

MEMORANDUM
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

To: Board of Managers **Date:** 9-2-2021
From: Mike Kinney
Subject: Aquatic invasive Species (AIS) and Community Grant Program

Background

This is a placeholder memo to discuss several topics which overlap as they relate to the District's mission.

On August 12th, the Board tabled the discussion on the broader Community Grant Program until such time that it can be further developed.

However, in order to address the immediate grant application from the Comfort Lake Association, submitted as instructed by the Board and Administrator in June, under the existing community grant program; there are two avenues for the managers to consider as a means to fund the Comfort Lakes Association's grant application for Eurasian Water-Milfoil Treatment, by either funding through the District's community grant program, or through using unused funds in the AIS program. My recommendation is Motion 2 which would use the available AIS funds. The year-end projections indicate more than enough funds to be available for this effort.

Proposed Motions:

- 1. A motion was made by Manager _____ and seconded by Manager _____ to approve the Comfort Lakes Association grant application for Eurasian Milfoil Treatment for the second treatment noted in the DNR permit issued to the CLA and to be completed before September 30, 2021.**
- 2. A motion was made by Manager _____ and seconded by Manager _____ To approve payment of \$10,342.00 to the Comfort Lakes Association (CLA) for a second treatment of Eurasian Milfoil to be completed by September 30, 2021, for the acreage delineated in the DNR permit issued to the CLA.**

Attached: Grant Application with attachments.

Appendix A: Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement Program Descriptions



220 North Lake Street, Forest Lake, MN 55025

Phone 651.209.9753 Fax 651.209.9752 www.clflwd.org



The Comfort Lake - Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFL WD) offers cost-share grants for projects that improve water quality and/or decrease stormwater runoff and preserve native plant and wildlife communities affected by lakes, rivers and wetlands. Potential projects include shoreline and streambank restoration/stabilization, pervious parking lots, raingardens and erosion control projects. Highest priority is given to collaborative projects resulting in measureable reductions in stormwater and nutrient loadings to receiving water resources and those with opportunities for public education.

CLFLWD BMP cost-share grants are available for municipal, commercial or multi-landowner/multi-parcel BMP projects located within CLFL WD on a first come first serve basis. These projects generally involve public dollars as matching funds and/or multiple landowners. For projects dealing with surface water on individual properties, please refer to the District's **Residential Cost-Share Incentive Program**.

First, the potential applicant should schedule a site visit or pre-proposal meeting with CLFLWD and County SWCD staff to determine whether the project/site is a candidate for the cost-share grant program by calling CLFLWD offices at 651.209.9753.

At the initial site visit and/or pre-proposal meeting CLFLWD and SWCD representatives will meet with the applicant to discuss the assistance request, the potential BMP project, design needs, and the partners and options for completing the project.

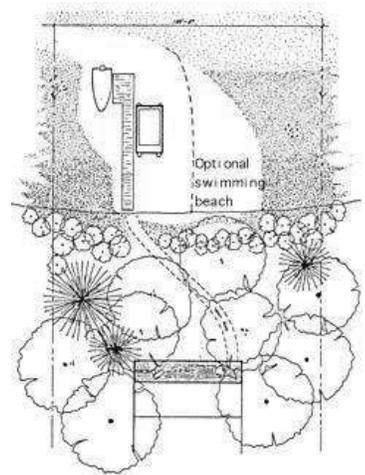
If staff determines that the proposed project and project site is a candidate for the cost-share grant program, the applicant must then complete a CLFLWD cost-share grant application including workplan and submit it to CLFLWD offices at 220 North Lake Street, Forest Lake, MN 55025. Applications can be downloaded from the District's website, clflwd.org, or can be requested by calling the CLFLWD offices.

The resulting application will be reviewed and ranked by the CLFLWD cost-share selection subcommittee and forwarded to the CLFLWD Board of Managers for approval.

If approved for funding, work on the project may begin after all required permits are obtained by the applicant and CLFLWD staff is notified of start date. CLFLWD representatives may be available to assist throughout the project as determined in the planning phase of the project. A cost-share and maintenance agreement/easement will be required for the project (details of which can be obtained by contacting the District office).

Cost-share assistance for projects cover a Board-determined percentage (not to exceed 75%) of project costs up to a maximum grant of \$15,000. Expenses incurred before the grant is approved are not eligible.

Upon completion of the project, CLFLWD and County SWCD staff will conduct a final site inspection for final approval of the installation. Cost-share funding agreed to by the full CLFLWD Board (and not to exceed original estimate), will be granted to the applicant only after the project installation has been approved, all receipts for the project have been received and the full Board has approved payment.





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CLFLWD Community-Based BMP Cost-Share Incentive Program Application

Applicant Information

Organization Comfort Lakes Association		
Mailing Address P.O. Box 596		
City Wyoming	State MN	Zip Code 55092
Email or webpage http://comfortlakesassociation.org		Tax status (e.g. local government, 501(3)(c), etc.) 501(3)(c) 475224876
Organization Contact Jeanine Hansen	Project Manager Jeanine Hansen	
Organization Contact Phone 952-237-9797	Project Manager Phone 952-237-9797	
Organization Contact Cell Phone 952-237-9797	Project Manager Cell Phone 952-237-9797	
Organization Contact Email jeaninehansen78@gmail.com	Project Manager Email jeaninehansen78@gmail.com	

Project Information

Project Name Control AIS: Eurasian Water Milfoil		
Project Location Address or Description Comfort Lake, Chisago County		
City Wyoming	Township/Range/Section	Waterbody Comfort Lake
Project Start Date May 2021	Project End Date August 2021	
Project Type (e.g. innovative practice, restoration, buffer enhancement, etc.) Herbicide treatment for EWM in Comfort Lake – control aquatic invasive species.		
Total Cash Contributions From Partners (\$600 from CLA members)	Total In-Kind Contributions From Partners	
Total Grant Funds From Other Sources \$2,025 from DNR	Estimated Overall Project Cost \$10,342	
Submission Date June 17, 2021	Grant Funds Requested \$10,342	



Community-Based Grant Program Application (*continued*)

Work Plan

Address each line item in the outline below in either a narrative or outline format. Items B and C may be brief in the initial application and developed further later in the project planning and development process.

A. Proposed Work Plan

- Describe the type of project proposed and the specific water resource issue or need addressed.

This project is to control aquatic invasive species on Comfort Lake. We have a ring of Eurasian Water Milfoil, of which some is hybrid and resistant to conventional treatments. This is an ongoing project since EWM was first found in Comfort Lake in 2014. We treat annually according to our permits from the DNR.

- Briefly describe the assistance needed for implementing the project (i.e. engineering/design assistance, financial assistance, project management, community outreach, etc.).

Financial assistance is requested. We also rely on the district for the pre and post assessments and guidance.

- Describe the anticipated water resource impacts and/or the alternate project that will occur if the funding is not available.

If we do not treat for EWM, it may overtake our entire littoral area and choke out our healthy aquatic plants, including our beautiful water lilies. We have seen the impact on water lilies disappearing in the past couple of years. Left untreated, it may eventually compromise our water quality, fish habitat and recreational enjoyment.

- Describe the overall context of the project, if it is meeting the goals of a local comprehensive or lake management plan, if it is a continuation or expansion of an existing project, etc.

The Comfort Lakes Association (CLA) has an overall goal of enhancing the quality of our lake and making it an enjoyable recreational experience for all who enjoy Comfort Lake. This project is one of the most important to meet that goal. Controlling EWM is an annual effort in our lake.

- Provide a timetable for project implementation; including any deadlines or time-sensitive issues. This information may potentially be used to generate a payment schedule for grant funds and/or to assist in leveraging other funds.

*Part A: **May 28, 2021** - Treat Areas 3, 4, 5 and 6 on the attached map (total 6.91 acres) with Aquathol-K (Completed May 28, 2021).*

*Part B: **July 2021 (date TBD)** – Treat Areas 1 and 2 on the attached map with ProcellaCOR (total 8.05 acres).*

B. Project Operation and Maintenance (a maintenance agreement will be required for the project). The maintenance agreement will address the following:

- Required maintenance activities and timetables for the project as detailed in the required maintenance agreement

Controlling EWM on Comfort Lake requires annual treatment in specific areas of the lake. The CLA Board is working with DNR and CLFLWD (Blue Water Science) experts to determine areas of the lake that should be treated each year.



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The CLA Board applied Aquathol-K in Areas 3, 4, 5 and 6 on the attached map on May 28, 2021.

As advised by the DNR, the use of the new product called ProcellaCOR should be effective in knocking out EWM for three years. Our plan is to use ProcellaCOR in the thickest mats of EWM for several years in a row, which should give us better long term results than we have seen so far.

ProcellaCOR must be applied by a certified third party. Lake Management is one of the two certified parties in Minnesota. We have contracted Lake Management to do the treatment in July.

In the future, we want to work more closely with the CFLWD in planning our long term goals.

- Landowner and other parties responsible for the maintenance activities

N/A

- Funding source(s) for short- and long-term maintenance

N/A

A copy of the District's required maintenance agreement can be obtained by contacting the District office.)

N/A



C. Project Budget

- Provide a description of the budget for the project. This may be in table format. Include the following information:
 1. Budget category (i.e. engineering, materials, labor, oversight)
 11. Brief description of the category
 111. Funds requested for each category
 - 1v. Partner contributions for each category
 - v. Total budget for the project
 - v1. Total grant amount requested

Category	Description	Funds Required	Partner Contributions	Total Budget	Grant \$ Requested
Materials Part A	Purchase 17 gallons of Aquathol-K for Part A of the project.	\$1,801	\$1,801 (DNR)	\$1,801	\$1,801
Labor Part A	Volunteer Hours: 58 hours x \$20/hour = \$1,160	\$1,160		\$1,160	\$1,160
Materials and Labor Part B	Hire certified contractor to apply ProcellaCOR for Part B of the project. Lake Management has been contracted to perform the work and purchase the herbicide. Cost is \$917/acre for 8.05 acres.	\$7,381	\$224 (DNR) \$600 (CLA)	\$7,381	\$7,381
TOTAL		\$10,342	\$2,625	\$10,342	\$10,342

D. Resolution committing the applicant organization to the project and necessary project contributions.

Motion passed unanimously at CLA Board meeting May 6, 2021.



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Community-Based Grant Program Application *(continued)*

Permit Information (project may not begin until all required permits are received)

Permit	Required	Date Submitted	Date Received	Permit#
CLFLWD	YES	June 17, 2021		
City/Township/County Grading	N			
DNR Aquatic Plant	Y	February 1, 2021	May 26, 2021	2019-2082
DNR Public Waters	N			
Wetland Conservation Act	N			
MPCA Feedlot	N			
MPCA NPDES	N			
Army Corps	N			
Other	Y or N			

FOR CLFLWD USE ONLY

Cost Share Information

Date application received	Cost share amount approved (may not exceed 75% of total estimated costs)
CLFLWD Representative	Board meeting date

Amount Authorized for Payment

Total eligible expenses from receipts	Amount authorized for payment (may not exceed cost share amount approved)
CLFLWD Representative	Board meeting date



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**
MNDNR PERMITTING AND REPORTING SYSTEM

**Permit Number
2019-2082**

**INVASIVE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PERMIT
(AMENDED)
EXPIRATION DATE: 09/01/2021**

Contact the Authorized Issuer (listed below) if you have any questions regarding this permit.

The Commissioner of the Natural Resources, pursuant to authority by law, hereby **GRANTS THIS PERMIT** to the person whose name appears below, for the purpose specified, dates inclusive as shown, in the conditions hereinafter set forth:

Project Name: Comfort, Chisago, EWM		Control Method: Pesticide Control
County: Chisago	Watershed: Lower St. Croix River	Resource: Comfort (13005300)
Permittees (3): ASSOCIATION COMFORT LAKES PO BOX 596 WYOMING, MN 55092 (952) 237-9797 info@comfortlakesassociation.org JEANINE HANSEN 25553 W COMFORT DR WYOMING, MN 55092 (952) 237-9797 jeaninehansen78@gmail.com LAKE MANAGEMENT /CLEARWATER CUTTING CONTACT: AHLGREN, BETH 10400 185TH STREET N. MARINE ON ST. CROIX, MN 55047 (651) 433-3283 Lake Address (if different):		Authorized Agents (2): JEANINE HANSEN 25553 W COMFORT DR WYOMING, MN 55092 (952) 237-9797 jeaninehansen78@gmail.com LAKE MANAGEMENT /CLEARWATER CUTTING CONTACT: AHLGREN, BETH 10400 185TH STREET N. MARINE ON ST. CROIX, MN 55047 (651) 433-3283

Authorized Control Area:

Pesticide control of Eurasian watermilfoil is permitted within the area identified on the attached map up to 15.0 acres.

Under this permit, the Comfort Lake Association is authorize and responsible for the treatment of Eurasian watermilfoil in areas identified in yellow (6.9 acres) on the attached map using endothall. Lake Management is authorize and responsible for the treatment of this same species in areas identified in green (8.05 acres) on the attached map.

Authorized Action:

Pesticide control of Eurasian watermilfoil. One treatment with Procellacor EC (Florpyrauxifen-benzyl) and Aquathol K (Endothall) to be applied per label instructions for selective Eurasian watermilfoil control.

Treatment signs will be mailed and must be posted in accordance with the attached posting instructions.

Expiration date for the use of endothall is May 31, 2021.
Expiration date for the use of ProcelloCOR is Sept. 1, 2021.

Issued Date: 05/26/2021	Effective Date: 05/26/2021	Expiration Date: 09/01/2021	
Authorized Issuer: Christine Jurek	Title: Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist	Email Address: Christine.Jurek@state.mn.us	Phone Number: 320-223-7847

This permit is granted **subject to** the following **CONDITIONS**:

NOTICE OF CONTROL DATES: The permittee or their agent must notify the DNR of the planned treatment date(s) at least 48 hours prior to treatment. Failure to notify prior to beginning work or violation of other terms and conditions of this permit, including failure to remove signs in a timely manner, shall be grounds for revocation of this permit or refusal to renew. Notify: Christine Jurek, Christine.Jurek@state.mn.us, 320-223-7847 or submit a new treatment notification through MPARS.

ANNUAL SURVEY: The permittee or their agent must complete an annual survey indicating the actual treatment dates no later than December 31st. The survey will be sent to you in the fall.

POSTING OF NOTICE SIGNS: All areas in public waters treated with pesticides must be posted with "Notice" signs prior to treatment in accordance with DNR posting instructions and Minnesota Rule 6280.0600, subp. 2. Signs, and any buoys or other structures to which the signs are attached, must be removed within seven days after the last water use restriction has expired. After seven days, signs and associated buoys or structures will be considered to be litter.

NPDES/SDS PESTICIDE GENERAL PERMIT: If your property is on a lake that is located within the boundaries of an Indian Reservation, then you are required to follow the conditions prescribed in the EPA's NPDES Pesticide General permit. The requirements can be reviewed online at: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/pesticide-applications> or you may call EPA Region 5 (312) 353-4145 for further information. For all other public waters, you are granted coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) / State Disposal System (SDS) Pesticide General Permit for the control of Nuisance Aquatic Animals (MNG87C0000) and Vegetative Pests and Algae (MNG87D0000) administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Compliance with the DNR permit will satisfy the requirements of the NPDES/SDS permit. More information and copies of MPCA's permit can be found at www.pca.state.mn.us/pesticidepermit.

ENFORCEMENT: Impacts to aquatic plants outside permitted area or without valid permit will result in enforcement action.

CONTROL EFFECTIVENESS: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources does not vouch for the effectiveness of any control method or operation nor does it stand as arbiter whether or not any such method or operation has been satisfactory. This permit is permissive only and no liability shall be incurred by the State or by any of its offices, agents, or employees by reason of the issuance of it or by reasons of acts or operations of the permittee. The permittee shall be solely responsible for any damage or injury to persons, domestic or wild animals, waters, or property, real or personal of any kind, resulting from the permittee's acts or operations, and at all times the State of Minnesota, its officers, agents, and employees, shall be held harmless from any liability for such damage or injury.

PERMIT EXPIRATION: This permit is only valid until the expiration date listed at top of the permit and must be renewed if you want to continue plant control in future years.

POST-TREATMENT REPORT: A post-treatment report including a Pesticide Applicator Report, GIS tracks and/or GPS coordinates must be submitted to the DNR following treatment. The report must be received before the end of the calendar year and should be sent to: Christine Jurek, Christine.Jurek@state.mn.us, 320-223-7847

VALID FOR CONSENTING PROPERTIES ONLY: This permit is valid for treatment adjacent to properties that have provided consent only. Permittee must stay 150 feet away from properties that did not consent. Failure to notify the DNR of all property owners who have not provided consent for near-shore treatment may result in termination of your permit. Written signatures or signature waiver documentation must be received by DNR before treatment can begin and provided to contractor.

50-FOOT SETBACK: Pesticide treatments cannot occur within 50-feet of water lilies, other floating leaf vegetation, or emergent vegetation.

POSTING OF TREATMENT SIGNS: Please read the posting instructions. Signs must be posted during the treatment.

PESTICIDE USE REPORT FORM: Applicator must fill out pesticide use report form and send back to MN DNR.

cc: Blong Lor, Conservation Officers, Center City; blong.lor@state.mn.us
 Leslie George, DNR Fisheries, Hinckley Area; hinckley.fisheries@state.mn.us



Invasive Species Program
Date: 5/26/2021

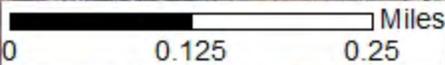


0 0.125 0.25 Miles

Comfort Lake, Chisago County (DOW 13005300)
2021 Approved Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment (8.05 acres)



 Comfort_Chisago_2021_EWM_Approved (endothall)

 Miles
0 0.125 0.25

Comfort Lake, Chisago County (DOW 13005300)
2021 Approved Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment (6.9 acres)

Comfort Lake Eurasian Watermilfoil Growth in 2020

Showing Occurrences of Moderate and Heavy Growth

