

Lake Murray Invasive/Nuisance Vegetation Treatment ***Temporary Irrigation and Drinking Water Restrictions for Lake Water***

To help control invasive plant species, the S.C. Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) will conduct herbicide treatments in impacted areas of the cove between **Rocky Point Drive and Crockett Road** (see map on reverse side of document) from **July 27 to July 29**.

Why is herbicide treatment necessary?

Herbicide treatments are commonly used along with non-chemical methods — such as biological controls (like sterile grass carp) and lake drawdowns to manage problematic vegetation and improve navigation in lakes. The mechanical removal of invasive vegetation is rarely used because it's expensive and often causes additional problems, such as spreading the vegetation via fragmentation and removing invertebrates and small fish that support the local food chain.

Typically, the most effective method for the management of specific high-weed areas of a lake is the use of aquatic herbicides that are regulated by the U.S. EPA. These herbicides are applied in a targeted manner, following the label guidelines, and in the smallest amounts needed.

What should I know about these herbicides?

Licensed applicators will apply the following EPA- and state-approved herbicides to the impacted areas:

- **Garlon 3A, Pond-Klear, and methylated seed oil** (an adjuvant) targeting water primrose, applied to the above-water growth
- **Komeen and Diquat SPC 2L**, targeting dense areas of coontail/naiad, applied in-water
- **Galleon SC and Aquathol K**, targeting pondweed, applied in-water

Do not irrigate yards, gardens or ornamental plants using water from the treated area from July 27 until we notify you that the herbicide concentration in the water has decreased to acceptable levels. This will take a ***minimum*** of 4 days.

- Diquat SPC 2L has a 3-day irrigation restriction post-treatment to protect lawns and gardens.
- Galleon SC has an irrigation restriction post-treatment for food crops until the concentration in treated water falls below 1 part per billion.
- Aquathol K, Komeen, Garlon 3A, and Pond-Klear do not have any restrictions for irrigation at the rates we are using.

Turn off any intakes used for drinking water from July 27 until we notify you that the herbicide concentration in the water has decreased to acceptable levels. This will take a ***minimum*** of 4 days.

- Diquat SPC 2L has a 3-day restriction for drinking water use.
- Aquathol K has a drinking water setback distance of 600 feet. We have communicated with Columbia Water and confirmed that the Lake Murray Water Treatment Plant supply intake is outside of this setback distance.

- Withdrawal of lake water for drinking does not fall under the permitting systems of SCDES and is not advised. Dominion Energy permitting allows water withdrawal for irrigation use only.
- Galleon SC, Garlon 3A, Pond-Klear, and Komeen do not have any restrictions for drinking water use at the rates we are using.

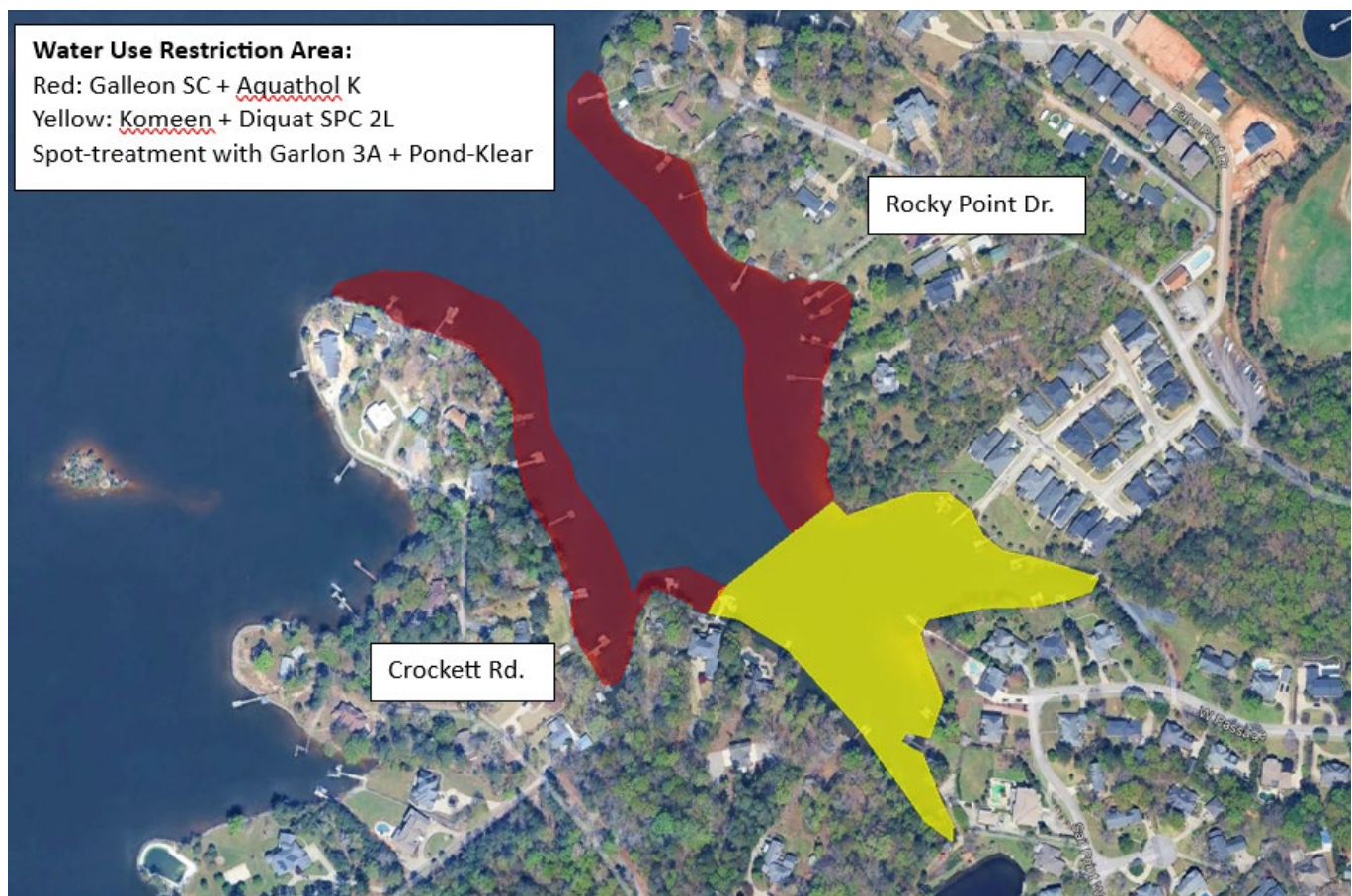
There are no swimming, fishing, or recreational water use restrictions for these products at the rates they will be applied. It is advised **to not enter the area while treatment is in progress**. The water is safe to enter once application is completed but avoid ingesting lake water.

The herbicides we use have been registered by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and by the Clemson University Department of Pesticide Regulation for safe use in the aquatic environment. The approval process for these herbicides requires stringent testing over many years and strict regulation for proper use.

Anyone with questions should contact SCDES's Aquatic Nuisance Plants Program

Email: invasiveweeds@des.sc.gov | Phone: 803-898-0033 | Submit an online sighting report at des.sc.gov/anp

Post-treatment water testing results will be posted online at des.sc.gov/InvasiveSpeciesManagement



Scan the QR code to
receive email updates
about these water use
restrictions.

