

Huron River Chain of Lakes Update

August 3, 2020

Surveys: Progressive AE will complete their August survey on August 10th and August 11th. During this survey Progressive AE will travel 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 will be scheduled following the August survey. Some proactive [Starry Stonewort](#) treatment has been scheduled. You can view the treatment maps [here](#), once I have additional treatment maps I will upload them. 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. There is a blanket no swimming for 1 day after any and all treatments. The watering restrictions vary with each treatment and will be detailed on the postings.

Harvesting: We have not completed the harvesting for the Chain of Lakes as of Monday afternoon, we are still working our way down the chain. Harvesting Maps can be found [here](#). **Since there is no public access on Strawberry Lake, the harvester is looking for a place where we can safely unload harvested weeds. We are asking residents if you have a possible location to assist us in this unloading to please let us know. This is essential to help this important service continue. Please contact lakes@washtenaw.org if you may be interested.**

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 took place in 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:

PBWOA ANNUAL MEETING:

The Annual PBWOA meeting is scheduled for August 15th at 9:30am. The meeting will be held virtually via ZOOM. The Meeting ID is [420 448 3643](#) and the Password is [PBWOA](#).

Letter from the PBWOA President:

We want to remind everyone to be respectful of the contractors that have been hired. Please contact the PBWOA or Washtenaw County with concerns about the special assessment. We are attaching a letter to our lakes list serve by request of the PBWOA with more 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.

Contact List: Frequently we get asked questions regarding areas of Lake Management we do not oversee. We have created a contact list for the multiple issues that arise on lakes such as questions about lake levels, fish kills, PFAS, etc. We have attached this contact list to this update, and it will approach on the Resources [Page](#) on the County Website.

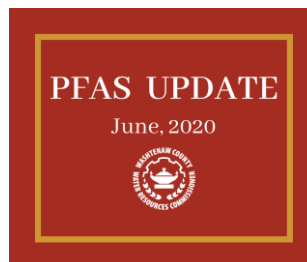
[“Cleanup effort on the Portage Chain of Lakes”](#)

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.

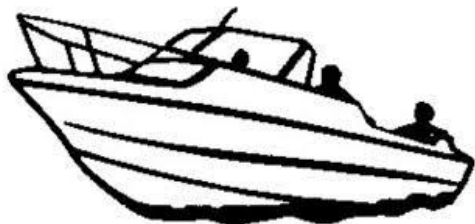


PBWOA: Additional information may be found on the PBWOA website pbwoa.org.

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



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



[“Something’s Fishy about Mussels”](#)

The Huron River Watershed Council posted a blog all about our freshwater mussels!

<https://www.hrwc.org/somethings-fishy-about-mussels/>



Dear Members and All Persons Concerned with the Chain of Lakes Improvement Project:

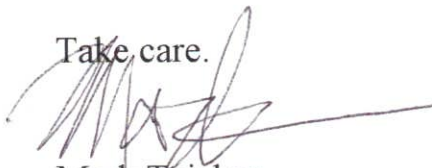
I want to bring to your attention two recent events. The first event was when an Applicator was doing his job when a homeowner came out yelling at him and threw a shovel at him. The second event was when a posting of the legally required notice of an application was being posted when the homeowner came out yelling and swearing and threatened that she was a trespasser and the he would shoot her if she came back on to his property.

These behavior are offensive and repugnant.

If you have a concern or problem with anything having to do with the Improvement Project, there are many people who will listen to you. Certainly there are many justified complaints and issues. As always, you can contact me at MarkLTeicher@aol.com or on my cell at 248-420-9144. I may refer you to Lauren or to whomever else I think appropriate and I will share with you whatever information I have. In addition, you can always contact the Washtenaw County Public Works Environmental Supervisor Manager, Lauren directly at koloskil@washtenaw.org or on her cell at 734-260-0446. Lauren is the primary contact for the program. You can also contact Theo at eggermontt@washtenaw.org. Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner Evan Pratt can be contacted directly at 734-222-6860 or pratte@washtenaw.org. Although the buck stops with Evan, the most hands on people are Lauren and Theo.

Everyone has worked hard to create a quality water environment. I certainly understand our water environment is complex. DNR/DEQ/EGLE and their permitting process is bulky and problems arise. However, please do not act or threaten violence. Please call and we'll listen.

Take care.



Mark Teicher
PBWOA President

LAKES MANAGEMENT CONTACT SHEET

CYANOBACTERIA BLOOMS

For information and FAQs on harmful algal blooms, visit EGLE's [Harmful Algal Blooms](#) webpage.

To report suspicious looking algae, contact EGLE by calling the Environmental Assistance Center at **1-800-662-9278** or sending an email to AlgaeBloom@michigan.gov.

FISH KILL

Visit the DNR website to report a local fish kill by filling out [the sick or dead aquatic species form](#) in their [Eyes in the Field application](#). If you suspect a fish kill is caused by non-natural causes, please call your respective [DNR Customer Service Center](#) or Michigan's Pollution Emergency Alert System at **1-800-292-4706**.

Detroit Customer Service Center
1801 Atwater Street
Detroit, MI 48207
313-396-6890

ILLEGAL DUMPING

If you witness illegal dumping, please take the following steps:

1. Local law enforcement
2. **EGLE Pollution Emergency Alerting System (PEAS)**
 - **PEAS Hotline 1-800-292-4706**

Please call the PEAS hotline to report:

- Spills, emissions, releases, or improper handling of hazardous materials
- Dredging and filling wetlands, lakes, and streams
- Risks posed to public drinking water supplies
- Environmental crimes
- Other environmental harm or threats

LAKE LEVELS

WASHTENAW COUNTY

Visit the Water Resources page to view [Lake Levels](#) projects within Washtenaw County.

Water Resources Commissioner's Office
705 N Zeeb Rd. P.O. Box 8645
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8645
734-222-6860

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Visit the Drain Commissioner page to view [Dam Maintenance and Lake Levels](#) projects within Livingston County.

Drain Commissioner
2300 E Grand River Ave
Suite 105
Howell, MI 48843
517-546-0040

PFAS

Visit EGLE's [Michigan PFAS Action Response](#) webpage for information regarding PFAS.

WASHTENAW COUNTY

Visit the [county webpage](#) on PFAS for more information.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

[Diamond Chrome Plating – Howell](#)
[Thermofil - Brighton](#)

Quick Links

- [PFAS Foam on Lakes and Streams](#)
- [Fish and Wildlife](#)
- [PFAS Sites](#)
- [Watershed Investigations](#)

