

In the News

Lake Tapps 2013 Milfoil Treatment Announced

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Cascade will begin treatment of milfoil in Lake Tapps in mid-August, continuing the multi-year program to address dense Eurasian watermilfoil growth.

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Lake Tapps WA - Cascade Water Alliance, owner of Lake Tapps, will this August continue its multi-year program begun in 2010 to address dense growth of Eurasian watermilfoil. Milfoil is a non-native and invasive aquatic plant that spreads rapidly, crowds out native plants, and forms dense surface mats in Lake Tapps.

Herbicide treatment was performed in the summer of 2010 and 2011, with diver hand-pulling in 2012. This year, boat surveys were conducted, and, together with information gathered by last year's divers, revealed some dense milfoil infestation in a couple of areas located around Driftwood Point (see attached map and link: http://bit.ly/14ursM0). Herbicide treatment will be performed in these areas starting around mid-August (anticipated Aug. 22), then approximately three weeks later on Sept. 12.

Cascade awarded the 2013 contract for milfoil treatment to AquaTechnex, the same contractor who conducted previous treatments. AquaTechnex will apply herbicide treatments to approximately 60 acres of the lake this year (see attached map). Since 2010, Cascade has treated the lake as needed each year, spending almost \$600,000 to address milfoil. This year's treatment will cost about \$100,000.

The treatment will consist of applications of Sonar PR (Fluridone) and Renovate OTF (Triclopyr.), which have been used in previous years. Although, the Sonar PR and Renovate labels state there are no restrictions on use of water in the treatment area for recreational purposes, including swimming and fishing, the treated areas will be closed to swimming for 24 hours as a precaution. Homeowners adjacent to the treatment area will be notified when treatment will be done.

For limitations on uses and other information about Renovate, please see http://www.sepro.com/documents/Renovate_Label.pdf and

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/pesticides/final_pesticide_permits/noxious/triclopyr_faq.pdf

For limitations on use and other information about Sonar, please see http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/management/FluridoneStrategies.html

Milfoil is often brought in by boats that have previously been in milfoil infested waters. In addition, homeowner's use of fertilizer contributes to milfoil (and native plant) growth as the nutrients used on lawns feed milfoils growth as the runoff

goes into the lake. Native vegetation will not be treated as it is beneficial to the lake's health and its removal is regulated by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

For more information on these issues, and help in differentiating foliage in the lake between milfoil and native plants, visit www.cascadewater.org

