



Spring Lake Aquatic Plant Control Program 2022 Annual Report

A publication of the Spring Lake - Lake Board

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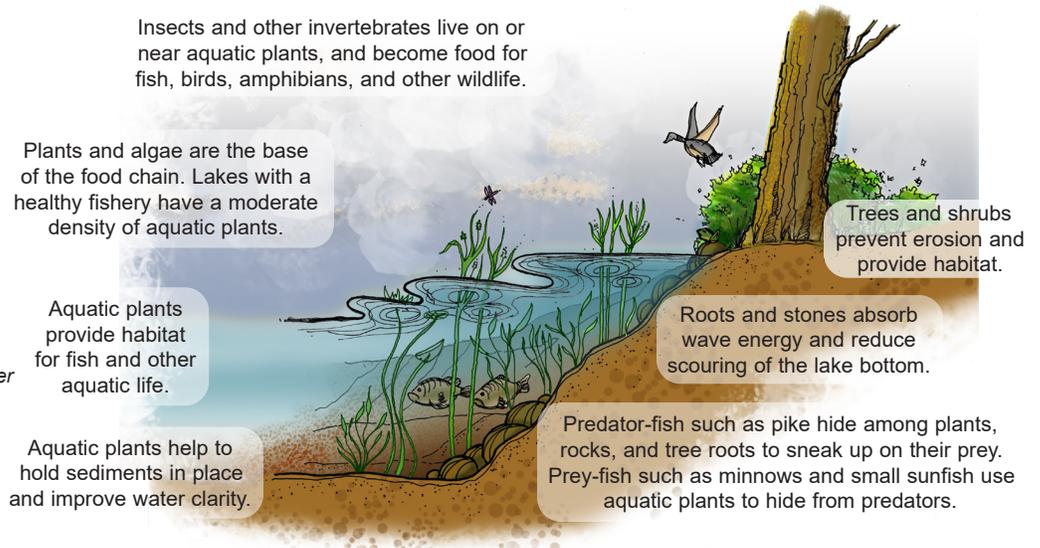
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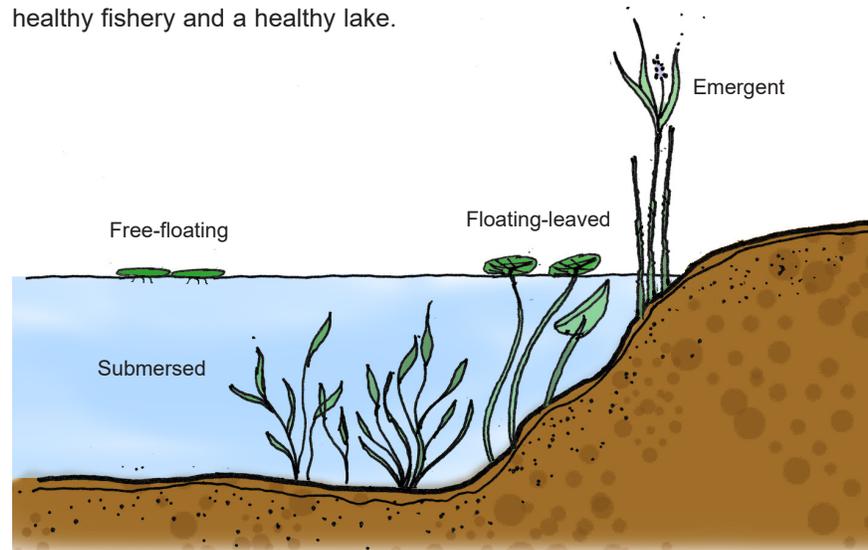
*Herbicide Applicator
PLM Lake and Land Management Corp*

For many years, a nuisance plant control program has been ongoing on Spring Lake. The primary objective of the program is to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic plants while preserving beneficial plant species. This report contains an overview of plant control activities conducted on Spring Lake in 2022.

Aquatic plants are an important component of lakes. They produce oxygen during photosynthesis, provide food, habitat and cover for fish, and help stabilize shoreline and bottom sediments.

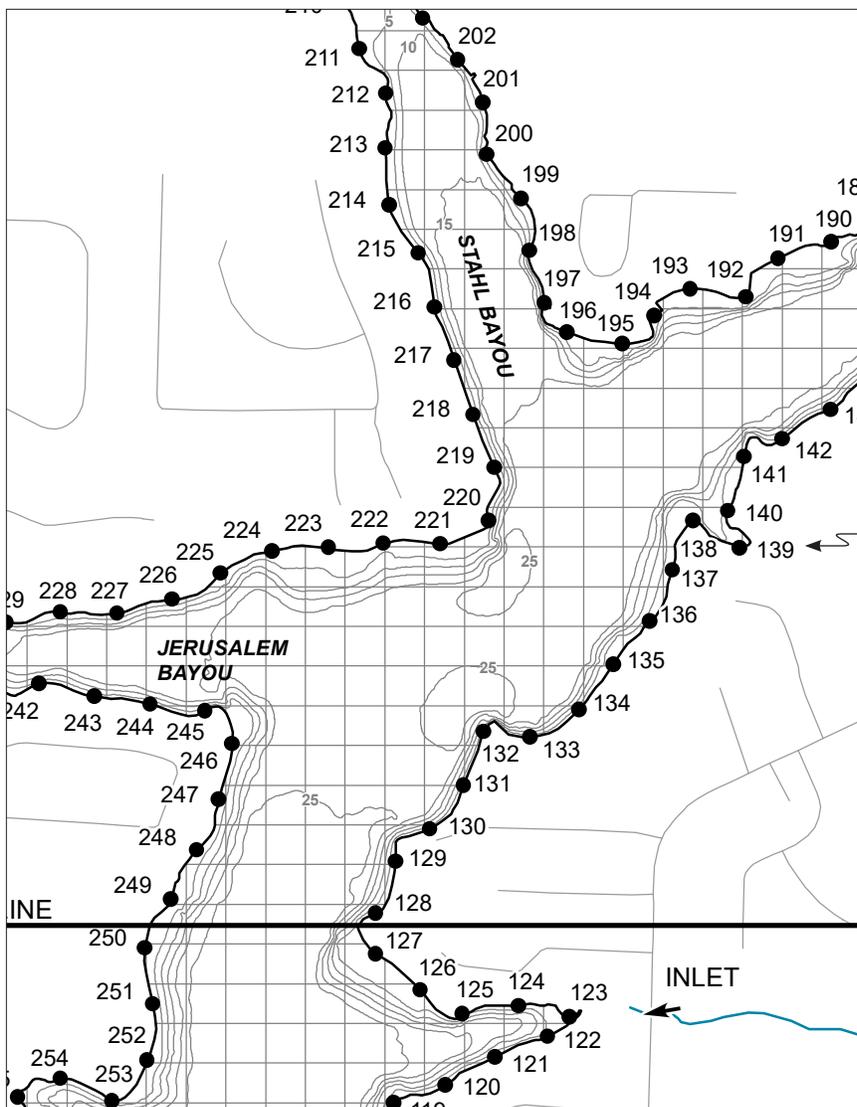


There are four main aquatic plant groups: submersed, floating-leaved, free-floating, and emergent. Each plant group provides important ecological functions. Maintaining a diversity of aquatic plants is important to sustaining a healthy fishery and a healthy lake.



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Plant control activities are coordinated under the direction of an environmental consultant, Progressive AE. Biologists from Progressive conduct GPS-guided surveys of the lake to identify problem areas, and detailed treatment maps are provided to the plant control contractor. Follow-up surveys are conducted throughout the growing season to evaluate results and the need for additional treatments. In 2022, surveys were conducted on May 11, June 6, June 22, July 21, and August 29.



GPS reference points established along the shoreline of Spring Lake are used to guide plant surveys and to accurately identify the location of nuisance plant growth areas.

Plant control in Spring Lake involves the select use of herbicides to control invasive plant growth. Primary plants targeted for control in Spring Lake include Eurasian milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed. Both of these plants are non-native (exotic) species that tend to be highly invasive and have the potential to spread quickly if left unchecked.



Eurasian milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)



Curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)

Plant control activities conducted on Spring Lake in 2022 are summarized in the table below.

**SPRING LAKE
2022 NUISANCE AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL SUMMARY**

Treatment Date	Plants Targeted	Acres Treated
May 25	E. milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, algae	54
June 28	E. milfoil, nuisance native plants	59.75
July 27	E. milfoil, nuisance native plants, algae	72.5
August 31	Nuisance native plants, algae	14.5
Total		200.75