



ANOKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1318 McKay Drive NE, Suite 300
Ham Lake, MN 55304
Phone: (763) 434-2030 Fax: (763) 434-2094
www.AnokaSWCD.org

**To: Martin Lakers Association
Linwood Township**

From: Jamie Schurbon, Water Resource Specialist

Date: June 8, 2017

Re: Martin and Typo Lakes Carp Management

Request to distribute information

Please distribute the information below about the upcoming Martin and Typo Lakes Carp Management Project to:

- Lake Association distribution lists, including the association's FaceBook page
 - Town Board members
 - Township residents via the township newsletter
 - Others as you see fit
-

Carp Harvest to Begin at Martin and Typo Lakes

In an effort to improve water quality, habitat and fishing in Martin and Typo Lakes, a new carp management effort will take place beginning this summer through 2019. The project complements the four carp barriers completed last year, which aimed to control carp by reducing their migrations between spawning and over-wintering areas, and prevent carp from moving back into the lakes after they've been removed. Starting this summer and winter, carp populations will be reduced through two methods of harvest that are guided by scientific surveys, radio tagging and other technology.

Carp are invasive and have a number of negative impacts in lakes by uprooting plants, muddying the water during spawning and feeding, and consuming resources that would otherwise be available to game fish. MN DNR fish surveys and water quality monitoring have found these lakes have high carp populations which are having a significant impact on lake water quality.

The carp removals will be led by Carp Solutions, Inc, a spinoff company from the University of Minnesota, which will apply recent research conducted throughout Minnesota and elsewhere. Work will include population surveys, marking carp by fin clipping to later estimate the percentage of the population harvested, radio tagging carp to make it easier to find schooled fish for harvest, and creating a long-term management plan. Summer harvest will be done at Typo Lake using box nets. Harvests will be in winter at Martin Lake, which is deep enough for commercial fishing gear. All methods are selective for carp – game fish will not be removed or killed.

Residents may see activity related to this work. In June or July electrofishing surveys will occur. These surveys involve a boat with tentacle-like electrodes hanging from long poles in front of a boat. A mild electrical shock is applied to the water in a small area a few feet surrounding the electrodes. It is sufficient to briefly stun fish, causing them to float to the surface. Only carp are collected. Other fish resume their normal activity within moments. This survey provides a scientific assessment of the carp population that is more detailed than previous DNR fish surveys.

During the electrofishing survey, some carp will be fin clipped or radio tagged. Radio tags are surgically implanted in the fish's belly, so the only evidence of it is a protruding wire antenna. Fin clipped fish will have one cut off pectoral fin. Please release any of these fish that may be caught recreationally.

Carp netting areas should also be avoided, as disturbance can reduce carp captures. The box nets to be used at Typo Lake in summer lay on the lake bottom and have markers nearby. The nets are baited with cracked corn to train carp to come to the location. Eventually, the net sides are raised to trap the carp. The winter netting at Martin Lake will involve cutting marked holes in the ice, and it is important that this area not be disturbed by excessive traffic, especially motorized traffic, or the carp may move.

This project is being led by the Anoka Conservation District. The Martin Laker's Association and Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization are partners. Most funding is from a MN DNR Conservation Partners Legacy Grant.

More detailed information is at www.AnokaSWCD.org under the "projects" tab. For questions, contact Jamie Schurbon of the Anoka Conservation District at 763-434-2030 ext. 12.

