

**Minutes for the Lake Oakland
Lake Improvement Board Meeting
October 7, 2025**

Robert Stawarz called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. at the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office 1st Floor Meeting Room.

PRESENT: Robert Stawarz, Citizen Member/Chairperson
Stephanie Petriello, Oakland County WRC, Secretary
Karen Joliat, Oakland County Commissioner
Theresa Nallamotheu, Independence Township Trustee
Kimberly Markee, Waterford Township Clerk
Paul Hausler, Progressive Companies
Michael Morrison, Resident
Shannon Morrison, Resident
Philip Benjamin, Resident
Joseph Ellsasser, Resident
Bob Fons, Resident
Eric Andrew, Resident
Lou Aronica, Resident
John Schafer, Resident

OPEN MEETING:

All participants stated their name and affiliation for the record.

Stephanie Petriello reminded everyone to sign the attendance sheet (see Attachment 'A').

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA:

Theresa Nallamotheu, supported by Stephanie Petriello, moved to accept the meeting agenda as presented (see Attachment 'B').

Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Karen Joliat, supported by Theresa Nallamotheu, moved to accept the minutes as presented for the July 14, 2025 Lake Improvement Board meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Progressive Companies will post the meeting minutes on the Lake Oakland website.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Project Work Journal

Paul Hausler gave an overview of the project work journal (see Attachment 'C') and reviewed the treatments and harvesting activities that took place over the spring and summer. He explained that the initial treatment was a little lighter than in recent years because we had a cold winter and cool spring. A large treatment was needed later after an explosion of milfoil and the early presence of wild celery. Unfortunately, that treatment was not very effective so Progressive Companies took 20 samples of milfoil and had them genetically tested through a free program in Montana. By next year, they will know what herbicide will be more effective for this particular strain of milfoil. The harvests took out 30-40% more loads than last year.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Survey Results

Paul Hausler discussed the survey that was conducted on August 6th (see Attachment 'D'). He reviewed the locations and treatment regimen for the algae, wild celery, and milfoil that was found during the survey.

B. Plant Control and Water Quality Reports

Paul Hausler reviewed the Plant Control and Water Quality Reports that will be shared on the website. Lake Oakland is classified as a mesotrophic lake. He mentioned that the chloride levels in Lake Oakland were high compared to the average lake in Michigan. Chloride is often tied to road salt runoff. However, the overall water quality of Lake Oakland is not a concern. The Plant Control Report highlighted different invasive species, treatments of the lake, and methods of surveying.

Karen Joliat, supported by Kim Markee, moved to receive and file the reports.

Motion Carried Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Robert Stawarz opened the floor for public comments.

Stephanie Petriello shared that all of the reports from the past five years are on the Lake Oakland website under the "Water Quality" tab.

A resident asked about granular herbicide next year. Paul Hausler plans to talk to EGLE about using fluridone on Lake Oakland to combat Eurasian milfoil. He also wants to make sure that Lake Oakland's milfoil is not resistant to fluridone before using it. This will be determined by the results of the bioassays conducted in Montana.

A resident asked which company harvested the lake this year. Paul Hausler stated that Oakland Harvesters have harvested the lake for the past two years. The resident believes that Oakland Harvesters used smaller equipment this year and stated that the yield and acres harvested were lower than several previous years. He questioned the cost and reasoning for switching companies. Paul Hausler suspects that the increase in treatment this year resulted in the need for less harvesting. The budget also prevented a second harvest. He also stated that the previous company used for harvesting is no longer operating.

A resident asked why the lake has to be treated every year and why they can't increase treatment and harvesting one year to prevent subsequent years from going through this. Paul Hausler explained the legal limitations of treatments, the physical limitations of equipment, and the inability to control all aspects of lake management. Karen Joliat stated that she sits on eight lake improvement boards and that weeds can never be eradicated. The goal of treatments and harvesting is to reduce them enough for recreational use of the lake.

There was a discussion on treatments around the dam and where legal authority falls short. Additionally, there was a discussion about the cost to purchase, operate, and maintain a harvester for the lake to own outright.

Theresa Nallamotheu suggested that the LIB request Oakland Harvesters to attend the meetings and report on their harvesting efforts.

LAKE OAKLAND INVOICES:

Robert Stawarz outlined invoice #00205760 from Progressive Companies (dated October 1, 2025) in the amount of \$5,000.00 for quarterly lake management administration and oversight on Lake Oakland through September 26, 2025.

Karen Joliat, supported by Theresa Nallamotheu, motioned to approve payment of invoice #00205760 in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried Unanimously

LAKE OAKLAND INVOICE RATIFICATION:

The following invoices were previously approved via email:

Robert Stawarz outlined invoice #23729 from Aqua-Weed Control Inc. (dated July 24, 2025) in the amount of \$10,670.00 for nuisance aquatic plant control work performed on Lake Oakland on July 23, 2025.

Karen Joliat, supported by Theresa Nallamotheu, motioned to ratify payment of invoice #23729 in the amount of \$10,670.00.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Robert Stawarz outlined invoice #1-2025 from Oakland Harvesters (dated August 5, 2025) in the amount of \$20,925.00 for nuisance aquatic plant work performed on Lake Oakland from July 14, 2025 through July 17, 2025.

Theresa Nallamotheu, supported by Kimberly Markee, motioned to ratify payment of invoice #1-2025 in the amount of \$20,925.00.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Robert Stawarz outlined invoice #23822 from Aqua-Weed Control Inc. (dated August 22, 2025) in the amount of \$4,413.75 for nuisance aquatic plant control work performed on Lake Oakland on August 12, 2025.

Kimberly Markee, supported by Theresa Nallamotheu, motioned to ratify payment of invoice #23822 in the amount of \$4,413.75.

Motion Carried Unanimously

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Theresa Nallamotheu stated that she has been reassigned to a different LIB and Paul Brown will take over for Independence Township.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

The next Lake Board meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on April 21, 2026 at the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office 1st Floor Meeting Room.

ADJOURNMENT:

Theresa Nallamotheu, supported by Karen Joliat, moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:29 p.m.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Stephanie L. Petriello

Stephanie L. Petriello
Lake Improvement Board Secretary
For Lake Oakland

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) SS:
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the minutes of the Lake Improvement Board for Lake Oakland, Oakland County, Michigan held on the 7th day of October 2025, and that the said minutes are on file in the Office of the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner and are available to the public.

I further certify that notice of the meeting was posted at least 18 hours before the meeting at the Office of the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner, which is the principal office of the Lake Improvement Board for Lake Oakland.

Stephanie L. Petriello
Stephanie L. Petriello
Lake Improvement Board Secretary
For Lake Oakland

Dated: April 21, 2025

Attachment 'A'

OAKLAND COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER
ATTENDANCE SHEET

DATE: October 7, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. FACILITATOR: _____

TYPE Lake Improvement Board Meeting (WRC Lunch Room)

TOPIC: Lake Oakland Lake Improvement Board Meeting

PRINTED NAME	E-MAIL	ADDRESS	CONTACT NUMBER
Stephanie Petrello	petrellos@oakgov.com	WRC	947-500-7006
Rob Stawarz	rob.stawarz@gmail.com	3671 DILL Dr. Waterford	248-464-7808
Karen Joliat	joliatk@yahoo	4181 Lakewood Waterford	248 9356133
Terri Nallamothu	tnallamothu@indtup.com	7427 Foxburg Ct Clarkston 48315	2488920260
PAUL HAUSLER	phausler@weareprogressive.com	G.R.	616-450-4716
MICHAEL MORRISON	MJMORRISON2008@YAHOO.COM	3115 ALCO DR WATERFORD, MI 48329	248 5150540
SHANNON MORRISON	MMORRISON01@COMCAST.NET	3115 ALCO DR WATERFORD MI 48329	248 5150541
PHILIP BENJAMIN	philbertnotie@gmail.com	3125 ALCO DR WATERFORD	248 9418674
Joseph ELLSASSER	JOE ELLSASSER@COMCAST.NET	5015 TIMBER LAKE TRAIL CLARKSTON	248 420 2332
Bob Fons	onscort27@gmail.com	3445 mann rd.	248-709-1539
Eric Andrew	epa400@gmail.com	3421 Mann Rd.	248-961-5190
Lou AROVICA	L5ARONICA@YAHOO	3231 Dowzi Court	734 377 6284
Kim Mar Kee	KmarKee@waterfordmi.gov	5200 C.ivicltdr.Pr.	248-674-6266
John Schaller	insjas@yahoo.com	3498 Lakeshore Dr	248 822 8915

Attachment 'B'

AGENDA

LAKE OAKLAND LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 – 3:00 p.m.

Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner Building Lunchroom

1. Open Meeting
 - a. Introductions and Attendance
2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda for October 7, 2025
3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from July 14, 2025
4. Old Business
 - a. Project Work Journal
5. New Business
 - a. Survey Results
 - b. Plant Control and Water Quality Reports
6. Public Comments
7. Lake Oakland Invoices
 - a. Invoice approval (#00205760, dated October 1, 2025) from Progressive Companies for quarterly lake management administration and oversight for Lake Oakland through September 26, 2025 in the amount of \$5,000.00.
8. Lake Oakland Invoice Ratification
 - a. Ratification of Aqua-Weed Control Inc. Invoice #23729 (dated July 24, 2025) for nuisance aquatic plant control work performed on Lake Oakland on July 23, 2025. Stephanie Petriello, supported by Rob Stawarz, to pay the invoice in the amount of \$10,670.00.
 - b. Ratification of Oakland Harvesters Invoice #1-2025 (dated August 5, 2025) for nuisance aquatic plant control work performed on Lake Oakland from July 14, 2025 through July 17, 2025. Stephanie Petriello, supported by Rob Stawarz, to pay the invoice in the amount of \$20,925.00.
 - c. Ratification of Aqua-Weed Control Inc. Invoice #23822 (dated August 22, 2025) for nuisance aquatic plant control work performed on Lake Oakland on August 12, 2025. Stephanie Petriello, supported by Rob Stawarz, to pay the invoice in the amount of \$4,413.75.
9. Board Member Comments
10. Schedule Next Meeting Date
11. Adjournment

Attachment 'C'

**Project Work Journal
Lake Oakland**

2025

Beginning Balance: \$80,000.00

Date	Type	Results				
1/8/2025	Permit	2025 Permit Authorization				
Application Date	Type	Target Species	Quantity	Dose Rate	Cost	Remaining Balance
3/27/2025	Permit Fee		1.00 each		\$1,600.00	\$78,400.00
Invoice 22669 Total					\$1,600.00	\$78,400.00

Survey Date	Type	Results				
5/7/2025	Survey	Crew: JML, NIK Water Temp: 70 F Findings: E. milfoil found throughout the littoral zone in moderate to high density. Most vegetative growth is still below the surface water. Some algae in the canals and bays.				
Treatment Date	Type	Target Species	Quantity	Dose Rate	Cost	Remaining Balance
5/13/2025	Flumioxazin and contacts	Curly-leaf Pondweed Eurasian Milfoil	7.00 acre(s)	100.00 ppb	\$2,450.00	\$75,950.00
5/13/2025	Diquat dibromide @ 1 gal/acre	Eurasian Milfoil	47.00 acre(s)		\$7,050.00	\$68,900.00
5/13/2025	Flumioxazin @ 150 ppb	Starry Stonewort	6.00 acre(s)		\$2,205.00	\$66,695.00
5/13/2025	Algae control (chelated copper only)	Filamentous or Planktonic Algae	5.25 acre(s)		\$498.75	\$66,196.25
Invoice 23252 Total					\$12,203.75	\$66,196.25

Date	Type	Results				
6/3/2025	Other	Algae work order				
Treatment Date	Type	Target Species	Quantity	Dose Rate	Cost	Remaining Balance
5/20/2025	Flumioxazin	Filamentous or Planktonic Algae	3.00 acre(s)	100.00 ppb	\$735.00	\$65,461.25
5/20/2025	Algae control (chelated copper only)	Filamentous or Planktonic Algae	3.00 acre(s)		\$285.00	\$65,176.25
Invoice 23255 Total					\$1,020.00	\$65,176.25

Project Work Journal

Lake Oakland

2025

Beginning Balance: \$80,000.00

Survey Date	Type	Results				
6/10/2025	Survey	Crew: JML Water Temp: 70 F Notes: Abundant milfoil around lake, extensive retreatment zones mapped. Milfoil samples collected.				
Treatment Date	Type	Target Species	Quantity	Dose Rate	Cost	Remaining Balance
6/18/2025	Chelated copper complex liquid	Wild Celery	8.00 acre(s)		\$2,560.00	\$62,616.25
6/18/2025	Flumioxazin and contacts	Eurasian Milfoil	5.25 acre(s)	100.00 ppb	\$1,837.50	\$60,778.75
6/18/2025	Triclopyr liquid	Eurasian Milfoil	16.75 acre(s)	3.00 gallons/acre	\$4,187.50	\$56,591.25
6/18/2025	ProcellaCOR	Eurasian Milfoil	25.00 PDU		\$2,875.00	\$53,716.25
6/18/2025	Re-treatment	Eurasian Milfoil	26.00 acre(s)		\$11,180.00	\$42,536.25
6/18/2025	Algae control (chelated copper only)	Filamentous or Planktonic Algae	14.50 acre(s)		\$1,377.50	\$41,158.75
6/18/2025	Macro-algae control: chelated copper products only	Starry Stonewort	1.00 acre(s)		\$160.00	\$40,998.75
Invoice 23536 Total					\$24,177.50	\$40,998.75

**Project Work Journal
Lake Oakland**

2025

Beginning Balance: \$80,000.00

Survey Date	Type	Results				
7/8/2025	Survey	Crew: JML, NIK Water Temp: 83 F Notes: Effective treatment, abundant native growth ready for harvest. Post harvest treatment recommended.				
Treatment Date	Type	Target Species	Quantity	Dose Rate	Cost	Remaining Balance
7/14/2025 - 7/17/2025	Harvesting	Nuisance Native Plants	23.50 acre(s)		\$14,100.00	\$26,898.75
7/14/2025 - 7/17/2025	Harvesting of starry stonewort	Chara Starry Stonewort	9.75 acre(s)		\$6,825.00	\$20,073.75
Invoice oakland1.25 Total					\$20,925.00	\$20,073.75
7/23/2025	Algae control (filamentous and planktonic)	Filamentous or Planktonic Algae	4.00 acre(s)		\$160.00	\$19,913.75
7/23/2025	Chelated copper complex liquid	Wild Celery	11.25 acre(s)		\$3,600.00	\$16,313.75
7/23/2025	Flumioxazin	Eurasian Milfoil Starry Stonewort	8.00 acre(s)	200.00 ppb	\$3,920.00	\$12,393.75
7/23/2025	Macro-algae control: copper and monoamine salt of endothall	Starry Stonewort	13.25 acre(s)		\$927.50	\$11,466.25
7/23/2025	Water lily control (40' x 40' sections)	Water Lillies	4.00 each		\$1,200.00	\$10,266.25
7/23/2025	ProcellaCOR	Hybrid Milfoil	7.50 PDU		\$862.50	\$9,403.75
Invoice 23729 Total					\$10,670.00	\$9,403.75

Survey Date	Type	Results
7/17/2025	Survey	Harvest Inspection: A few additions and touch up areas.

**Project Work Journal
Lake Oakland**

2025



Beginning Balance: \$80,000.00

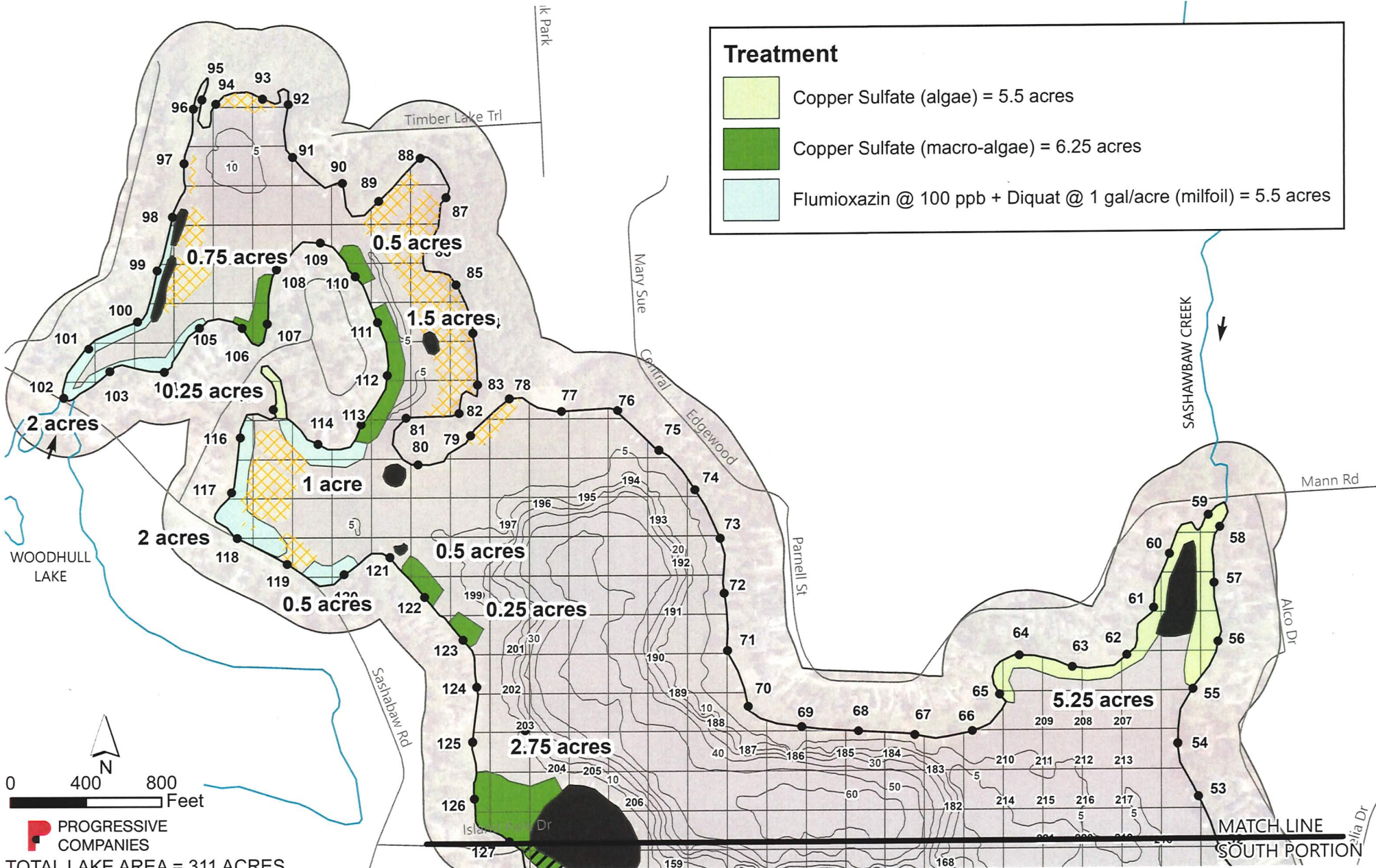
Survey Date	Type	Results				
8/6/2025	Survey	Crew: JML, NIK Water Temp: 78 F Notes: Lake is in good condition, some starry milfoil and algae marked for treatment. Minimal floating vegetation at this time.				
Treatment Date	Type	Target Species	Quantity	Dose Rate	Cost	Remaining Balance
8/12/2025	Algae control (filamentous and planktonic)	Filamentous or Planktonic Algae	8.75 acre(s)		\$350.00	\$9,053.75
8/12/2025	Chelated copper complex liquid	Wild Celery	4.75 acre(s)		\$1,520.00	\$7,533.75
8/12/2025	Flumioxazin and contacts	Eurasian Milfoil	5.50 acre(s)	100.00 ppb	\$1,925.00	\$5,608.75
8/12/2025	Macro-algae control: copper products only	Starry Stonewort	13.75 acre(s)		\$618.75	\$4,990.00
Invoice 23822 Total					\$4,413.75	\$4,990.00


Total Invoiced: \$75,010.00
Remaining Balance: \$4,990.00

Attachment 'D'

**LAKE OAKLAND (NORTH PORTION)
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN
TREATMENT MAP
SURVEY DATE: AUGUST 6, 2025**

 Non-navigable emergent vegetation areas
 = 1 ACRE





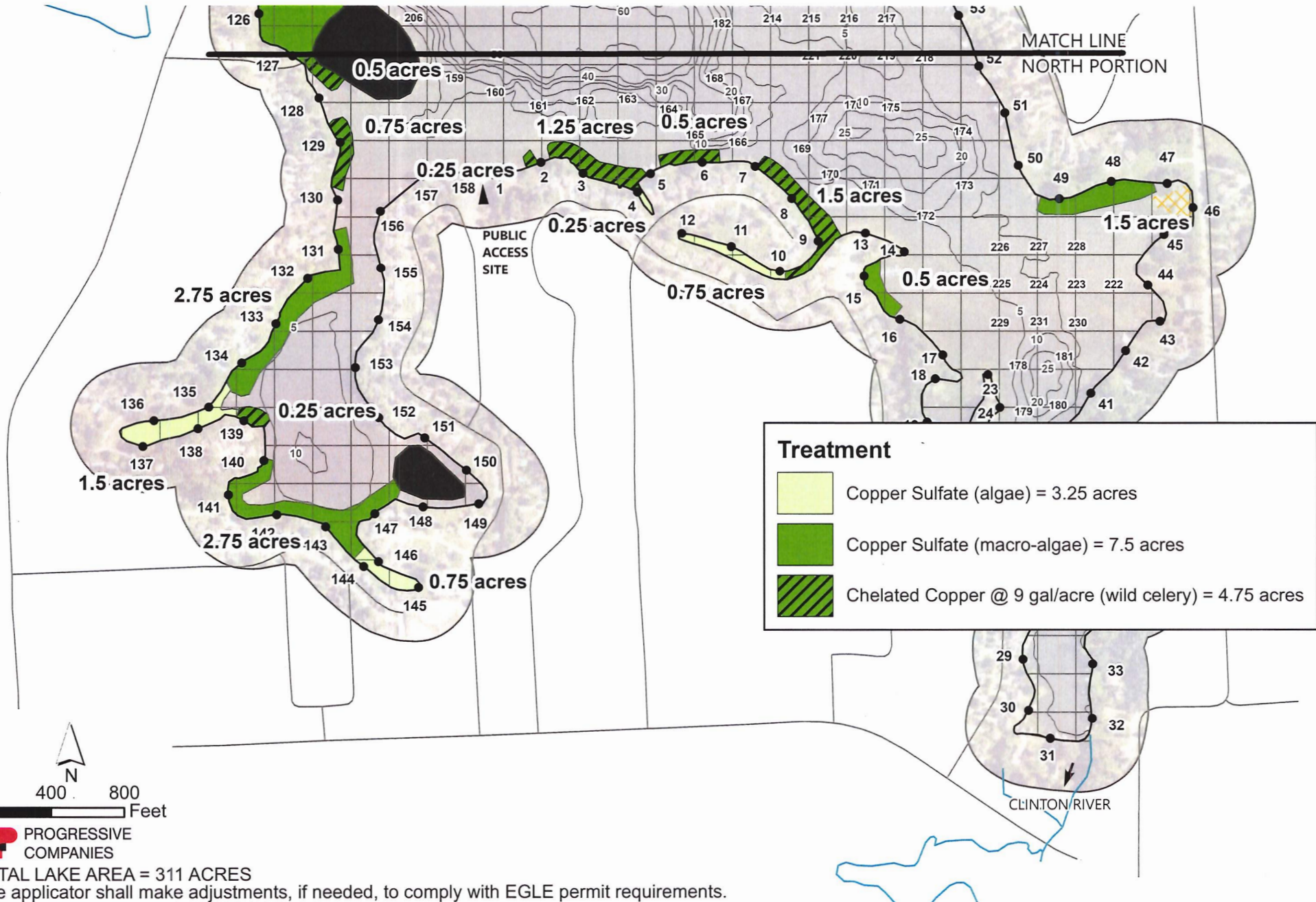
0 400 800 Feet

PROGRESSIVE COMPANIES

TOTAL LAKE AREA = 311 ACRES
 The applicator shall make adjustments, if needed, to comply with EGLE permit requirements.




MATCH LINE
 SOUTH PORTION

**LAKE OAKLAND (SOUTH PORTION)
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN
TREATMENT MAP
SURVEY DATE: AUGUST 6, 2025**

 Non-navigable emergent vegetation areas
 = 1 ACRE



Treatment

-  Copper Sulfate (algae) = 3.25 acres
-  Copper Sulfate (macro-algae) = 7.5 acres
-  Chelated Copper @ 9 gal/acre (wild celery) = 4.75 acres

BOATING THROUGH AND AROUND AQUATIC PLANTS FACT SHEET

Created by Progressive Companies / Water Resources Group

Boating on inland lakes with abundant aquatic vegetation presents unique challenges. Vegetation plays an essential role in the lake's ecology, supporting wildlife and improving water quality. Areas of dense vegetation present obstacles for boaters, especially when it binds up propellers or impedes navigation. By following a few simple strategies, boaters can enjoy their time on the water while avoiding damage to both their vessel and the lake ecosystem.

One of the most common issues when boating through aquatic vegetation is the buildup of plants on the motor propeller, which can affect performance and cause engine strain. To avoid this, it's helpful to trim outboard motors up when driving through particularly dense vegetation. This raises the propeller out of the thickest areas of plant growth and reduces the risk of obstruction. If you do end up with vegetation wrapped around the propeller, it's important to remove the debris promptly to prevent engine damage. This can be accomplished by putting the boat in reverse until the accumulated plants come off, briefly lifting the propeller out of the water while in drive, or shutting off the motor and manually removing plant material. Keeping a cutting tool handy on board can make the process quick and safe.

On lakes with significant aquatic plant growth, it's best to choose areas with less dense vegetation for your route. Typically, plants grow closer to the shore, so navigating near the middle of the lake or in deeper water can help you avoid thick patches. In shallow lakes with plants throughout most of the lake, choose a vessel that is appropriately suited to the conditions of the waterbody. Generally, the shallower and smaller the lake, the smaller the boat should be. Further, inboard motors with fixed propellers cannot be adjusted for navigating through dense vegetation and should be avoided on waterbodies where dense plant growth is prevalent.

Some species of aquatic plants and algae, especially non-native ones, can be highly destructive to lake ecosystems. Invasive species such as Eurasian milfoil and starry stonewort can spread rapidly, often choking out native species and disrupting local wildlife. Boat propellers can inadvertently fragment these plants, allowing them to spread to new areas of the lake. To help prevent this, boaters should try to avoid traveling through dense beds of aquatic plants. If you do need to pass through such areas, proceed slowly with the motor trimmed up to minimize plant fragmentation. After boating in areas with dense vegetation, be sure to inspect your boat and motor for any remaining plant fragments. Removing plants from your boat, trailer, and gear can prevent the spread of invasive species to other bodies of water.



Be sure to inspect and clean your boat and motor after boating through aquatic vegetation.



Eurasian milfoil often grows to the surface and is easily fragmented and spread by boat traffic.



Starry stonewort grows in thick mats that pose significant navigation challenges.

A reliable resource for information on Michigan's inland lakes.



michiganlakeinfo



WILD CELERY FACT SHEET

Created by Progressive Companies / Water Resources Group

Vallisneria americana, commonly known as wild celery or eelgrass, is a submerged aquatic plant native to North America. It plays an important role in freshwater ecosystems, providing food for migratory waterfowl and habitat for fish and invertebrates, stabilizing sediment, and improving water quality. However, its rapid growth and expansive coverage can raise concerns for navigation and recreational activities in affected water bodies.

Wild celery can form dense mats that may obstruct waterways, making navigation challenging for boaters. These thick patches can reduce visibility and maneuverability, posing risks for boaters who may not be able to detect shallow areas or obstacles. In addition, *Vallisneria* is shallow-rooted and can be easily dislodged, allowing it to float and accumulate along shorelines.

While most aquatic plants can be effectively controlled with herbicides, treating wild celery is often less successful, as treatment typically only suppresses growth rather than eliminating the plant entirely. Further, wild celery has a robust rhizome system that allows it to regenerate even after herbicide application, making season-long control challenging.

The most common method employed to manage its growth is the application of chelated copper, a form of copper complexed with organic compounds, which enhances its efficacy and reduces toxicity to non-target organisms. Chelated copper acts as an herbicide by disrupting the photosynthetic process in aquatic plants. The effectiveness of chelated copper is highly dependent on application timing and concentration. Optimal results are typically observed when applied in late spring or early summer when *Vallisneria* is actively growing. Even so, the remaining plant mass and relatively quick regrowth present continuous management challenges.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy (EGLE) requires a permit be obtained prior to applying herbicides to lakes in Michigan. The permits specify approved herbicides, dosage, use restrictions, and areas of the lake where treatments are allowed. For wild celery, only two treatments in the same area are permitted per year.

Another option for controlling wild celery is mechanical harvesting, which involves the physical cutting and removal of the plant. This method is particularly suitable for large sections of the lake ranging from two to eight feet in depth that exhibit dense growth, especially in areas away from developed shorelines where herbicide treatment is not permitted. In most cases, harvesting does not require a permit. Still, there are limitations to this method such as cost, non-selective plant removal, unrecaptured plant fragments, and the need to transport plant material for disposal.

While wild celery does offer ecological benefits, its dense growth can interfere with recreation and navigation. Both chemical and mechanical management strategies have their place, though each comes with limitations that require careful consideration. Boaters navigating through areas with heavy vegetation should trim up their motors to prevent damage and reduce the risk of becoming stuck. If you have concerns about wild celery or other aquatic vegetation in your lake, it's best to speak with your lake management consultant to determine the most appropriate and environmentally responsible course of action.

