



# Public Meeting Notice

## Workshops for Aquatic Weeds Management Fund Grants and Algae Management Program Development

from Ecology's Water Quality Program

### 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 360-407-6502.*

*Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability may call 877-833-6341.*

## 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](mailto:kham461@ecy.wa.gov) or 360-407-6562, or online at [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/grants/index.html](http://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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Ecology will conduct workshops about its new algae development program in September in conjunction with its AWMF grant workshops.

### **Algal Identification Service**

Ecology is proposing a mail-in algal identification service as part of the algae management program. People will be able to collect an algae sample and send it to us for identification. If the bloom contains toxin-producing species, Ecology will test the sample for toxicity and all information about the sample will be posted to an on-line database.

### **Small Grants Program**

Ecology is also proposing to offer small grants to local governments (we cannot offer grants directly to lake groups under this program). Grant activities could include:

- Education about how to reduce nutrients to lakes.
- Development of educational materials about algae.
- Small pilot projects.

### **Ecology is Seeking Your Help**

We would like your feedback about what kind of algae program would work for you. Come to the Algae Management Workshop and tell us what you think.

For further information about these public workshops, contact:

Kathy Hamel at 360-407-6562 or [kham461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:kham461@ecy.wa.gov)  
Joan Clark at 360-407- 6570 or [jcla461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jcla461@ecy.wa.gov)  
Department of Ecology  
PO Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

*Note: Parking is limited at the Lacey Ecology building. We encourage car pooling or alternative forms of transportation.*

