

PRESS RELEASE

City of Monroe Communications,
Culture and Community Promotion
120 East First St. Monroe MI 48161 734-384-9134 monroemi.gov



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Media Contact:

Barry LaRoy
Director of Water & Wastewater Utilities
City of Monroe
barry.laroy@monroemi.gov
734-384-9122

CITY OF MONROE TO CONTINUE FLOWERING RUSH ERADICATION PROGRAM

Monroe, Michigan – The City of Monroe's Commission on the Environment, in partnership with the International Wildlife Refuge, will be treating the River Raisin to control the spread of Flowering Rush the week of October 1, 2018. Treatment will consist of the application of an environmentally sensitive herbicide, an invasive aquatic plant species management method approved for use in Wayne and Monroe counties through the Detroit River-Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA), which was established in 2011.

Aqua-Weed Control, Inc., a company out of Holly, Michigan, will be treating the length of the River from Cranbrook Boulevard to the dam behind the Water Treatment Plant (Fish Passage #1). Properties in the treatment area will be field noticed prior to the application.

Flowering Rush, an invasive aquatic plant, can grow as an emergent along shorelines and as a submersed plant in river. This exotic was likely brought to North America from Europe as a garden plant that grows well in wet environments. While single flowering rush plants are not a "problem," this exotic can form dense stands which may interfere with recreational lake and lake use. Flowering rush may also crowd out native plants and wildlife. A permit is required to remove flowering rush because it is difficult to distinguish from native plants.

Discovered in the River Raisin in 2003, it only took ten years for this species to overtake the waterways. Removal efforts, including hand digging, have not deterred its onset. In 2014, the City of Monroe Commission on the Environment initiated a Flowering Rush Eradication Program funded by Monroe County Environmental Grant Fund, using an herbicide treatment in an effort to preserve the native habitat.

Residents in the affected area will be receiving notice via a direct mailer to their property, as required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. A copy of the letter has been attached to this release.

Additional information on native and invasive plant species in the River Raisin habitat can be found in the pages of the 'River Raisin Legacy Project Field Guide,' a free informational 36 page booklet that highlights recent environmental protection and restoration efforts, as well as recreational opportunities. Copies are available at Monroe City Hall, 120 East First Street, first floor.

Incorporated in 1817, the City of Monroe is a community that has a shared vision that seeks to balance the opportunities of economic development with the stewardship that is required for historic preservation. With a population of 20,733, Monroe is located about 17-miles north of Toledo, Ohio and about 35-miles south of Detroit. The City of Monroe is Michigan's third oldest community, and is also the county seat of Monroe County.

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****This notice is required for each Lake/Pond resident, to be distributed between 7 - 45 days prior to first treatment (per MDEQ rules)****

TREATMENT NOTICE

RESIDENTS IN THIS AREA ARE PLANNING TO HAVE THE WATERS IN THIS AREA TREATED WITH HERBICIDES AND ALGAEICIDES FOR CONTROL OF AQUATIC WEEDS AND/OR ALGAE.

This notice is being circulated as required by Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) rules. A permit for the treatment has either been secured or will be secured from the MDEQ before the work is begun. In some cases a permit is not required.

You are receiving this notice if you are in the proposed treatment area, or if you are within 100 feet of the proposed treatment area. In some cases, we also provide this notice to persons in adjacent subdivisions as an informational courtesy to advise persons who may have beach rights but are not lakefront residents.

We usually work with groups of homeowners or their elected representatives through homeowners associations, or with the owners of apartment or condominium units. Please try to contact any of these in your situation if you have any questions about the proposed treatment plan.

Aqua-Weed Control, Inc. typically performs two types of treatments: algae control and weed control.

Algae Control - If we are doing only an algae control treatment using only copper based products then no water use restrictions apply. We will post the shoreline with yellow signs informing you of this work as required by the MDEQ.

- ☐ Lakes – Typically lake shorelines are treated twice during the summer.
- ☐ Ponds - Expect several algae control treatments during the summer beginning in late April thru September.

Weed Control / Water Dye - If we are treating for weeds, using blue dye, or using some non-copper algae control products then there are restrictions on the use of the water, and we will post the shoreline with yellow signs before these products are applied to the water body as required by the MDEQ.

We treat each water body according to a schedule or seasonal plan worked out between the persons in charge and an aquatic manager. A typical plan will include multiple treatments from May thru August and possibly September. However, due to the differences in season plans and the uncertainty of weather, please watch your shoreline for the posting of the yellow signs throughout the summer.

Typical lake weed control treatment patterns:

- ☐ If your lake is to be treated with Fluridone then you can expect treatment in late April or early May and then again in mid May.
- ☐ If your lake is to be treated for weeds using other herbicides then you can expect two treatments a summer. The first being in late May or early to mid June. The second application typically is done in mid too late July or early August depending on weed growth patterns. In a few cases a third touch-up weed application may be required.
- ☐ Ponds are typically treated for weeds twice each summer.

IN MOST CASES YOUR WATER BODY WILL BE TREATED MORE THAN ONCE EACH SEASON; CHECK THIS WITH YOUR ASSOCIATION.

The posted signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the product name, the active ingredient and any restrictions as to the use of the water for swimming, watering lawns and the consumption of fish taken from these waters. We use NEW SIGNS for each treatment.

When more than one product is used the restrictions longest limits will be posted. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT YOUR HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION OR NEIGHBORS WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF THE TREATMENT OR YOUR APARTMENT OR CONDOMINIUM MANAGER. If they cannot answer your questions, we can be reached at the number on the other side of this notice.

Only products which have been registered for use in the aquatic environment by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and the US Environmental Protection Agency are used.

We anticipate using one or more of the products listed. Please be aware of the restrictions on each product. If the MDEQ changes any restrictions they will be noted on the signs we post.

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PRODUCTS & RESTRICTIONS: (Information below is from product labels. When 2 or more labels exist for a single active ingredient the most stringent information is provided)

Diquat Dibromide: Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). Do not use treated water to irrigate turf or non-food crops for a period of three [3] days after treatment. Do not use the treated water for watering food crops, animal watering (farm stock -- not incidental drinking by a domestic pet), or drinking purposes for a period of five [5] days after treatment. There is no restriction on fish consumption. Diquat dibromide is the active ingredient. *No swimming restriction exists on the federal label of this product. Common trade names for this product: Reward, Tribune.*

2,4-D (ester and amine): Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use treated water for irrigating plants, mixing sprays for agricultural or ornamental plants, watering dairy animals, or domestic water supplies for 21 days. "Irrigation" includes watering gardens --however it does NOT include established grasses. Domestic use means using lake water inside your house. There is no restriction on fish consumption. 2,4-D is the active ingredient.

Common trade names for this product: Navigate, Sculpin G, Renovate Max G (also contains Triclopyr)

Triclopyr: Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). Do not use treated water for irrigation of any plants except turf grass for 120 days or until the active ingredient has dissipated below a non detectable level as determined by water testing (usually after 2 weeks). This restriction does not apply to established turf grass watering. There is no restriction on fish consumption. Triclopyr is the active ingredient. *No swimming restriction exists on the federal label of this product. Common trade names for this product: Renovate 3, Renovate OTF, Renovate Max G and Navitrol. (Note: Renovate Max G also contains 2,4-D)*

Endothall: Do not use treated water for swimming for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). Endothall is the active ingredient in each of these products. *No swimming, fishing or watering restrictions exist on the federal label of this product.*

Common trade names for this product: Aquathol-K, Super Aquathol-K, Hydrothol-191(liquid and granular)

Fluridone: Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). It is suggested that lawn and garden watering be restricted from 7 to 30 days at the extreme. The suggested number of days depends on the rate applied and whether you are on a lake or canal and the type of irrigation. When parts per billion (PPB) concentrations of fluridone reach 5 PPB or less there are NO irrigation restrictions. Established turf and tree irrigation restrictions expire (NO restriction) at 10 PPB or less. Most fluridone applications permitted in Michigan are applied at 6 PPB or less! The sign we post when we treat will give the details for your area. Fluridone is the active ingredient. There is no restriction on fish consumption. *No swimming restriction exists on the federal label of this product. Common trade names for this product: Avast!, Sonar, SonarOne, Sonar Genesis*

Water Dye: Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). No restriction for fishing and watering. Organic dye (food grade) is the active ingredient. *The label restriction for swimming is "several hours" after application or after even mixing throughout the water body.*

Common trade names for this product: Cygnet Select, Cygnet Extreme, Pure Blue, Paradise Blue.

Copper based algacides: NO WATER USE RESTRICTIONS. Copper is the active ingredient. Informational posting only. *Common trade names for this product: Copper Sulfate, Cutrine (Plus,Ultra), Captain (XTR), K-Tea, Symmetry, SeClear G, F-30.*

Copper based herbicides: Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). Copper is the active ingredient. No restriction for fishing and watering. *No swimming restriction exists on the federal label of this product. Common trade names for this product: Nautique, Komeen, Harpoon (liquid and granular), Current.*

Sodium Carbonate Peroxyhydrate: No water use restrictions. The active ingredient is a strong oxidizer. *Common trade names for this product are: Green Clean Liquid, Green Clean 2.0, and Green Clean 5.0.*

Glyphosate: Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). No restriction for fishing and watering. The active ingredient is Glyphosate. *No swimming restriction exists on the federal label of this product. Common trade names for this product: Shoreklear, Shoreklear-Plus, Aqua-Star, Refuge, Aquapro, Aquaneat.*

Imazamox: Do not use the treated water for swimming or irrigation for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). No restriction for fishing and watering. The active ingredient is Imazamox. *No swimming restriction exists on the federal label of this product. Common trade names for this product: Clearcast.*

Flumioxazin: Do not use the treated water for swimming or irrigation for 24 hours (MDEQ restriction). Lawn and garden watering is restricted for 1 day after treatment. Do not use the treated water for watering food crops, animal watering (farm stock -- not incidental drinking by a domestic pet), or drinking purposes for a period of five [5] days after treatment. No restriction for fishing. The active ingredient is Flumioxazin. *No swimming restriction exists on the federal label of this product. Common trade names for this product: Clipper, Schooner.*

This notice contains information that is the latest available at time of printing. We update this notice as required to keep all data current. Updated versions of this notice and product labels are available at our website. (www.aquaweed.com)

414 Hadley St., Holly, MI 48442
248 634-8388 www.aquaweed.com

