

Eurasian Watermilfoil Update for September 13

There definitely is good news to report in your Lake Association's ongoing efforts to control the spread of Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) in Drag and Spruce Lakes. Thanks to the concern and generosity of 171 property owners around the two lakes we are half-way to achieving our goal of \$50,000. To each and every one who has contributed we thank you for caring about the current and future health of your lake and all the aquatic life that thrives within our lakes. You clearly understand the threat to our future enjoyment of these lakes if we do not take decisive action now to control the spread of EWM.

Throughout the fall the Lake Association's EWM Working Group will be responding to property owner requests for assistance to identify EWM. We have prepared a [guide to identification](#) that property owners can use on their own before contacting the Working Group. Including the location reference is essential when reporting - GPS coordinates would be ideal. Additional educational materials for property owners, boaters, anglers and others will be developed and made available on the DSLPOA website. We are developing a control plan for 2021 that will include further mat deployment and/or weed removal as considered appropriate and approved by the MNRF. While all these activities are taking place the EWM Working Group will continue to accept donations from property owners, will appeal to business owners for their support and will seek funding and support from government and non-government sources.

This may sound like a lot of work, and it is. Although the EWM Working Group includes members of the DSLPOA Executive, the group also includes several additional volunteers. We encourage anyone who would like to assist the Working Group to contact us by email at DSLPOAEWM@gmail.com. Tell us how you think you could help, and we will find a place for you as a volunteer.

At the beginning of this update we reported that our donation glass is now half full. But that also means the glass is half empty. The 171 property owners who have contributed to date represent roughly one third of all Drag and Spruce Lake property owners. If you have not yet made your contribution to our EWM Fund, please take time to review the materials on our [website](#) and the comments being made by members of the [Facebook group](#). Your future enjoyment of the lake and the value of your property will be negatively affected if together we are not able to stop the spread of EWM in Drag and Spruce Lakes. We need your help. The lakes need your help.

The next update from the EWM Working Group will be presented at the upcoming DSLPOA AGM.