

2018 Newsletter

Silver Lake Improvement Association

To enhance the water quality, recreational use and natural beauty of Silver Lake - North St. Paul, Maplewood & Oakdale, Minnesota

Issue: 6	
2017 Highlights, p2 2018 Planning, p6 2018 Membership Form, p7	
SLIA Web Site: www.silverlakensp.org	
The 2018 SLIA Annual Meeting of the Membership was held on January 29, 2017 at 7:00 pm at North St. Paul City Hall.	

About SLIA:

The **Silver Lake Improvement Association (SLIA)** is a nonprofit organization with the purpose of promoting programs that enhance the water quality, recreational use and natural beauty of Silver Lake in North St. Paul, Maplewood, and Oakdale Minnesota.

The association is governed by its members represented by 7 board members.
Current members are:

- President: Rick Gelbmann
- Vice President: Paul Anderson
- Secretary: Kristen Rieser
- Treasurer: Joyce Germscheid
- Membership: Joyce Germscheid
- Members At Large: John Muller, Missy Lillie, OPEN POSITION



SLIA Board meetings are held on the first Monday every other month.

2017 Highlights

Board Elections: John Muller was re-elected at the Annual Membership meeting. We are looking for someone to fill an OPEN member position. You do not have to live on the lake ~ all are welcome! Please contact any board member if you are interested!!

- ❑ President: Rick Gelbmann (ends 2019)
- ❑ Vice Pres: Paul Anderson (ends 2020)
- ❑ Secretary: Kristen Rieser (ends 2019)
- ❑ Treasurer: Joyce Germscheid (ends 2019)
- ❑ Member: Missy Lillie (ends 2020)
- ❑ Member: John Muller (ends 2021)
- ❑ Member: **Open (ends 2021)**

Membership:

Thank you 2017 SLIA Members!!

- ❑ We'd like to thank the contributing SLIA Members for their support of Silver Lake! This year we had 35 paying members. 10 of these members were non-lake shore owners!! We appreciate everyone's interest in the health & vitality of Silver Lake.
- ❑ Note: there are 36 total lake shore owners on Silver Lake.
- ❑ Membership for 2018 is on the last page of this Newsletter. Dues remain at \$25. Please take a moment to complete and return asap.

Financial Report for 2017

- ❑ 2017 DNR Treatment Grant funds have been discontinued
- ❑ Bank balance continues to decline
- ❑ 2 fundraising events were held in 2017 in anticipation of 2018 treatment costs:
 - Swan/Poplar Neighborhood Watch event donation in August of \$90!!
 - Furlong's Liquor Sponsored "SLIA Sunset Wine Tasting" event in October, \$590!!

Description	2017 Amount	2016 Amount
Starting Balance	\$4,093.81	\$4,676.20
Member Contributions	\$945.00	\$650.00
Fundraising	\$680.00	
DNR Treatment Grants	\$0.00	\$565.00
Treatment Contractor Fee	-\$4,083.00	-\$1,625.00
Expenses (web site)	-\$196.37	-\$172.39
Ending Balance	\$1,439.42	\$4,093.81

The Goal for Silver Lake: Increase native plants, reduce invasive species

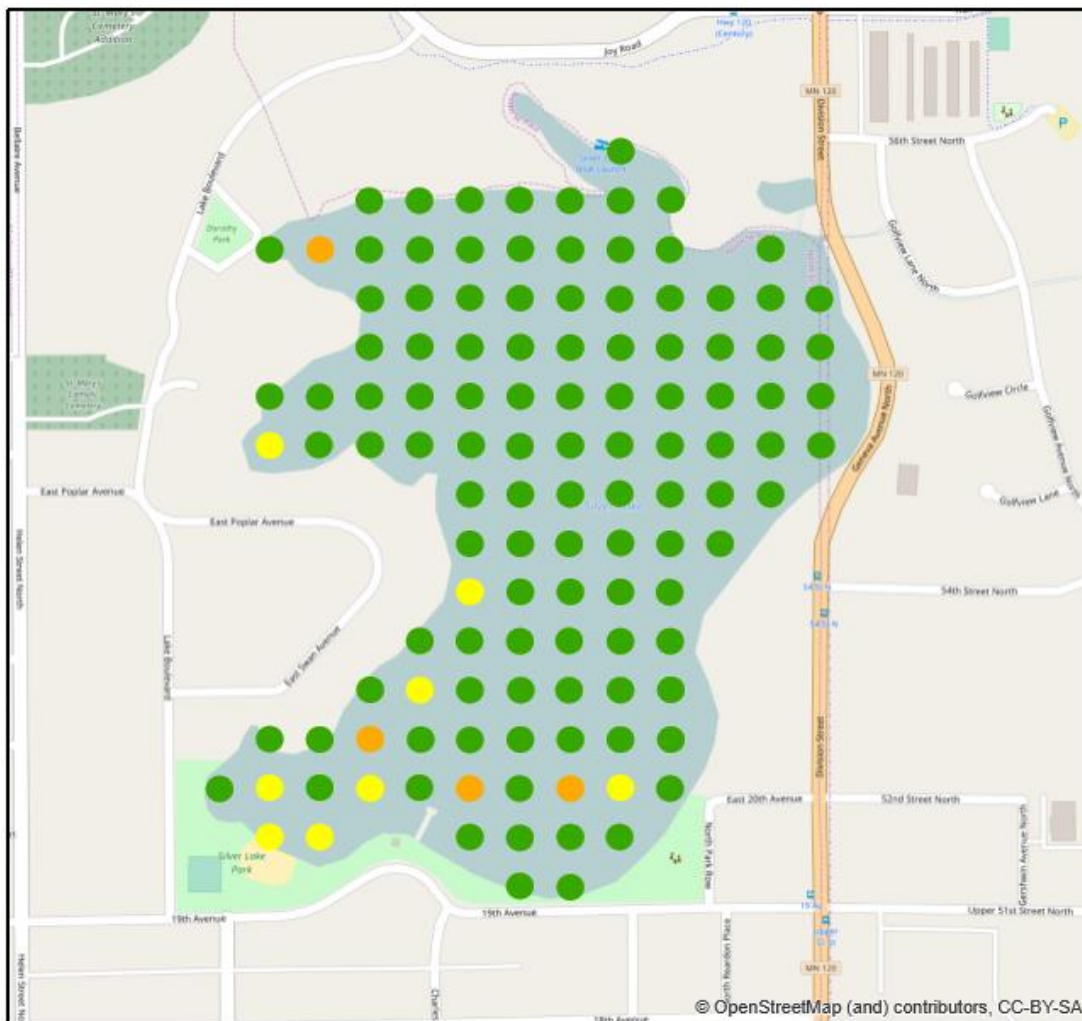
2017 Water Clarity/Level/Health/Treatment

- ❑ Lake inspection completed after ice out to identify invasive species
- ❑ Identified Curly-Leaf Pondweed; Milfoil visible near south shore
- ❑ High water level concerns communicated to the Valley Branch Watershed District, sharing the effect on lake shore erosion and water inside homes
- ❑ Working with North St Paul, Maplewood and Oakdale cities to gain a partnership for lake treatment expenses and water level issues

Water Clarity

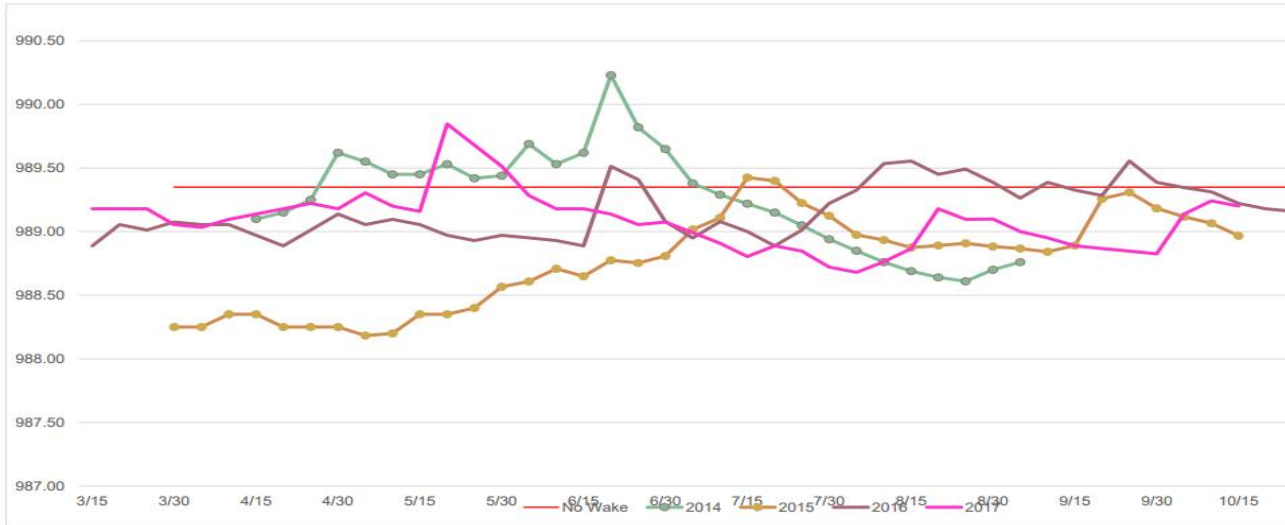
Full lake treatment in 2007, 2008 and 2009 eliminated not only the invasives but also the native plants thus causing much lower water clarity due to the lack of native plants. Since then, the yearly treatment areas have focused on those areas in dire need and helping native plants revive. This is a slow recovery. We are seeing an increase in native growth. **Our strategy is working!**

Silver Lake Eurasian Water Milfoil Growth



2017 Water Levels

Silver Lake Water Level



2017 Lake Levels

- ❑ Continue voluntary 'no wake' when water is above 989.35 ft.
- ❑ High water 'no wake' in May
- ❑ High water and weir issues continue
- ❑ Working with government agencies to address

Shoreline Ownership

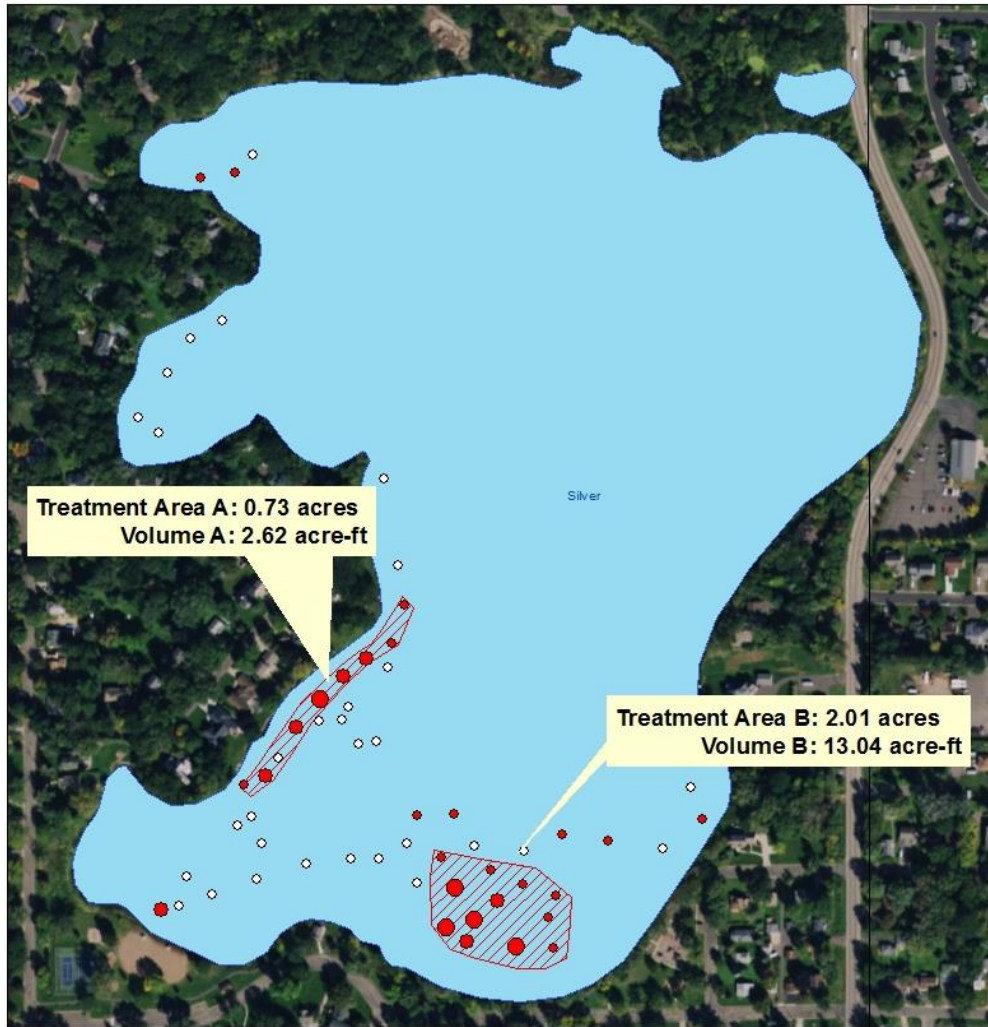
Although lakeshore owners represent less than half of the lakeshore, they have paid 100% of the treatment costs for the public to enjoy the use of the lake.

- ❑ Private residents 48%
- ❑ Maplewood 22%
- ❑ North St. Paul 21%
- ❑ Oakdale 9%

2017 Treatment Process

- ❑ The lake is inspected after ice out
- ❑ Found Curly-Leaf Pondweed & Eurasian Milfoil
- ❑ Submitted permit and full lake treatment proposal to the DNR
- ❑ Submitted shoreline/dock treatment requests from lake shore homeowners who wanted to participate
- ❑ DNR inspected the proposed lake treatment areas & approved the plan
- ❑ Bays were treated while the water was cool (Lake Improvement Consulting)
- ❑ Treated shorelines/dock areas (Lake Improvement Consulting)
- ❑ Treatment appeared to be effective!

2017 Treated Areas



2017 Funding Activities

The DRN has stopped Grant money to MN Lakes. Time to be creative!!

- ❑ **Government Partnership Outreach:** SLIA met with each City that has lakeshore on Silver Lake
 - **City of North St Paul** - SLIA board attended Council meeting in March. They have agreed to help us with treatment costs up to \$3,000 going forward. THANK YOU!!!!
 - **City of Maplewood** - SLIA board members met with Council in October. They did not commit any yearly funding from their operating budget. They invited us to apply for a portion of their Charitable Gambling funds. Unfortunately, that process happens 1x per year in the fall so we missed potential funding for 2018. This would also require the SLIA to meet 501(c) (3) status.
 - **City of Oakdale** - SLIA board members met with Council and they have committed \$400 for 2018. They were very interested in our presentation.
 - **Valley Branch Watershed District** - Working to complete a Lake Study and water quality project with Cities. This will enable SLIA to better advocate for lake treatment funding, overall lake quality and water levels.

- ❑ Neighborhood Watch and Wine Tasting fund raisers resulted in \$680!

2018 Goals

▣ Partnerships and Fundraising

- Continue to seek funding from city partners for lake treatment
 - ▣ Get 501(c) (3) status for new funding sources
 - ▣ Meeting with cities owning lakeshore
- Work with Valley Branch Water District to develop a Lake Plan
- Meet with Oakdale City Council in February 2018
- Explore other lake association partnerships
- Continue to be involved in Ramsey County Aquatic Invasive task force
- Explore State Legacy Fund or other funds availability from the State
- Continue fundraising efforts to help support treatment costs from SLIA budget
- Reduce costs for website

▣ Targeted treatment and water quality

- Perennial problem areas – increase the natives, decrease the invasives
- Improve water quality (clarity and nutrients) continue to work with Valley Branch and Govt groups
- Dependent on funding

▣ Permitting process

- Permitting process is now online for both lake and shoreline treatments – Joyce will work with our treatment consulting team to get this setup and will communicate to home owners to streamline
- Map the invasives after ice-out with consulting team
- Submit a proposal with maps to DNR
- Limited to 2.6 acres total
- DNR confirms via onsite inspection
- Contractor treats lake
- Timing (water temp) is critical for effectiveness

▣ Encourage lake level stabilization

John Muller will provide the necessary data to the Valley Branch and DNR to hopefully engage them in helping us maintain the lake level stabilization.

If you have not completed a survey on Property and Lake Shore Damage due to high water level, had recent damage since completing a survey or would like to work with John on this initiative, please let him know! He'd appreciate the additional assistance. This kind of documentation is key to getting agencies to take action.

2018 SLIA Membership

Membership Dues:

- Dues will remain at **\$25** per household (up to 2 voting members per household).
- **We encourage you to please help support the quality of Silver Lake by sending in the annual membership dues. Every bit helps. THANK YOU!!**

Kindly complete the following and remit your **\$25** 2018 dues (payable to SLIA) to:

SLIA c/o Joyce Germscheid
2571 Poplar Ave E
North St. Paul, MN 55109

1. MEMBER NAME: _____

2. MEMBER NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

SECOND EMAIL ADDRESS (if applicable): _____

Anyone can join the lake association - it is not limited to lakeshore homeowners. Any member of the lake association is eligible to run for the Board.

What else is important to you concerning the health of Silver Lake or how the SLIA can better serve the home owners and community?

Additional Comments:

If you would like to find out more about SLIA, **please contact us at www.silverlakensp.org**