



Lake Orion Update June, 2020

Lake Orion Residents,

I have received several calls over the past week regarding the condition of Lake Orion. The recent growth of lake weeds and algae is a result of a drastic water temperature change that occurred over the past couple of weeks. In most lakes, the water temperature has climbed nearly 20 degrees since the warmup at the end of May. There were ample nutrients in the water column due to spring rains and cool temperatures through May. Once the water warmed, algae and plant growth took off at an accelerated pace.

I considered moving the June treatment date up a week, from June 22nd to June 15th. However, the recent water temperature change has also stressed fish populations throughout the region. Many fish kills have been reported in Michigan within the last week. These fish kills are a result of fish rapid temperature changes on already stressed fish, many having started spawning. These fish kills are taking place on treated and untreated lakes alike. Although treatment may not directly affect the fish populations, adding an additional stress to them at this point does not seem a wise option as much of the shoreline areas where fish reside are in need of treatment on Lake Orion. I also have to consider the perception of PLM treating during this period when it is expected that at least some fish will succumb to the stressful conditions.

We are planning to treat on June 22nd as scheduled. Hopefully by then, most of the fish concerns will have subsided and we can carry on as normal. I appreciate your understanding as we get through the next week. I've included a link to a DNR page that discusses fish kills in Michigan and several associated causes.

https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79136_79236_80246-119822--_00.html#:~:text=High%20temperature%20and%20low%20dissolved,algae%20or%20rooted%20aquatic%20vegetation.

If you have further questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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