



Do I Need a Permit from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for Mechanical Control (Cutting) of Aquatic Plants on my Pond or Lake?

This summary is for informational purposes only. Contact the DNR for complete aquatic plant management rules.

PLEASE NOTE: Information on this page does not apply to chemical (herbicide) control methods of aquatic plants.

Chemical control of aquatic plants within Public Waters requires a permit from the DNR. Rules for chemical control differ from rules for mechanical control. For more info, contact the DNR Aquatic Plant Management Permitting Staff at (651) 259-5779 or (651) 259-5816.

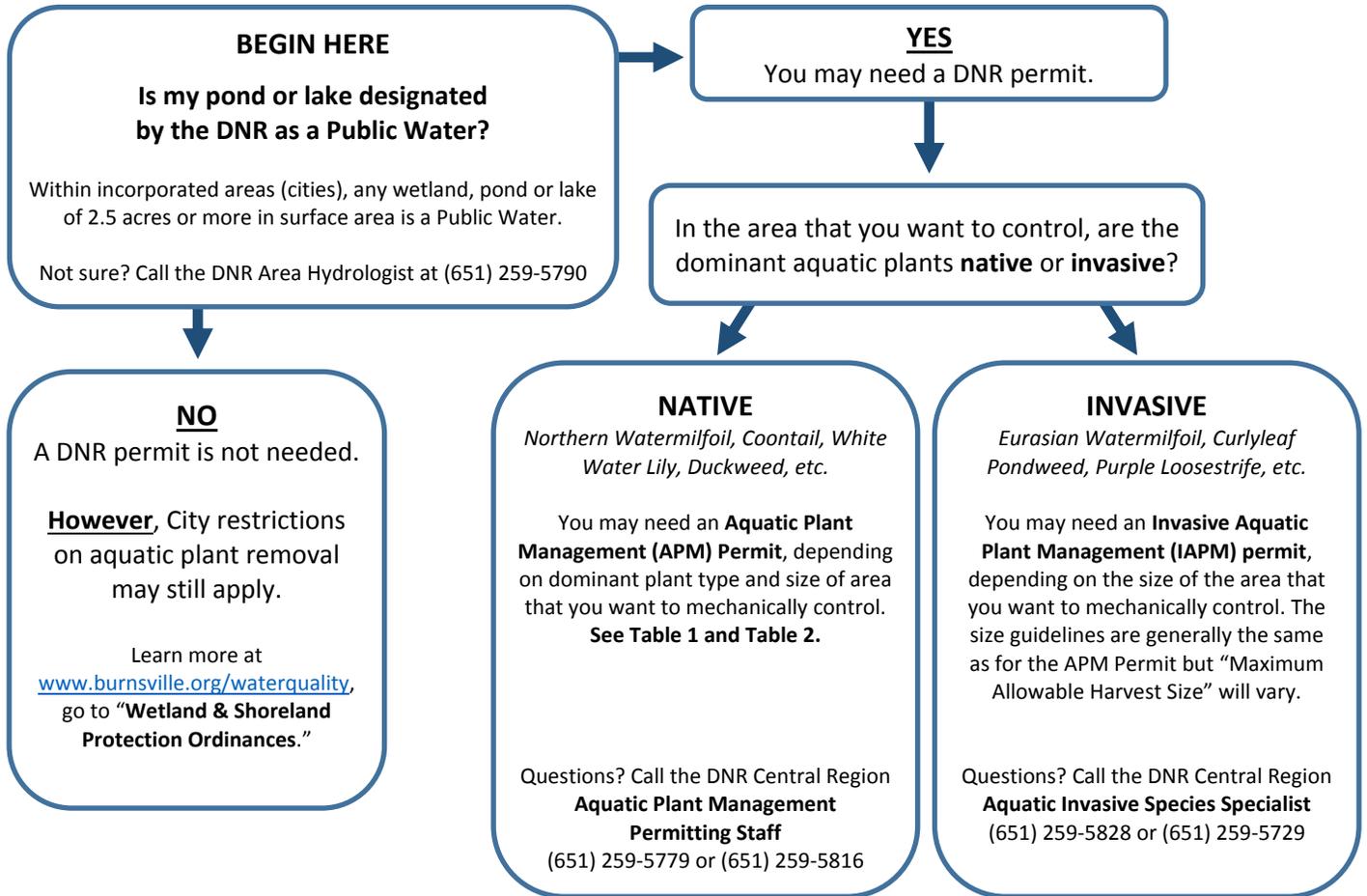


Table 1. Aquatic Plant Types

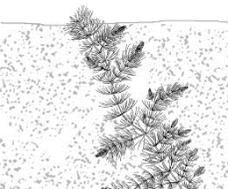
Floating-Leaf	Emergent	Submerged	Algae
<p><i>Rooted in lake bottom, but leaves and flowers float on water surface.</i></p>	<p><i>Rooted in lake bottom, but leaves and stems extend out of the water.</i></p>	<p><i>Stems and leaves grow mostly underwater, but portions such as flowers may be above water.</i></p>	<p><i>Not a true plant. Doesn't have true roots, stems or leaves. Usually controlled using chemicals, which requires a permit for Public Waters.</i></p>
<p>Examples: White Water Lily, Duckweed, Yellow Lotus, Watershield</p>	<p>Examples: Cattail, Bulrush</p>	<p>Examples: Coontail, Pondweed, Northern Watermilfoil</p>	
			

Table 2. APM Permit Guidelines for Mechanical Control of Native Plants. INFO DOES NOT APPLY TO CHEMICAL CONTROL (HERBICIDE).

SIZE OF DESIRED HARVEST AREA	Dominant Plant Type and Maximum Allowable Harvest Size*		
	Floating-Leaf	Emergent	Submerged (Submersed)
Access channel to open water	No permit needed Channel must be no wider than 15 feet and take the most direct route to open water.	<u>Permit required</u> (may be ongoing permit if conditions met) Channel must be no wider than 15 feet and take the most direct route to open water.	No permit needed Channel must be no wider than 15 feet and take the most direct route to open water.
Less than 2,500 sq. ft.	<u>Permit required</u> Size of maximum allowable harvest determined by DNR Aquatic Plant Management Specialist.	<u>Permit required</u> Size of maximum allowable harvest determined by DNR Aquatic Plant Management Specialist.	No permit needed Not to exceed 2,500 sq. ft. <u>and</u> area may not extend more than 50 feet along shoreline or ½ of shoreline length (whichever is less).
2,500 sq. ft. or greater	<u>Permit required</u> Size of maximum allowable harvest determined by DNR Aquatic Plant Management Specialist.	<u>Permit required</u> Size of maximum allowable harvest determined by DNR Aquatic Plant Management Specialist.	<u>Permit required</u> Shoreline less than 70 feet: Harvest may be up to 35 feet along shoreline. Shoreline 70 feet or longer: Harvest may be 100 feet or one-half the length of shoreline (whichever is less).

* Exception: An APM permit is not needed for skimming duckweed or filamentous algae off the water's surface.

Do you plan on submitting an application for a permit?

Submit early – the DNR may need 2 or more weeks to review your application and do a site inspection (if needed). And keep in mind that they may deny your application or limit your harvest to a smaller area than you requested. Permit applications may be submitted on the **DNR Online Permit Application System** at www.dnr.state.mn.us/mpars.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

From the Minnesota DNR

- Public Waters Inventory Program: www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/pwi
- Aquatic Plant Management: www.dnr.state.mn.us/apm
- Aquatic Plant Regulations: www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html
- Guide to Aquatic Plants: www.dnr.state.mn.us/nr/plants/aquatic
- Wetland Regulations and Permits: www.dnr.state.mn.us/wetlands/regulations.html
- Aquatic Plant Management Permitting Staff – Central Region: Phone (651) 259-5779 or (651) 259-5816
- Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist – Central Region: Phone (651) 259-5828 or (651) 259-5729

State of Minnesota Aquatic Plant Management Rules

- 6280.0350 Aquatic Plant Control: www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=6280.0350
- 6280.0250 Standards for Aquatic Plant Management Permit Issuance: www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=6280.0250

Property Information

- Dakota County online GIS map: <http://gis.co.dakota.mn.us/dcgis>
- City of Burnsville Crystal Lake webpage – *Instructions on determining your shoreline length using the Dakota County online GIS map:* www.burnsville.org/CrystalLake (scroll to bottom of page)