

Aquatic Invasive Species Update

Washington & Waukesha Counties



Aquatic Invasive Species Program
Washington & Waukesha Counties

October 2019

Email: cassie.taplin@co.washington.wi.us
[Washington County Website](#)
[Waukesha County Website](#)

[Home](#)

[Subscribe Now](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Starry Stonewort Public Meeting

Thank you to all who were able to attend the starry stonewort informational meeting on October 12th at the Delafield Village Hall. There was a great turnout of approximately 60 people, and a lot of useful information was shared about the current distribution and treatment methods being used in an attempt to manage this species. For those who could not attend the meeting, click the link below to view the PowerPoint presentation slides on the Waukesha County website. If anyone has questions, please feel free to contact the AIS Coordinator: [Cassie Taplin](#)

[Starry Stonewort Presentation](#)



Nemahbin DASH Project

In response to finding starry stonewort at the Nemahbin Boat Landing, the Lower Nemahbin Lake Association contracted Eco-Waterways to use DASH (Dive Assisted Suction Harvesting) to try and manage the species. The project began on October 8th and was completed on October 14th. Pipes were used to suction the starry stonewort into geo-textile bags that will remain at the access for until November 8th to de-water (drain). Approximately 1,000 square feet of plant material and 4 inches of sediment was collected. The effectiveness of the treatment will be determined in 2020. Completing this project required rapid and efficient cooperation between multiple entities (County, private contractor, DNR).



Layout map of treatment locations and equipment placement (Photo credit DNR)



Geo-textile bags that collect plant material and sediment (Photo credit DNR)



Silt curtains to contain fragments of plant material (Photo credit DNR)

Community Spotlight

Ed Cohen, who lives on Lower Nemahbin Lake, is the volunteer who not only discovered starry stonewort at the public access for Upper and Lower Nemahbin when conducting citizen lake monitoring, but also found it in Pewaukee Lake during the AIS Snapshot Day! Ed is a dedicated volunteer who regularly advocates for protecting our beautiful lakes and rivers. Ed was recently interviewed by Tankers Outdoors, a YouTube channel about fishing and boating, about the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program. Ed eloquently describes the steps boaters can take to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Click the link below to check out the video, and thank you Ed for being an amazing steward for our waters!

[AIS Interview with Ed Cohen by Tanker Outdoors](#)

Waterfowl Hunter Outreach

For the Southern half of the State, waterfowl hunting opener was September 28th. Just like with recreational boaters and fisherman, waterfowl hunters also have the potential to spread aquatic invasive species. Here are some specific tips waterfowl hunters can take to prevent the spread of AIS:

Inspect waders, boats, trailers, motors and hunting equipment, including boots, blinds and dogs.

Remove all plants, animals and mud.

Drain all water from decoys, boats, motors, livewells and other hunting equipment.

Never move plants or live fish away from a water body.

A special consideration for waterfowl hunters is to remove all seed heads and roots when using vegetation for your duck blinds. It is important to note that it is illegal to use phragmites in counties where the plant is listed as prohibited by NR40, in general these counties include the western half of Wisconsin.

Phragmites is an invasive grass that is wide spread throughout the eastern half of the State, but use of the plant is still discouraged to prevent its spread any further.

For more information about aquatic invasive species, including where they are prohibited and restricted, in Wisconsin, [visit this WDNR webpage](#).



Vegetation stuck in decoy

Summary of Activities

The AIS Team for both Washington and Waukesha Counties completed a lot of field work this summer! All of our interns have completed their work for the season and have now either returned to school or they're moving ahead with their careers. Here is a summary of some of the activities completed by the AIS Coordinator and 3 full-time interns this past field season:

Hours spent conducting boat inspections: 545

People reached through boat inspections: 2,326

Boats inspected: 1,219

Early detection surveys completed: 26

Public access surveys completed in response to new starry stonewort findings in Waukesha County: 5

Point intercept surveys completed: Lake 5. Assisted DNR with surveys on Little Cedar Lake, Silver Lake, and Green Lake in Washington County.

Washington and Waukesha County also work with lake groups who want a part-time intern at their specific lake's public accesses conducting boat inspections through Clean Boats, Clean Waters. Listed below are the lakes that had a part-time intern summer. Between all 5 of these interns, they conducted **1,273 hours** of boat inspections!

Washington County Part-time Intern: Pike Lake

Waukesha County Part-time Interns: Silver Lake, Ashippun Lake, Lower Nemahbin Lake, Hunters/Pretty Lake (split position)

Lake of the Month - Roxy Pond

Roxy Pond is a spring fed 15 acre lake located in Mukwonago County Park in Waukesha County. The lake has an average depth of 3 feet, and fisherman can expect to find largemouth bass and Northern pike. The lake has a carry-in access on the north side. Since the lake is within a County Park, a vehicle admission sticker is required. For more information about Mukwonago County Park, click [here](#).



To subscribe to this *Waukesha County Aquatic Invasive Species Update*

Newsletter by clicking the image below or [here!](#)

Please Click Here to
SUBSCRIBE
to our Newsletter

The Aquatic Invasive Species Program is a cooperative effort between Washington & Waukesha Counties, supported by grant funds from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and a number of generous local lake groups working to control the spread of AIS. Thank you for your support!

For more information:

Email: cassie.taplin@co.washington.wi.us

Washington County
262-335-4800

www.co.washington.wi.us/lcd

Waukesha County
262-896-8300

www.waukeshacounty.gov/ais