

Huron River Chain of Lakes Update

July 13, 2020

Surveys: Progressive AE completed their July survey on July 6th and July 7th. During this survey Progressive AE traveled around each lake checking the entire chain for invasive and nuisance plants. After the survey, Progressive AE, Aquatic Services and [EGLE](#) combine efforts to complete treatment maps. A flow chart detailing this process can be found [here](#). Permit amendments will more than likely be required for this round of treatment on Portage and Baseline Lakes, we expect to have to apply for amendments for the remainder of the season to complete additional treatment.

Treatment/Harvesting: The next round of treatment is scheduled, July treatment maps can we found [here](#). Please note that the date on the map is not the treatment date, it is the date that it was created.

Treatment: Aquatic Services maintains an online calendar letting residents know when they will be out on their lakes for treatment. Please check the calendar [here](#). **These treatment dates can change due to weather so please keep checking back frequently.** Treatment takes between 7 to 21 days to take effect, after which a review of the work is conducted. If treatment is ineffective, a subsequent treatment is conducted where necessary. Please make sure you read the "Treatment Notice" posted for any and all water use restrictions related to the specific treatment in your area. These notifications will be posted along the shoreline on **YELLOW** pieces of paper.

Harvesting: Harvesting Maps can be found [here](#). The harvesting maps will all be uploaded by 07/17/2020 on the County website. We do not have an online scheduling calendar for these activities. There are no restrictions associated with this activity. If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to us at lakes@washtenaw.org.

Snuffbox Mussel Update: On lakes that have very restrictive controls set in place to protect this endangered species we have to alter our approach to effective treatment. The lakes that we have to alter most of our treatment options are Strawberry and Zukey. EGLE has increased the level of treatment restrictions in 2020 from the 2019 treatment year. As a result, treatment options are limited. To compensate for limited options for treating weeds, additional harvesting will take place and will be scheduled for late July.

We do not have many options to treat algae on Strawberry and Zukey as the permitted chemical given restrictions is minimally effective. We will continue to communicate this need to EGLE.

Maps and Reporting: We will continue to update the website with additional information as we receive it. When reporting areas of concern, we request that you use the GPS waypoint number (associated with the concern location); additionally, providing a still photo will be beneficial for us to understand your concerns. The GPS Waypoint numbers can be found on the treatment maps along the perimeter of the lake (blank treatment maps are located [here](#) under the header "Included Bodies of Water"). Doing so enables us to communicate the location of your information when discussing with our contractors. You can email areas of concern to lakes@washtenaw.org or call 734-222-6865.

Additional Information:

Riverfront and Lakeshore Properties: Rainwater and melting snow wash over the land carrying contaminants such as dirt, oil and toxic auto fluids, pesticides and fertilizer, bacteria from pet waste and failing septic systems, and even pavement heat into the nearest lake, river, or stream. This results in excessive aquatic plant growth and algal blooms, decreased water clarity, altered stream flows, degraded habitat, and shoreline erosion. To learn more about what you can do as a waterfront homeowner to help minimize runoff please visit the Huron River Watershed Council [website](#).

PFAS: The "Do Not Eat" advisory on the Huron River starts when N. Wixom Road crosses in Oakland County and extends downstream to the mouth of the Huron River as it enters Lake Erie in Wayne County. For a full list of water-bodies please visit <https://www.washtenaw.org/AlertCenter.aspx?AID=136>

Shoreland Steward Best Practices: Please visit the following site to learn more about the best practices for your shoreland! Small steps you take on your own shore can have BIG impacts for your lake's water quality. <https://www.mishorelandstewards.org/bestpractices.asp>

Washtenaw County Website with Lake Management Resources: A list of informational resources we have been accumulating have been posted on a central page now! On this webpage you can find information on Plant Management, Lake Muck, Native Shorelines and Boat Pitting. Please take a look at this [page](#)! If you have a resource, you think might be helpful for other residents who live on or enjoy lake life please forward it to Lakes@washtenaw.org.

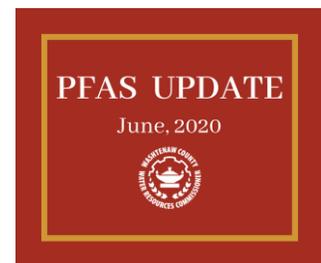
[“Cleanup effort on the Portage Chain of Lakes”](#)

One of your fellow HRCOL residents Craig Kivi was featured in an article in The Sun Times News for his clean up efforts on the lakes.



PBWOA: For the most up-to-date information from the Portage, Base & Whitewood Owners Association please visit their website [here](#).

[Washtenaw County Water Resources PFAS Update – June, 2020](#)



[The Effects of Motorized Watercraft on Aquatic Ecosystems](#)