

How you can protect Lake Water Quality at Hawaiian Village

Welcome to Hawaiian Village! We hope you will have many happy years here!

In the spring of 2024 Hawaiian Village invested in ultrasonic equipment to treat the frequent algae blooms that we had been experiencing and after testing revealed 2 types of algae that can release cyanobacteria toxins under the right circumstances. There are 7 ultrasonic units operating 24 hrs/day placed strategically around the lake, designed to hit all coves and main bodies of the lake. This equipment came at a significant cost to the HOA.

Ultrasonic technology can make a huge difference in the frequency, duration and severity of algal blooms; however there are MANY factors that contribute to algal blooms. Chief among them is the presence of nutrients the algae needs to grow and reproduce – especially nitrogen and phosphorous. We live in a rural state and we cannot control the use of fertilizers on the croplands surrounding our lake. We CAN control how much phosphorous, nitrogen (and other organic & non-organic products) go into our water directly from our lawns, gardens and street runoff.

Hawaiian Village is a sand bottom lake (I know, don't you love it!?!) which means that ANYTHING that gets put on our lawns/gardens is washed into and through the sand into the water eventually. **Do you know what chemicals you (or your lawn service) are putting on your lawn? All fertilizers used near a body of water should contain 0% Phosphorous, and the lowest nitrogen level to maintain lawn health. Labels will clearly state the amount of each chemical in a bag of fertilizer; on most phosphorous is the middle number (should be 0).** Vigaro and Scott's Turfbuilder, as well as other brands in local hardware stores, carry phosphorous-free fertilizers. It is not hard to find, or notably more expensive, you just need to know what you're buying.

In addition to fertilizers, other sources of nutrients include grass clippings, leaves, branches that get blown into the lake. Please don't use the lake as a dumping ground for lawn waste when you are doing your semi-annual cleanups. Place whatever you clip, cut or mow into the appropriate waste receptacles.

Additionally, we do not have a typical sewer system at Hawaiian Village. All rainwater, snowmelt, water from hoses, sprinklers, and power washers wash directly into the lake from street-side access points (and through the sand). Think about that every time you select a soap or additive when you are working in your yard or driveway.

Welcome to the Village!