

Category 5 – Manual Insert

Aquatic Nuisance Control Permits

Under 10 V.S.A. Chapter 47 § 1263a., a permit is required for activities used to control nuisance aquatic plants, insects or other aquatic life including lamprey in waters of the State of Vermont. This permit program is managed by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC), Water Quality Division.

The following activities and control methods require an aquatic nuisance control permit:

- use of **pesticides** (any substance produced, distributed or used for preventing, destroying, or repelling nuisance aquatic vegetation, insects or other aquatic life including lamprey. Pesticide includes unicellular organisms or extracts from unicellular organisms and does not include biological controls.)
- use of the aquatic pesticide **Aquashade**
- use of **copper based products** to control algae
- use of **chemicals** other than pesticides (e.g., alum)
- use of **bottom barriers** (fiberglass screening, felt-like mats, black nylon films, etc., laid on the lake bottom to inhibit nuisance plant growth)
- use of **powered mechanical devices** (harvesters, hydrorakes, motorboat-pulled cutter bars or battery-operated cutter devices, etc.)
- use of **structural controls** (fish barriers, etc.)
- use of **biological controls** (multi-cellular organisms)

All of the activities listed above require a permit except:

- The use of copper based products to control algae in waters with a surface area of one acre or less, located entirely on one individual's property, and with an outlet where the flow can be controlled for at least three days following application of the algaecide.
- Activities to control mosquitoes that meet certain requirements. Contact the VTDEC at (802) 241-3777 for specifics.
- The use of "pond clarifiers" or products sold under various trade names containing bacteria that according to the labels "reduce sludge, odors and excess nutrients." However, since the use of these products involves putting something into waters of the state, a discharge permit is needed for their use. Contact the VTDEC Wastewater Management Division at (802) 241-3822 for information.
- Pulling nuisance aquatic plants by hand.

Note: The use of pesticides, bottom barrier materials or powered mechanical devices may require a Conditional Use Determination from the State Wetlands Office. Contact the VT Wetlands Office at (802) 241-3770 to ascertain if a Conditional Use Determination is required.

For more information visit http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/permits/htm/pm_anc.htm