





**AN ONGOING THREAT**  
**VARIABLE LEAF MILFOIL**

# BMLA 2024 Fund Drive to Protect Our Waters

Goal: \$150,000

-\$120,000 raised to date

The Blue Mountain Lake Community is raising money to cover the next 3 years: survey for invasives in the Eckford chain and remove variable leaf milfoil in Utowana Lake, to prevent spread into Eagle and Blue Mountain Lakes

## Utowana Lake

To date, Variable Leafed Milfoil has only been identified in four locations on Utowana Lake. The red areas on the map below show the locations that VLM has been discovered since 2020.

Channel Near Dam

Location A

Location B

Location C

**In 2024 the amount of variable leaf milfoil removed **DOUBLED** from 36 gallons in 2022 and 2023 to 72 gallons.**

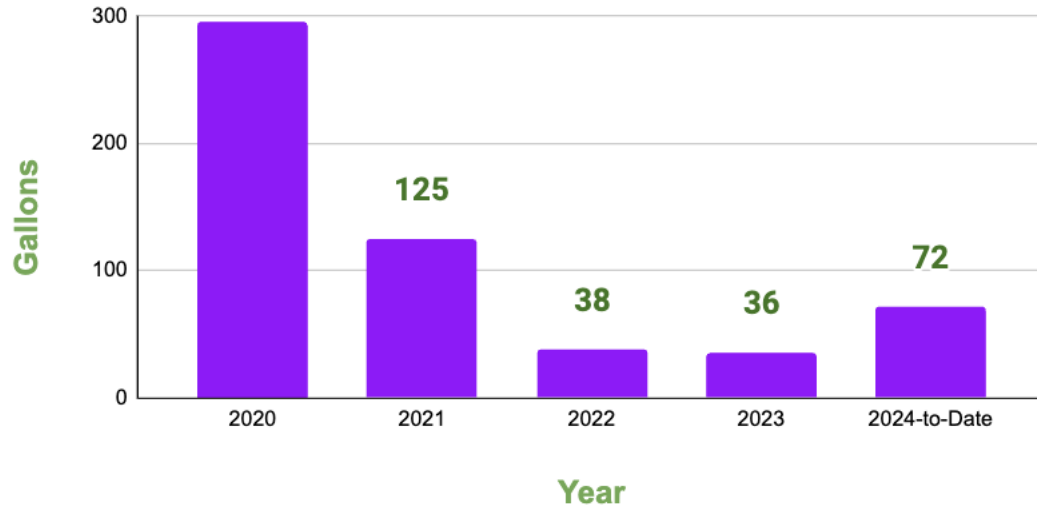
**Motorboats going through beds of VLM have cut the plants which will result in further spread**



## Variable Leaf Milfoil Hand-Harvested Utowana Lake

2020-2024

295



# Other Area Hazards

VARIABLE LEAF MILFOIL: heavy concentrations  
in Marion River and Lake Durant

SPINY WATER FLEA: Indian Lake

## Variable Leaf Milfoil



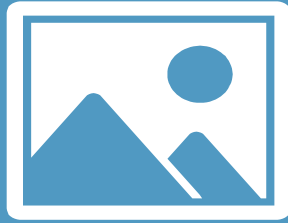
# Spiny Water Flea

- No predator
- Gets stuck in fishing gear; transported in bait buckets & bilge water



*Spiny water fleas on Lake George 9/16/12*

*photo courtesy Emily DeBolt*

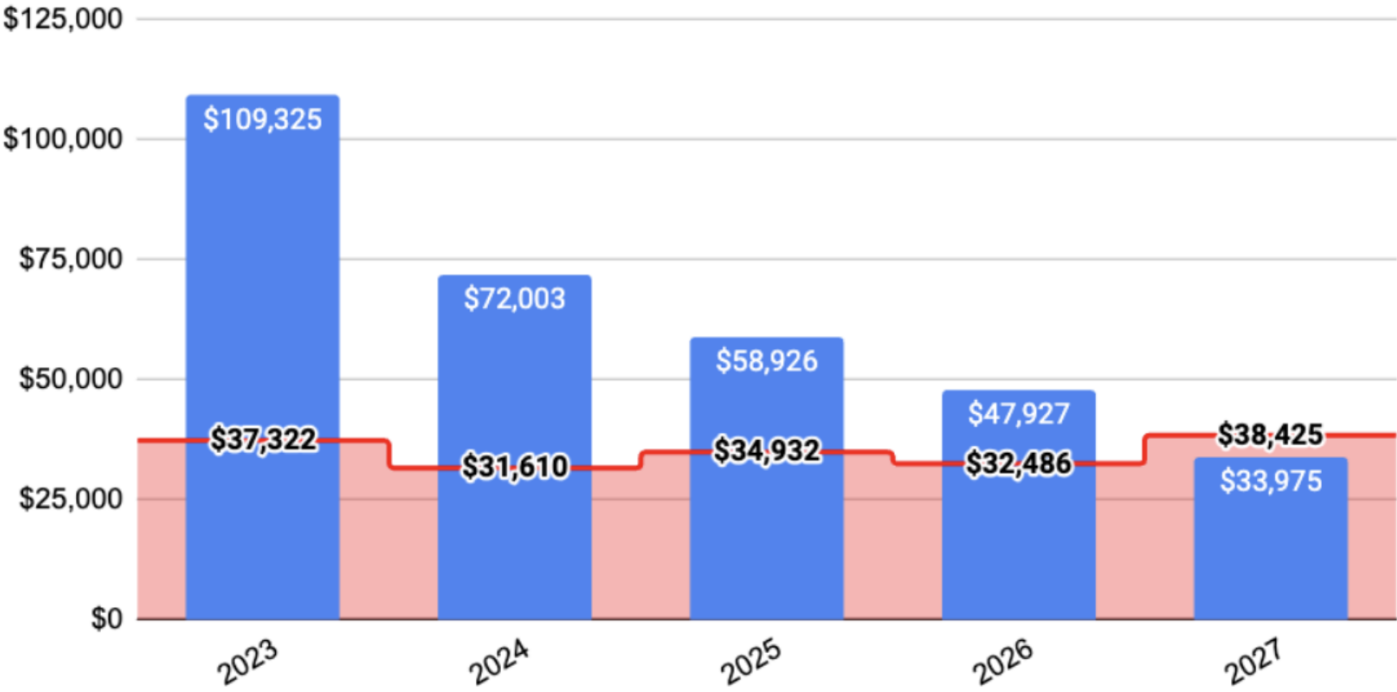


Lake associations spend **100ks/year** to manage aquatic invasive species

Lake George: \$500,000 annually  
Property values lower in heavily infested bays

# Water Watch Budget / Expenses 2023-2027

Expenses Cash on Hand





**WE MUST KEEP WORKING  
TO PREVENT  
INVASIVES**

# WHAT WE CAN DO

## PREVENT

**CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY** your boat, motor, bilge water, well, fishing gear, nets, paddles before entering any new water body in ADK

- Clean and dry your trailer (5 days drying time recommended)
- Use boat wash station before arriving at Blue
- Do this every time you leave a body of water

### **Certification Now Required**

- NY State law requires motor boats to obtain certification they have inspected and removed aquatic invasive species prior to launch in ADK waters
- Certification obtained from boat wash station, boat steward, or self-completed procedure

# HELP STOP THE SPREAD IN UTOWANA

**Avoid areas marked by orange buoys**

**Avoid boating and fishing in western half of lake**

**Dont take a motor boat up the channel**

**If canoeing, stay in the middle of channel**

Oars and motors can break off milfoil, allowing it to float to other areas, including Blue Mountain Lake and Eagle Lake

–September 2024: Large plant that had flowered cut by boat engine, found floating

## **BMLA 2025 PROPOSAL**

–Buoys to mark off affected areas

–Divers in the water each month

# WHAT WE CAN DO

## USE PROPER BAIT PROCEDURES

- Buy certified disease-free bait from a local dealer
- Soak fishing gear in hot water (140° F for 2 minutes) prior to entering a new body of water
- Don't move bait or other fish from 1 water body to another
- Don't dump leftover bait into Eckford Chain

Dumping Live Bait originating from 1 waterbody into another spreads invasive species/disease

## Prevent the Spiny Water Flea

- Once in a lake cannot be removed
- Attaches to fishing gear, anchor ropes; transported in bilge water, bait buckets, live wells, and bottom of boats

# USE BOAT WASH STATIONS (ALL FREE)

## **Station Map available:**

<https://www.adkwatershed.org/boat-wash-stations>

Area stations: Route 28, Lake Durant pullover, lower Indian Lake, 4th Lake, Long Lake  
–variable hours; call ahead

**Best bet: I-87N, after Exit 17 (Glens Falls), Adirondack Welcome Center**

## **Boat Decontamination**

Hot water pressure washer units disinfect exterior surfaces, including hulls, propeller units, trailers, and top decking

Low pressure flush for interior, including blige

Trained stewards

# WHAT WE CAN DO

## STAY INFORMED

Follow “Blue Mountain Lake Association” on the web and facebook  
–Click on Watch Watch

## SUPPORT

Join BMLA: \$25 / year

Contribute to 2024 BMLA Water Fund Drive

Blue Mountain Lake Association, mail checks to:

c/o Diane Selin, Treasurer, PO Box 61, Round Lake, NY 12151

FOR line: Water Program Fund

Fund drive ends December 31, 2024

Tax deductible!