

# Aquatic Invasive Species Update Washington & Waukesha Counties



**October 2020**

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[Washington County Website](#)

[Waukesha County Website](#)

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## **End of Season Results:**

I would like to start off by giving a HUGE thank you for everyone involved in making this 2020 summer season a success! This summer was one like no other and was made successful by the help of SO many. To the full and part time interns, lakes partners, volunteers, divers, and ANYONE else who put in their time and effort to protecting our waterbodies in Washington and Waukesha Counties... I say

**THANK YOU!!!!!!**

First and foremost, we did not add any additional Starry Stonewort lakes to either county this summer! Here are some end of season numbers:

## **Hours Spent Doing CBCW on Landings**

### **Washington County:**

Big Cedar: 122

Little Cedar: 70.19

Silver: 200\*  
Pike: 253\*  
Bark: 286\*  
Druid: 14.26  
Fries: 200\*  
Hasmer: 5  
Green: 5.3  
Lake 12: .5  
Smith: 1.67  
Wallace: 6.55

**Waukesha County:**

Lac La Belle: 216.5\*  
Fowler: 50 hrs Survey  
Silver: 325.75\*  
Nemahbin: 200\*  
Ashippun: 250\*  
Pretty/Hunters: 200\*  
Golden: 200\*  
Pewaukee: 102.75  
Nagawicka: 56  
Big/Little Muskego: 48  
Oconomowoc: 38  
Okauchee: 4  
Mid/Low Genesee: 24  
Denoon: 8  
School Section: 9  
Moose: 6  
Eagle Spring: 8  
Upper/Lower Phantom: 16

- \* shows Lakes with Intergovernmental agreements (IGA's)

**Surveys Done**

**Washington County**

6/15/20: Little Cedar Lake Sub PI  
6/16/20: EDM Big Cedar Lake/Gilbert Lake  
6/22/20: Druid Lake Full PI  
7/13/20: Bark Lake EDM  
7/20/20: Silver Lake Sub PI  
7/28/20: Green Lake Sub PI  
7/29/20: Wallace Lake EDM  
8/14/20: Paradise Valley Lake EDM  
8/18/20: Milwaukee River EDM  
8/18/20: Smith Lake EDM  
8/24/20: Little Cedar Post Sub PI  
9/1/20: Pike Lake FULL PL

**Waukesha County**

5/29/20: EDM County Parks: Retzer, Minooka, Fox Brook,  
Menomonee, Mukwonago

7/7/20: Asian Clam Survey on the Pewaukee River

7/9/20: Golden Lake EDM

7/16/20: Ashippun Lake EDM

8/5/20 -8/6/20: Fowler Lake FULL PI

8/26/20: Hunters Lake EDM

9/15/20- 9/17/20: Little Muskego Full PI

### Trainings and Other Projects

#### **Washington County**

CBCW- Trained 34 Inspectors

Project RED- Milwaukee River: 1 volunteer/ Additional 5 upcoming

Starry Stonewort Hand Pulls (3) Little Cedar Lake

Purple Loosestrife Bio-Control

Did end of year control/Bark Lake

#### **Waukesha County**

CBCW- Trained 17 Inspectors

CLMN- New CLMN water tester trained Lower Nashota

Starry Stonewort Hand Pulls (2) Nemahbin (1) Okauchee

Purple Loosestrife Bio-Control

Added 2 Landowners to Control Project

Did end of year control/ Private Landowners/Ashippun Lake

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## **Battle of the Invasives: Rusty Crayfish vs. Northern Crayfish**

### **Rusty**

Characteristics: This crayfish measures two and one-half inches (not including claws) in length. Look for their large claws with black bands on the tips and dark, **rusty spots on each side of their carapace** (hard outer body covering). Their claws are grayish-green to reddish-brown and smoother than most other crayfish.



### **Northern**

Characteristics: The Northern Crayfish grows to a length of about 10-12 cm, not including the 2 pairs of long antennae or the large chelipeds (pron: "keel-i-peds"), the large claw or pincer bearing legs, that extend forward. The chelipeds often have a bluish tint, particularly in the males which have larger chelipeds and larger pincers than females.



### **Why Rusty Crayfish are a problem in WI:**

Outside their home range, rusty crayfish are likely to displace native crayfish and reduce aquatic plant abundance and diversity. In some northern Wisconsin lakes, it has eaten most of the aquatic plants, hurting the quality of the lakes. Aquatic plants provide important habitat for fish and other aquatic animals, as well as prevent erosion. By damaging underwater habitat, fish also lose their spawning areas, protective cover and food. Fish that normally eat crayfish don't like the feisty, aggressive "rusty." It takes over the homes of native crayfish and has been known to eat fish eggs. Rusty crayfish reproduce quickly and females lay from 80-575 eggs.

### **A quick correction from last month's comparisons**

The pictures were mislabeled in the photos under the "leaves" comparison. The upper left picture is Blue Vervain and the lower left picture is Purple Loosestrife.

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*The Aquatic Invasive Species Program is a cooperative effort between Washington & Waukesha Counties, supported by grant funds from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and a number of generous local lake groups working to control the spread of AIS. Thank you for your support!*

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