

Greetings!

Routine services for invasive vegetation (such as torpedo grass, alligator weed, water hyacinth) will be skipped for the month of June as conditions of the lake do not warrant a treatment. Hydrilla continues to deteriorate and decompose which is expected to occur at this stage for your lake.

As mentioned prior, through a process called chlorosis (a condition where the loss of green pigmentation in plants occurs), the plant is no longer able to produce its own food (called photosynthesis). Without photosynthesis taking place, any new hydrilla growth relies on carbohydrates stored in the main plant stems to grow. As the carbohydrate storage becomes depleted (starved!), the plant should die off with the continued herbicide exposure. Given the amount of hydrilla present, this process will take some time- hence the original 75 day prescription. As is, the visible effects at day 60 are most of the white tips on the plant have decomposed leaving some tips struggling for survival and the main plant is in decomposition stage. In the image below, you have good representation of new growth that is affected by the fluridone. The plant is also demonstrating that it is in survival mode with all the new growth emerging from the one root base. This is an attempt to outlive the treatment and survive. Only one cluster of hydrilla was present in the canal that showed obvious signs of impact from fluridone treatment applied.

Photo: New growth tips highlighted.



Photo: Hydrilla main stems decomposing.



Next inspection will determine if any additional bump treatments will be necessary. To date we have maintained within the initial proposed treatment schedule and have executed the 3 planned treatments (or “bump treatments”) for the lake.