

In an effort to expand restoration of Lake Minocqua and Lake Kawaguesaga from aquatic invasive species, specifically Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM), Minocqua Kawaguesaga Lakes Protection Association (MKLPA) has contracted with Aquatic Plant Management (APM) to manually remove EWM via hand harvesting and Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH). The manual removal efforts are in conjunction with herbicide application throughout the lakes to provide a multi-pronged, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach.

Through this partnership, APM is offering homeowners a discounted rate to remove EWM via a residential “Aquatic Restoration” program. Interested lake owners can contact Will Jeffery, Residential Manager APM at 715 438 3269 to discuss treatment of their lakefront. “Allowing riparian owners to join this effort not only cleans the nuisance plants in front of their property, but also increases our overall acreage of treatment.” said MKLPA President Sally Murwin. “This aggressive plan is on the leading edge of EWM removal and we look forward to the year-over-year results to come.” Important aspects of the program include:

- Over \$100,000 face value of the contract emphasizing tremendous cooperative trust embodied to achieve a consistent lasting relationship based on long term multiyear reduction of EWM
- Commitment representing significant investment by MKLPA on behalf of its constituents, potentially making funds unavailable for viable alternatives. Donations and membership are greatly appreciated.
- Cooperative coordination of EWM removal activities in concert with riparian owners by:
 - Creating, capturing and sharing necessary data to project future use
 - MKLPA focus on riparian owner desire to DASH/Hand Harvest their shorelines, through
 - Adoption of an APM staffed hotline
 - Advantageous pricing beyond any available elsewhere
 - GPS defined site conditions and recorded results for future management decisions
 - Flow through MKLPA of riparian funding for such services to conserve MKLPA reserves for future year deployment in an ongoing multiyear program
 - Facilitating public awareness building and retention of support through sharing of EWM related APM/MKLPA communications

“We’re excited to work with an organization that shares our passion and enthusiasm for cleaning our lakes for the future,” said APM Co-Founder & Co-Owner Andrew McFerrin. “Growing up on these lakes, we understand the importance of a healthy ecosystem and are eager to bring back the EWM levels to a more manageable level.”

Work has already begun with preparation and submittal of permit applications and initiation of hand harvesting in the areas previously treated with ProcettaCOR in 2019. .

About Aquatic Plant Management:

APM is a limited liability company specializing in the abatement and eradication of aquatic invasive species. Founded in Minocqua in 2013, APM provides diving and consulting services with the goal of reducing the impact of AIS on communities across the state of Wisconsin.

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