

# Navigating the Permit Process for Aquatic Plant Management



Kylie Cattoor, Natural Resource Specialist

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# Goals of the Program

Balance the reasonable need for a riparian land owner to gain access and use public waters with the need to protect the integrity and value of the aquatic plant community.

# Where Does the DNR's Authority to Regulate Aquatic Plants Come From?





# Minnesota Statutes Section 84.091

Under Minnesota law, plants growing in *public waters*, are the property of the state. Because of their value to a lake, they may not be destroyed or transplanted unless authorized by the Commissioner of the DNR.



# Value of Aquatic Plants in our waters:

- WATER QUALITY & CLARITY
- SHORELAND STABILIZATION
- NATURAL HABITAT
- AESTHETIC AND ECONOMIC





**BUT I STILL HAVE A PLANT “PROBLEM”...**

**WHAT CAN I DO TO CONTROL  
UNWANTED, NUISANCE VEGETATION?**



# Do Not Need A Permit to...

1. Mechanical control of a channel through water lilies that is 15' or less
2. Mechanical control submerged plants that is 50' or  $\frac{1}{2}$  the frontage (whichever is less) and the total area does not exceed 2,500 sq ft
3. Skimming filamentous algae or duckweed



# IAPM v. APM Permit

	IAPM	APM
What type of control?	Invasive plant species (CLP, EWM, FR, PLS)	Invasive (nearshore only), native plant species, algae, swimmer's, duckweed
Who applies?	Lake Association, LGU, etc. (one application)	Individual shore land owners (multi)
Where?	Offshore (>150 feet from shore) and continuous blocks nearshore	Nearshore (<150 feet from shore) and offshore (except invasive)
When?	Apply each season (1 year permit)	One time permit
Method of control?	Mechanical, chemical	Mechanical, chemical
Limitations?	Mechanical (50% littoral), Chemical (15% littoral)	Mechanical (> 15ft wide channel or > 50x50' area), Chemical (15ft wide channel, 50x50' area)
Application fee?	No	Yes
DNR control grant eligible?	Yes (limited)	No



# Permit Process

1. Create treatment plan, call licensed herbicide applicators (unless self-treating), estimates, etc.
2. Complete/submit APM or IAPM application (Jan-Aug)
3. If IAPM permit – map nuisance invasive plants & complete control grant if interested
4. WAIT as permit is processed and/or site is inspected
5. Once permit is received treatment can occur
6. If permit is denied there is an appeal process