

Village of Willowbrook

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway represent the largest bodies of surface fresh water in the world and are a vibrant, diverse ecosystem that is critically important to the economic well-being and quality of life of the Canadian and U.S. populations in the region; and

WHEREAS, one of the most serious threats ever present by invasive species currently comes from Asian carp, which were introduced to the southern United States for use in fish farms for algae control and escaped into the Mississippi River system; and

WHEREAS, invasive carp pose a serious threat to the \$7 billion sport and commercial fishery that support the economy and help define the culture of the entire region by significantly or eliminating populations of the more desirable species of fish because of their voracious food consumption and prolific reproduction; and

WHEREAS, many federal, state, provincial, and local government agencies in the United States and Canada have worked diligently and expended tens of millions of dollars over the past 10 years on a variety of projects to keep invasive carp out of the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, once an invasive species establishes itself in an ecosystem, it is exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to eradicate it, and it often inflicts serious damage on the ecosystem and imposes major costs in efforts to control it; and

WHEREAS, Asian carp pose a dangerous risk of injury to recreational users on waters infested with Asian carp; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a multiyear, comprehensive study across the U.S. side of the Great Lakes Basin called the "Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study" that examines 19 separate locations where invasive carp could cross from the Mississippi River Basin to the Great Lakes Basin, and considers a large number of potential ways to stop the further migration.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANK A. TRILLA, Mayor of the Village of Willowbrook, Illinois, and Village Board of Trustees, do hereby resolve that the invasive carp in the Mississippi River system pose one of the greatest threats to the integrity and well-being of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence ecosystem and that the Village of Willowbrook strongly urges all parties involved to identify a preferred solution to the invasive carp issue and move forward to implement that solution with the greatest sense of urgency.

Proclaimed this 14th day of October, 2013.

Mayor



Village Clerk