THE UNIQUE MALOM POND OF VERESEGYHÁZ

Malom Pond provides several ecosystem services, so it had a significant role in the economic and social life of Veresegyház in all time. It was created in the Middle Ages in connection with a water mill and for fishing purposes (inculding crayfish cathing), and was first mentioned in 1430. It's water mill worked until the 1950's, reed and ice cutting were regular winter activities in the past. This aquatic habitat has special, natural floating reeds (mires) which play significant role in water purification. Currently bathing, angling and ecotourism (e.g. „Ponds of Veresegyház" Nature Trail) are the most popular activities related to the pond.

In the second half of the XX. century harmful eutrophication processes were detected in the Malom Pond, as results of human impacts (mainly dredging and pollution). The main aim of local Tavirózsa Association is to improve ecological status of Malom Pond for preserving conservation values. Between 2009-2010 – as a part of pond rehabilitation project of municipality – ca. 40 000 m³ mud was pumped out from the bottom in order to improve water quality. Nowadays the capacity enhancement of overloaded sewage treatment plant of watershed is under planning.

The rare floating reeds

Social and economic roles/services

Water mill in winter (1930's)

Pond beach was opened in 1928
(oil painting of Aladár Pádly)

Annual fishing ticket (1935)

Ice cutting in the first half of XX. century

Bathing in the 1930's

Waterpolo nowadays

Natural values – protected curiosities

Malom Pond is the main habitat of the European otter in the region
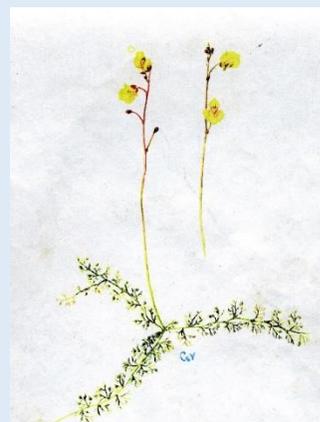

Little bittern

The northern water hemlock is a protected, but poisonous fen plant

Pond turtle is the only native turtle species in Hungary

The European mudminnow is an indigenous fish of Carpathian basin (extinct from the pond in the 1980's)

Aquarell of Bremi's Bladderwort (Veresegyház, 1947). This endangered carnivore aquatic plant went extinct from the pond in the 1980's