



Hello, Bear Lake Residents

We are contacting you to inform you that there have been reported sightings of Phragmites, a highly invasive plant, on or near your property. The Muskegon Conservation District (MCD) has partnered with Ottawa and Oceana Conservation Districts to provide treatment services to continue efforts to eradicate phragmites. With your Bear Lake-Lake Board interest within the program, we are now utilizing grant funds for Bear Lake. MCD is now able to assist in treatments for the residents of Bear Lake at no cost to the landowner. Phragmites treatment is focused "on land" vs. "in the water".

WHO WE ARE:

The Muskegon Conservation District is a government agency that provides the public with means of maintaining and improving our local natural resources.

WHAT WE DO:

We are certified pesticide applicators trained in eradicating invasive plant species on private and public land in West Michigan. One of these plants is phragmites, not only does phragmites outcompete native species leading to reduced biodiversity, it also can grow so tall that it can eventually block the beautiful view of Bear Lake.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

You are receiving this letter because in past years phragmites has been located or previously treated on or very near your property. We have received new funding to specifically treat these areas. For this to happen, one property owner/representative needs to sign the Landowner Agreement Form that is included with this letter. This agreement gives the Muskegon Conservation District permission to treat the specified species on the listed property with the indicated chemicals.

Your Bear Lake-Lake Board highly recommends that if your property does have phragmites, to sign and return the Agreement form to reach maximum effectiveness and best results for Bear Lake. Please return the Landowner Agreement Form with the proper signature before **July 1st of 2023**. We will not be accepting late landowner agreement forms, so please be sure to get those in before the deadline date. It can be mailed/dropped off at:

Muskegon Conservation District, 4735 Holton Rd Twin Lake, MI 49457

OR scanned and emailed to Sabrina.butler@macd.org

Please call our office at 231-828-5097 if you have any questions.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

Once the Landowner Agreement Form is received with the appropriate signature, we will be in contact with you to set up a future date for treatment. Treatments will occur between August and September 2023.



-If you have any questions regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working with you soon!

Thank you,

Sabrina Butler
Muskegon Conservation District
Invasive Species Technician
4735 Holton Rd, Twin Lake MI 49457
231-828-5097
Sabrina.butler@macd.org