

PORTAGE LAKE ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION

CITIZENS AND ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS BUSINESSES HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN CONTRIBUTING TO THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT TO RESTORE PIKE BAY AND TO MAINTAIN IT IN THE FUTURE. IN ORDER TO HANDLE PROSPECTIVE DONATIONS, A 501(C)3 AGENCY ACCOUNT HAS BEEN CREATED SO THAT TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS MAY BE MADE.

CHECKS MAY BE MADE TO PORTAGE LAKE ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION (902 COLLEGE AVE, HOUGHTON, MI 49931) WITH A NOTE INDICATING THE FUNDS SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TO THE PIKE BAY PROJECT.



2015 Update

February has arrived and we're beginning to see glimmers of blue sky and enjoying the longer days. Ice fishing will end and boats will start showing up on the bay before we know it. With this in mind, the Committee for Pike Bay Restoration has, once again, kicked into action. We have hired the same consultant/contractor, Professional Lake Management (PLM), to work with us on managing the eradication of the Eurasian Milfoil infestation. As most of you know, last summer PLM successfully treated the bay and the Milfoil was kept at a minimum for most of the summer. The winter of 2014 was unusually harsh, the ice was thick and spring came late. As a consequence of the extreme winter, the treatment couldn't be applied until the middle of July; another growth started very late in the season. Although the second growth did not reach the surface nor did it cause any severe recreational problems, it was a mystery to the scientists. No one is sure if the second growth was caused by the severe winter or rather, was the appearance of an unusual hybrid. We are fortunate to have MTU's Great Lakes Center scientists involved in the project. They will conduct research on the milfoil in Pike Bay, hoping to discover if this was a one-time anomaly or if the treatment method needs to be altered. You will most likely see their research vessel floating around the bay this spring and summer. Included in this mailing is a more detailed explanation of this issue. In the mean time, you can be assured that Pike Bay will be quite useable again this year.

Keeping in Touch

The Committee and the Township Board would like to improve our method of informing the residents of upcoming treatment dates and general updates on the bay. The dates are difficult to pinpoint because of weather conditions. Wind and rain can delay treatment by hours or days. With this in mind, we plan to start sending last minute emails with updated information. If you would like to receive email updates, please send an email to Joe Youngman at chasdpw@up.net.

Moving Forward in the Management of Eurasian Water-Milfoil (EWM) in Pike Bay