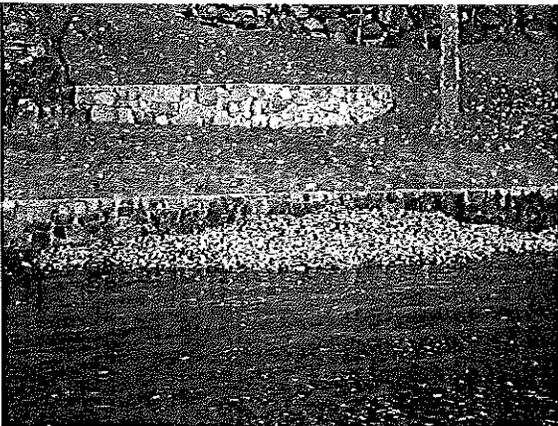
Transitioning to Fall on Candlewood Lake

The Candlewood Lake Authority is pleased to provide a regular column in the Citizen News, or as information warrants, to help keep you up-to-date on topics pertaining to Candlewood Lake. While many are sad to see summer leave us here on Candlewood Lake, fall is a beautiful transition period. Quieter waters, colorful trees reflecting in the water and the arrival of new wildlife in the form of migratory birds who stop by for a brief stay on their way south. We hope you can get to the Lake to enjoy this special season. If you do happen to be going out on the water this fall, here are a few things to keep in mind.

LIFE VEST REGULATION - If you are heading out on manually powered vessels (such as canoes, kayaks, etc.) between October 1st and May 31st you must wear your life vest while on the water. While it is always best to wear your life vest, it is especially important now with the colder water temperatures. Hypothermia can set in quickly should you accidentally fall into the water.

HAZARD BUOY REMOVAL - Also, this week the CLA has started to remove the hazard, navigation and speed buoys from the lake for the upcoming winter season. If you're out in your boat and don't know every hazard under the water by memory, we urge you to use extra caution while on the Lake. A depthfinder and good bathymetric map of the Lake can be very helpful in avoiding shallow spots and other potential hazards.

DRAWDOWN 2014/2015 - Beginning November 1st, FirstLight Power Resources said they will begin the winter drawdown, which this year they have said will be a "deep drawdown". They anticipate lowering the level of the lake by roughly 10 feet down to 418' in elevation, in an effort to help kill the milfoil that grows along the shoreline.



Autumn is also a good time to remember some important things we should all do for the benefit of Candlewood Lake.

FALL LEAF CLEANUP - Soon, residents will have lawns full of leaves and the annual duty of raking or blowing those leaves prior to the first snowfall will be upon us all. While it may seem obvious to most, it is very important that waterfront residents do not blow their leaves into the Lake, and that if they hire a company to clean up their leaves, they make it very clear to that company that their workers must know that the leaves cannot be allowed to be blown into the lake. While some leaves will naturally fall

into Candlewood along the shoreline, dumping a full lawn's worth of leaves into the Lake is environmentally irresponsible. Those leaves decompose in the water and provide nutrients that fuels things such as algae blooms and weed growth. Please, everyone, ensure your leaves are raked away from the lake!

ZEBRA MUSSEL CHECK - Lastly, when taking your boat or dock out of the water this fall, it's a good opportunity to check for zebra mussels. So far through our monitoring efforts we have found no evidence of any zebra mussels in Candlewood Lake, but the more eyes that are looking, the better. Zebra mussels are small, less than 1 inch in size, with a striped shell... and they would be attached to a hard surface instead of in the lake bed. Please note that Candlewood does have two mollusk species in it. There are large native mussels in Candlewood that live in the lake bed, which can grow up to 3" or more in size, as well as non-native "Asian clams" which are small (less than 1 inch), do not have a zebra striped shell and live in the lake bed. Neither of those two would not be attached to a hard surface like a zebra mussel would.



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Candlewood Lake Authority

October 29th 2014

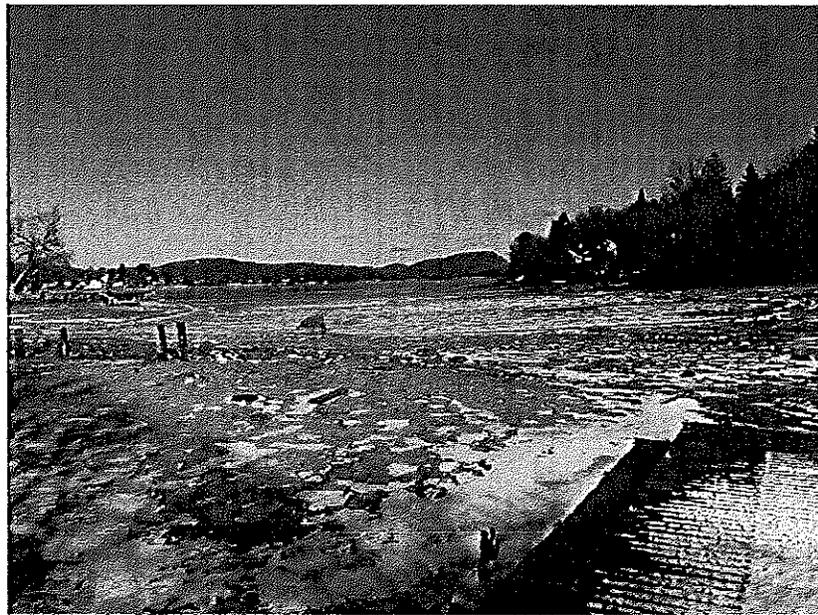
Killing Milfoil: Local Research Published in Scientific Journal Seeks Answers to Control Concerns

The recent seemingly unchecked growth of milfoil has been a major cause of concern of area residents and lake front home owners who regularly enjoy the many benefits of Candlewood Lake. Coves and shoreline areas this year were clogged almost beyond use with huge stands of milfoil that interfered with swimming and boating.

The single lake-wide method to control Eurasian watermilfoil on Candlewood Lake since the 1980's has been the biennial winter deep drawdown. Seemingly effective at controlling the milfoil through the late 90's, by the 2000's Candlewood saw increasing years of excessive milfoil growth. But why? Was there something that was causing the drawdowns to be less consistent in their effectiveness?

Several years ago, Western Connecticut State University (WCSU) and the Candlewood Lake Authority took action to scientifically study what conditions are required to effectively kill Eurasian watermilfoil through the use of a winter lake drawdown. Dr. Thomas Lonergan, a professor at WCSU at the time, took the lead on the research project, and engaged student researchers to assist in this multi-year study with the CLA lending support where necessary. The research was primarily done in a controlled laboratory environment and aimed specifically to determine what conditions are required to kill the root system of milfoil that is exposed by a winter drawdown. Now complete after several years of study, a research paper entitled *A laboratory examination of the effectiveness of a winter seasonal lake drawdown to control invasive Eurasian watermilfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum)* has been published in the peer-reviewed scientific journal, *Lake and Reservoir Management*. Authors of the research paper in addition to Dr. Lonergan, are Dr. Mitch Wagener, also of WCSU, and the CLA's Executive Director Larry Marsicano.

The research results revealed that to prevent regrowth of milfoil through a winter drawdown, the milfoil roots need to be exposed to either 24 hours of 23 degree (F) or colder temperatures with a slow thaw of over 12 hours if the roots are in wet sediment, or at least 48 hours of 39 degree (F) or colder temps if the roots are in dry soils.



How can this then be translated to practical use here on Candlewood Lake? Keep in mind that this was done in a controlled lab setting. Our winters here provide us with unpredictable conditions: mild, wet, dry and cold could all be used to describe winters we've had here recently. If we have a mild or wet winter, we may not get an effective kill. Or possibly, if we have an early snowfall that insulates the milfoil, that could also reduce the effectiveness of a drawdown. If perhaps water has pooled on the uneven exposed lake bed without an opportunity for the soil to dry, then drawdown efficiency is also reduced. Timing is crucial...the winter cold snap may also not align with the drawdown's timing, thereby not exposing as much of the milfoil (which grows most densely in the 6-13 foot range) to the ideal milfoil-killing conditions. The CLA has been working with FirstLight to try to give the drawdown the best odds possible, and take advantage of what we hope are the most favorable winter weather conditions here on Candlewood Lake for an effective deep drawdown.

After the bumper crop of milfoil this year we all hope that the planned deep drawdown will be effective. This winter the Lake will be lowered by around 10 feet, according to FirstLight. The drawdown will begin as early as November 1st, and is projected to reach 423 feet (approximately

five feet from the target depth) by January 1, 2015. FirstLight plans to reach its target depth around the third week in January and return the lake to recreational levels by in time for the opening of fishing season.

Understanding that the drawdown has seemingly become a less reliable method of controlling milfoil, the CLA, with approval from the five municipalities around the Lake, has recently applied to the CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection for a grant to stock the Lake with sterile triploid grass carp to help combat the milfoil here. They have proven successful as a control method in nearby lakes and water bodies and may play a key role in controlling the milfoil here on Candlewood in the future. Watch our column for more information on the sterile grass carp option and their potential use in Candlewood Lake.

Follow the CLA on Facebook and Twitter (@CLAOnTheLake)! Go to our website (www.candlewoodlakeauthority.org) if you would like to sign up to receive our electronic newsletters and other emails.

