

November

2024

# CANADIAN LAKES

PLANT CONTROL SUMMARY

PREPARED FOR:

CANADIAN LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS CORPORATION

MECOSTA COUNTY, MI

**CANADIAN LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS CORPORATION**

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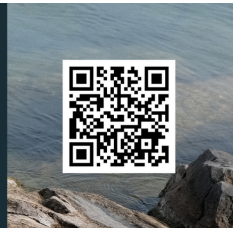
PLM Lake and Land Management Corp.



A reliable resource for  
information on Michigan's  
inland lakes.

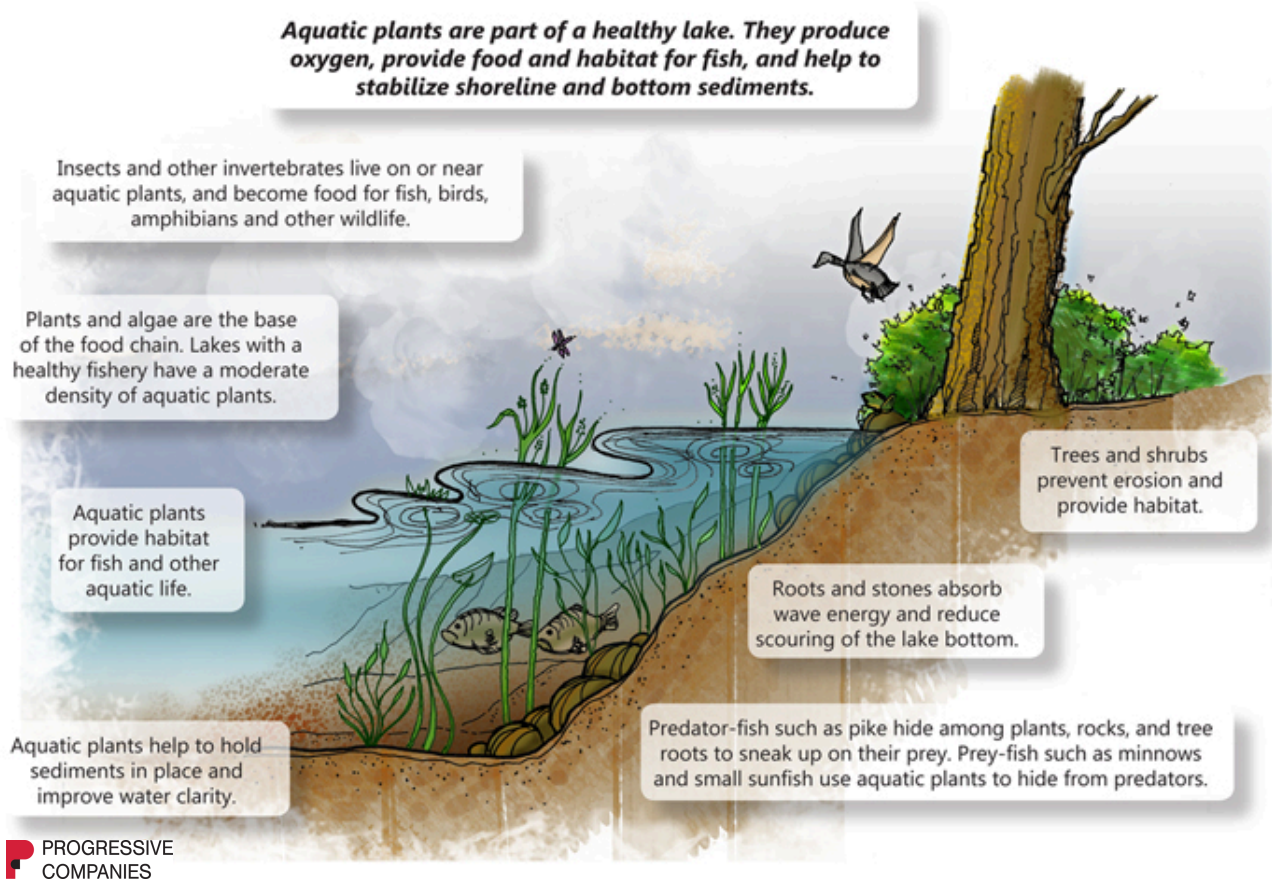


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# PROGRAM SUMMARY

A nuisance aquatic plant control program has been ongoing on Canadian Lakes for many years. The primary objective of the program is to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic plants while preserving beneficial native plant species. This report contains an overview of plant control activities conducted on Canadian Lakes in 2024.



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 native aquatic plants is important to sustaining a healthy fishery and a healthy lake. Invasive aquatic plant species have negative impacts to the lake's ecosystem. It is important to maintain an active plant control program to reduce the introduction and spread of invasive species within Canadian Lakes. Plant control efforts in 2024 consisted of five herbicide treatments, two commercial harvesting events, and season-long CLPOC operated harvesting.

# PLANT CONTROL

Plant control activities are coordinated under the direction of an environmental consultant, Progressive Companies. Scientists from Progressive conduct GPS-guided surveys of the lakes to identify problem areas, and georeferenced plant control maps are provided to the plant control contractors. GPS reference points are established along the shoreline and over shallow portions of the lakes. These waypoints are used to accurately identify the location of invasive and nuisance plant growth areas.



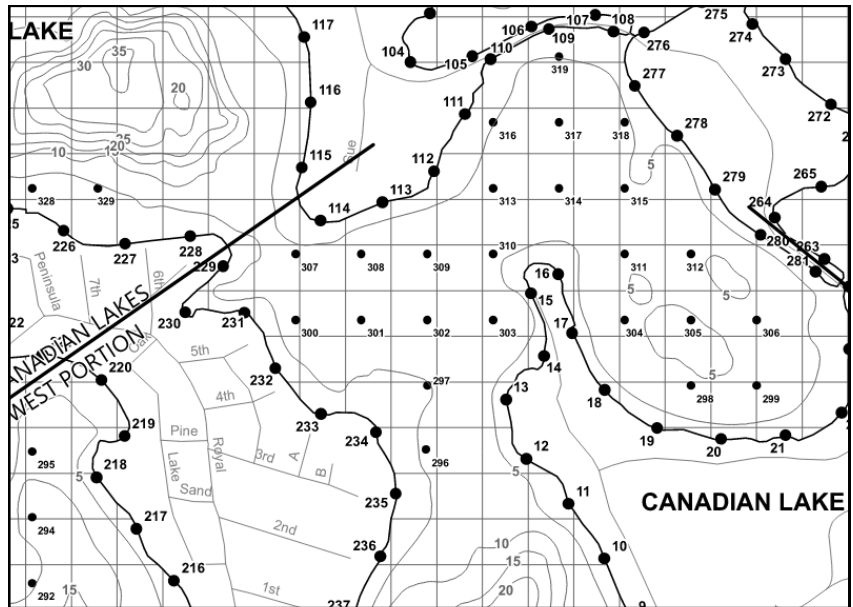
Eurasian milfoil  
*Myriophyllum spicatum*



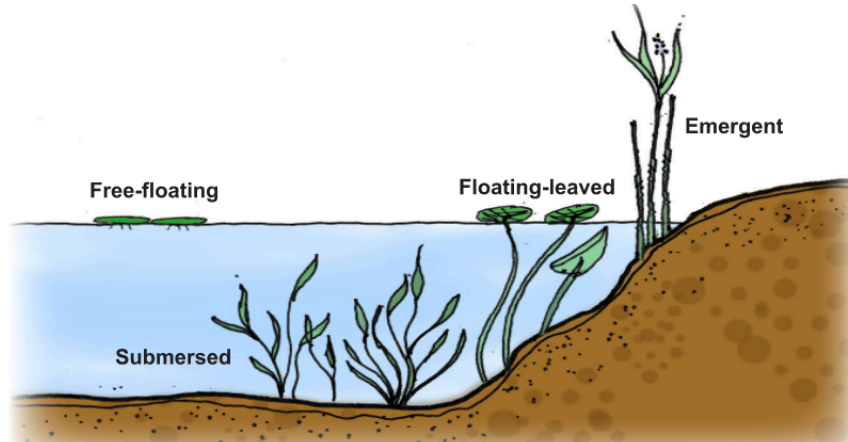
Curly-leaf pondweed  
*Potamogeton crispus*



Starry stonewort  
*Nitellopsis obtusa*



Primary plants targeted for control in Canadian Lakes include Eurasian milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, and starry stonewort. These plants are non-native (exotic) species that tend to be highly invasive and have the potential to spread quickly if left unchecked. Plant control activities conducted on the lake in 2024 are summarized in Table 1.



# PLANT CONTROL

**TABLE 1. CANADIAN LAKES 2024 PLANT CONTROL ACTIVITIES**

Date	Plants Targeted	Acreage
May 16	E. milfoil, curly-leaf, nuisance natives	54.00
June 13	E. milfoil, starry stonewort, nuisance natives, algae	75.25
June 17-20	Harvest: nuisance natives	35.50
July 18	E. milfoil, starry stonewort, nuisance natives	27.75
August 7-14	Harvest: nuisance natives	56.75
August 15	E. milfoil, starry stonewort, nuisance natives	5.25
September 24	E. milfoil	61.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>316.00</b>

In 2024, a total of 223.75 acres of Canadian Lakes were treated with aquatic herbicides. Eurasian milfoil was treated with systemic herbicides, florasulam (ProcellaCOR) and triclopyr, for long-lasting control. Curly-leaf pondweed and nuisance native plants were targeted using contact herbicides. Starry stonewort was treated with chelated copper products and flumioxazin, a contact herbicide, providing sufficient control. Nuisance algae was treated with chelated copper products. A total of 92.25 acres of mechanical harvesting was performed to address nuisance native plant growth on the lake chain. The CLPOC operated Truxor harvesting machine was utilized around common dock areas on the Main Chain and in smaller lakes within Canadian Lakes. Plant control efforts were similar in acreage to 2023.

Eurasian milfoil grew aggressively throughout the season starting in April and persisting through September. This is due in part to recent mild winters. Without prolonged periods of snow-covered ice on the lakes, aquatic plants can more easily survive the winter, jumpstarting growth the following year. The goal of the September milfoil treatment was to reduce the amount of viable milfoil in the lakes going into winter.

For detailed treatment and harvesting maps, please visit [canadianlakesmgmt.org](http://canadianlakesmgmt.org).