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Lake Fairlee Report 2023



Submitted:

The Lake Fairlee Association, Inc.
PO Box 102
Fairlee, VT 05045

Summary of Work:

First Day of Work: September 9 2023

Last Day of Work: September 29 2023

Total Days Worked: 9.75 Days

Total Hours Worked: 78 Hours

Total Buckets Removed: 273 Buckets (1 Bucket = 18 Gallons / 25-75 lbs)

Locations of DASH Harvesting:

Where we park the Boat
Boat Launch
Boy Scout Camp
Infront of Camps
New Patch

Here is a Map showing each of these locations in Blue



Total Milfoil Removed by DASH at each Location:

(1 Bucket = 18 Gallons / 25-75 lbs)

LOCATION	BUCKETS	HOURS
Where we park the Boat	46	14.5
Boat Launch	31	11
Boy Scout Camp	19	14.5
In front of Camps	92	24
New Patch	85	14
Total	273	78
Total Gallons	4914	
Total Pounds	6825-20475	

Where we park our Boat

In this location, as with every location we worked in Fairlee we discovered a much larger amount of Eurasian Milfoil than expected considering a chemical treatment was used. In 14.5 hours we removed 46 buckets of milfoil. Most of the area wasn't dense but required a large amount of swimming and used a mixture of DASH as well as Hand Harvesting depending on how much Milfoil was found.

This map shows 3 locations we worked but where we parked our boat is the blue triangle on the bottom of the map



Boat Launch

In this location we found a similar situation and had to use the same approach using a mix of DASH and Hand Harvesting removing 31 Buckets spending 11 hours working. The plants were a little more dispersed than where we park our boat but we feel we were very thorough and should see significantly less plants here next year.



Boy Scout Camp

This location we found the least amount of Milfoil compared to the other location and mostly hand harvested but also used DASH briefly. We removed 19 Buckets after spending 14.5 Hours searching for plants. Even though we pulled 19 buckets there was a significant amount of native plants that were mixed in with the roots of the Milfoil. We try to avoid removing native plants but if the root systems are mixed together we unintentionally take natives as well.



In Front of Camps

This was a large area for us to cover and we ended up spending the majority of our time here removing 92 buckets over a 24 hour time period. We only used DASH here because we ended up finding a significant amount of decent patches of Milfoil. This is an area we would like to spend more time next year if chemicals will not be used here. We consider this a high risk area of concern for next year.

The area we are referring to is the large rectangularish Blue area on the top of the map seen below.



New Patch

This was by far the worst infested area in the lake and we estimated the patch to be over 2 Acres. Once we found it we chose to work here immediately began Harvesting here until we were told to focus on the other locations so a chemical treatment can be used here. In 14 hours spent here we removed 85 Buckets.

The location is shown in the circle of Blue on the map below. We would also support chemicals being used here as it would possibly take up to 2 weeks to finish this spot alone next year as it will most likely be larger next year as well.



Conclusion

This is our first year working Lake Fairlee and after hearing they used a Chemical treatment the year before we weren't expecting to see a lot of plants based on the success of what we have witnessed in other lakes from their treatments. We are unfamiliar with everything that is involved with Chemical treatments but I would expect better results and perhaps there are complications from lake to lake that have different influences on the outcome.

As far as moving forward to next season we would recommend another treatment of the Chemicals, especially in the location where we found the 2 acre patch, as well as using DASH and Hand Harvesting to remove whatever is remaining. If Chemicals are not possible we believe we would need at least 4 weeks of time to cover all areas infested but we believe using both chemicals, DASH and Hand Harvesting is the best solution moving forward.

We thank you for your time and look forward to working with Lake Fairlee and getting ahead of the Milfoil infestation.