

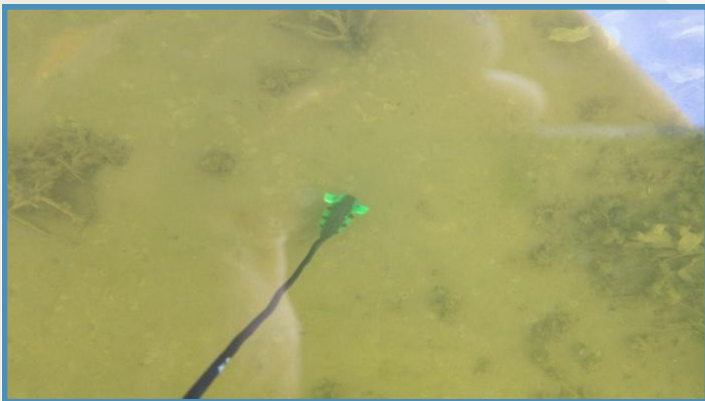
Winter Aquatic Plant Growth

Details and photographs submitted by
Thomas Koepp, Lake Pewaukee Sanitary District

Pewaukee Lake is the largest of the ninety-one lakes located in Waukesha County, Wisconsin. It is about 5 miles long and 1 mile wide and covers 2437 acres. It has a maximum depth of 45 feet and is known for its inland sailing races and abundance of fish. It is a premier lake for Musky, Walleye, Northern Pike, and Largemouth Bass.



300 feet out on January 9th, 2013 the Eurasian milfoil is quite healthy and seems to be flourishing under the surface of the frozen lake. This portion of the lake remains untouched by the aquatic weed harvester and the District does not apply aquatic herbicides.



75 feet out in 4.5—5 feet of water the crews were able to perform a “deep cut” cutting near the lake bottom. As you can see, there is very little milfoil growth. During the 2011 harvesting program, 11,412 cubic yards of plant material was removed from Pewaukee Lake.



Pewaukee Lake’s aquatic plants have been monitored since 1988 in an effort to aid in lake management. The lake has a diverse plant community which is dominated by Eurasian watermilfoil, but has many native species including Pondweed, Coontail, and Muskgrass.



The effective management of the lake has kept the milfoil in check and allowed native species to survive. An autumn harvest helps to cut back the dominant milfoil and provides the native plants an opportunity to grow.