

Lake Preservation Committee - June Weed Harvesting Report

(David Lester, Terry Klaves - 7/8/26)

Aquatic Plant Management's first weed harvesting campaign was conducted during the week of June 8th, 2026.

Weed bed mapping was conducted by SSL Lake Preservation Committee (LPC) members Terry Klaves and David Lester in the days just prior to the Weed Harvesting Service. At that time, it was noted that there were very few heavy weed growth areas. LPC members were concerned that APM's harvesting yield proficiency (cubic yards of biomass per hour) was going to be low. This ended up being true.

In 2024 LPC members mapped more dense weed beds for removal than APM could address during their 40 Hour service periods. In 2025, LPC members monitored progress daily and increased APM's harvesting hours for the second and third harvests to ensure sufficient weed biomass removal.

Based on our experience in 2025, the first harvest for 2026 was delayed by several weeks, from May to June, to allow for more weed growth and better harvesting productivity.

Only Mother Nature could tell us why the lake weeds are again growing very thinly across much wider sections of our lake this year. The few thick/heavy weed beds identified, mapped, and removed were near the inlet stream, where our silt and muck deposits are the thickest.

Harvest yields were so light that the LPC members and APM jointly decided to stop harvesting short of the 40 hours scheduled. Weed growth was too thin and widespread to be effectively harvested.

APM reported that during its 25.55 operating hours / 3.19 days of harvesting activity in June, they removed 75 cubic yards of cut weed biomass. This is 2.5 truckloads of nutrients by our measure.

The budgeted and unused hours/days have been banked and will be used for the July and/or August weed harvesting campaigns.

APM's second campaign is scheduled for the week of July 27th, 2026.