

Appendix G-Rapid Response Protocol for Aquatic Invasive Species Plant Detection

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) plants are exotic (non-native) species that can create ecological or economic harm to the aquatic ecosystem. Presently there is *Potamogeton crispus*-curly leaf pondweed (CLP) in Bear Trap Lake and Lake Wapogasset. The following protocol is to be followed if AIS is suspected:

1. Maintain a contingency fund for rapid response to an AIS plant discovery.
2. If a suspected AIS is found, contact the Polk County Land and Water Resources Dept. AIS Coordinator and Sanitary District Office. See contacts that follow below.
3. If the plant is likely AIS, the plant identification will be confirmed with the Polk County Land and Water Resources Dept. (or professional with knowledge) and the Wisconsin DNR.
 - a. Photo document the sample with a digital photo if possible. Collect 3-5 intact specimens and attempt to keep all parts of the plant present (roots, leaves, fruits, and flowers if present). Place in plastic, sealed bag(s) and refrigerate or put on ice.
 - b. Fill out a plant incident form from the Wisconsin DNR. This form can be found at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/forms/3200-125-plantincident.pdf>
 - c. Contact Wisconsin DNR and deliver plant samples to Wisconsin DNR, 810 West Maple St., Spooner, WI 54801.
4. Record GPS location coordinates of plant collection if possible. Alternatives are marking with a float and/or on a map.
5. If identification verifies AIS the following will occur:
 - a. Inform Sanitary District President, Lake Association President, and Polk County Land and Water Resources Dept. The Sanitary District and Lake Association will coordinate informing residents.
 - b. The location of the AIS will be marked with a more permanent marker or bouy.
 - c. A notice will be posted at all boat landings about the presence of AIS and the general location.
6. Either the Polk County Land and Water Resources Dept. or a Professional consultant with AIS expertise will be secured to evaluate the extent of AIS introduction. Any other AIS locations will be recorded with the GPS coordinates. If infestation is small, whole plants may be pulled, with efforts to remove ALL fragments.
7. The Sanitary District will work with the Wisconsin DNR and a professional consultant to select a control method plan. This may include hand pulling, manual removal with divers, herbicide application, or other approved method.
8. Secure necessary permits for control (as necessary).
9. Funding will be provided as needed by the Sanitary District.

10. The Sanitary District will work with Wisconsin DNR on an Early Detection and Rapid Response AIS Control Grant immediately.
11. Follow-up inspections will occur to evaluate state of AIS and if treatment was effective.

Contacts:

Sanitary District Office

Office (Julie Selle Administrator) sanidist@amerytel.net 715-268-7761
President (David Espamer) erspamer@amerytel.net 715-268-9704

Polk County Land and Water Resources Dept.

AIS Coordinator (Jeremy Williamson) jeremyw@co.polk.wi.us 715-485-8639
Director (Tim Ritten) timr@colpolk.wi.us 715-485-8631

Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources

Permits (Mark Sundeen) Mark.Sundeen@wisconsin.gov
715-635-4074

Grants and Region Lakes Coordinator (Alex Smith) Alex.Smith@wisconsin.gov
715-635-4124

Lake Consultants

Ecological Integrity Service (Steve Schieffer) ecointegservice@gmail.com 715-554-1168
Harmony Environmental (Cheryl Clemens) harmonyenv@amerytel.net

Herbicide Contractors

Lake Restoration 763-428-1543
Northern Aquatic Services Dale Dressel ddressel@centurytel.net
715-755-3507