

## Plant Removal / Harvesting Schedule and Locations

If you watch the harvester in operation, you note that the plants are cut beneath the water surface, below the conveyor that is rotating and bringing the plants out of the water and up onto the harvester. The Lake District permit for aquatic plant management only allows us to cut plant material from the pier head to open water. In many locations beyond the pier head we have anchored swim rafts, inflatable toys, empty buoys for sailboat rigging, etc. The harvester is a large steel tank powered by side paddlewheels with a high superstructure, making it difficult to maneuver around the above noted anchored objects, especially on windy days. To maneuver around these objects, the harvester operators go back and forth at a safe distance to remove the plant material as best they can. This back and forth movement cuts the plants, however, many times some of the fragments cannot be retrieved due to the reversal motion of the equipment. To optimize the plant removal, anchored objects beyond the pier head could be temporarily relocated within the area between the pier head and shore during the harvesting operation. This hopefully would optimize the plant cutting and removal outside of your pier head. We are aware that in some cases you may not have room to relocate these objects or it may be too difficult to move them. In those cases we will do our best to continue to cut around the objects at a safe distance as we do not want to cause any damage. The following is our estimated schedule for harvesting. Inclement weather, equipment issues and high quantities of plant materials will cause adjustments to the schedule.

***\*For safety reasons, because the harvester is difficult to maneuver, we are no longer able to retrieve weeds from piers.***

*2018: The Aquatic Plant Management Team has completed their work for this year, as our permit limits the times we can be on the lake. Check back next year for a harvesting schedule to learn when they will be in your area!*