



The Lake Doctors, Inc.
Aquatic Management Services

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Woodlands at Fairhope
Fairhope, AL

Thank you for your inquiry into services provided by The Lake Doctor. The pond(s) onsite serve as storm water holding pond(s). The growth of aquatic vegetation and algae is dependent on sunlight and nutrients. The nutrient loads can come from four main sources: run off from surrounding areas and with more development comes more nutrient run off; recharge wells, well water is a low oxygen high nutrient water; organic buildup of decaying vegetation on the bottom; and reclaimed water that comes directly from reclamation facilities usually under some type of agreement with the owners. Reclaimed water is so high in nutrients that the control of algae and other vegetation is difficult.

The control of vegetation and algae in storm water ponds may take several dynamics working in collaboration with each other: periodic applications of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved aquatic herbicides by state licensed applicators, the application of natural aerobic biologicals that help reduce nutrient loads on the pond and can include colorant to reduce sunlight, the installation of aeration systems that oxygenate and circulate the water column, and in some cases stocking of triploid grass carp that eat certain types of aquatic vegetation, but are not considered algae eaters.

The pond(s) did not have any major problems identified on site visit. Though there was some water pennywort on the edges this was not anything to alarm about, and provides cover for fish and filtration to run off; just monitor the pennywort if it exceeds 5-10 feet out it would need to be sprayed back. The other identified vegetation was a slender spike rush-bladderwort mix, very typical in ponds but again there was not enough to warrant any action at this time. The pond looked well, keep the fountain operational, though diffused air systems are preferred for ponds, fountains can provide some circulation. Please do not hesitate to contact me in the future, but for now the pond just needs to be monitored, and if any of the aforementioned vegetation become too overgrown, we can provide a remediation application cost for you. Also, you can obtain grass carp which will feed on the slender spike rush and bladderwort, the hatchery number is 334-281-7703.

Sincerely,

Matthew T. Scott, B.S.
Regional Biologist

MTS/2022



Figure 1 Overview looking east from the dock



Figure 2 Overview looking north from the dock



Figure 3 overview looking south from the dock



Figure 4 Water pennywort on the edges



Figure 5 Slender spike rush-bladderwort mix