ONEIDA COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Little Carr Lake

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Land & Water Conservation Department

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Little Carr Lake AIS Monitoring and Water Clarity Report

WBIC:	998800
Previous AIS Findings:	Purple Loosestrife
New AIS Findings:	None
Field Date:	July 13, 2016
Field Crew:	Stephanie Boismenue, AIS Coordinator, and Abbi Bowman, AIS Project Assistant, Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department
Report By:	Abbi Bowman

Stephanie and I monitored Little Carr Lake on July 13, 2016. Little Carr Lake is located just outside of Lake Tomahawk, WI on County Road D between Highway 47 and Highway 51 in Oneida County (Figure 1). It is a seepage lake of 51 acres with a maximum depth of 30 feet. The substrate on the lake is 65% muck, 25% sand, and 10% gravel. There are plenty of fish species that dominate this lake which include but is not limited to Musky, Panfish, Largemouth Bass, and Walleye. Little Carr Lake's trophic state is listed as mesotrophic. Mesotrophic lakes are lakes with an intermediate level of productivity, which generally produces clear water, beds of submerged aquatic plants, and average levels of nutrients. For being such a small waterbody, Little Carr Lake is commonly influenced by steady water traffic with help from its connecting sister lake, Big Carr Lake. Heavy boat traffic can lead to large amounts of wildlife disruption and shoreline erosion if improperly cared for.

There is only one public boat landing on all of Little Carr Lake located directly off of County D, however, we launched from a private landing located down Rainbow Rd. just off of County D. This private land is owned by the Tomahawk Lake Hemlocks State Natural Area located within the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest. The landing itself is down a short passage through the woods with logs to assist you in lowering the canoe up and down the hills present. We used aqua scopes to observe the boat landing's shoreline for any possible invasives, and then continued to canoe the perimeter of a little over half the lake. The weather was rather rough and uncooperative for us this day; the wind was blowing uncontrollably, dark storm clouds rolled in fast, and a downpour of rain started right after we had gotten off the water.

Due to these conditions, we were unable to get a Secchi reading or take any water clarity tests, but we were successful in locating the deep hole for future reference.

We used an already existing contour map of Little Carr Lake to assist us in finding the deep hole, and then further used the depth finder to bring us to the exact point of 30 feet to gather the most accurate data. Stephanie navigated the canoe until we found a good anchoring point, but it was so windy, we were unable to get any accurate readings for the dissolved oxygen levels and temperature readings. From here, we paddled back to shore, examined a bit more of the shoreline for invasive species, and then called it a day before the storm hit.

In the time we spent monitoring Little Carr Lake, we did visual inspections from the canoe the majority of the time. Although Purple Loosestrife has previously been found on this lake, we found several colonies around the shoreline that we made sure to mark using our GPS coordinates so we are easily able to go back to these points in the future for restoration or removal. One of the colonies we found was located right on a rented cabin's beachside. We informed the renters of the Purple Loosestrife and the damage it does as an invasive. We also stopped several times to get out of the canoe and search along the shore for snails, mussels, crayfish, and any other potential invasives. In addition to finding the Purple Loosestrife plants, we also found (but does not limit the entire plant/animal species of Little Carr Lake to our findings) a very thriving and diverse native plant community spread across the lake's shoreline. Purple Loosestrife was the only invasive species we came across in our findings.

Findings:

Aquatic Invasive Species:

Unfortunately, we spotted numerous Purple Loosestrife plants/colonies scattered around Little Carr Lake's shoreline. While Purple Loosestrife has already been documented on this waterbody, we are hoping it has not spread from previous years.

Secchi:

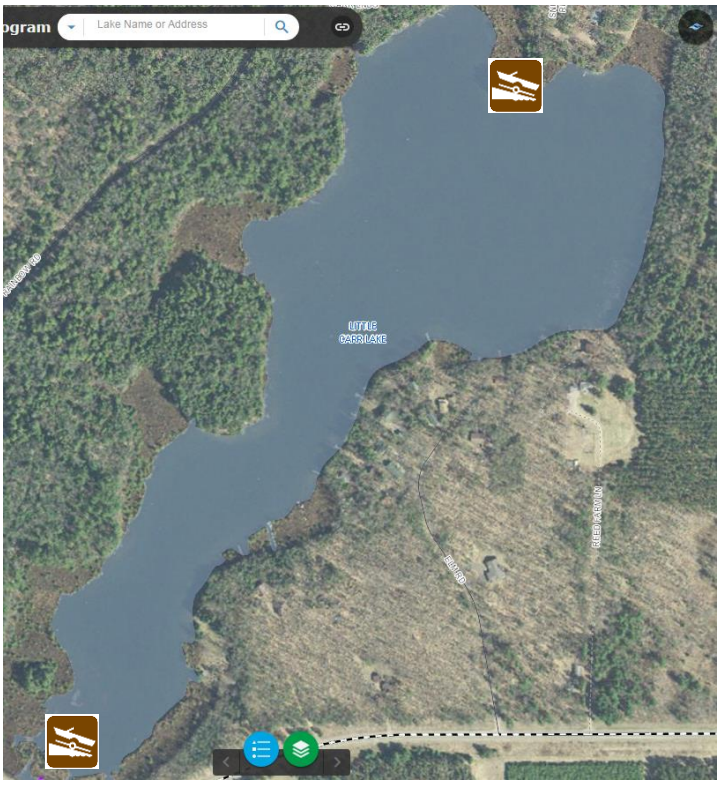
We were unable to take the Secchi reading due to heavy wind conditions.

Dissolved Oxygen:

We were unable to take the dissolved oxygen levels due to heavy wind conditions.

Figure 1. Map of Oneida County, WI with Little Carr Lake circled in red.

Figure 2. Map of Little Carr Lake; need to map out Purple Loosestrife coordinates and gather the Secchi reading and dissolved oxygen/temperature levels



Little Carr Lake - Deep Hole Latitude 45.80 Longitude -89.62

Resources: http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/lakepages/LakeDetail.aspx?wbic=1617200&page=facts