

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

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DEM ANNOUNCES SECOND AQUATIC WEED TREATMENT SCHEDULED FOR CAROLINA TROUT POND ON AUGUST 28

PROVIDENCE, RI – The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) is advising the public that Carolina Trout Pond in Richmond will be receiving a second treatment to control infestations of invasive aquatic weeds, <u>following an earlier</u> <u>treatment on June 27</u>. The pond is owned and managed by DEM, <u>is stocked multiple times during</u> <u>trout season</u>, and is a popular waterbody for anglers and boaters. The aquatic weed control treatment is specifically targeted for the invasive nuisance plant water hyacinth and does not harm fish or other aquatic species.

Water and Wetland LLC has been contracted for the aquatic weed control. The treatment will be applied on August 28, 2023. Anglers and boaters are advised to avoid using the pond on this day. Signs will be posted with information about temporary water use



Water hyacinth

restrictions. During treatment, users should avoid impeding the applicator staff. Neighbors and other users of the pond should not allow domestic pets to drink from the water for at least three days.

Aquatic weed infestation is a nuisance to anglers, boaters, and swimmers and can affect proper management of freshwater ponds for wildlife. To help control the spread of invasive species, the use of external felt-soled or any natural or synthetic porous material capable of absorbing water in any freshwaters in Rhode Island is strictly <u>prohibited</u>. This includes any waters shared with adjacent states in which Rhode Island fishing regulations apply. The transport of any plant or plant part into or out of any Rhode Island waterbody on boats, vessels, other water conveyances, vehicles, trailers, fishing supplies, or any other equipment is also <u>prohibited</u>. It is recommended that all boaters thoroughly clean their vessels and equipment of attached weeds before and after using the freshwaters of the state. For more information on preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species, <u>click here</u>.

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