

*Aquatic  
Plant  
Management  
In Wisconsin*

***DRAFT*** (not for distribution) 4/20/06



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# Preface

*Understanding the role of aquatic plants* in your lake's ecology is a corner stone to developing a sound lake management plan. Aquatic plants are as central to our lakes and rivers as the trees are to the forest. Loss or major changes in the make up of aquatic plant communities can cause an unmendable tear in the fabric of a water body's aquatic ecology. This guide is designed to help you navigate through the world of aquatic plant management in Wisconsin.

## About The Guide

In this guide you will find information that should assist you in developing your plan and managing the plants in your lake. We believe the more effort you put into the plan the better the pay back. This guide helps you sort out various levels of planning from the absolute minimum in an Aquatic Plant Management (APM) plan to elements not crucial to the plan but that may help you with future management decisions. Decision-making will be easier with the added information gathered with thorough monitoring and analysis.

This guide will be linked to a Website with more detailed information on management of aquatic plants.

When this guide is completed, it will:

- Help you decide if you really need to “do something” about your aquatic plants.
- Help you understand when the state rules, permits and laws apply to you and your lake.
- Describe the permits required for aquatic plant management (APM) activities.
- Walk you through the permitting process.
- Guide you through a seven step planning process.
- Help you discover plant mapping methods.
- Describe strategies for controlling plants.
- Define some technical terms.
- Give you a directory of assistance and a list of places to find more information about aquatic plants and their management.

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