

FAQ - SAFETY

Offut Lake Community Steering Committee

1. Will the treatments hurt the animals on the lake such as the birds (eagles) ducks, geese, fish, beavers and otters and most important we human beings?

Absolutely not. The chemicals authorized for use by LMD's are very safe. That is why an LMD is so critical – if you don't have an LMD any chemical authorized by the State Department of Ecology can be used and some of those are harmful.

2. What is my pet accidentally drinks the water during the period of actual treatment?

Your pet will not get sick – however, if you have an algae bloom and your pet drinks the water he could get sick and/or die. If your pet gets into Yellow Flag Iris he could get very sick and possibly die. The LMD treatment program reduces these dangers by treating for these hazards when there are sufficient funds to do so.

3. What is the active life of the treatment or treatments being used or how long after treatment is applied can the lake be used again?

The lake is never unusable during the treatment plan because the chemicals the LMD's are allowed to use have no restrictions on swimming, fishing, etc. That's why we use only these approved chemicals.

4. I am concerned about possible chemical treatments on our lake. What can you tell me about that?

Only part of the lake is treated in any given year. Once the LMD is formed the Steering Committee (which you can join) along with the County Aquatic Resource Specialist (ARS) makes the decision on which chemicals, if any, to apply, when to apply them, and what aquatic, invasive or nuisance plants/weeds to treat.

The LMD is the best solution to prevent unwanted chemicals from being used in your lake. this is because Individual property owners without LMDs have the right to treat the lake in front of their property with any chemical that is authorized by the State of Washington by contracting through a Washington State Licensed Aquatic Pesticide Applicator. That applicator obtains a permit to perform the treatment through the Washington State Department of Ecology. Treatment of the Lake under an LMD in Thurston County restricts chemical treatment to only two chemicals which are very safe for fish, wildlife, and people. Lakes without LMD's have had many problems with private and community property owners putting chemicals in their lake that others that live around the lake do not want, but they can do nothing about it.

Have questions? Email us at: Info.Offut.Lake@gmail.com