

**LAKE HELEN PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT
EMERGENCY BLUE GREEN ALGAE MEETING
Thursday, June 16, 2022 4PM
Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting**

Commissioners Present: Keith Hoffman, Tyne Hoffman, Scott Nyman, Glen Bersie, & Kara Boghossian

Commissioners Absent: None

Guests: Tracy Arnold (Portage County Planning & Zoning), Scott Provost (DNR Biologist), & Colton Hutchinson (DNR)

NEW BUSINESS:

❖ 2022 BLUE GREEN ALGAE BLOOM

- Keith updated the group regarding mitigation attempts: inserting temporary plugs in culverts, purchasing Flowgate, lake profiles, (measuring temps & dissolved oxygen), and turning on aerators.
- Scott Provost will meet up with Keith, Glen & Bill Pingel (CLMN) to show them how to do water quality testing that will be paid for by the DNR.
- Monitor nutrient load and phosphorous levels coming from bottom of lake.
- Zebra Mussels is a potential cause. Filter feeds on competing algae and spits out blue green algae. Zequanox is a potential chemical to treat zebra mussels, very pricey.
- Zebra mussels filter water and allow more sunlight to penetrate deeper to the lake bottom.
- Lake Helen Commissioners are on board to be a “test guinea pig”, Scott Provost is on board with that if the phosphorous and nitrogen level under control.

Other:

- Recommended to contact Gina LaLiberte (Water Resources Management, DNR)
- Contact UWSP find a student working on an “Aquatic Toxic” Masters Degree or specializing in this field.
- More water Samples from the mouth of the ditch
- DNR has a grant available for “Alum Treatment” (aluminum sulfate), to remove & control phosphate levels in the lake. Treatments span over a 3-year period. Phosphates sit & cycle at the bottom of a lake. Unsure as to whether this could be an effective treatment as well on zebra mussels also. Proper dosage needs to be used to prevent a fish kill.
- No treatment for nitrogen levels other than oxidation
- Recommended to move flowgate to the culvert located at the corner of Lake Helen Road and West Lake Helen Drive. Balance out water pressure on both sides of the road and expand storage capacity.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING: Saturday June 18, 2022 9am Keith & Tyne’s Residence

ADJOURNEMENT: Glen made a motion to adjourn meeting at 4:51pm. Kara Seconds. All in Favor