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Do Your Part to Stop Invasive Species!

Ziigwan (spring) is here finally! Soon it will be time to get your boats out on the lakes for the 2014 spearing season and fishing in general! While outside enjoying all of the wonders of spring and summer, please remember to do your part to stop the spread of invasive species.

What is an invasive species? It is a species that is not native to the area and has a negative impact on the environment, health and the economy. Several invasive species that have invaded areas in and around the Fond du Lac Reservation and treaty areas include zebra mussels, spiny water flea, Eurasian water milfoil, and Purple Loosestrife.

Zebra Mussels filter plankton from the water. In lakes with high zebra mussel populations, this filter feeding impacts the food chain, reducing food for fish in their larval or fingerling



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stages. They can also clog water intakes. The closest zebra mussel population is in the St. Louis River estuary. Zebra mussels have also been found in Mille Lacs lake.

*******Spearing 2014*******

New this year: After your boat has been to Mille Lacs Lake or any other lake designated as "infected", you will be required to bring your boat to FDL Resource Management Division facilities to have RMD staff clean it with their high-pressure, high-temperature power washer. You will NOT be allowed to launch your boat into any other lakes after Mille Lacs without first obtaining a receipt from RMD after your boat has been disinfected. FDL can not risk moving any of the invasive species living in Mille Lacs into other Ceded Territory lakes.

Spiny Water Fleas compete with native fish species for food, potentially resulting in fish population decline. They are not actually a flea, but a crustacean. Their spines make them very difficult for other fish to eat, which allows for their populations to grow. They have been found in the Cloquet River, Fish Lake, Island Lake, East Twin Lake, and the St. Louis River.

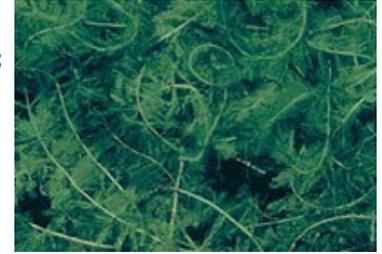


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Eurasian Water Milfoil forms a thick mat that can crowd out native plants important to the ecosystem. It also can impact recreational activities such as boating and swimming. This invasive species has been found in Chub Lake.



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Purple Loosestrife – seeds spread via moving water and form dense stands that crowd out native plants in wetlands and shorelines. Every year we hand-pull any loosestrife plants on the Reservation, and bigger stands can be reduced through biocontrol using weevils. A large stand of purple loosestrife exists at the Hwy 33/I-35 interchange.

What should you do to help? The Fond du Lac Reservation and Fond du Lac Ceded Territories Conservation Codes include the following regulations to prevent the spread of invasive species:

- **Bait collected in infested waters may only be used within the same waters and on the same day it was collected.**
- **Remove all aquatic vegetation from boats, trailers and other equipment when leaving infested waters.**
- **Transporting purple loosestrife and Eurasian or northern watermilfoil is prohibited.**
- **Drain all bait containers, livewells, and bilges by removing the drain plug before leaving the site and travelling on public roads.**
- **Do not transport infested water! A permit must be obtained from the Resource Management Division in order to transport fish using water from infested waters. Transporting water from infested waters for any other reason is prohibited.**

For more detailed information on these regulations and others, you can obtain a copy of the Conservation Codes at the FdL Resource Management Building or on the website at <http://www.fdlrez.com>.

Emerald Ash Borer is another invasive species of great concern. It destroys *aagimaakwag* (ash trees) and has been found as close as Douglas County, WI. Avoid moving any firewood, ash trees, branches and limbs. Purchase or gather firewood at your destination rather than bringing it with you. Why are *aagimaakwag* important? Not only are they important to the health of the ecosystem, their flexibility, weight and strength make them ideal for making *aagimag* (snowshoes) and *makakoon* (baskets). For more information, please go to the following website:



<http://www.emeraldashborer.info>

Miigwech for doing your part to prevent the spread of invasive species!

FDL 8th grade presents at 2014 St. Louis River Estuary Summit

By Anna Clark & Shannon Judd

Fond du Lac Ojibwe School 8th grade students traveled to UWS to participate in the 2014 St. Louis River Estuary Summit. There they joined people in the science community to listen to topics relating to the St. Louis River. Not only did students listen to talks about the estuary, they presented and shared a poster on the water quality monitoring that they had been conducting at Otter Creek since September of 2013. Students were asked many questions relating to their work done at Otter Creek and what their data tells us about the creek. Eighth grader Eddie Defoe said, "I met a lot of cool people including someone that works with National Geographic. I gave a short speech about our class and had a really good time. I learned a lot while there."

Teacher, Anna Clark, and students have worked with the Fond du Lac Environmental Education Outreach Coordinator, Shannon Judd; Fond du Lac Watershed Specialist, Kari Hedin; and Deanna Erickson, Education Coordinator for the Lake Superior National Estuarine Research Reserve throughout the year monitoring Otter Creek. Students are also participating in other learning opportunities as part of the Rivers2Lake Program funded by NOAA's Bay Watershed Education Training Program. This program uses the Lake Superior Watershed and the St. Louis River as a base for hands-on, outdoor education and student learning.



Leah Savage is the new Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) for Fond du Lac Resource Management. Leah was born and raised on FDL Reservation and is an enrolled member of the tribe. She graduated May of 2013 from UMD with her Masters in Tribal Administration and Governance. Her Bachelor Degree major was Elementary Education and Ojibwe Language. She grew up in the life style of practicing her Ojibwe culture and traditional activities and helps pass it on to the younger generations. She likes spending time with her daughter and teaching her how to create art through traditional and contemporary beadwork and birch bark design.

Tribal Historic Preservation Officers work for the protection, preservation and management of FDL's cultural resources such as: cultural properties; patrimony and funerary objects; artifacts and materials; physical remains; significant resources such as traditional sites for harvesting wild rice, maple sugar, and medicinal herbs; lands with FDL historical interests including the territories ceded to the U.S. by the Treaties of 1837, 1842, and 1854, and more.



Mino Aki Giizhigad
Happy Earth Day

*from
fall's office of water protection*

Adding this water helps balance what we take from drinking wells. This drawdown of water is not the only thing that affects aquifer levels and recharge rates. How fast water moves in soil depends on things such as soil type, land cover and use, climate, and precipitation lost to runoff.

With warmer weather comes the renewal of our groundwater resources. thawed soil allows the snow melt to trickle down through the ground recharging our groundwater levels

The St. Louis River watershed's estimated recharge rate is about 7 inches a year* This means on average, 7 inches of water is added to the aquifer levels

Please be kind to our groundwater this Spring while preparing your gardens. A little fertilizer can go a long way. Water will dissolve and take with it most organic compounds. Nitrogen and Phosphorus can leave fertilizers and slowly pollute local lakes, streams, and groundwater. Check to see if your soil actually needs it before you plant

**Estimation of recharge from shallow aquifers in the Great Lakes Basin" B.P. Neff, A.R. Piggot, and R.A. Sheets, Scientific Investigations Report 2005-4262 11/01

Recycle

Plastic

Newspaper

Cardboard

Magazine Paper



Aluminium

Mixed paper

**Monday—Friday:
8:00am—6:00pm**

**Saturday-Sunday
8:00am—4:30pm**

Closed Holidays

**The Fond du Lac Waste
Site is for band member
household use only.**

**Do your part to
conserve natural
resources and
protect the
environment for
future
generations....Recycle.
Fond du Lac Waste
Site: 878-8069**

Who's Who?

Fond du Lac Reservation Environmental Program Staff- (218) 878-7101

Wayne Dupuis - Environmental Program Manager.....878-7106

Alex Jackson—Air Program Coordinator.....878-7112

Nancy Schuldt - Water Projects Coordinator.....878-7110

Shannon Judd - Environmental Education Outreach Coordinator.....878-7123

Russell DuFault - Recycling Coordinator.....878-8069

Rick Gitar - Water Regulatory Specialist.....878-7122

Kari Hedin - Watershed Specialist.....878-7109

Shannon Kesner - Wetlands Specialist.....878-7157

Andrea Junker - Environmental Policy Specialist.....878-7111

Cristina Weske, Groundwater Protection Specialist.....878-7150

Waynette Mahr, Waste Collection Site Supervisor.....878-8069

Bruno Zagar - Environmental Specialist.....878-7165

Joy Wiecks - Air Quality Technician.....878-7108

Dave Smith - Land Records Researcher/Brownfields Coordinator.....878-7119

Leah Savage, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer.....878-7129