



Palm Beach County
 Board of County Commissioners
 Department of Environmental Resources Management
 2300 North Jog Road - 4th Floor
 West Palm Beach, FL 33411

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TO: Residential and Business Customers

TOWN OF LAKE CLARKE SHORES SHORELINE RESIDENTS HYDRILLA CONTROL NOTICE

February 7, 2018

The Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management will be conducting aquatic plant control activities on Lake Clarke beginning mid-February 2018 through the end of April 2018. **If you draw water directly from Lake Clarke for irrigation, watering should be discontinued from mid-February through the end of April to prevent possible injury to vegetation.** Lake Clarke will be treated with the aquatic systemic herbicide Sonar to control the submersed exotic plant hydrilla. There are no swimming or fishing restrictions related to this herbicide treatment. A narrow set of environmental conditions are required for Sonar to be effective, and these conditions generally occur during the spring when rainfall is low. Low rainfall helps to slow the rate of water movement through the lake, which is needed in order to keep the chemical in the area that it is applied.

Hydrilla has caused a serious weed problem in Florida waterways. Without targeted treatments, hydrilla can significantly reduce water flow in lakes and canals, clog irrigation pumps and impede navigation to recreational and commercial watercraft. Hydrilla also interferes with swimming and can have a detrimental impact on sportfish populations. Hydrilla was likely brought to Tampa and Miami by the aquarium industry in the late 1950s, and by the 1970s it was established throughout the State. Hydrilla is native to the warmer regions of the Old World but can be found in every continent. Although hydrilla occurs throughout the U.S. from California to Delaware, it tends to be more widespread in tropical and subtropical areas.

Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management has received a grant from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission this year for control of hydrilla on several lakes managed by the Department, including Lake Clarke. For more information, call Jeff Buck at 233-2466.

