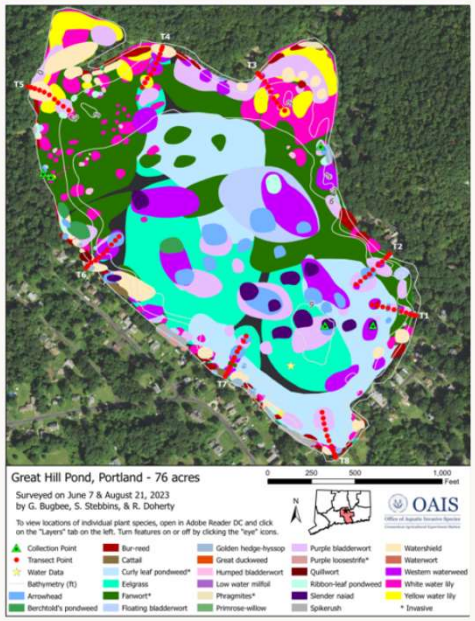
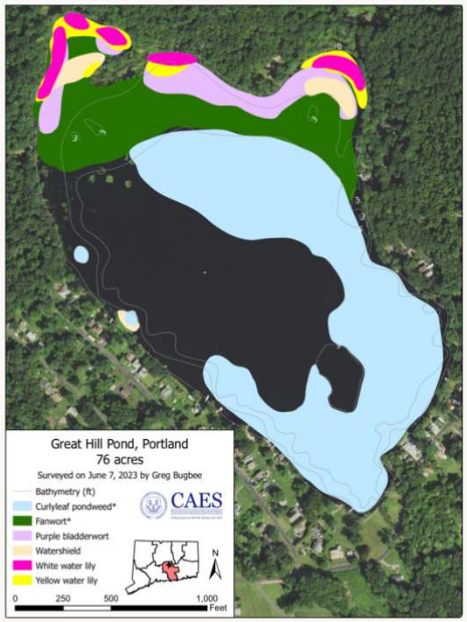
FRIENDS OF GREAT HILL POND · COMMUNITY MEETING BEGINS AT 7:00 PM

Where are the weeds?



All plant species, 2023
CAES survey, June 7 and Aug 21



Invasive weeds, June 2023
Curlyleaf (light blue), Fanwort (green)



Fanwort treatment area, 6/25/2024
32.85 acres, Pond and Lake Connection

> Please sign in and leave an email address if you have not already done so.

FRIENDS OF GREAT HILL POND

2026 Community Meeting

The 2026 algae bloom, 2027 invasive weed treatments, and 2027 water quality testing

Thursday, October 29, 2026 · Portland Library · Gathering 6:30 PM · Meeting 7:00 PM

OCTOBER 29 · PORTLAND LIBRARY

Agenda

Time	Item
7:00	Ground rules
7:05	Introductions
7:10	The algae bloom, with Russell Melmed, Chatham Health District
7:20	2027 weed treatments
7:30	2027 water testing
7:40	Staying informed
7:45	Questions and comments
8:00	Hard stop

Ground rules

- Sign in with your email
- Questions when a speaker invites them
- About 2 minutes each
- Identify yourself when speaking

7:10 · GUEST SPEAKER

Russell S. Melmed, MPH

Director of Health
Chatham Health District

Discussion topics

- Algae blooms and cyanobacteria
- Blooms in our region
- Health risks
- Testing and advisory protocols

Great Hill Pond Photos (source: Chatham)





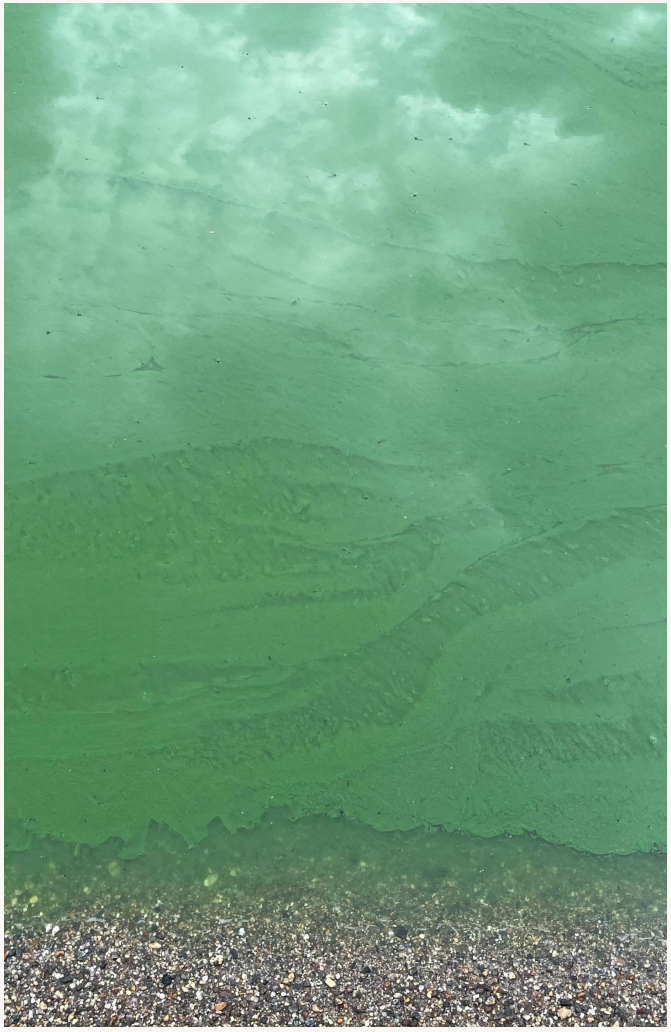


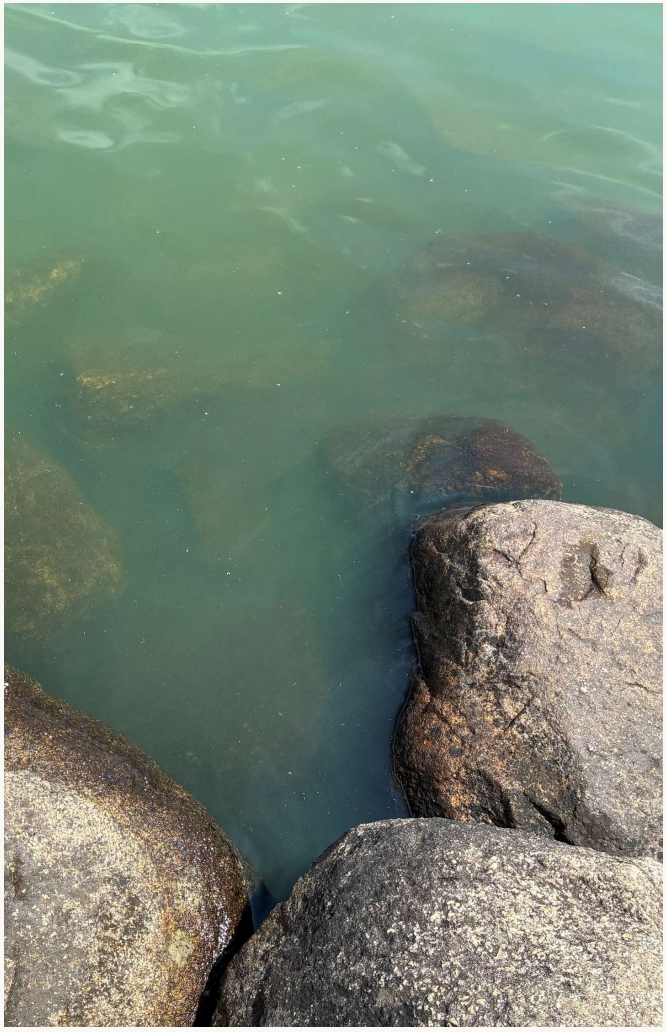
Lake Pocotopaug Photos (source: Chatham)



Lake Pocotopaug Photos (source: Chatham)







Category	***Description***
One	Visible material is not likely cyanobacteria or water is generally clear.
Two	Cyanobacteria present in low numbers. There are visible small accumulations but water is generally clear.
Three	Cyanobacteria present in high numbers. Scums may or may not be present. Water is discolored throughout. Large areas affected. Color assists to rule out sediment and other algae.

Observations	***Notifications***	***Further monitoring***	***Public Posting***
Visual Rank Category 1	Not needed	No change	Not needed
Visual Rank Category 2, or blue-green algae cells >20k/ml and < 100k	Notify CT DPH, CT DEEP	Increase regular visual surveillance until conditions change.	Consider cautionary postings at public access points. (See Appendix C, Example B)
Visual Rank Category 3, or blue-green algae cells > 100k/ml	Update/inform CT DPH & CT DEEP and expand risk communication efforts. (See Risk Communication section.)	Collect samples for analysis and/or increase frequency of visual assessment.	POSTED BEACH CLOSURE: If public has beach access, alert water users that a blue-green algae bloom is present. (See Appendix C, Example A) POSTED ADVISORY: At other impacted access points. (See Appendix C, Example B)

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies
Section 19a-36-B61 Public Swimming Areas

(1) “Public swimming area” means a designated location, together with any buildings, toilet facilities, the water and the land area used in connection therewith, at any natural or artificial pond, lake, stream, tidal water or other body of fresh or salt water that is advertised as a place for swimming and is accessible to the public. Public swimming area does not include: (A) swimming areas in connection with or appurtenant to single family dwellings and used solely by persons residing in such dwellings and such person’s guests, including but not limited to those swimming areas accessible only as part of a lake association, beach association or condominium; (B) any state owned or operated swimming areas; and, (C) public swimming pools that are regulated under Section 19-13-B33b of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

NOTICE

An increased risk of an algae bloom has made this area potentially unsafe for water contact

Be alert and avoid skin contact with water that:
- **Looks like spilled paint**
- **Has surface scums, mats or films**
- **Is discolored or has colored streaks**
- **Has green globs floating below the surface**

Keep children and pets away from algae blooms and rinse off any exposed skin or fur with clean water.

For more information contact:

_____

_____

_____

Posting produced in collaboration with
CT DEEP and CT DPH

ATTENTION
SWIMMING AREA CLOSED



As of _____ the local health officer has determined that swimming in the area presents a public health risk from an algae bloom.

For more information contact:

_____

_____

_____

Keeping Connecticut Healthy
DPH
Connecticut Department of Public Health

Date:	Time:
Observed By:	
Air Temperature (°F):	Precipitation: □None □Raining
Cloud Cover: □0-5% □6-24% □25-49% □50-69% □70-89% □90-100%	Light Conditions: □Bright □Cloudy-bright □Overcast

Location	**Water Color**	**Wind Conditions**	**Algae Observations** (check if applies)	**Water Clarity (Secchi depth):**
Happiest Paddler Dock	□ Dark Green □ Brown □Bright-green □Blackish-tint □Orange-tint	□Calm □Light □Light to Breezy □Breezy □Windy □Very Windy □Strong	□No bloom □ Boat-sized patch □Regional (bay/cove) □ Lake-wide □Streaks □ Dots/clumps □Spilled paint □ Full scum Notes:	Secchi Reading #1: _____ m Viewer Initials #1 ____ On Bottom? □Yes □No View Scope Used? □Yes □No Shady side? □Yes □No
Public Swim Area	□ Dark Green □ Brown □Bright-green □Blackish-tint □Orange-tint	□Calm □Light □Light to Breezy □Breezy □Windy □Very Windy □Strong	□No bloom □ Boat-sized patch □Regional (bay/cove) □ Lake-wide □Streaks □ Dots/clumps □Spilled paint □ Full scum Notes:	Secchi Reading #1: _____ m Viewer Initials #1 ____ On Bottom? □Yes □No View Scope Used? □Yes □No Shady side? □Yes □No
Public Boat Launch	□ Dark Green □ Brown □Bright-green □Blackish-tint □Orange-tint	□Calm □Light □Light to Breezy □Breezy □Windy □Very Windy □Strong	□No bloom □ Boat-sized patch □Regional (bay/cove) □ Lake-wide □Streaks □ Dots/clumps □Spilled paint □ Full scum Notes:	Secchi Reading #1: _____ m Viewer Initials #1 ____ On Bottom? □Yes □No View Scope Used? □Yes □No Shady side? □Yes □No

7:20 · 2027 INVASIVE WEED TREATMENTS

2027 treatment plan

LONG-TERM STRATEGY

Eradicate Curlyleaf Pondweed. Manage and contain Fanwort.

LATE MAR – EARLY APR

CAES survey

Locates Curlyleaf that grew over winter

LATE APR – EARLY MAY

Curlyleaf

Diquat, targeted by the survey

JUST AFTER LABOR DAY

Fanwort

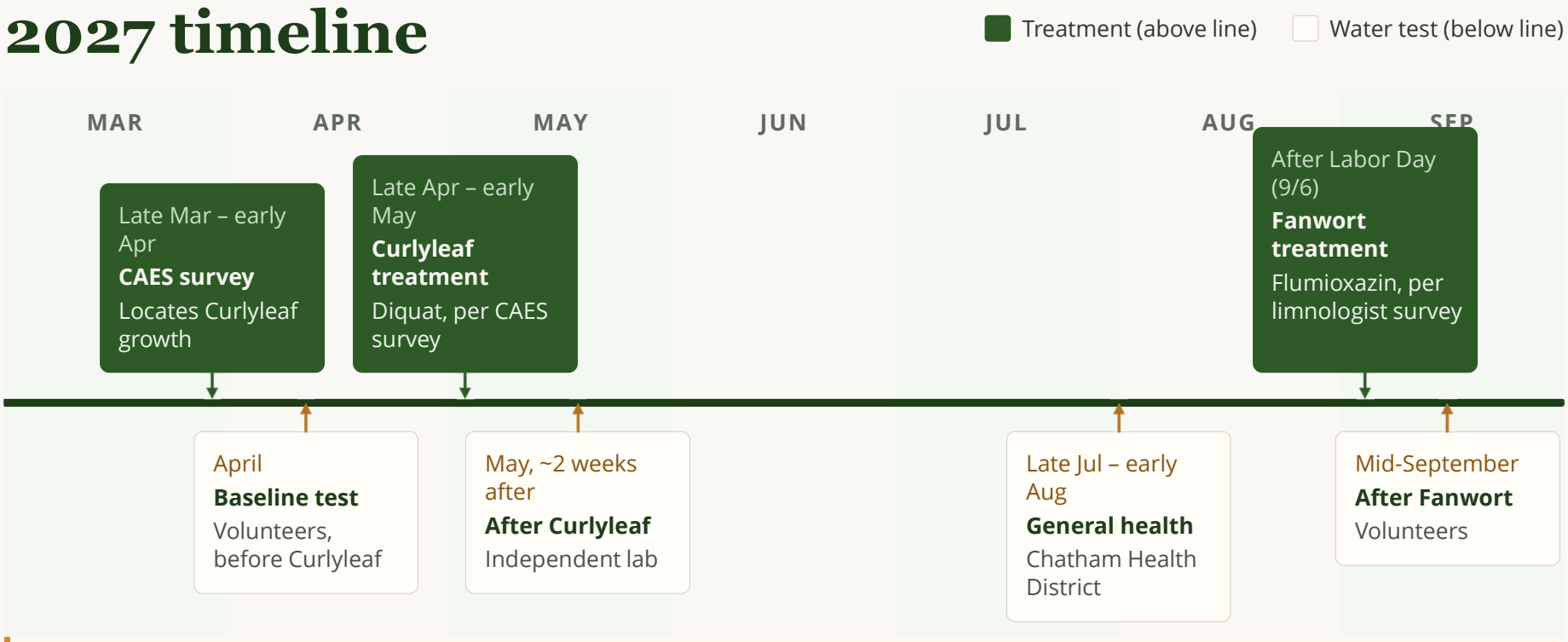
Flumioxazin; two coves left untreated

No algaecide treatment is planned in the event of a bloom.

Source: 2027 GHP Invasive Weed Treatment and Water Quality Testing Plans, FoGHP Working Group

7:20 – 7:30 · 2027 WEED TREATMENTS AND WATER TESTING

2027 timeline



Each test: clarity, temperature, phosphorus, nitrogen, pH, E. coli, coliform

Not tested: cyanobacteria. If a bloom occurs, the Chatham Health District advisory protocol applies.

Timing as stated in the 2027 plan; ranges are approximate. No algaecide treatment is planned.

7:40 · HOW TO STAY INFORMED

How to stay informed

Email list
Sign up on tonight's sheet or via contact form on website

Facebook
Friends of Great Hill Pond

greathillpond.org
Treatment log, test results, reports

Working Group
New members welcome

Contact: greathillpond.org/contact.html

7:45 · OPEN FLOOR

Questions and comments

Please identify yourself · About 2 minutes each · Hard stop at 8:00

Thank you for coming · greathillpond.org