



Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor  
Mark J. Belton, Secretary  
Mark L. Hoffman, Acting Deputy Secretary

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Following up on the success of the *Hydrilla* Control Management Plan in 2014, DNR will continue to treat the *Hydrilla* infestations in the southern portion of Deep Creek Lake. **The herbicide treatment will begin on Wednesday, June 10, 2015.** If weather prevents treatment on this date, June 11 is the rain date. Treatments will be conducted every three to four weeks over the course of the summer by Aquatic Environment Consultants, Inc.

**Boat traffic will only be affected on the five treatment days, and those dates will be advertised on the DNR website at <http://dnr2.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/western/deepcreeknrma.aspx>.** Currently, the dates are scheduled for June 10, July 1, July 29, Aug 26 and Sept 23, but may shift due to weather. Any changes in the treatment schedule will be posted on the DNR website. No boat traffic will be permitted in the treatment area during application; once treatment is complete, regular boat traffic may resume.

If you are a resident of Hickory Ridge Cove, boating restrictions will be more difficult. Due to the large infestation of *Hydrilla* in Hickory Ridge Cove (five acres), the treatment area will cover the entire cove. If you wish to operate your boats on the day of treatment, they will need to be out of the cove by 8 a.m., or you will need to wait until the application is finished to operate. Please refrain from coming out on your docks, swimming or operating canoes and kayaks while the treatment is underway, as the applicator needs to maintain a safe distance and this could slow down the treatment process.

DNR has obtained permits to use contact herbicides, which may be needed for follow-up treatments. Between treatments, DNR biologists will be monitoring water quality, particularly dissolved oxygen, while also surveying the submerged plant communities in the treatment areas. No change in boat traffic will be necessary. However, most of these monitoring events will involve biologists snorkeling and scuba diving to conduct the surveys. According to state law, you must maintain 100 feet of distance between you and any vessel flying a dive flag or Alpha flag (see figures below). Please respect this regulation to protect the safety of the biologists conducting the survey.

**Do not use lake water to water garden, lawn or plants.** Fluridone is an herbicide--it kills plants. It does this by being absorbed by the plant's leaves. Watering your garden with lake water between the initial treatment date through the end of the treatment invites this risk. The water is safe for pets and for swimming.

If you suspect your cove has *Hydrilla*, please refer to the photos in this letter to determine if what you are seeing is *Hydrilla*, and then contact Mark Lewandowski at [mark.lewandowski@maryland.gov](mailto:mark.lewandowski@maryland.gov) to give locations and a GPS coordinate. Please remember that *Hydrilla* reproduces via fragmentation, so if you suspect you have seen *Hydrilla*, refrain from boating in or around it, as your propeller can cut plants into smaller pieces, which can then reproduce.

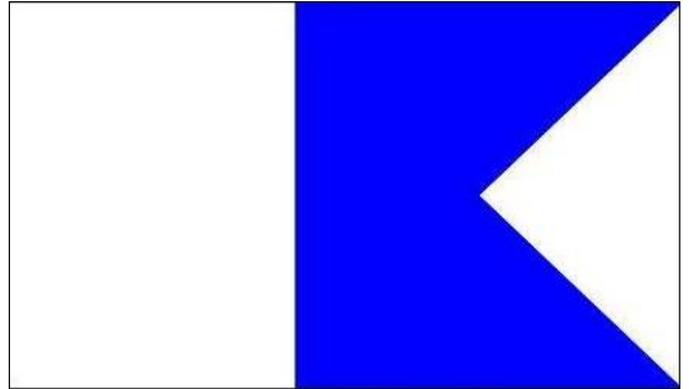
DNR is working hard to ensure the overall health of Deep Creek Lake, the safety of our citizens, as well as the economic benefit the lake provides to the community. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your adherence to the above requirements. Thank you and we'll see you on the Lake.

**Dive Flag warning**

**Vessels flying one or both of the flags below are tending to divers underwater. Coast Guard regulations state that vessels must maintain a 100' berth around a vessel flying either flag (300' for marine boats). Boaters are advised to avoid these vessels so the biologists working on the surveys can conduct their investigations and your vessel does not affect safety or visibility.**



**Diver Down Flag**



**Alpha Flag**