



PLM NEWS

PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.
Great Lakes Division

Guess Who is Turning 40?

PLM is coming up on its 40-year anniversary of protecting your precious lakes and ponds. In 1979, Greg and Jessica Cheek started a small family business specializing in aquatic plant control and laid the foundation for what PLM is today. From one boat, a truck, and an entrepreneur's vision, PLM has evolved into one of the most diverse leaders in the aquatic industry. The Cheeks realized that "One size does not fit all" when it comes to aquatic plant management and diversified the company to meet the range of customer needs. From herbicide/algaeicide applications, mechanical harvesting and water quality monitoring to biological controls and aeration, PLM has been committed to researching, evaluating and implementing new technologies, treatment methods and services to better improve management programs. In addition, PLM has committed to hiring educated professionals to bring new solutions and long-term results.

While many aquatic treatment companies have come and gone over the past 40 years, PLM has continued to expand and improve. We currently have three service locations in Michigan and seven locations nationally. While PLM has grown beyond the small family business it started as, we still adhere to the philosophy and vision that we started almost 40 years ago! PLM thanks you for all the years of support and looks forward to successfully addressing new challenges in the future.



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...over Thirty-five years of invasive plant management

Spotlight Lake: Chippewa Lake, Mecosta County - Comeback Champion

Chippewa Lake is a beautiful 790-acre lake, located in Chippewa Township, Mecosta County. With a large littoral zone, the lake has a few deep holes ranging from approximately 30'-40' deep, leaving a large area capable of growing aquatic plants. Like most lakes, it has a few channels, an outlet that flows most of the time and an excellent fishery. Almost two decades ago, Chippewa Lake began a management program for the exotic, invasive species, Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) and Curlyleaf pondweed (CLP). Many lakes in the area have infestations with both species; however, the EWM population in Chippewa Lake is quite extensive. Fortunately, Chippewa Lake has a diverse native plant community that has fluctuated with the increasing EWM infestation, but has recovered after control measures were taken. PLM was fortunate to get back out on Chippewa Lake in 2017, after renewing their SAD and not treating milfoil in 2016. The survey found over 350 acres, approximately 44% of the lake, had high density EWM canopied at the surface. Upon discussion of the management options with the township, it was determined that the lake would receive a systemic herbicide treatment, using Triclopyr (Renovate). The treatment took place on June 26, 2017 and was highly effective in controlling the milfoil lake wide. End of summer surveys found only 6 locations in the lake with sparse EWM growth and the spring 2018 survey showed very little EWM lakewide. The goal of treatment was to provide seasonal control in 2017, with residual control in 2018. This goal was met and the treatment results exceeded expectations. With the hot, dry weather that the summer of 2018 brought, it was expected that EWM would resurge. In mid-July 2018, EWM was found and 60 acres were treated in July, an approximately 83% reduction from the previous year. Chippewa Lake will continue to fight a strong EWM population lake wide, but new management tools and technologies will continue to help Chippewa Lake fight exotic plants into the future. After a year of no treatment, Chippewa Lake came back through various management techniques to become one of most successful comeback treatments over an EWM infestation. This success makes it our Spotlight Lake this year!



Area of EWM Growth Prior to Treatment



Follow us on
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PLM Lake & Land Management, Great Lakes Region has a Facebook page! This page is a great way to provide our customers with up to date information on exciting things happening within our company and the aquatics industry.

Did You Know?

PLM is a business run by Biologists, Ecologists, Environmental Scientists & Natural Resource Managers.

PLM is much more than an "herbicide company". In fact herbicide applications is just one part of the diverse services we offer.

PLM Gives Back

PLM North teamed up with the City of Ewart for a spring cleaning event in April. The Team Up 2 Clean Up Event provided a great opportunity for PLM to give back to our community and our staff a great way to get out in the community and assist in keeping our city looking great. The PLM crew was able to assist in removing many dumpsters full of trash and household items! PLM is thankful for our wonderful crew that offered up their Saturday to give back!



Don't forget the PLM Guarantee!! We stand behind our treatments!

PLM Fall Hours

Monday–Thursday
8:00am to 4:00pm

Friday
8:00am to 3:00pm

Fall 2018

New Herbicide for a New Exotic Plant

The new herbicide from SePRO Corporation, ProcellaCOR, was approved for use in the state of Michigan, late this summer. ProcellaCOR offers a new active ingredient for fast, long lasting control of specific exotic plants. It specifically targets a hormone mechanism that is unique to plants. Only *certain* plants will respond to this targeting, moving to the root of the plants, preventing them from growing back. ProcellaCOR is shown to be selective, targeting exotic plants. Researchers have observed little to no impact on native plant species when treating with ProcellaCOR. Even though it targets the root system of the plant, it is also fast acting, getting control of milfoil and other exotics much quicker than traditional systemic herbicides.

This summer PLM had the opportunity to treat a small pond that was infested with the invasive plant Yellow Floating Heart (YFH). As mentioned in our Spring Newsletter, YFH is on the Invasive Species Watch List for MI and stopping its spread is critical. YFH can quickly create dense mats that shade out native aquatic plants, decrease oxygen levels, increase mosquito breeding habitat, and impede boating activity, fishing, and swimming. Working in partnership with the DEQ, PLM treated the pond using ProcellaCOR. As you can tell from the pictures, the treatment was a success.

PLM used ProcellaCOR on several other small (and large) jobs, selectively targeting milfoil this summer. We are very excited about the results we have seen and plan to incorporate it into our lake management plans in the future.



The National Guard Honors One of Our Own

Bre Grabill, PLM's Northern Regional Manager, has been awarded a special citation from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).



Pictured above: Senator D. Booher, Melora Theunick, Evert LDFA, Bre Grabill, Shannon Leifker, Army National Guard & PLM, Jason Broekstra, PLM, and Dustin Grabill, PLM

Article credit to Flint Weinberg, Talk of the Talk Magazine.

In September, dignitaries from local and state government, along with many well-wishers, gathered to witness the presentation of the award to Bre by Christine Keenan of ESGR. Shannon Leifker, of PLM and the Army National Guard, petitioned for Bre to receive the award hailing her extreme flexibility as an employer and her willingness to go to extra lengths to be accommodating to those members of the service in her employ. Congratulations, Bre!

PLM Employee Update

- ◆ Congratulations to our Northeast Lakes Manager, Casey Shoaff and his wife, Kaylee. They welcomed their first baby on June 25, 2018. Lucie Michelle and mom are doing great!
- ◆ Congratulations to our Northern Lakes Applicator, Kyle Heath on his engagement to longtime girlfriend, Tory. They are planning a 2019 wedding and we are excited to welcome Tory into our PLM family.
- ◆ Wedding bells rang for Chris Garner, Northern Lakes Applicator in September. Congrats, Chris and Cali. Chris is relocating to our East office for next season and we wish his family the best of luck with their move.
- ◆ Congratulations are in order to our Assistant Eastern Division Manager, James Scherer, on his marriage to Adrienne in July. The couple said their vows up north at the beautiful Wilderness State Park.
- ◆ Our Northern Regional Manager, Bre Grabill has successfully spearheaded the establishment of the non-profit organization, Evert Promise Plus. The Evert Promise will provide opportunities for students within the Evert Public schools to further their education beyond high school by providing scholarships towards secondary education. What an awesome achievement!



Working Together for Healthy Lakes

PLM recently had the opportunity to represent the Michigan Aquatic Managers Association at the Michigan Inland Lake Partnership's Convention held in Grand Rapids. Along with attending the convention, PLM was able to take a group of attendees on a "Field Trip" to Reeds Lake for some on-site education. European frog-bit, an invasive plant, was recently discovered in Reeds Lake in East Grand Rapids. During our trip, attendees got to learn the history, lake management plan, and cooperative efforts to control the Frogbit. The trip was led by Jason Broekstra, VP of PLM Michigan Operations. Doug La Fave, City of East Grand Rapids, provided a history of Reeds Lake, followed by a review of the Lake Management Plan by Jaimee Conroy, PLM. Drew Rayner, West Michigan Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA), provided a review of European frog-bit and the efforts to control it. After hearing the informative presentations, attendees were taken on a tour of the frog-bit treatment areas via air boat led by Tom Alwin DEQ, as well as sample for aquatic plants and algae. Although it was a blustery cold day, the trip was a success and fun was had by all!

