

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CRAVATH AND TRIPPE LAKES

WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN



WHITEWATER

SOUTHERN

RAILROAD

CRAVATH
LAKE

TRIPPE
LAKE

59

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN IS HERE..

WHAT'S NEXT?

RECAP OF KEY FINDINGS

Cattails Overgrowth Stated in the Plan (2024 Survey)

Trippe Lake: Cattail coverage 27 acres (22%) in 2015 to 50 acres (41%) in 2023

Cravath Lake: Cattail coverage 3 acres (5%) in 2015 to 33 acres (47%) in 2023

What are we seeing now? (August 2025)



RECAP OF KEY FINDINGS

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Findings (2024 Survey)

- Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM): Present but limited in spread; found in isolated spots in Cravath
- Curly-leaf pondweed (CLP): Detected visually but not dominate; must still be monitored and managed to prevent Spread
- Starry Stonewort: Not currently present but future monitoring is recommended due to risk of introduction
- Excessive nutrient loading
- What are we seeing now? (August 2025) Duck Weed



Community Service Program:

- * Cattail Removal
Cattail pulling competition
- * Shoreline Maintenance & Improvements



PRIMARY RECOMMENDATIONS

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Chemical Treatment

Definition: Refers to applying aquatic-approved herbicides (chemicals that kill or suppress plant growth) to cattails (or other aquatic/emergent vegetation) in or along water bodies. The goal is to deliver a systemic effect—i.e. the chemical moves through the plant (foliage → stems → roots/rhizomes or underground parts) to kill the entire plant, not just the visible stalks.

Cost: Permit NR107 (Base fee of \$20 plus \$25 acre fee). Application: Quote Given on 8/26/2025 from Tanner Nicklaus, Air Crop \$1,500 an acre for drone spraying. (Does not include clean up of dead cattail)

Considerations, Risks & Limitations: Chemical Recommended at this time: Imazapyr

- * Chemicals can affect water quality, aquatic life, and non-target vegetation
- * Overapplication or wrong timing can lead to algae blooms, oxygen depletion, or damage to fish and native plants
- * Dead vegetation left in place can decompose, releasing nutrients and counteracting benefits.
- * Additional impact research has been encouraged

PRIMARY RECOMMENDATIONS

Mechanical Harvesting and Disposal

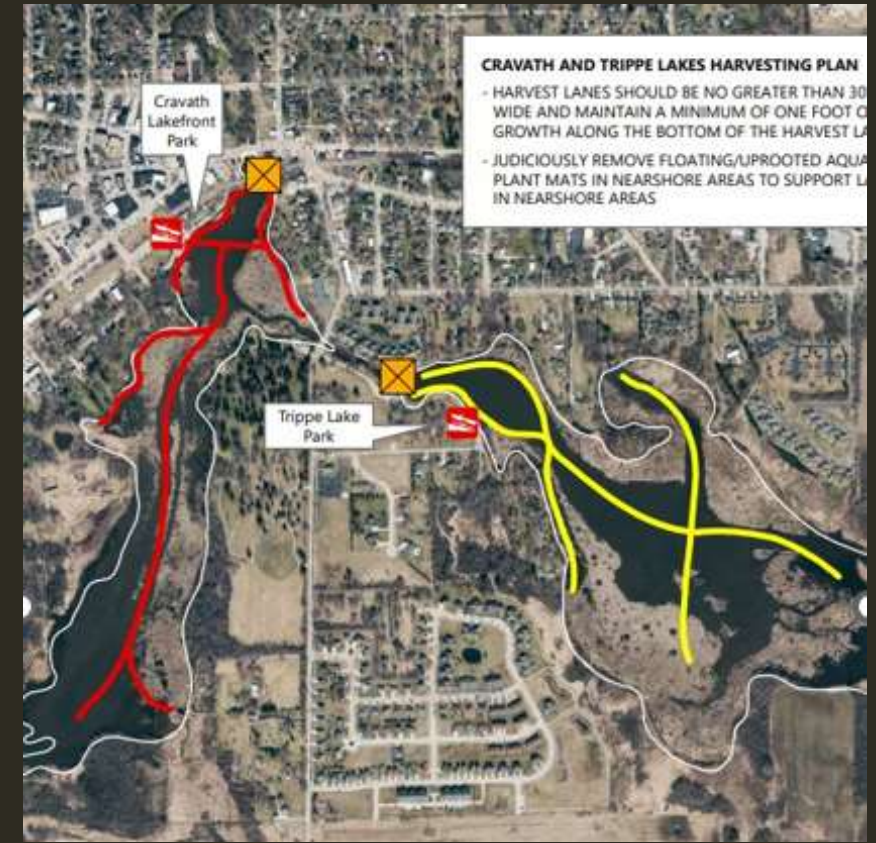
Harvest lanes should be no greater than 30 feet wide and maintain a minimum of one foot of plant growth along the bottom of harvest lanes.

Items Harvesting:

- * Eurasian water-milfoil (Invasive Submerged)
- * Curly-leaf pondweed (Invasive Submerged)
- * Native Pondweeds, Coontail (Overgrowth)

Permits

- * NR 109 needed, \$30 per acre up to \$300 max. Min of 3 weeks for approval
- * Currently working with DNR to apply for permit that will allow us to handle any future problems that arise with submerged aquatic plants. Permit would be good through 2026



Aquatic Plant Management Plan
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Due to the depth of the Lakes and the desire for cattail control, traditional cutting mechanical harvesting is not feasible method to be used on the Lakes.

FUTURE PLANS

* ADA Pier's with Kayak Launches for both lakes

* Cravath Fountain: Will help move the water to assist with the Duck Weed

* Fish Stocking twice a year * Kayak rental stations

* New education signage & kiosks for both lakes

Cravath & Trippe Lakes- Proposed Budget for 2025 & 2026
Annual allocation: \$150,000 per year

2025

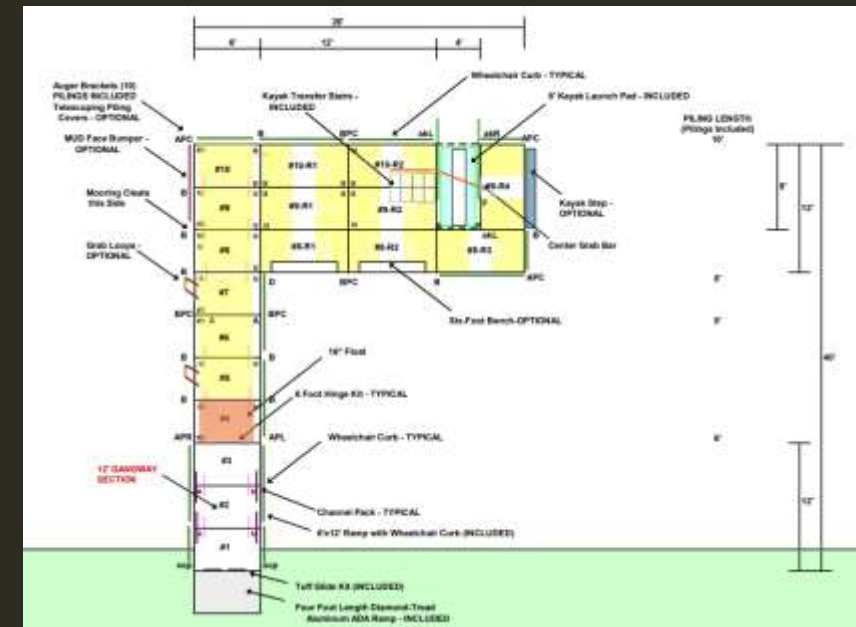
Drone Spray (\$1,500 an acre)	\$75,000.00
(Based on 50 acres estimated on Trippe Lake)	
Cravath Lakefront Park Fountain	\$16,000.00
Fish Stocking	\$5,000.00
ADA & Kayak Launch Pier @ Cravath	\$33,000.00
Trippe Lake Kiosk	\$8,000.00
Permits, Installation, Fountain Maintenance	\$13,000.00
	\$150,000.00

2026

Cut & Remove Dead Cattail Stalks from Trippe	\$15,000.00
(Based on research estimate average \$300 acre)	
Drone Spray (\$1,500 an acre)	\$49,000.00
(Based on 33 acres estimated on Cravath Lake)	
Fish Stocking	\$5,000.00
ADA & Kayak Launch Pier @ Trippe Lake	\$33,000.00
Kayak Rental Station at Trippe Lake	\$24,000.00
Mill Pond Fountain	\$11,000.00
Permits, Installation, Fountain Maintenance	\$13,000.00
	\$150,000.00



Quote 6/13/2025 Lake & Pond Solutions: \$15, 773.69



Quote 5/13/2025 C R Industries, LLC \$32,875.00.

WHAT'S CURRENTLY HAPPENING

- * DNR Visit October 29th -
- * SEWRPC Updated Shoreline Survey
- * Continued work with SEWRPC on Comprehensive Lakes Management Plan-Completion est 2027
- * Fish Stocking Order with Keystone Hatcheries
- * RFP for Piers, to include options for forever piers
- * Creation of community service program
- * Continue to work with Lakes Advisory Committee on Goals & Objectives
- * Continue to promote all the recreational opportunities

Top 10 Lakes Advisory Committee Goals Set January 2024

Balanced Ecosystem, Cattail management and removal, Create Navigational waters for no wake activities, Creation of Lake District, Education/Promotion of Lake District & Overall Value of our Lakes to our community, Improve water quality, & Identify and work with agricultural landowners to improve water quality, Plant management plan; Purchase of equipment to manage lakes moving forward, Update Lakes Plans

