



Greetings Kettle Moraine Lake dwellers and Kettle Moraine Lake Association members!

We are pleased to announce the KMLA has successfully acquired a permit from the DNR to mechanically harvest approximately 4 acres located at the north end of the lake. This is the navigational path between the islands. See the map for details. The black lines indicate the harvesting area.

As voted at our annual meeting in June, it was decided to move forward with pursuing a “test run” of mechanical harvesting on KML. As effective as our herbicidal treatment of EWM was in 2022, it is important we explore additional options to keep our lake navigational. We see how it has potential to assist us in targeting specific areas and/or in conjunction with herbicidal treatment. We must explore what the whole process looks like and if we are able to achieve desired results. We were able to overcome some logistical hurdles and I’d like to thank all those involved in making this possible.

The mechanical harvesting will begin on Wednesday, August 16th and extend through Thursday, August 17th or 18th, depending on progress. Upon advisement from our lake management team at Onterra, the navigational path between the islands was selected as our harvest site. Onterra performed a whole lake survey at the end of July and we will use the data from that to compare results. We will also be monitoring specific weeds and growth patterns post harvesting.

Equipment needed will be launched at the Tiki Beach Resort boat launch. Weeds harvested will be offloaded there as well. We thank the Tiki Beach Resort for their cooperation and their continued support. Please note, the boat launch will be closed for the duration of this project. The closure is necessary to accommodate the equipment and for the safety of everyone.

We have contracted Midwest Aquatics out of Oconomowoc, WI to perform the harvesting. Dave Fetzer has provided weed harvesting services to other lakes in the area and is familiar with KML.

Tom Ramthun has generously provided an area in his gravel pit for the dumping of the harvested weeds. We thank Tom for his kindness to us and our community.

Lastly, we’d like to create the realistic expectation there will be some cutoff weeds that won’t make it onto the harvester. Shorelines will be monitored to determine any impacts that may or may not occur. As always, your feedback is encouraged and welcomed.

Thank you all for supporting the KMLA and its mission to provide a healthy and happy lake for all to enjoy!

Sincerely,

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