

From: Sandy Henry
To: Clerk
Subject: Lake Board Opposition
Date: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 1:13:51 PM

Leelanau County

In my opinion the creation of a lake preservation board does not adequately present a feasible solution to the Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) issue facing Lake Leelanau and it's surrounding counties.

Our lake is a community resource and a community responsibility. It is no different than our schools, roads, damn or other community resources. All who come to this county whether to live, work or play benefit from what Lake Leelanau and its communities have to offer and it needs to be cared for, maintained and protected by not only lakefront property owners but the community and other entities involved. Our schools are paid for by all in the community not just those who have children attending them. The damn has recently been established as a community responsibility and invasive species issues should share the same rationale for management and financial cost needed to address the issue.

Other sources of responsibility should include The Pure Michigan campaign, which promotes northern michigan tourism that individuals, communities and businesses all benefit from. The DNR has put in multiple boat launches with no boat washing stations and should also share in lake preservation efforts and costs. Every time a boat is launched without first being washed there is the potential to introduce unwanted species into our lake. If this were a private lake it would make sense for waterfront property owners to foot the bill but this is not a private lake it is a community lake available for the public to enjoy and businesses to prosper from. The responsibility to care for and maintain it should include all who use or benefit from it which is the community as a whole.

Another point to consider is the creation of ordinances designed to proactively protect our resources. Other Michigan lakes have multiple ordinances in place designed to protect their lakes which Lake Leelanau currently does not have and could have potentially avoided the EWM problem.

Respectfully,

Rick Henry
LLLA member and property owner since 2009

Sent from my iPad