

Muck Q&A

Compiled by Gene Feyl, Lakes Chairman

August 2016

Several members have asked numerous questions about the "muck digestive catalyst" program. Rather than answer each e-mail or phone call I am preparing this Q & A in collaboration with our consultant, Aquatic Analysts. The questions are in no particular order. Please remember this is a multi-year project and instant results are not expected. We expect an incremental improvement annually budget and cash flow permitting.

Measuring effectiveness...

Q. "We have seen no noticeable difference"

A. This is a slow organic process that over the short term may not be noticeable to casual observation. Its sort of like watching paint dry. The action is taking place beneath the surface in the muck.

As vacant columns are formed by the digestive process surrounding the pellets the surrounding muck collapses and seeks a new lower level. The pellet is basically drilling increasing larger holes in the muck.

Q. "We're taking pictures of the shore line. Is this of any use?"

A. Not likely. There are constant micro changes in both the water and muck levels. Temperature variations and rain will also change densities and appearance that may have little relationship to the volume of muck.

Q. "What tools are used to measure decreases. Who measures?"

A. Aquatic Technologies utilizes a simple instrument of their design made of 1" PVC pipe with an other pipe inside. They measure the reduction of muck level from hard bottom to top of muck level inside the pipe and the resultant difference.

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Aquatic Analysts will monitor and read the instrument.

IF YOU SEE ONE DO NOT TOUCH IT! YOU CAN'T READ IT AND YOU CAN ONLY HARM IT.

Q. "What should we see after one application?" Two Applications?

A. Not much visually. Again the action is down below. Second application you might see a difference between water level and top of muck (false bottom)

Q. "Should we attempt to remove debris"

A. Any quantity you can remove with rake or shovel and cart away will exceed what can be dissolved through biological reaction.

Q. "What has been the frequency and cost of application of Pellets"

A. Expenditures by lake and frequency:

Herbicide Treatment		Pellet Application	Total by Lake
Lake Arrowhead	\$3233	\$669	\$3902
Great Bay	1278	2910	4188
Bay of Deep Waters	<u>518</u>	<u>910</u>	<u>1428</u>
Spent through 8/16	\$5029	\$4489	\$9518

1. Lake Arrowhead and Bay of Deep Waters were small test areas with three limited pellet applications. Small area treatment will continue.^[SEP]
2. Great Bay includes two large area applications at a cost of \$1455 each.
3. Another Great Bay application is planned for next week and another for September.

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4. We will NOT expand the area treated this year. [L
SEP]

Digestive reaction is most effective in hot weather. If weather remains hot the August application could be one of the most effective. Pellet application poundage will be modified to provide optimal results based on ambient temperature.

Q. "Has Aquatic Analysts made any determination on the effectiveness of the pellets?"

A. They have measured a 2-3 inch reduction of muck where applied and is hoping to see 6- 9 inches by fall.

Q. "Weeds in Great Bay lagoon need to consider treatment"

A. We'll consider treatment.

Q. "Will you ask our consultant to attend the next lake committee meeting?"

A. I'll ask.