



Photo courtesy of Lonnie Rademacher

LAKE LEELANAU LAKE ASSOCIATION – May 2020 eBulletin

What's in This Issue

This month's issue focuses on our continuing efforts to combat Eurasian Water Milfoil and Swimmer's Itch. We hope you find this eBulletin timely and informative and welcome all and any feedback. If you have any comments, please send them to info@lakeleelanau.org

Our Fight against Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM)

In spite of some COVID-19 delays, plans are on track to conduct a lake underwater vegetation survey at the end of May and begin installing barriers on top of EWM beds shortly thereafter. Discussions are also in progress about using an underwater drone to inspect EWM bed composition. For more details of the methods being used by the Association to combat EWM, read pages 4-5 of our [Spring Newsletter](#).

New Discoveries about Swimmer's Itch

The results of a 20-week scientific study of water samples collected from Lake Leelanau, Glen Lake and Walloon Lake in 2019 have been published. The study contains two major findings: 1) Common mergansers migrating in the Spring and Fall (rather than Summer residents) are a significant source of parasite transmission, and 2) A

new species of Swimmer's Itch-causing parasite which cycles through Canada geese was responsible for a significant portion of Swimmer's Itch cases on North Lake Leelanau in 2019 and the dominant source on South Lake Leelanau. Click [here](#) to read the message from the Association's lake biologist Brian Price giving details about the study's results, the Association's next moves to combat Swimmer's Itch, and "Smart Swimming" recommendations to avoid Swimmer's Itch during the summer months.

It's Boat Washing Time!

Cleaning and/or washing boats and trailers before launching on Lake Leelanau is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of invasive species like Eurasian Water Milfoil and zebra mussels. [State law](#) prohibits placing any boat, boating equipment or boat trailer in Michigan waters with aquatic plant material attached. Please be mindful of these requirements. Violation can result in a fine of up to \$100.

No Kids' Fishing Day on June 28

In line with other events impacted by the COVID-19 health crisis, Kids' Fishing Day which was scheduled for Sunday, June 28, will not now take place. The volunteer organizers of this highly popular event are considering other ways to help kids enjoy their Summer fishing fun.

Help Your Friends and Neighbors Stay Informed

Do you have friends or neighbors who care about the quality and beauty of Lake Leelanau but don't receive our eBulletins or Newsletters? If so, please forward this eBulletin to them and all they have to do is reply with their name to info@lakeleelanau.org. We'll take care of adding them to our mailing list for future issues.

Lake Leelanau Lake Association is a non-profit organization led by and for individuals, families and businesses who support its mission to protect and enhance the quality

and beauty of Lake Leelanau and its surrounding watershed for current and future generations. **If you would like to make a donation to support our programs**, you can do so [here on our website](#). **If you would like to help our programs as a volunteer**, send a message to info@lakeleelanau.org