



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
933 E. Court Street, Seguin TX 78155
www.gbra.org

Page 1 of 2
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GBRA Schedules Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan Treatment at Coletto Creek Reservoir June 3

For more information

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FANNIN---- On Monday, June 3, the aquatic herbicides Navigate and HardBall will be applied in selected cove areas of Coletto Creek Park, and the Lake Wood Subdivision Park located on the Coletto Creek Reservoir, for control of Watermilfoil as part of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's ongoing Coletto Creek Reservoir Aquatic Plant Management Program.

According to Chief Ranger Wilfred Korth, this Annual Program was originally developed by GBRA staff after extensive study and public input from the Coletto Creek Aquatic Plant Management Advisory Committee. The Program consists of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) system, which is consistent with the TP&WD Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan, to help control nuisance aquatic vegetation overgrowth in the Coletto Creek Reservoir, located between Victoria and Goliad off Highway 59.

The main goals of the Coletto Creek Aquatic Plant Management Program continue to be to control the density of nuisance aquatic plants in the high use park areas of Coletto Creek Reservoir, and to provide all users the opportunity to fully utilize this popular South Texas recreation facility.

Korth said all treated areas in the Coletto Creek Reservoir will be clearly marked with signs and the following use restrictions will be in place for treated areas, according to GBRA policy and herbicide label restrictions:

June 3: no swimming or water contact recreation activity in treated areas of the Coletto Creek Park and the Lake Wood Subdivision Homeowner's Park.

Only 24.6 acres of the reservoir will receive herbicide treatments. The additional 3,075.4 acres of reservoir will not receive herbicide applications and will remain open for fishing, swimming, and all normal recreation activities during this period.

Although over 500 acres around the reservoir is currently impacted by nuisance aquatic plants, Korth said the treatment to 24.6 surface acres "will keep the shoreline areas around these parks open for swimming, boating, shoreline fishing and general water contact for all park users through the summer months."

Watermilfoil, and other non-native aquatic plants were originally brought to the United States for use in aquariums and water gardens. However, because of their rapid growth pattern and lack of natural control mechanisms, Watermilfoil can quickly form dense mats of vegetation on the surface and a tangled web of stems and roots underwater. They also clog boat docks, river channels, and encourage silting and sedimentation of river and lakebeds. This overgrowth makes water access difficult for swimmers, skiers, personal watercraft users and other water recreationists. Watermilfoil can also foul outboard motor propellers and snag fishing lines.

While some vegetation is necessary for a healthy fish habitat, hydrilla, watermilfoil, hyacinths, and other nuisance vegetation can out-compete and eliminate native plant species, reduce plant community diversity and lead to unbalanced fish populations.

The GBRA was established by the Texas Legislature in 1933 as a water conservation and reclamation district. GBRA provides stewardship for the water resources in its 10-county statutory district, which begins near the headwaters of the Guadalupe and Blanco rivers, goes on to San Antonio Bay, and includes Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.



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Page 2 of 2
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