

# Canadian Lakes Aquatic Plant Control Program 2021 Activity Summary

A publication of the Canadian Lakes Property Owners Corp.

## Canadian Lakes Property Owners Corporation

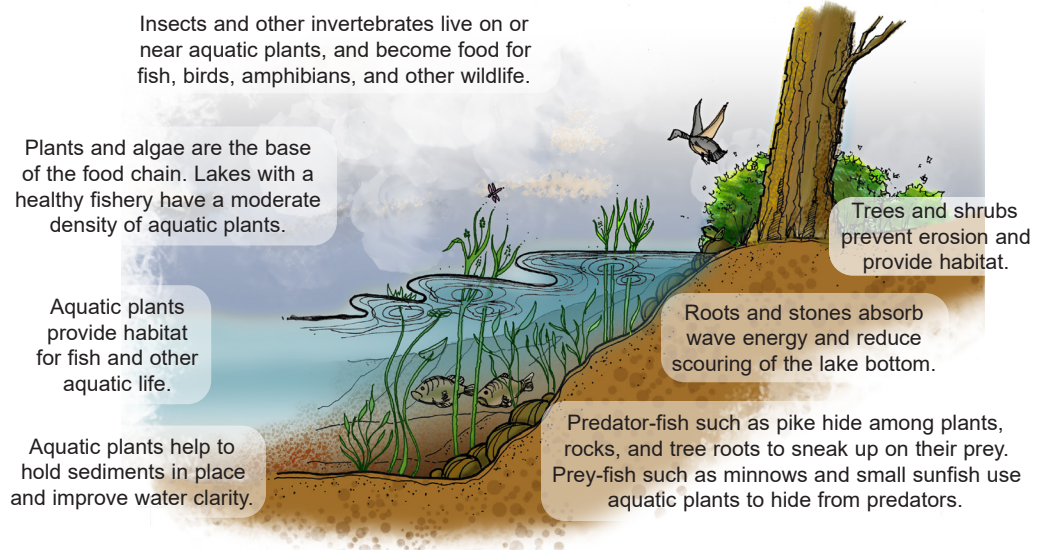
10690 Pierce Road  
Canadian Lakes, MI 49346

Greg Babbitt  
General Manager

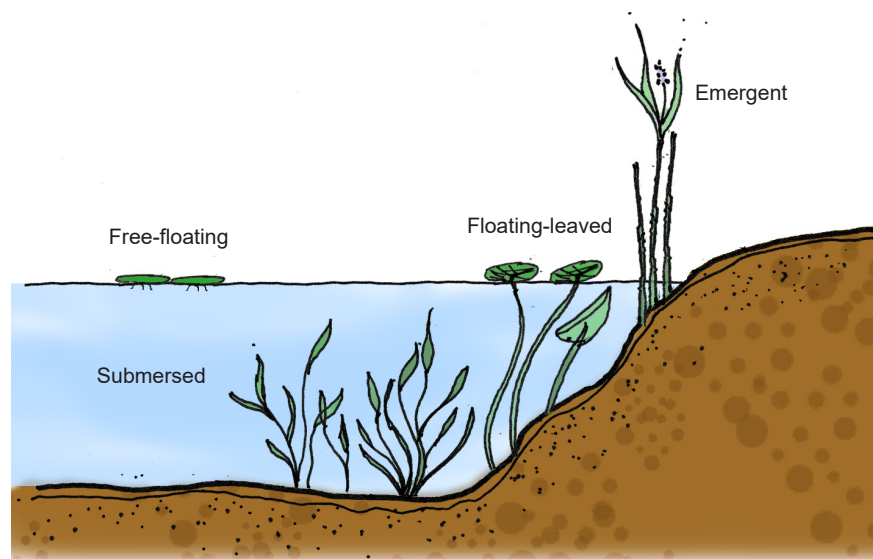
Bill Hull  
Maintenance Superintendent

For many years, a nuisance plant control program has been ongoing on Canadian Lakes. The primary objective of the program is to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic plants while preserving beneficial plant species. This report contains an overview of plant control activities conducted on Canadian Lakes in 2021.

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.



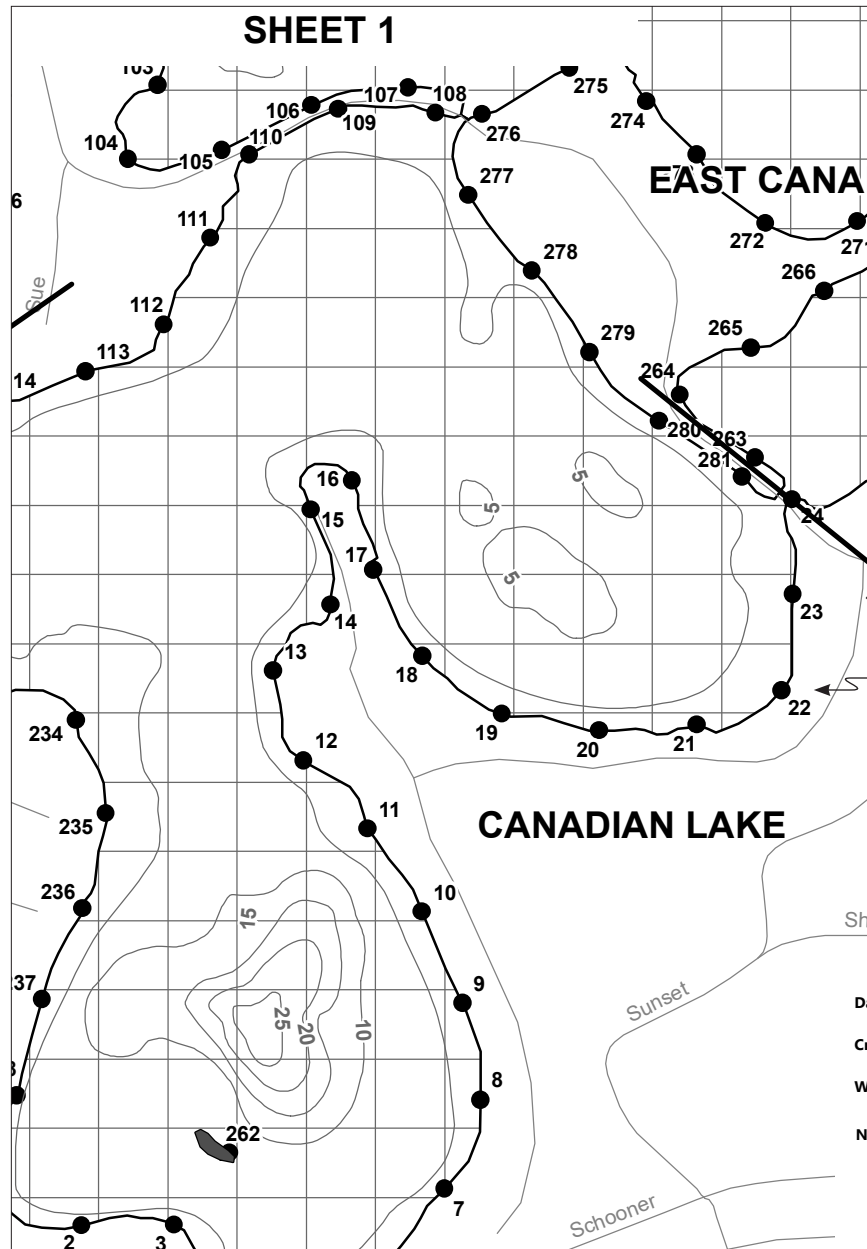
There are four main aquatic plant groups: submersed, floating-leaved, free-floating, and emergent. Each plant group provides important ecological functions. Maintaining a diversity of aquatic plants is important to sustaining a healthy fishery and a healthy lake.



Environmental Consultant  
Progressive AE

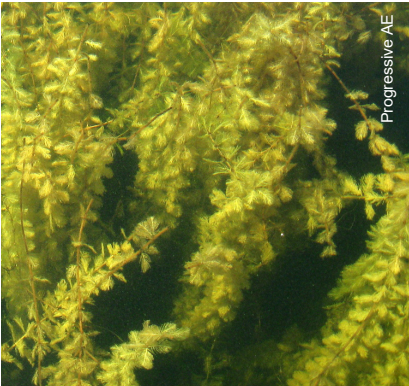
Herbicide Applicator  
Michigan Lakefront Solutions

Plant control activities are coordinated under the direction of an environmental consultant, Progressive AE. Biologists from Progressive conduct GPS-guided surveys of the lakes to identify problem areas, and georeferenced treatment maps are provided to the plant control contractor for herbicide treatment and to the CLPOC for aquatic plant harvesting with the CLPOC owned Truxor.



GPS reference points established along the shoreline of Canadian Lakes are used to guide plant surveys and to accurately identify the location of nuisance plant growth areas.

Plant control in Canadian Lakes involves the select use of herbicides and mechanical harvesting to control invasive plant growth. Primary plants targeted for control in Canadian Lakes include Eurasian milfoil and starry stonewort. Both of these plants are non-native (exotic) species that tend to be highly invasive and have the potential to spread quickly if left unchecked.



Eurasian milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)



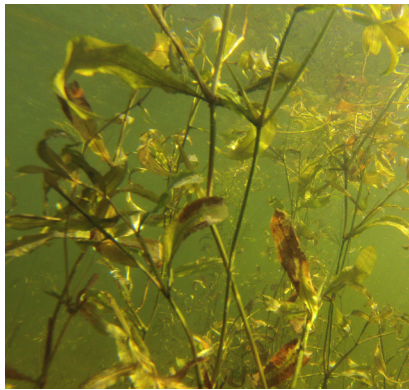
Starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*)

Plant control activities conducted on Canadian Lakes in 2021 are summarized in the table below.

CANADIAN LAKES 2021 NUISANCE AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL SUMMARY			
Work Type	Date	Plants Targeted	Acres
Survey	May 11		
Herbicide	May 20	E. milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed	27
Herbicide	May 21	Royal Pond	1
Survey	June 2		
Herbicide	June 9	E. milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, starry stonewort, nuisance natives	111
Herbicide	June 10	Kitt Lake, Rush Lake	2
Herbicide	June 22	Royal Pond	1
Survey	July 7		
Herbicide	July 15	E. milfoil, starry stonewort, nuisance natives	69
Herbicide	July 27	Royal Pond	1
Survey	August 4		
Herbicide	August 11	E. milfoil, starry stonewort, nuisance natives	57
Survey	September 8		
Total			269

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Canadian Lakes contains an abundance of plant species, both native and invasive. Three of the most common native plant species found in Canadian Lakes are Illinois pondweed, large-leaf pondweed, and Chara. Both Illinois pondweed and large-leaf pondweed can grow to the lake's surface during summer and produce a spike that pokes above the surface. Chara, however, has a carpet-like growth pattern that covers the lake bottom. These native plant species are vital to the Canadian Lakes ecosystem by providing excellent habitat for aquatic organisms, stabilizing sediments, and taking up nutrients that could otherwise fuel algae blooms.



**Illinois Pondweed**



**Large-leaf pondweed**



**Chara sp.**

The following link provides a plant reference chart created by the Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society (MAPMS) to help identify native and non-native species that are commonly found in the midwest region of the United States.

<https://www.mapms.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/170815-MAPMS-PLANT-CHART-.pdf>