

Vancouver Lake Update

Clark County Public Health Monitoring Data for 2006

Ron Wierenga

Clark County Public Works
Water Resources Program

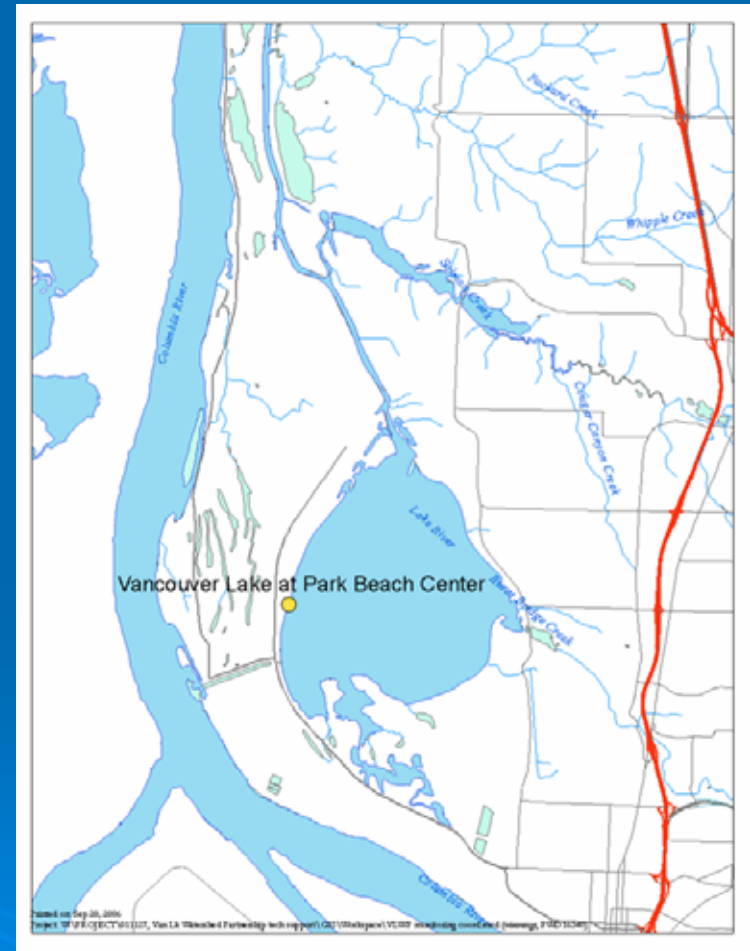


Background for Health Department Beach Monitoring Program

- HD plan uses guidance of the World Health Organization (WHO) for managing bathing waters which may produce bluegreen algal cells and/or toxins.
- No state level regulations specifically written for swimming beach safety.
- Clark County Health Department responsible for protecting public health and therefore monitors swimming areas to ensure the safety of the public.
- Specific objectives of the program include:
 - Collect samples and have a laboratory determine the type and levels of bluegreen algae in water samples taken from the swimming beach.
 - Determine water temperature, turbidity, conductivity and dissolved oxygen of a sample taken from the beach.
 - Compare the results with the WHO guidelines for swimming areas.
 - Notify all interested parties of the results.

Public Health Monitoring Location for Vancouver Lake

- Vancouver Lake Park
- Occasionally at North and South end of Lake River.

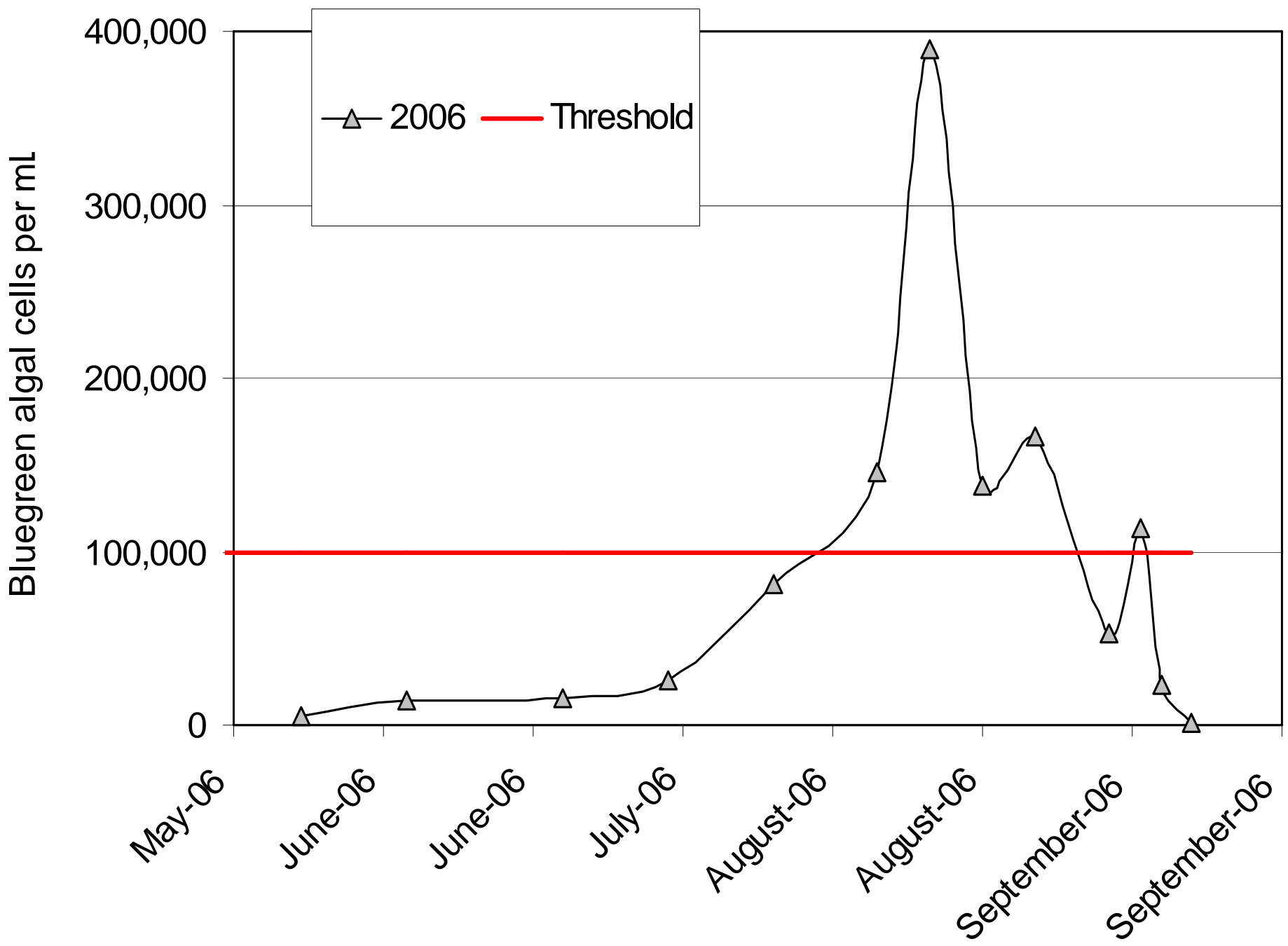


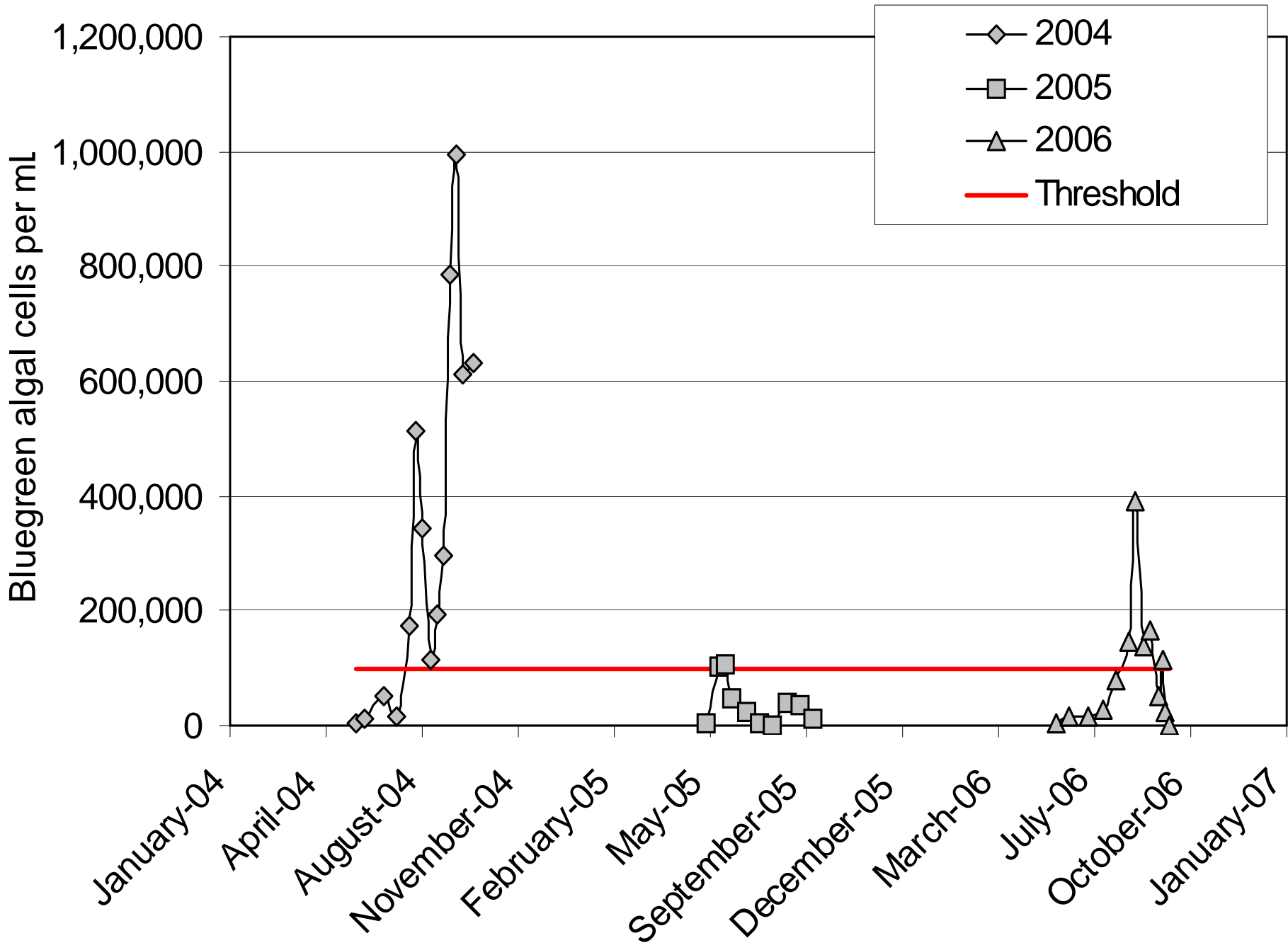
Managing for Public Health

- Bluegreen algae can also be a health hazard when certain species that produce toxins (such as anabaena, aphanizomenon, and microcystis) reach extreme proportions in the water. When these species reach levels above 100,000 cells, then the lake water is no longer considered safe to swim in.

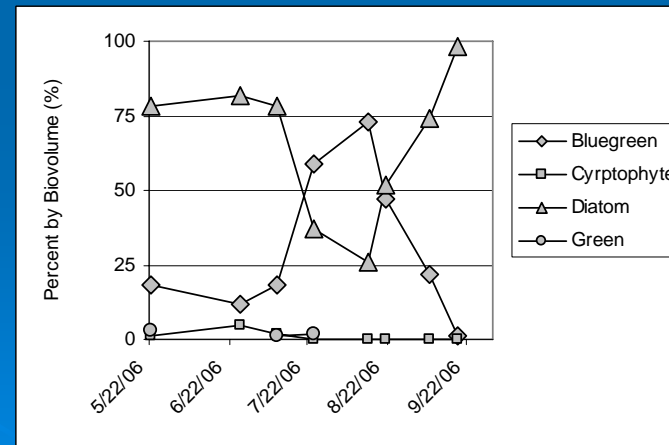
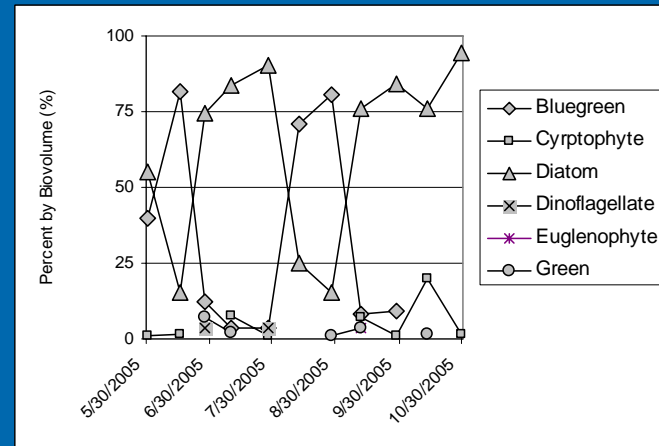
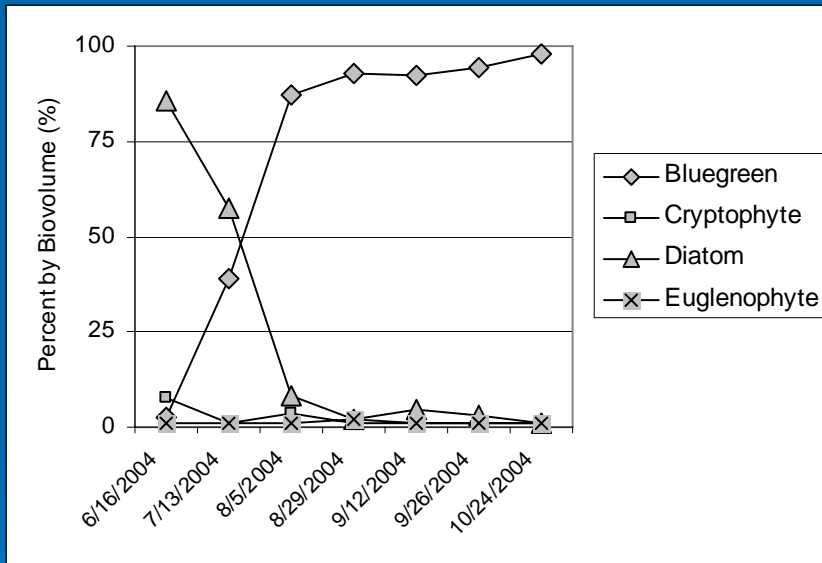
Monitoring Activity Summary

- Three years of data, “Memorial Day to Labor Day”:
 - 14 samples from 5/24/04 to 9/23/04
 - 10 samples from 5/23/05 to 9/12/05
 - 13 samples from 5/22/06 to 9/18/06



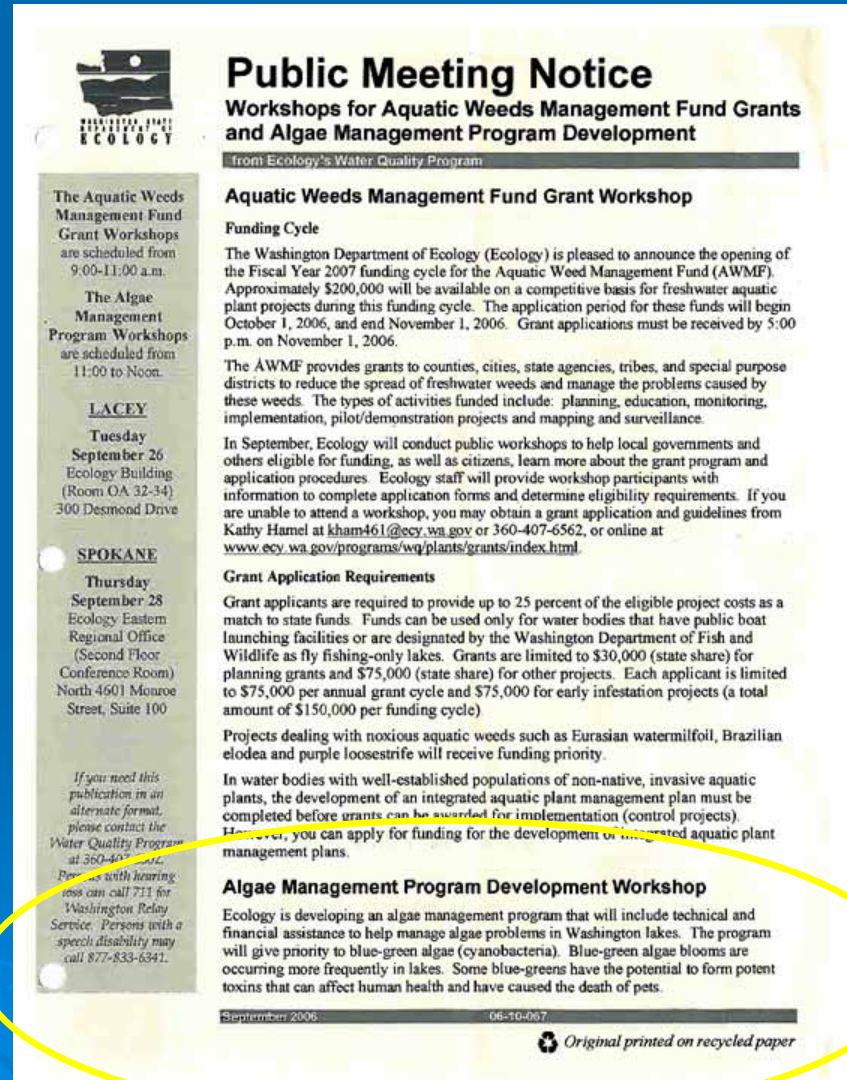


Algal Community



What's Next for Public Health in 2007?

- Review new guidance for Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) in the Pacific NW.
- Coordinate with the new WA Department of Ecology program.



Public Meeting Notice
Workshops for Aquatic Weeds Management Fund Grants and Algae Management Program Development
from Ecology's Water Quality Program

Aquatic Weeds Management Fund Grant Workshop

Funding Cycle
The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is pleased to announce the opening of the Fiscal Year 2007 funding cycle for the Aquatic Weed Management Fund (AWMF). Approximately \$200,000 will be available on a competitive basis for freshwater aquatic plant projects during this funding cycle. The application period for these funds will begin October 1, 2006, and end November 1, 2006. Grant applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on November 1, 2006.

The AWMF provides grants to counties, cities, state agencies, tribes, and special purpose districts to reduce the spread of freshwater weeds and manage the problems caused by these weeds. The types of activities funded include: planning, education, monitoring, implementation, pilot/demonstration projects and mapping and surveillance.

In September, Ecology will conduct public workshops to help local governments and others eligible for funding, as well as citizens, learn more about the grant program and application procedures. Ecology staff will provide workshop participants with information to complete application forms and determine eligibility requirements. If you are unable to attend a workshop, you may obtain a grant application and guidelines from Kathy Hamel at kham461@ecy.wa.gov or 360-407-6562, or online at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/grants/index.html.

Grant Application Requirements
Grant applicants are required to provide up to 25 percent of the eligible project costs as a match to state funds. Funds can be used only for water bodies that have public boat launching facilities or are designated by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as fly fishing-only lakes. Grants are limited to \$30,000 (state share) for planning grants and \$75,000 (state share) for other projects. Each applicant is limited to \$75,000 per annual grant cycle and \$75,000 for early infestation projects (a total amount of \$150,000 per funding cycle).

Projects dealing with noxious aquatic weeds such as Eurasian watermilfoil, Brazilian elodea and purple loosestrife will receive funding priority.

In water bodies with well-established populations of non-native, invasive aquatic plants, the development of an integrated aquatic plant management plan must be completed before grants can be awarded for implementation (control projects). However, you can apply for funding for the development of integrated aquatic plant management plans.

Algae Management Program Development Workshop
Ecology is developing an algae management program that will include technical and financial assistance to help manage algae problems in Washington lakes. The program will give priority to blue-green algae (cyanobacteria). Blue-green algae blooms are occurring more frequently in lakes. Some blue-greens have the potential to form potent toxins that can affect human health and have caused the death of pets.

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THE AQUATIC WEEDS MANAGEMENT FUND GRANT WORKSHOPS ARE SCHEDULED FROM 9:00-11:00 A.M.
THE ALGAE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM WORKSHOPS ARE SCHEDULED FROM 11:00 TO NOON.

LACEY
Tuesday
September 26
Ecology Building
(Room OA 32-34)
300 Desmond Drive

SPOKANE
Thursday
September 28
Ecology Eastern Regional Office
(Second Floor Conference Room)
North 4601 Monroe Street, Suite 100

If you need this publication in an alternate format, please contact the Water Quality Program at 360-407-6562. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability may call 877-833-6341.