

**Lake Minnetonka Garden Club  
Conservation Committee  
2019-2020 Annual Report**

Conservation @ the Lake Minnetonka Garden Club ( LMGC) is a clear passion for many club members, as exhibited by continued interest and sharing of information as it pertains to topics like... Watershed, run off , the use of pesticides, sustainable farming and advocacy of native plants.

September 2019 was the Conservation Program @ French Park Regional Center featuring Beth Dooley, chef, author, featured MMPR and Kare 11 guest and contributor to the Minneapolis/St Paul Star Tribune taste section. Beth's topic was Farm to Table sustainable growing and eating. Ms Dooley's presentation aligned with the National GCA Conservation Paper on Agriculture.

The week of February 23,2020 the Conservation Vice Chair, Samantha Muldoon, LMGC President, Mimi Keating and delegates from the St Paul Garden Club attended with over 250 delegates the National Affairs and Legislation Meetings in Washington DC. A copy of the proceedings has been submitted by Samantha to the LMGC Secretary. This time period marked the transition of our nation and the state of Minnesota into a high alert pertaining to the Corona virus impacting day to day lifestyles vertical and horizontal across the globe.

The LMGC publishes a monthly newsletter. Within the newsletter is a section dedicated to Conservation entitled Conservation Corner. The April Newsletter did contain a brief summary of the NAL meeting by Mrs. Muldoon. For a summary of GCA position papers and publications including educational materials please visit the GCA website which filled with numerous resources and interesting articles.

Traditionally the Partners for Plants Project has been held in May each year in collaboration with the Horticulture Committee. Plans had been underfoot to take a new direction in 2020. With the impact of COVID plans once again changed. Members were encouraged to individually engage in the removal of garlic mustard from their neighborhoods. An organized mustard pull led by Emmie Hester and her husband Larry also occurred at a local golf course. A bit of a competition ensued with the sharing of postings and fun banter. 2021 will provide a fresh palate from which to build a new program.

A careful watch continues to be kept on State and Federal activity and bills providing opportunity for GCA advocacy /education. Minnesota can be exceptionally proud of the sponsorship of a number of bills this year by our Congressional representatives across the State.

I sincerely thank you for the opportunity to serve as a member of the Conservation Committee the past four years. It has been an amazing learning opportunity and honor to be a part of a national organization steeped in education, advocacy and action.

Respectfully Submitted

Roberta Antoine Dressen  
Chair 2019-2020 LMGC Conservation Committee

Cc: Mimi Keating, President LMGC