

January 30, 2024

George Schaaf, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Colby Shibler, Parks & Landscape Supervisor  
155 Heritage Way – City Hall Rm 218  
Juneau, AK 99801

Ref: Riverside Rotary Park Weed Removal Machine

This is to summarize the information that we covered in our meeting of January 5<sup>th</sup> and outlines the details of a proposed purchase of a weed cutting machine for the pond at Riverside Rotary Park (RRP).

It has long been a goal of Glacier Valley Rotary (GVR) to find a practical & affordable method to clean up the pond at RRP. The indigenous plants have taken over the majority of the pond's surface, which is unsightly, interferes with the ability to ice skate (the weeds stick up through the ice in the winter) and prevents the ducks from freely swimming around (feeding the ducks is a favorite for the kids that play in the park). The extent of the vegetation also creates a dangerous situation, preventing someone from swimming, should that be necessary.

We have identified a machine that will work to cut and harvest the aquatic growth. The machine is called "WaterShark" - a remote controlled battery powered weed cutting machine. (See attached photos).

It is GVR's intent to store the machine in the Parks and Rec Riverside facility. When it is time to cut the weeds (probably twice a year), members of GVR will transport the machine to RRP, cut and harvest the aquatic plants, and then return it to the Riverside facility thereby avoiding Parks and Rec staff time.

There is also some thought that the machine could also be utilized by Parks & Rec in Twin Lakes, as a shared investment.

Glacier Valley Rotary and community member Jack Marshall will undertake to fundraise approximately \$17,000.00 to pay for the purchase and delivery of this machine.

We are hopeful that Parks & Recreation will be able to help as described; and, while not part of this request, we would look for your assistance if there is any financial support that could come through the City & Borough of Juneau.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Charlie Williams', with a stylized, scribbled flourish at the end.

Charlie Williams,

Chair of Rotary Park for Juneau Glacier Valley Rotary



### ***"WaterShark"***

The revolutionary new WaterShark is the best balance of power and portability you can find in a weed cutter. Weighing in at 150 lbs. without batteries and 250 with batteries, the WaterShark also cuts at a depth of up to 5 feet, with a cutting width of 48 inches, allowing owners of the aquatic weed cutter to cover larger areas in less time. Add the sickle auto-level feature, and you are able to cut submersed and emergent lake weeds such as dense milfoil, eel grass, lily pads, pencil reeds, and most other lake weeds at a consistent cutting height across your shoreline



## **An end user's review of WaterShark:**

I purchased the Watershark and have used it a few times. What an amazing machine. I have a large area of milfoil that is thick on a river. The Watershark makes it easy to cut the milfoil so we can get our jet skis and boats into our docks and beach areas. It is so nice to sit in a chair and cut it so effortlessly. The five foot depth was key for me. All of the features have worked great and it seems like they have thought of everything. It truly covers all the bases. I can honestly say that this is one purchase I am glad I made. The service has been awesome also. Mike and Luke have been there to help and answer questions and have been so helpful making the purchase even nicer. I normally don't do reviews but this Watershark is so awesome. No more throwing cutters and rakes!

Sincerely,  
Joe Arrota