

Canaan Street Lake Weed Watchers

Summer 2016

Canaan Weed Watchers patrolled the Canaan Street Lake from June - September, 2016, finding no invasive weeds. However, Chinese Mystery Snails were discovered in July along the shore in front of the Gagne property. Subsequently, a large number (hundreds) were found on or near the public beach launch, the likely place of introduction into our lake. Smaller numbers of snails have been found this summer as far south of the boat launch as the Jutilla property and northward, at the Brown dock, as well. All have been disposed of well away from any water source.

One consequence of the extremely low water levels this summer is that the weed watchers have been able to see to the bottom of the lake, sometimes as much as 15 feet deeper into the center, getting a broader view of the lake bottom than in the past. It is reassuring that no exotic plants have (yet) been seen this far into the lake.

However, identification of the Chinese Mystery Snails reminds us that invasives are, indeed, reaching Canaan Street Lake. The continued vigilance of the weed watchers is important to early detection and remedy of invasives in our lake. Recommendation for next summer is to continue to weed out the invasive snails and continue to look carefully for invasive plant-life. The more committed weed watchers we have, the better.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Burnett