

# Northwest Anderson Lakes

**Problem:** Non-native Curlyleaf Pondweed infestation and high internal phosphorus loading

## Goal:

- Eradicate Curlyleaf Pondweed
- Reduce internal phosphorus loading
- Reduce phosphorus loading to the South Branch of Nine Mile Creek



## Project Description:

Curlyleaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) is a non-native aquatic plant. It was introduced in Minnesota early 1900s. This macrophyte differs from other pondweed in its lifecycle. Curlyleaf Pondweed begins its growing season in the Fall and continue to grow beneath the ice throughout the winter. Curlyleaf then dies back in the middle of the summer. The die back will generally lead to increase phosphorus levels and undesirable algal blooms in the lake.



Approximately 45 % of Northwest Anderson Lake and Southwest Anderson Lake was covered with Curlyleaf Pondweed. The project objective was to drawdown, or drain, Northwest and Southwest Anderson Lakes to expose the lakebeds and freeze the Curlyleaf Pondweed turion, making it unviable to germinate. It was anticipated that the lakes would refill in approximately 2 years with normal precipitation.

**2 Year's later:** In 2009, the drawdown was followed by extreme drought conditions. This has resulted in the lakes taking longer to refill. The drought also limited our ability to monitor the lakes vegetation. In the spring, 2010, early vegetation surveys showed reduction in the Curlyleaf Pondweed density and distribution in the lakes.

## Quick Facts

**Lake Area (acres):** 179

**Maximum Depth (ft):** 10

**Water Clarity (ft):** 2.6

**Lake Classification:** Fishing and aesthetic viewing

**Trophic Status:** Hypereutrophic (very high nutrients)