



NEWS

GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY
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GBRA to Treat Water Hyacinth at Lake Wood

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SEGUIN- Beginning the week of June 25, the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) will apply the aquatic herbicide Aquamaster to 10 acres of water hyacinth in Lake Wood, including the GBRA Lake Wood Park near Gonzales.

“Aquamaster, whose active ingredient is glyphosate, is approved for aquatic use by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency,” said GBRA director of water quality services Debbie Magin. “It will be used on ten acres of water hyacinth infesting areas of Lake Wood. In addition to the area in and near the park, other areas scheduled to be treated include Kiefer Slough and north of Ski Island. Gonzales County Water Supply Corporation will suspend pumping from the lake for up to 48 hours and use its alternative water sources”.

Weather allowing, the treatment of the water hyacinths should be conducted in one day. If a second day of treatment is necessary, it would occur after the 4th of July holiday. Site-specific use restrictions will be posted in the treated areas in the lake.

The application of this herbicide complies with policy guidelines adopted by GBRA’s Board of Directors governing the treatment of nuisance aquatic vegetation in lakes and reservoirs operated by GBRA. “The policy creates the general framework necessary to manage nuisance aquatic vegetation to protect water access, quality, and public health and safety while balancing the needs of a healthy aquatic ecosystem,” said Magin. The treatment proposal has been submitted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), in compliance with the Statewide Vegetation Management Plan.

According to Magin, the TPWD Statewide Vegetation Management Plan requires anyone, including individual homeowners, to submit a treatment proposal to GBRA and TPWD before they can remove any nuisance vegetation from their property or waterfront. This includes removal by mechanical means as well as the use of herbicides.

Additional information about the Lake Wood Park treatment and the Statewide Vegetation Management Plan is available at the GBRA General Office, 933 East Court Street in Seguin. For specific information about the project or the aquatic herbicide, contact Magin at 830/379-5822.