

State of Wisconsin DNR Department of Natural Resources Water Permit Central Intake – attn. APM PO Box 7185 Madison, WI 53707-7185	Mechanical Aquatic Plant Control Permit
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Permit Number: SE-2026-65-26311M
Permit Expiration Date: 12/31/2030
Waterbody Name: Trippe Lake & Cravath Lake

Waterbody # (WBIC): 815200,816000
Fee Received: 300
Waterbody Address: 341 S Fremont Street

Applicant Name: City of Whitewater
312 W. Whitewater Street
Whitewater, WI 53190
Email:
Phone:

Applicator Name: Midwest Aquatics LLC
P.O. Box 617
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
Email: midwestaquatics@sbcglobal.net
Phone: 262-385-5874

The Department has received and reviewed your application to mechanically remove up to 11.25 acres of aquatic plants in Trippe and Cravath Lakes, Walworth County.

Aspects of this permit may not be changed. Please go to this web address: <https://permits.dnr.wi.gov/water/SitePages/Permit%20Search.aspx> to search for and download the permit documents.

Your permit application meets the minimum requirements by law and a permit is being issued with the following conditions:

Permit Conditions

1. You shall follow the treatment plan outlined in the June 2025 Aquatic Plant Management Plan for Cravath and Trippe Lakes, permit application and permit conditions. Any changes to the permitted activity (or Department approved management plan) will require an additional permit from the Department.
2. You shall perform the treatment notification protocols, treatment plan, and reporting protocols in compliance with Ch. NR 109, Wis. Adm. Code. The conditions and treatment plan are required to be followed to ensure efficacy of the treatment.
3. You shall notify Lakes Biologist Heidi Bunk of the Department of Natural Resources by email at Heidi.bunk@wisconsin.gov 4 business days before treatment with the date and time of proposed treatment. This notification shall occur each year.

4. You shall have a paper or electronic copy of this decision letter, the Aquatic Plant Management Plan for Cravath and Trippe Lakes and permit with the individual conducting the harvesting during all associated harvesting events.
5. The quantity and species of plants to be mechanically harvested and the widths of the cutting paths must be in accordance with the 2025 APM plan for Cravath and Trippe Lakes and as additionally described in the permit application (Site Map 15325 and Site Map 25357, submitted with your permit application).
6. Cutter bars must be kept out of the sediment. A minimum of 1 foot of aquatic plant growth must remain at the bottom of the lake in all harvested areas.
7. You shall remove all game fish, turtles, frogs and other non-target organisms from the harvesting hopper immediately upon their capture, unless the action interferes with the safe operation of the equipment. In this instance, the organisms shall be unloaded when the equipment is docked for unloading. You shall take all precautions to avoid bycatch.
8. You shall remove all harvested materials from the water immediately.
9. You shall not disturb the substrate of the waterbody via paddle wheels, cutter or roller bar.
10. You shall ensure the method of unloading and disposal of harvested aquatic plants prevents the release of plant fragments back into the lake or other waterbodies.
11. You shall not use the paddle wheels to scoop floating plants towards the shore due to the scouring and resuspension of sediments, and erosion of the shoreline.
12. Cut channels shall be limited to 30 feet in width or less.
13. Stands of native aquatic plants such as native pond weeds, chara and waterstar grass shall not be top cut or clear cut outside of designated harvesting lane channels as denoted on the harvesting maps.
14. Stands of yellow water lily shall not be clear cut outside of designated harvesting lane channels as denoted on the harvesting maps.
15. You shall submit an annual report of aquatic plant material removed by weight (unit) and volume (unit) and species, a detailed map of treatment areas, total acres harvested, a report detailing the non-target impacts and the species and number of fish encountered within 30 days of the last treatment to both:
 - a. [The Water ePermitting System](#) and
 - b. Heidi Bunk at Heidi.bunk@wisconsin.gov

Findings of Fact

1. The applicant has certified to the department that a copy of the application has been made available to all affected property owners' associations, inland lakes districts, and riparian owners.
2. The Department of Natural Resources has determined that the agency's review of the proposed project constitutes an integrated analysis action under s. NR 150.20(2), Wis. Adm. Code. The Department has considered the impacts on the human environment, alternatives to the proposed projects and has provided opportunities for public disclosure and comment. The Department and the applicant have completed all procedural requirements of s. 1.11(2)(c), Wis. Stats., and NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code for this project.
3. The project as permitted will comply with all applicable requirements of Sections 23.24 and 281.17(2), Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 109 Wis. Adm. Code.
4. The Department has determined that a state listed herptile species has been documented in Trippe and Cravath Lakes.
5. The Department has determined that a state listed plant species has been documented in Trippe and Cravath Lakes.
6. The Department has determined that a state listed bird species has been documented in Trippe and Cravath Lakes.
7. Your permit application has been reviewed and meets the minimum requirements by law and a permit is being issued. Issuance of the permit is not an endorsement or approval for the action authorized.

Conclusions of Law

1. The Department has authority under s. 23.24, Wis. Stats., and Ch. NR 109, Wis. Adm. Code, to issue an order approving the application in full.
2. The project as authorized under this permit, if conducted in accordance with the conditions of this permit, meets the standards in s. 23.24, Wis. Stats., and Ch. 109, Wis. Adm. Code, and is hereby approved.
3. The Department has complied with the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act, s. 1.11, Wis. Stats.

Notices

- It is your responsibility to comply with all provisions in Wis. Stat. s. 30.07 and Wis. Adm. Code s. NR 40.07 related to removal of aquatic plants and animals and draining of water from boats, vehicles, and equipment. For further information, please refer to the following: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/prevention.html>.
- It is your responsibility to comply with the provisions of Ch. NR 500, Wis. Adm. Code, regarding solid waste transporting. For more information, please refer to the following: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Waste/Licenses.html>
- The disturbance and redistribution of lakebed material is considered dredging per s. NR 345.03 (5), Wis. Adm. Code, and is prohibited unless the provisions of s. 30.20 (1), Wis. Stats., are met. It is your responsibility to avoid these activities until obtaining written approval from the Department Waterways and Wetlands program.
- The approval of an aquatic plant management permit does not represent an endorsement of the permitted activity but represents that the applicant has complied with all criteria of this chapter.
- Noncompliance with the permit can result in enforcement actions under Chs. 23, 30 and 31, Wis. Stats., and restriction of aquatic plant management activities for subsequent years under Ch. NR 109, Wis. Adm. Code.
- You shall comply with local and county ordinances regarding disposal of aquatic plant materials. Disposal of the harvested aquatic plants must be located in the areas specified in the permit application (City of Whitewater Compost Site, Figure 3.2 in the Aquatic Plant Management Plan). Disposal shall not occur in a wetland or floodplain.
- **The Department recommends a second observer on the harvester to help capture and return frogs, turtles and fish back to the lake.**

If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at 262-719-0814 or by email at heidi.bunk@wi.gov.

State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the Secretary

By: Bunk, Heidi

04/16/2026

04/16/2026

Lakes Biologist

Date Signed

Date Mailed

Please Note:

If you believe that you have a right to challenge this decision, you should know that Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules establish time periods within which requests to review Department decisions must be filed. For judicial review of a decision pursuant to ss. 227.52 and 227.53, Wis. Stats., you have 30 days after the decision is mailed or otherwise served by the Department, to file your petition with the appropriate circuit court and serve the petition on the Department. Such a petition for judicial review shall name the Department of Natural Resources as the respondent. This notice is provided pursuant to s. 227.48(2), Wis. Stats. To request a contested case hearing pursuant to s. 227.42, Wis. Stats., you have 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the Department, to serve a petition for hearing on the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. The filing of a request for a contested case hearing is not a prerequisite for judicial review and does not extend the 30-day period for filing a petition for judicial review.