

Questions for James Kreitlow (Lake Chetac)

1. How many lakes have been treated with chemicals for Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP), and how long has this been going on? What are the results?
There are a number of lakes in the state of Wisconsin that are treating CLP. In Northern Wisconsin the following Lakes are treating CLP: Little St. Germain (Vilas County) (6 years), Lac Courte Oreilles (Sawyer County) (3 years), Rice Lake (Barron County), Gordan Lake (Ashland County), Musser Lake (Price County) (4 years) and Spider Lake (Sawyer County) (2 years). The key is to treat the population early, before turion production has had a chance to occur. Turions remain viable in the sediment up to 5 years. Once you start treating there is a 3-5 year commitment to control. You will never eradicate it.
2. How long has CLP existed in Lake Chetac?
My records indicate it was first found in 2005. Lake residents have told me that it was in the lake before that.
3. What is the rate of growth of CLP in Lake Chetac?
2008 plant survey indicates there is close to 600 acres of CLP. I have no information on how quickly it spread after it was introduced. 340 out of 970 survey points contained CLP (~ 35% of the lakes surface). It was considered dense at 30 % of the sampling locations. Note: the littoral zone (area of plant growth) occupies about 40% of the lake surface area.
4. What happens if we do not treat CLP?
It might expand some (now present in most of the littoral zone). Densities may change from year to year. There is a diverse native plant community in lake Chetac, but vary sparse. CLP may continue to out compete these native plants.
5. How does chemical treatment affect the native wildlife?
Typically Endothal (Aquathol K) applied at such a low dose that wildlife is not at risk. Chemical dissipates quickly in eutrophic systems. It is usually applied at 0.5-1.5 ppm for CLP treatment. The 96 hr LC (lethal Concentration) for bluegill is 77 ppm for Mallard it is 5000 ppm.
6. What are the treatment options?
We recommend early spring season chemical treatments (one to two sites/plots for treatment and one as a control) of CLP over a 3-5 year period. These would be smaller in scale and provide information on ability to control CLP, and evaluate native plant response.
7. How does chemical treatment affect the native plants?
CLP is the first plant to start growing in the spring. Usually CLP is treated early before water temperatures reach 60 degrees and before native plants are growing. If you treat later native plants are at risk.

8. Who is in charge of studying the results?
The grant sponsor is responsible. Usually these costs are built into the AIS Established Control Grant. In most cases a consultant is hired to do the Pre/Post evaluation monitoring. Pilot project would take 3-5 years to complete.
9. Will the Village be involved with the process?
It is up to the project sponsor to keep stakeholders informed. The Village can be involved in the process.
10. How are the effects studied?
We have a rigorous monitoring requirement. Detailed pre and post treatment evaluations will be conducted at the treatment sites. Are CLP densities changing? Are native plants responding? Are treatments working? We also may be able to conduct residual monitoring of the herbicide in water (are we achieving the contact and exposure times necessary to kill the CLP?).
11. How is the affect on groundwater tracked?
Groundwater should not be impacted.
12. Are there restrictions on swimming in the water after the treatments?
There are no swimming restrictions on newer product label (2010). Earlier product label had a 24 hr swimming restriction within treatment area.
13. What time of year are the treatments applied?
Late April/Early May. This is before turion production.
14. How are the treatments applied?
Herbicide is applied (Spray or pellet dispenser) from a boat using a GPS unit (so chemical is applied in designated treatment area).
15. Who monitors the treatments?
Usually a consultant hired by the grant sponsor (eligible cost under grant). Actual chemical treatment can be monitored by DNR.
16. Is there collaboration with the Red Cedar Watershed Association?
Not that I am aware of.
17. Will there be any reporting to the Sawyer County or Northwest lakes Consortium?
Kristy Maki is Sawyer County AIS Coordinator. She is familiar with this project and can offer assistance. Project results can be shared with anyone.
18. Will there be an engineering firm working with the lakes association?
Yes, in most cases. This is a grant eligible cost.
19. How do these chemicals affect animals, especially family dogs"?
There is a 7 day animal drinking water use restriction within treatment areas.

20. How long after treatment is there a "residual"? If not, how long does it take to dissipate?

A lot depends on application rates. Use restrictions in treatment areas are usually lifted after 7 days. Look at product label for use restrictions.