

Canadian Lakes Aquatic Plant Control Program Annual Report

A publication of the Canadian Lakes Property Owners Corp.

Fall 2019

Canadian Lakes Property Owners Corporation

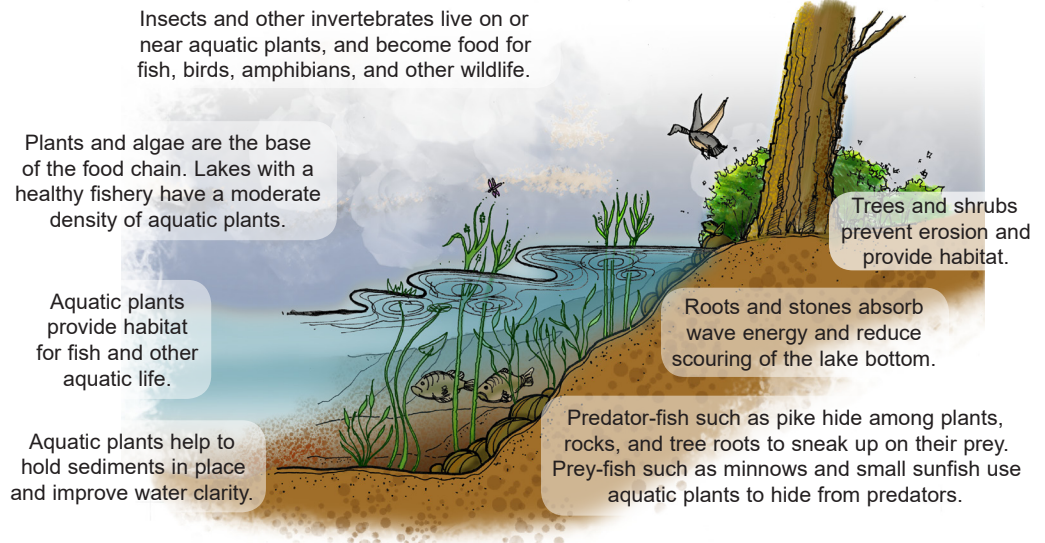
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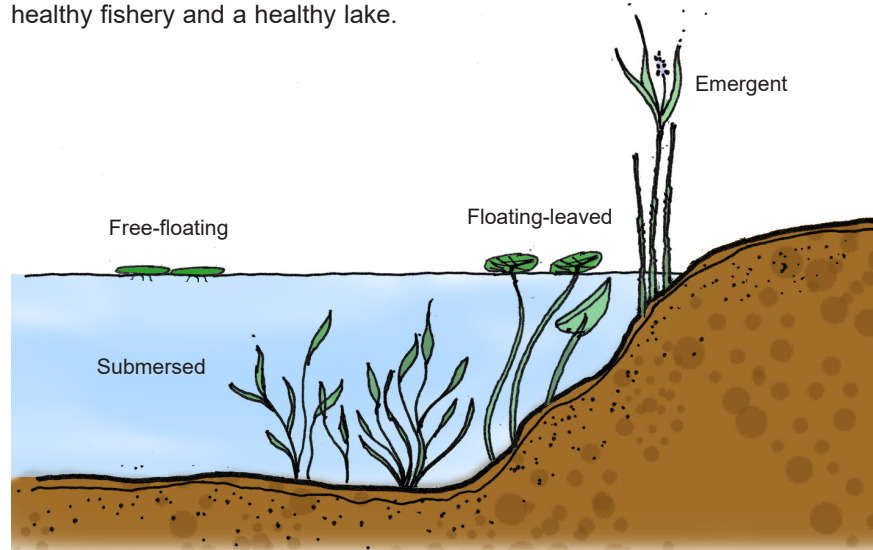
Bill Hull
Maintenance Superintendent

For the past several 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 2019.

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.



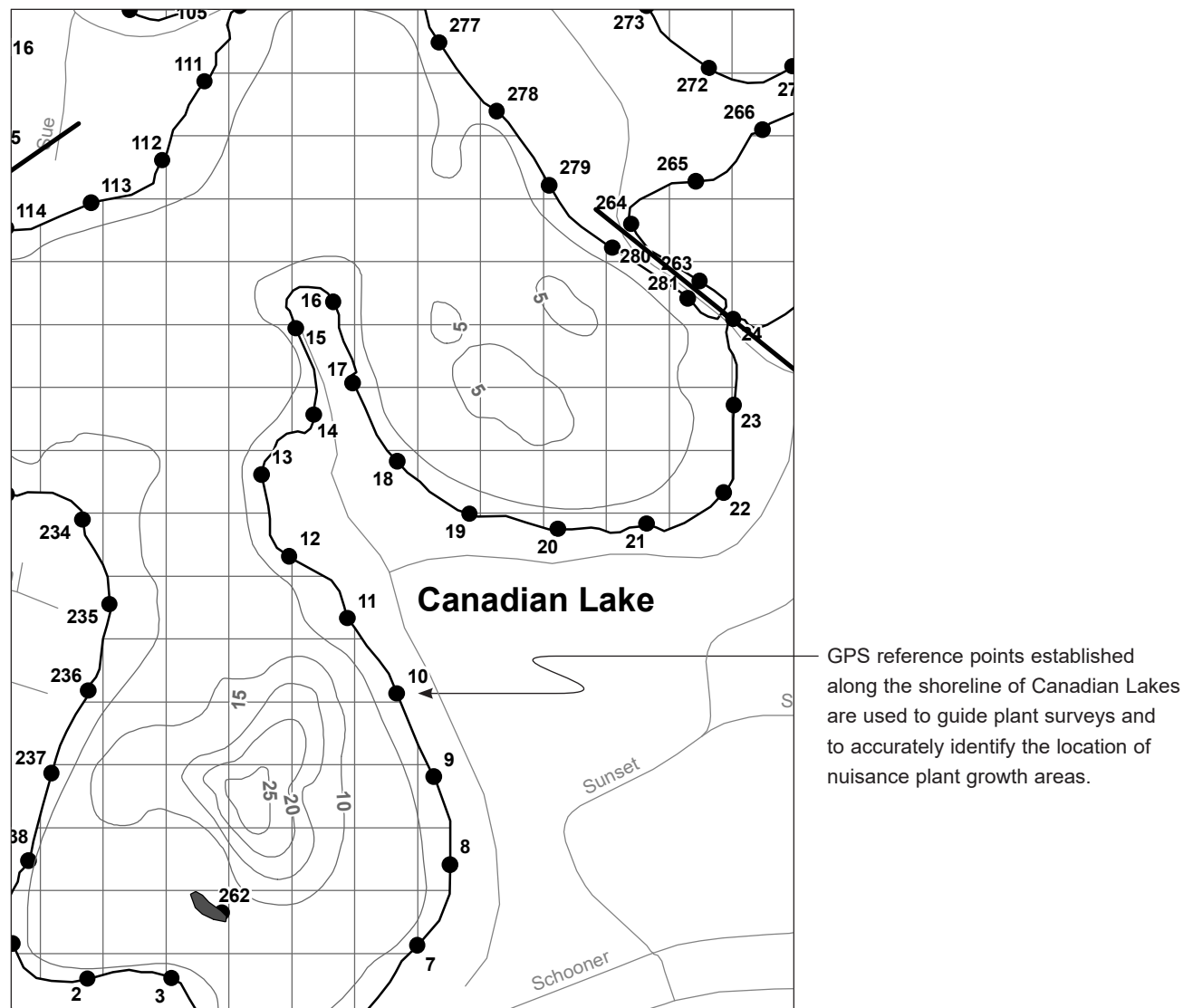
There are four main aquatic plant groups: submersed, floating-leaved, free-floating, and emergent. Each plant group provides important ecological functions. Maintaining a diversity of aquatic plants is important to sustaining a healthy fishery and a healthy lake.



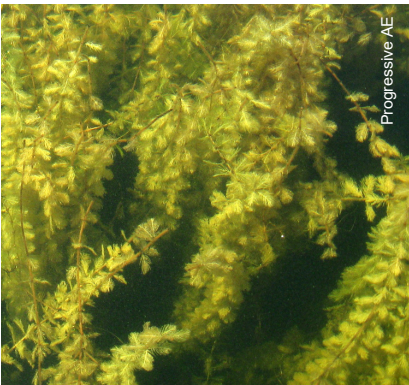
Environmental Consultant
Progressive AE

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 lake to identify problem areas, and detailed plant control maps are provided to the plant control contractors. Progressive performs follow-up surveys throughout the growing season to evaluate results and the need for additional plant control measures. In 2019, surveys of the lakes were conducted on May 22, June 17, July 17, August 20, and September 24.



Plant control in Canadian Lakes involves the select use of herbicides as well as mechanical harvesting of nuisance plants. Primary plants targeted for control 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*)

Herbicide treatment activities conducted on Canadian Lakes in 2019 are summarized in the table below.

CANADIAN LAKES 2019 NUISANCE AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL SUMMARY		
Treatment Date	Plants Targeted	Acres Treated
May 21	Nuisance natives, algae	1
June 18	Nuisance natives, algae	10
June 19	Eurasian milfoil, nuisance natives	130
July 22	Eurasian milfoil, algae	1
July 24	Algae	6
July 30	Eurasian milfoil, nuisance natives, algae	103
August 28	Eurasian milfoil, starry stonewort, natives, algae	54
October 8	Phragmites	2
Total		307

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In addition to herbicide treatments, aquatic plant harvesting is conducted with a Truxor. The Truxor is an amphibious vehicle that cuts and collects aquatic plants. It is owned and operated by the Canadian Lakes Property Owners Corporation. Areas of operation are based on maps provided by Progressive AE. Operations are conducted continuously throughout the summer, targeting plants that are better controlled through mechanical removal than herbicide application. It is important to utilize the Truxor harvesting capabilities as it removes tons of plant biomass from the lakes each year.



Truxor with aquatic plant harvesting cutter and basket