

## Chemical Program Information

by Lynn Wilbur

January 10, 2013

### Official Notification

Dear Cossayuna Lake Property Owner,

For the 2013 season, it is proposed to treat the aggressive growth of invasive Eurasian water milfoil with herbicides. Up to 100 acres in the lake may be treated. The final treatment area will be determined once total available funding is known. The treatment is tentatively scheduled for mid-May. Treatment using Sculpin G (2,4-D amine) herbicide is proposed. This product is registered for aquatic weed control by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and New York State. Copies of herbicide specimen label can be accessed on-line at the following website: [http://sepro.com/documents/SculpinG\\_Label.pdf](http://sepro.com/documents/SculpinG_Label.pdf)

The treatment program will be performed by State licensed aquatic applicators under a permit issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Early season treatments with this herbicide have demonstrated good selectivity for the targeted invasive weed. Non-target native aquatic plants are expected to remain to provide a habitat for fish and other marine life.

As a riparian owner/user you have the right to object to the restrictions of water use resulting from the proposed application. The anticipated restrictions on water use that will result from the proposed application will be: swimming & bathing are prohibited for 24 hours; fishing is prohibited for 24 hours, livestock watering is prohibited for 3 weeks, irrigation or the spraying of agriculture crops is prohibited for 3 weeks; potable/domestic use of water is prohibited for 3 weeks. If you wish to object to the proposed treatment you need to send a written notice stating your objection to: John Bennett, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 5, 232 Golf Course Road, Warrensburg, New York 12885, telephone (518) 623-1200. Your comments must be submitted within 21 days of receiving this notice. A lack of response will be considered as consent to the proposed treatment.

Notice of the specific treatment date will be provided by posting of the lake shoreline, publishing notices in the Greenwich Journal and Post Star newspaper, and on the CLIA website: [www.cossayunalake.com](http://www.cossayunalake.com). If you wish further information about the treatment or a copy of the product label please contact either Sheila Rappazzo (518-429-8312 or [sarappazzo@yahoo.com](mailto:sarappazzo@yahoo.com)) or Jeff Madison (518)-928-3514 or [mads135@hotmail.com](mailto:mads135@hotmail.com)), or visit the website listed above.

Sincerely,  
Lynn Wilbur  
Chair, Lake Management Task Force



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## Controlling Milfoil: Q & A

As most of you are aware, the lake has a significant problem with milfoil growth taking over many shore areas and spreading out further into the lake. This has a negative impact on fish species, other wildlife and recreation.

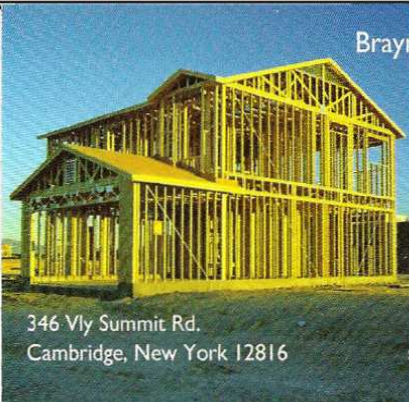
Other than mechanical harvesting, there has not been a more aggressive approach to control milfoil on Cossayuna Lake since 2009. Over the last couple of years it has become obvious that we need to go back to chemical treatment to keep milfoil in check.

In late summer 2012, the Lake Association solicited volunteers and assembled a lake management committee of interested residents to begin planning how to reduce the milfoil. We looked at what financial resources we could reasonably expect to raise in order to do this. Many of you attended a meeting where a representative from Aquatic Controls gave a presentation about treatment options and their costs. The committee has had several meetings and the committee and the CLIA Board of Directors have decided to treat the lake using the herbicide Sculpin G (2, 4-D)

Listed below are some common questions and answers about why the lake management committee and CLIA Board made this decision and how the treatment plan will go forward:

### Why Is Milfoil Such a Problem?

Milfoil is not native to U.S. It is believed it was brought to North America in the 1940s as an ornamental plant. Milfoil is now found in at least 43 states. It grows and outcompetes or eliminates more beneficial native water plants, severely reducing natural plant diversity within the lake. Upsetting the lake ecology, milfoil also interferes with natural siltation and raises the nutrient level of the water, encouraging the growth of algae. The dense mats of milfoil in our lake have made fishing, boating and swimming harder and less enjoyable, affecting recreation and property values.



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## Why Not Just Increase Harvesting and Hydro Raking?

Hydroraking, vacuuming and dredging are good shoreline options for clearing weed beds and muck around beaches, docks, and landings, but they are not cost effective for large areas.

Harvesting is most effective when used on native plants that have a life cycle where they grow, set seeds and die. If harvested early in their life cycle the native plant can be slowly beaten back, the same as if you were clearing a field. Slowly, after many cuttings only the very short plants are left to grow. Milfoil, however, when cut, creates thousands of new stem fragments that can drift with the wind. These fragments float to other areas, sink, and start new plants. Many lakes either use just chemical treatment, or a combination of chemical treatment and harvesting to control native and non-native weeds.

## Why Use Sculpin G (2, 4-D)?

Sculpin G (2, 4-D) is a selective, root-killing systemic herbicide that controls submersed, immersed, and rooted floating milfoil. Granular treatment early in the spring is effective. The granules sink directly into the plant bed and suspend a layer of herbicide where the plants are. The herbicide is slowly released and is absorbed through the leaves, stems and roots as the plants begin to grow. Growth is halted and the plant dies. Many lakes treated with Sculpin G (2, 4-D) have had great success managing milfoil. It is also less expensive than some other chemical treatments. With our limited financial resources, the committee felt this was the best option for the lake.

Sculpin G (2, 4-D) has been used in weed eradication since the 1940's. It's been studied extensively for its toxicity and is considered a relatively low-toxicity herbicide for humans, fish and other wildlife. You can find more information about Sculpin G (2, 4-D) on the Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association web site at [www.cossayunalake.com](http://www.cossayunalake.com).

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## How do I Participate in Treatment?

Treatment works best when applied to adjoining waterfront properties so the Sculpin G (2, 4-D) will take hold in that area. The form in this newsletter shows the treatment costs for a minimum 50 feet of shoreline, (a 50x200 area) and for larger areas for both CLIA members and non-members. You do not need to be a CLIA member to participate.

Whether you have lakefront or not, you can also make a financial donation to be used towards treating open areas of the lake that need it most.

It will take participation of all of us who love Cossayuna Lake to tackle this problem or else there won't be enough areas treated to make substantial improvement. We definitely need both members and non-members to join in this effort.

## What Does It Mean to Donate to a Neighborhood Weed bed?

Since contiguous treatment areas are going to be key to a successful herbicide treatment, we are looking to enlarge the treatment areas of groups of neighbors who participate. So, if you and four or five neighbors in a relatively close area decide to treat your shoreline, you can donate money so that the areas that would otherwise go untreated in your neighborhood will receive treatment. Providing a band of connected treatment in your area will greatly enhance your neighborhoods benefit from the herbicide.

## How Can I Help Out?

The CLIA is launching our Cossayuna Neighbor to Neighbor Program to involve as many people as possible. We are looking for volunteers to be Area Leaders and ask neighbors to join the program to have their water front treated. We are also looking for a few volunteers to reach out to area businesses to solicit support for the Neighbor 2 Neighbor Program. Area businesses benefit economically from Cossayuna Lake residents and visitors. Improving the quality of the lake is in their best interest. Please e-mail Kate at [ktcove2@gmail.com](mailto:ktcove2@gmail.com) if you are willing to help us reach our goal of treating 100 acres of the lake! We are asking you to commit to reaching out to at least 4 neighbors in your immediate area. Many of us are not at the Lake during winter months, so your outreach may need to be via phone or email. CLIA would be interested in hearing any feedback from your outreach.



## PLEASE PARTICIPATE

Ask 10 people from the Capital district what they know about Cossayuna Lake and you'll hear a variety of responses from "huh?" to; "oh I think I've heard of it", or the "bass fishing's great", or, all too often, "oh that weedy little lake in Argyle and Greenwich."

For all of us that have grown up on, spent time at, retired to, or just enjoyed a part of our life there, Cossayuna is much more than a weedy little lake nestled between the rolling hills of Washington County. For many of us, Cossayuna Lake is or has become like a member of the family. A place we love. A place where generations have grown up, people have come together, friends have been found, and memories have been made. It's a place that has become very dear to us for all of our own individual reasons.

But year after year for many years now, things have been changing in the lake, and not for the better. We are now witnessing the result of between 40 and 50 years of the deterioration of our lake. Human intrusion has fast-tracked the process of what would have been the natural slow death of Cossayuna lake. There is a laundry list of reasons of why this is happening, how it started, and the unique conditions that have greatly accelerated what we now are experiencing for summertime disorders in the lake which include but are not limited to: an overbearing amount of invasive aquatic species (specifically Eurasian Milfoil being the worst), stagnant water around thick weed beds encouraging reduction of water clarity, large algae blooms and fish kills caused from oxygen depletions.

The bottom line is our lake is sick and needs our help.

So this begs the question: what do we do? There are as many opinions as there are people around the lake. There are also many different methods both established and experimental on how to combat these issues. There is, however, an approach based in fact and proven in locations throughout the country, and specifically in the northeast. This approach is working successfully in locations as close as Saratoga Lake and have the potential to be greatly beneficial to our own Cossayuna Lake.

This successful approach is spearheaded by a strong aquatic herbicide program, integrated with a harvesting program and accented with small scale dredging. I won't get into the intricate details of the use of a chemical for control of invasive species like Milfoil, but I will say that it is proven, it is safe, and it is currently the ONLY way to successfully turn the tides in our favor in greatly improving the all-around conditions at Cossayuna Lake.

The adverse effects of the milfoil on the lake greatly outweigh any small downside the chemical may have, and this isn't something you have to take my word for. There are numerous studies showing very little to no negative impacts on wildlife, water safety, etc., when used correctly and effectively. In fact, natural species habitat and water quality usually improve once the invasive species populations begin to decline after a successful chemical program has been established.

Established is a very important word to remember. This is not a one-time fix-all approach, we are talking about an ongoing commitment by the community and the CLIA to make this work and keep conditions improving for years to come. So please if you enjoy the lake and can afford to participate in the 2013 chemical program, please do so.

Even if you're not a property owner and just enjoy coming to the lake, please donate to our cause, every dollar helps. This is going to be something that you'll be able to experience the benefits of first-hand and see with your own eyes. Thanks to all who have donated their own time and worked diligently to see this through!

Jeff Madison

Golf Course Superintendent

The Edison Club

(Approaching my 31<sup>st</sup> Summer at Cossayuna Lake)



# Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association

P.O. Box 81, Cossayuna, NY 12823

Dear Owner,

January 10, 2013

Over the last 3 years no aquatic herbicides have been applied to control weeds in the lake. This lapse in treatment has only reinforced the need to go back to herbicide applications to keep the milfoil in check. We think it will be necessary to provide strong support for a chemical program to control the overabundance of invasive aquatic plants. The goal is to get substantial contiguous areas treated, which would enhance the overall effectiveness of the treatment. You do not have to be a member of the Association in order to participate in the program for treatment of shoreline areas, though non-members will be assessed a surcharge. Also, we are asking for people to make contributions, not only for their shoreline areas, but toward "neighborhood weed beds". We are encouraging neighbors to work together to provide for treatment of more areas that would otherwise go untreated. \$400 would provide for treatment of approximately an additional acre. We also continue to feel that it is important to keep a channel open through the south end of the lake to permit the lake to flush to the outlet sediment and nutrients brought into the lake. Even if you do not have a weed problem by your shoreline, we would greatly appreciate any contributions that you may wish to make to enhance the overall treatment of the Lake.

The costs for treatment will be \$120 minimum for up to 50 feet of shoreline, with \$2.40/ft for more than 50 ft. There will be a \$30 surcharge for non members. There is no set amount for neighborhood weed beds, but \$100 provides for treatment of about a quarter of an acre (roughly 100 ft x 100 ft). Please fill out the below form and mail them to the above address by **February 28, 2013.**

## Herbicide Treatment Request Form – 2013

Name..... Telephone (     ).....

Address.....

Cottage Number.....and Location.....

Neighbors Left (from lake).....Right.....

Cottage or property description.....

Describe Landmarks on Shore (treatment from & to).....

**Lakefront Footage To Be Treated - Members please fill in membership form and send in**

\$.....Treatment @ **\$2.40/ft** (\$120 minimum)

\$.....Non member surcharge

\$.....Neighborhood weed beds

\$.....Total



Signed.....

Date.....

## The President's Letter by Pat Smith

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Greetings. We hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday and Happy New Year. As we move forward into 2013, we bring with us the effects of the school tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut. Newtown has poignantly reminded us of the importance of uniting as a community. Hopefully we will honor their spirit of solidarity as we deal with challenges of our own.

When you have the opportunity, take a look at the information on our website located at **CossayunaLake.com**. It will bring you up to date on current events and issues. With some cooperative weather on our side, the annual Ice Fishing Tournament is scheduled for February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Lake Management Task Force, headed by Board Member Lynn Wilbur, is maintaining a strong commitment from its members, and meets on a monthly basis. Volunteer members are spending countless hours researching programs of similar lakes, contacting government and private agencies, considering lake treatment options, and developing long-range plans to enhance Cossayuna Lake. Included in this newsletter is the 2013 Herbicide Treatment Plan. Please take time to review the plan so you will be fully informed of its procedures, costs, and deadlines. There is information as to how you can respond with your views of what is proposed. We are

looking for as many residents and visitors as possible to become involved in supporting our Cossayuna Neighbor to Neighbor Program. Please e-mail Kate at [ktcove2@gmail.com](mailto:ktcove2@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping us to achieve our goal to treat at least 100 acres of the lake. Your feedback is always appreciated and will certainly benefit our lake community.

Cossayuna Lake has held a special place in the hearts of generations of families. As it's current generation of caretakers, we feel a renewed sense of urgency to address and take action on complex environmental issues. We want Cossayuna to continue to play a central role in the lives of our children and grandchildren, and beyond.

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## Ice Fishing Tournament by Nancy Hieber

The weather has turned cold and we are hoping to have good conditions for the ice fishing

tournament this year. Last year was a great turnout for the tournament and the 50/50 raffle. This year we have moved the registration to the Cossayuna Fire House on the corner of Bunker Hill Rd and East Lake Rd. We will be set up there by 5:30 AM. For questions about registration and 50/50 sales, you can contact Nancy Hieber at 692-9206.

The fish measurement station will be at the Orange Flag on the East Side of the lake just north of Pratt's Point which is 195 East Lake Rd.; same place as last year. You will be able to call 692-9206 for a status of the largest fish recorded during the tournament. Participants will have assigned numbers and if a legal size fish isn't caught there will be a drawing for that category prize.

  
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## Membership Report

by Nancy Hieber

Here we are, starting off a new year for membership. Please see the membership application within this newsletter. I would like to thank all of last year's members for taking responsibility for our lake by joining the CLIA. We hope to see all of last years members join again this year and to bring in new members as well. We need lots of interest in caring for the lake and this is one way to get involved. Please submit your membership application to take advantage of some benefits of a CLIA membership. As listed before, some benefits are: Satisfaction of being a Cossayuna Lake caretaker –

Voting privileges at the June general and August election meetings – Opportunity to serve on the CLIA Board of Directors and committees – Access to harvesting services – Access to chemical treatment – Access to the CLIA dock and beach area – Access to rent the Pavilion. We need your membership support to help maintain this beautiful lake. Your membership contribution and donations to the CLIA are tax deductible to the extent of the law. I look forward to hearing from each of you and to see you at the general and election meetings.

## Ice Fishing Tournament February 2nd 2013 Mark Your Calendar




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# Cossayuna Lake Ice Fishing Tournament & 50/50 Raffle

## February 2<sup>nd</sup> - open to the public

Registration begins 5:30 AM

### The 4th Annual CLIA Ice Fishing Tournament

Saturday, Feb 2nd, 2013 from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM  
Cash prizes will be awarded based on the number of entries.

*Strong Tournament Participation – Over 170 Participants Last Year*

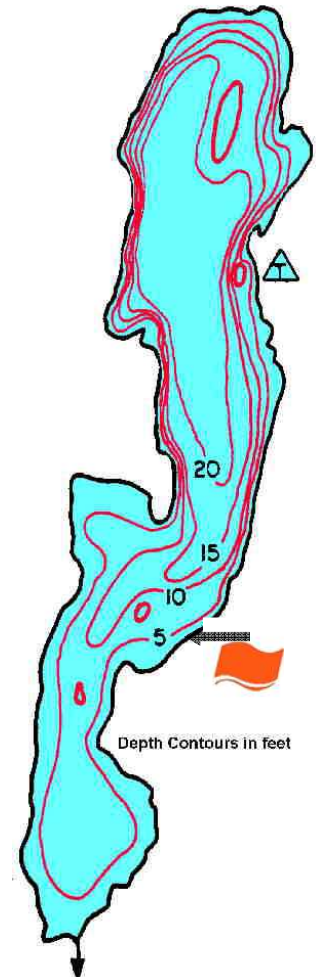
**Entrance fee is \$10.00 per person**  
**100% Return of entry fees as follows:**

**50% largest pike or tiger muskie**  
**25% largest perch**  
**25% largest crappie**

- All fish must be alive
- All fish must be legal size to qualify for prizes
- Winners will be determined by length only
- No entrants after 8:00 AM : No fish will be measured after 3:30 PM
- All fish will be measured outside near Pratt's Point- Orange flag
- Check-in location can be access from the lake or 195 East Lake Rd.
- All questions call Nancy Hieber 692-9206 or Tom Schultz 531-4146

### 50 / 50 Raffle Ticket Drawing

- Open to the public, you do not need to enter the fishing tournament
- You do not need to be present to win
- Drawing at 3:35 PM on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00



### Obtain 50/50 Tickets and Submit Tournament Registration

**Contact Nancy Hieber 692-9206 for Registration or 50/50 Tickets**

**Please mail application for registration or tickets by Jan 28**

**Register in person before 8:00 AM on Feb 2nd. 50/50 Tickets will be available until 3:30 PM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration \$\_\_\_\_\_ 50/50 Tickets \$\_\_\_\_\_

*Ice Fishing Registration is \$10.00 per person*  
*50/50 Tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00*

**- Register by mail to the CLIA- PO Box 81, Cossayuna NY 12823 prior to Jan 28 -**  
**- Register in person on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> at Cossayuna Fire House – corner of Bunker Hill & East Lake Rd**

## Education

As the newly appointed Education Chair I look forward to continuing the Boater Safety program. It is my understanding that the class for 2013 will be June 15 from 9 AM to 5 PM. There will be more up to date info in future newsletters and email communications.

## Friday Night Dinners

by Bob Montanye

On another topic, I have volunteered to take charge of the Friday night dinners. I hope we will have the teams that have given of their time in the past as well as new teams. I anticipate some changes for next year; back to cooking the burgers and dogs to order,

karaoke on some nights, and I hope to get some specialty food nights as we've had in the past to compliment the burgers and dogs. If you have ideas or suggestions, I would like to hear from you. We all want Friday nights to continue to be fun gatherings.

## Advertising Opportunity in Cossayuna Lake Community

Do you know anyone that needs to expand community awareness of their business? What better way to advertise than a low cost local newsletter. Quarterly mailings go to every resident within one mile of the

lake. The donation requested for having your ad included in 4 newsletter mailings per year is \$30.00. Anyone who would like to have their ad included could do so by sending their business card electronically to Kelly

Pauley, Newsletter Editor, at [sydsfun@nycap.rr.com](mailto:sydsfun@nycap.rr.com) or, for those of you who don't have computer access, by enclosing their business card along with a check for \$30.00 made payable to the CLIA and mail to PO Box 81, Cossayuna, NY 12823.

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Join now for 2013 and be eligible to apply for the harvesting and chemical programs and pavilion rental.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Summer \_\_\_\_\_ Winter \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

(For messages relating to CLIA purposes only – will not be given out)

Please indicate your membership choice and send your payment to:

**CLIA, PO Box 81, Cossayuna, NY 12823**

*Please circle your membership choice.*

\$75 SINGLE - 1 vote -1 membership -1 name Check # \_\_\_\_\_

\$75 DUAL -1 vote -1 membership -2 names Check Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$95 JOINT -2 votes -2 memberships -2 names

*Please indicate how membership should read. Examples:*

Single : John Doe Dual : John Doe/ Jane Doe Joint: John Doe &amp; Jane Doe

Please call Nancy Hieber, Membership Coordinator, at (518) 692-9206 for membership questions



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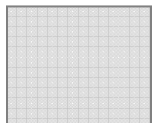
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MEMBER NAME  
STREET ADDRESS  
CITY, ST 22134

**The 2013 Herbicide (Chemical) Treatment Plan is inside.  
NON-MEMBERS and MEMBERS are encouraged to participate  
See details and official notification**