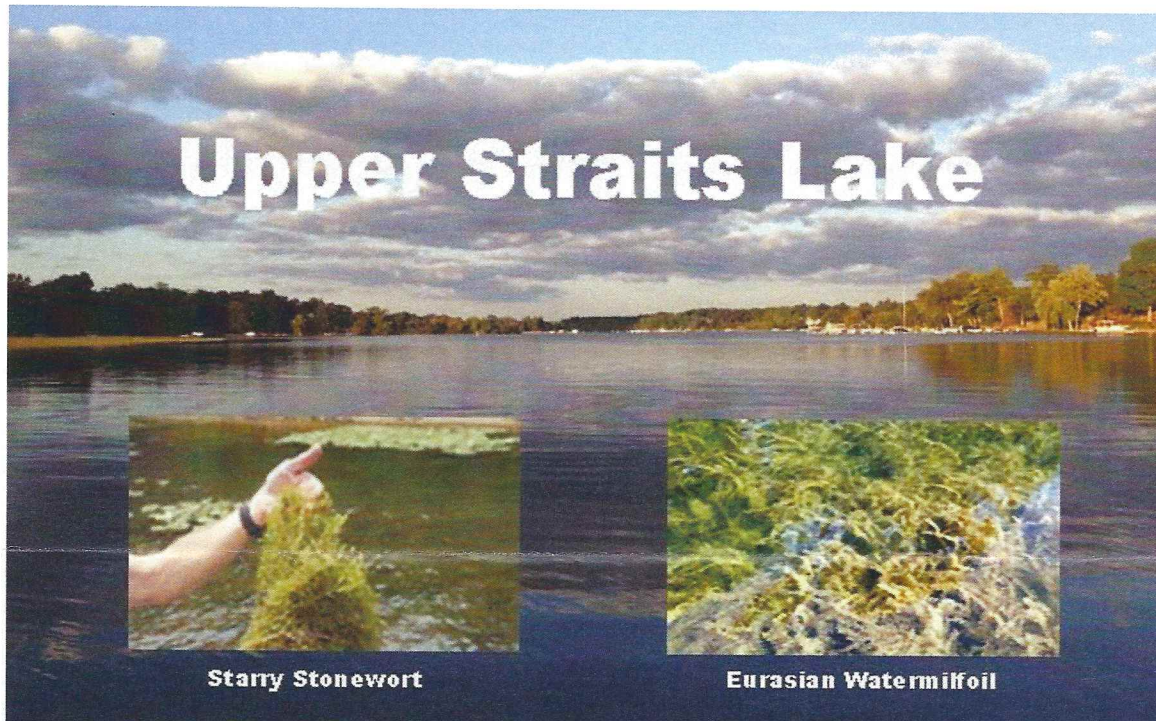


## FROM USCLA – A 501-C3 (Tax Deductible) Organization

*Note:* You may have recently received a postcard from USCLA with an incorrect email address. The information on the postcard indicated that we would no longer be using snail mail for newsletters and general informational correspondence and that if you wish to continue to receive this relevant information we would need to have your email address sent to us for inclusion on our private email database. Unfortunately, the email address we asked you to send your email address to was incorrect. The correct email address to use for providing us your email address is: [bhaase1@comcast.net](mailto:bhaase1@comcast.net). You may also provide this information through the USCLA website which is : [upperstraitscleanlake.org](http://upperstraitscleanlake.org).



### Help Protect Our Beautiful Lake from Invasive Aquatic Plants

For the 2019 USCLA contribution request process, we are utilizing the format from the last several years since it still remains relevant in terms of content and importance. Although our Lake Consultant, Dr. Douglas Pullman, recently updated our Board of Directors about the uniquely healthy condition of Upper Straits, we continue to need constant surveillance, monitoring and management of our weed conditions to maintain our favorable situation. Starry Stonewort, Eurasian Watermilfoil and more recently Curly Leaf Pondweed are still our invasive nemeses and they still are the primary drivers for our weed treatment efforts. In 2018, these efforts resulted in some very important accomplishments including the following:

- Removal of over 180,000 pounds of bio-mass through weed harvesting
- Chemical treatment of over 40 acres of shoreline to control EWM and Starry Stonewort
- Bi-monthly measures of water transparency and chlorophyll
- We continued our contracted services of Dr. Doug Pullman, Aquatic Ecologist, to have him conduct lake surveys and recommend strategies for management

Dr. Pullman provides an in-depth written report each year ranking all of the lakes for which he

performs contracted consulting work. He also provides private, specific comments and recommendations for each lake Board to support focused action plans. The most recent Pullman report for Upper Straits can be summarized as follows:

- Upper Straits is “healthy, biologically diverse, & stable” and deserves an “A+” rating. Plant growth remains very reasonable thanks to the year-after-year weed management efforts that have been expended.
- EWM currently dominates the underwater plant population of Upper Straits
- Starry Stonewort has the potential to dominate portions of the lake but fortunately can be selectively treated with algaecides to suppress its growth
- Curly Leaf Pondweed continues to appear at a potentially nuisance level and needs to be included once again in our 2019 management process.

For 2019, the USCLA Board plans to continue the successful weed management processes from the past 4 years as our surveys dictate. Once again, **WE NEED YOU TO HELP!**

### **Here's How:**

Voluntary contributions are our only source of income. For 2018, our contributions barely covered our expenses. Our conservative 2019 goal is to at least match our 2018 contributions of \$45,000 for Weed Management and \$5000 for USCLA Dues (administrative costs). Our weed treatment plans are contingent on the amount we collect.

### **You Can Also Help Through Your Personal Support of**

- Clean Boats / Clean Water – making sure all watercraft are thoroughly cleaned of any weeds or contaminants before being launched in Upper Straits
- Compliance with fertilizer ordinances that exist in both West Bloomfield and the City of Orchard Lake Village (using phosphorous-free fertilizing materials)
- Natural Shoreline Initiative – maintaining a natural shoreline to control unwanted runoff and to maintain the natural ecology of the lake

### **Plans for 2019**

- The USCLA Board has voted to again contract the services of Dr. Doug Pullman
- Mechanical Harvesting will be selectively performed to remove bio-mass
- Aquatic Services will chemically treat selected areas for EWM, Starry and Pondweed. Exact dates & locations for all treatments will be posted on the USCLA website ([www.upperstraitscleanlake.org](http://www.upperstraitscleanlake.org)) as soon we have a firm plan & schedule.
- Two lake surveys will be done, one in June (complete) and another in the Fall.

Thank you in advance for your support of USCLA initiatives. The form for submitting your contribution is enclosed.

To learn more about the invasive weeds and to see a video of selected comments by Dr, Pullman, please visit the USCLA website mentioned above ([upperstraitscleanlake.org](http://upperstraitscleanlake.org)).

Thank you.

USCLA Board of Directors (USCLA is a 501-C3 , Tax Deductible Organization)



# Upper Straits Clean Lake Association (USCLA) 2019 Dues and Weed Management Notice

Dear Upper Straits Lake Neighbor,

## USCLA Dues

Your Dues support the administration and management efforts of our lake.- these funds are used to pay for the various activities around the lake as well as mailings, newsletters, website, water quality testing, Music on the Lake, Lake Association parties, lake education, etc.

## Weed Management

Weed harvesting will be conducted on Upper Straits Lake in mid-July weather permitting. Additional treatment approaches are planned in selected areas and obtaining approvals is underway.. Don't forget to mark your check for "Upper Straits Lake." since the City of Orchard Lake Village also collects contributions for Orchard Lake. All of the USCLA contributions go towards initiatives for Upper Straits Lake only.

## LAKE ACTIVITIES - Upcoming events:

-Music on the Lake - June 21, July 12, Aug. 2, Aug. 23  
(See Web Site for Time & Location Info)

- Fireworks – Saturday July 6th (Rain date July 7th)

See the web site for more Lake Association news and activities ([www.upperstraitscleanlake.org](http://www.upperstraitscleanlake.org)).

Thanks in advance for your support of our lake.

Tom Itin (248-682-5841)- President

Bob Haase (248-360-5766)- Treasurer

----- Cut here and send lower portion with your contribution -----  
Upper Straits Clean Lake Association Dues & Weed Management - 2019

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Recommended contributions:

- USCLA Association Dues - \$50
  
- Weed Management as follows -
  - Major Benefactors \$1,000 (or more)
  - Neighborhood & Lake Assoc. From \$1,000 to \$5000 depending on lake usage by members
  - Lakefront & canal lots \$300 (or more)
  - Lake Access & Moored Boats \$125 (or more)
  - Lake Out-Lot / Infrequent User \$25 (or more)

### Please mail your check and this

**form to:** City of Orchard Lake  
Village  
Water Quality Improvement Fund  
3955 Orchard Lake Road  
Orchard Lake, MI 48323

### Contribution Totals

Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Weed Management \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mark your check for "Upper Straits" and make it payable to "City of Orchard Lake Village WQIF"**