

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What happens if we do not raise enough money to cover the full first year requirements?

Whatever funding level raised will be used to treat the areas prioritized by the NYS DEC. We are certain that when the treatment results are seen, second year fundraising will be much easier.

2. What areas of the Lake will be treated in year 1?

It is proposed that we treat 248 acres in the North and South ends of the Lake subject to DEC approval.

3. How will the project be funded beyond year 2?

It is expected that public funding will be available for future water management needs.

4. What happens if DEC does not approve our application for Renovate treatment in 2009?

Based on discussions with the DEC, we are confident we will gain approval in 2009. However, in the event that it does not get approved, we will resubmit the application in 2010.

5. I have been hand pulling weeds on my lakefront using them for compost. What will we have to do with weeds we pull after the chemical is applied??

The chemical is applied in the early spring when growth has begun, but the plants are still small. The Renovate treatment will knock the plants down within a matter of days. Remnants of the plant, which is about 90% water, will fall to the bottom over a few weeks. No pulling should be required under this timetable. If you have active milfoil growing in untreated areas, you can use the weeds for whatever purpose you want.

6. Follow up question: What about areas not in the treatment area?

Past practice will dictate. Since there will be no harvester working in the non-treatment areas, whatever method the property owner was using will still be in play. Mats, hand pulling, or no intervention, will be the majority of the activity.

7. I live in the 2009 treatment area. Should I NOT put down mats this year?

If milfoil is present, you should not put down mats, so that the milfoil can grow and uptake the herbicide. If no milfoil is present, mats can be used on native plants, if necessary, assuming correct identification of milfoil versus native plants.

8. Safety for pets swimming in the water?

There are no swimming restrictions following applications of triclopyr to water per the federal product label. This means that the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers the treated water safe for swimming (for people and pets) immediately after treatment, even at

the maximum labeled rate of 2.5 ppm. As an additional precaution to ensure public health, the NYSDEC requires a 3-hour swimming restriction after application per the NY 24 (c) product label. Sometimes, the particular region making a decision on a treatment permit will decide to further restrict the use of the water for swimming for 24 hours at the time the permit is issued.

9. Can you wash dishes?

There are no restrictions on domestic uses of water such as bathing, dish and clothing washing immediately after treatment per the New York 24 (c) product label for Renovate. However, sometimes the particular state or region making the decision on the permit may request additional requirements not listed on the product label at the time the permit is granted.

10. What about the use of grass carp to control milfoil?

Grass carp have a decided preference to native plants and will only eat milfoil when other food sources are consumed. Ecologically we want our native plants to remain in our lake that include two endangered species. There has not been any successful experiments with grass carp in lakes over 500 acres (Caz is 1100 acres). Also, we would have to install barriers in the run off to Chittenango Creek to assure that grass carp do not enter that water body.

11. Will my well (which is close to the lake) be affected?

There are no restrictions on the use of potable water in nearby wells; restrictions would be on the use of water from potable water intakes pulling from the lake. Potable water intakes should not be used until analysis of water samples shows concentrations are below the limit set by New York Department of Health.

12. How long has Renovate been used in lakes?

Renovate has been actively used in lakes in the US since receiving USEPA registration in 2002. Renovate OTF, the granular formulation, has been used since it was registered in 2006 making it possible for even more targeted treatment approaches. Both products have been used in New York since 2007 when the Environmental Impact Study (required by New York prior to state permitting of any aquatic herbicide) was completed.

13. Are there independent toxicity data? Can we trust the SePro data?

Most of the studies required by EPA for the registration for triclopyr, as an aquatic herbicide, have been funded by its manufacturer. The regulatory studies conducted on triclopyr were largely done by DowAgroSciences. This is normal since companies typically spend 20-50 million dollars in testing to meet EPA registration requirements for aquatic herbicides. EPA has extremely rigorous testing standards called Good Laboratory Practices that the laboratories must comply in generation of data to support product registrations. This standard helps ensure quality results in the way data is conducted, recorded and documented with appropriate quality control. These studies can also be audited by the EPA at any time to ensure data was generated and documented to support the results obtained. Government agencies and Universities often conduct their own field trials and other research and these published results are considered by the state when conducting risk assessments. There are many published studies on Renovate and triclopyr use in the US. The EPA requires pesticide registrants to submit more than 100 different scientific studies and tests, which must be conducted according to EPA guidelines. Currently, no herbicide product can be labeled for aquatic use if it has more than a

one in one million chance of causing significant harmful effects to human health, wildlife, or the environment.