

We are happy to confirm our communication at the annual meeting that we will be “Box Netting Carp” on Cedar Lake in July of this year. The CLID has contracted the company Carp Solutions, a Minnesota based company, to carry out this task. Please follow this link to a Star Tribune article in May that outlines how Carp Solutions is assisting other lake Associations in reducing the number of Carp in lakes around the region.

<http://www.startribune.com/as-interest-in-management-of-common-carp-populations-grows-so-does-carp-solutions/481441321/>

Common carp is an invasive fish that contributes to poor water quality and lack of aquatic vegetation in many lakes in the U.S. While carp cannot be easily controlled in all lakes, relatively simple strategies can be implemented to reduce their abundance in many systems.

A 2016 survey of Cedar Lake estimates that there are approximately 7,000 carp in our lake. Although this seems like a large number, it is a relatively modest number for a lake of our size. Regardless, it has been advised that we work to reduce the number of our carp in our lake by 10% per year. Ultimately this reduction will be one of the key elements for increasing water quality on our beautiful lake.

A total of four box nets will be placed around our lake this summer. Baiting to train the carp to these net areas began a couple of weeks ago. Attached to a red or orange pool noodle is a bait bag, filled with cracked corn. The carp will repeatedly eat out of this bag, and alert us to where the carp are the most active. Then a 30'x60' box net will be placed in the most active four locations. The net itself actually rests on the lake bottom, with only the attachment poles sticking above the water (please see picture). Carp will continue to be baited for a couple of more weeks, and then the nets will be “sprung”, and the carp removed and disposed of by Carp Solutions. We will “spring” these four nets twice, over the course of about 2-4 weeks.



We will report back as to our success late this summer. It is anticipated that all Box Netting will be complete around the beginning of August.