

Be a Responsible Angler...

...Be part of the solution, not part of the problem!



There are two common problems effecting Lake Greenwood today, **invasive aquatic species** and **nonpoint source pollution**.

Invasive aquatic species are plants not native to the area that are known to be aggressive and competitive. They crowd out natural species as well as impede irrigation and boating. They also degrade water quality, reduce property values, and increase habitats for mosquitoes. Lake Greenwood is currently experiencing issues with two invasive plants: hydrilla and eelgrass. Boating, especially by anglers who fish within many lakes in a single season, is the most common means of transporting invasive aquatic species between lakes – the weeds get chopped up by boat motors, stick to the undersides of boat hulls, propellers, and trailers, and then are released into the next lake.

Nonpoint-source pollution generally results from land runoff, rain, and drainage. Unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants, it comes from many sources. As rainfall runoff moves along the ground, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, depositing them into lakes, rivers, and ground waters.

Nonpoint source pollution is the leading cause of current water quality problems. These pollutants have harmful effects on drinking water supplies, recreation, fisheries, and wildlife. Because nonpoint source pollution comes from so many places, addressing it requires the help of everyone. As boaters on the lake, you could be contributing to nonpoint source pollution through your boats, waste disposal, and household chemicals.

What You Can Do to Protect Lake Greenwood and other lakes:

- Avoid producing a wake within 50 feet of shore.
- Be a considerate boater with respect to other people's property – including their docks and shore line.
- Stow trash safely from blowing off your boat and bring it ashore for recycling or disposal. If you see something fly out of your boat, try your best to recover it. Be extra careful with empty beverage containers, meal wrappings, and bait containers.
- Make every attempt to untangle and retrieve fishing hooks, lures, and lines from trees and docks.
- Do not throw fouled fishing line or monofilament fishing line waste on the ground or in the lake. Birds get tangled in the lines and lines break equipment.
- Do not place tires or Christmas trees in the lake.
- Watch for leaking motors and be careful when gassing up, it is common to find petroleum spills washed into our coves.
- Take pictures not only of fish, but also concerns on the lake such as weeds, floating logs, and dirt bypassing silt fences. Report these and other concerns to Lake Management at 864-943-2648.
- Make sure any fish released back into the lake are alive. Dumping dead fish into the lake near boat ramps increases buzzards and creates a smell that discourages ramp users.
- Have a check list of what needs to be done every time you launch your boat and when you remove the boat from the water. This can prevent boats from sliding off trailers onto the ramp and ensure props are up when you come out of the water to prevent damaging them and the ramp.
- Rinse and remove aquatic plants or invertebrate hitchhikers, such as snails, from your boat hull, propellers, and trailer.
- Scrub boats with a brush and water instead of routinely using soap or detergent. If cleansers are needed to remove stains, use phosphate-free detergents.



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Aquatic Invasive Species Impact Everyone Impair Recreational Use

Non-native aquatic invasive vegetation damages marina structures and boat launches. Dense mats of aquatic weeds create hazards for boaters, anglers, and swimmers. Sharp mussel shells can leave beach areas unsuitable for recreation.

Hydrilla Sample



Hydrilla stems are slender, branched and up to 25 feet long. Hydrilla's small leaves are strap-like and pointed. They grow in whorls of four to eight around the stem. Hydrilla produces tiny white flowers on long stalks with 1/4 inch turions at the leaf axils and potato-like tubers attached to the roots in the lakebed.

Eelgrass Sample



Eelgrass is a rooted submerged plant often found in flowing water. It has long, thin, ribbon-like leaves 1/2 – 3/4 inches wide, that are commonly 3 to 4 feet long and clustered. The vein pattern in the leaves of eelgrass is very distinctive and resembles celery.



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