



ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST:  
JAMES LACASSE  
JAMES@WATERANDWETLAND.COM  
C: (774) 276-6098

CALL/TEXT WITH ANY QUESTIONS!



## FIELD NOTES SUMMARY

**Customer:** Town of Walpole (Clarks Pond)

**Site Location:** Walpole, MA

**Date:** 6/30/22, 9:40 AM

**Observations / Notes:** On June 30th, Senior Environmental Scientist, James Lacasse, and Field Assistant, Grace Adams, completed a site visit to Clark's Pond. The visit consisted of performing a survey, collecting basic water quality data, and conducting a treatment. Conditions during the visit were warm and sunny.

Upon arrival, a survey was conducted using visual observation. As a result of the last treatment, the milfoil observed within the water column has been stripped, with no healthy milfoil found. The remaining stocks of milfoil within the water column have epiphytic algae attached to them, which serves as an indication that the plant is dying. In addition to the milfoil being impacted, the water lilies as well as the curly leaf pondweed (invasive) were impacted from the previous treatment (Photos 2&3). Along the shoreline, there were scattered patches of filamentous algae on the surface, and towards the eastern cove, dense mats were observed, with mixed in curly leaf (Photo 4). The curly leaf, and milfoil will soon drop from the water column. In the southern cove, there were scattered patches of water chestnut, which were observed at a hand pull-able level. Around the pond, there was also sparse densities of duckweed, as well as floating islands. The floating islands are a result of the die off of waterlilies over the years. As the lily rhizomes die, they can dislodge from under the surface of the water and float up, taking organic matter with them (Photo 1). On the northern shoreline, there was scattered densities of phragmites, an invasive species.

While on-site, basic water quality was collected using calibrated meters. The pH was 7.0, which is within a standard range for freshwaters and is considered neutral. The water temperature was consistent with other similar waterbodies we manage in the area, and the dissolved oxygen was sufficient to support fish and wildlife. Water clarity was also assessed using a Secchi disk. A Secchi disk is a disk with alternating black and white quadrants. It is lowered into the water of a lake until it can no longer be seen by the observer. This depth of disappearance, called the Secchi depth, is a measure of the transparency of the water. The Secchi reading was to the bottom of the pond, indicative of great water clarity.

As planned, and based on the survey, a treatment was conducted for the control of filamentous algae.

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The liquid algaecide was applied using a treatment boat equipped with a calibrated sub-surface injection system, paired with the foliar method, which is best for dense filamentous algae mats. This application methodology allows for even coverage within the treatment areas. Prior to treatment, neon signs indicating any water affiliated restrictions (no restrictions affiliated with this treatment) were posted, and the Walpole Conservation Commission was notified.

We will notify you prior to the next scheduled visit, as this visit was an extra (no cost) visit in response to Conservation Commission concern over the algae and possible health concerns. While we can't be certain as to whether the algae in Clarks Pond was a potentially toxic producing species, it appeared to be largely filamentous algae and did not show signs of cyanobacteria, so we are not overly concerned over health risks.

Please let us know if you have any questions at all.

Pond	Surface Temp (°C)	Surface DO (mg/L)
Clarks Pond	22	8.42

#### Photos



