

The State's plan to treat Lake Cochituate with poisons threatens our health and environment.

- Natick's drinking water comes primarily from wells supplied through the Lake Cochituate area aquifer.
- State officials planned to put poisons in Lake Cochituate to control the invasive milfoil plant. The State plan was stopped when local citizens appealed and presented the health threats.
- The State pulled out of the process but will soon be asking Natick's Conservation Commission to approve a new plan, which will again rely on toxic chemicals to control the milfoil.
- The State admits that its approach is only short term and will need herbicides reapplied on a regular basis.
- These chemical herbicides are registered poisons. It is against the law to claim they are "safe" or "EPA-approved," even when "used as directed." ^{1, 2}

Concerned citizens are determined to replace the misguided toxic plans with a comprehensive plan which ensures the health and safety of our tap water and Lake.

- There are safer alternatives such as harvesting, pulling, matting, suctioning, draw downs, biological controls, and more, which do not pose the risks of treating the lake water with poisons.
- "In many situations, there may be non-chemical methods to control pests. EPA recommends considering and using these methods as part of an overall pest management strategy, often called Integrated Pest Management." ³
- In one study, it was shown that the use of chemicals was found to be more than two times as expensive as natural weed control over a five year period. ⁴

Please find out more about this issue.

For more information: *Protect Our Water Resources*
On the web at LakeCPOWR.tripod.com
(508) 653-8228

¹ U.S. EPA Website <http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/labeling/lrm/chap-12.htm>

² 333 CMR 13.03 Massachusetts Pesticide Regulations

³ U.S. EPA Website <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/health/reducing.htm>

⁴ U.S. EPA Lake and Reservoir Restoration Guidance Manual (EPA-440-90-006)