

Maple Creek Home Pond Update – 07/20/2010

The board has received a number of questions, concerns and comments regarding the maintenance and upkeep of our ponds. Rather than reply individually, we are providing this response to address a number of common questions and concerns.

- As you know the Board has hired Aqua Doc Lake & Pond to manage our pond maintenance.
- We feel we've had a great resource and they have been very competitively priced.
- We encourage residents to send all questions, concerns and issues regarding the ponds directly to the Maple Creek Board and not directly to Aqua Doc. We don't want to overwhelm them with individual questions, concerns, while we have developed a direct line of communication with the Board.
- We understand the ponds have had issues recently related to general upkeep, algae growth and overall cleanliness.
- We have been in constant contact w/Aqua Doc regarding the pond maintenance and they have advised us of a few contributing factors to the current conditions of the ponds:
 - First the last month or so has been extremely hot. Higher temperatures do contribute to more algae growth and make maintenance a more difficult.
 - With the 4th of July Holiday, the company does typically experience delays, since they do not work over the Holiday Weekend. (We understand this.)
 - Maple Creek has experienced an increase in duck/geese population on our ponds.
 - All these factors do contribute to more challenges to the ponds maintenance.
 - Aqua Doc is actively treating the ponds. They are currently servicing them every 2 weeks. We have given them clear directive to treat the ponds as needed to clear up growth and ensure a clean pond system.

- Unfortunately, clean up is not as easy as “doubling up” chemicals and/or increasing treatments. This will only contribute to potentially harming the fish and wildlife in the ponds.
- The remedy is maintaining a regular treatment schedule and ultimately the ponds will see significant improvement.
- Aqua Doc has committed to communicating any suggestions for treatment and upkeep to the Board for response and reaction.
- A few things for the residents to keep in mind during this process:
 - Be patient, we would all like to see a quick fix, but this is not necessarily possible
 - Help maintain the ponds, by following a few simple guidelines
 - When mowing your lawns, ensure the grass clippings are not directed into the ponds. This contributes to issues with the ponds.
 - When applying fertilizer, do not apply within 6-8 feet of the water’s edge. We need to ensure fertilizer is not getting into the ponds and the 6-8 feet barrier helps to ensure run off does not occur when it rains.
 - Help reduce the water fowl population, by not feeding the ducks/geese. Water fowl contribute to the challenges we face with the upkeep of the ponds. The more water fowl we have the more difficult it is to maintain the ponds. Also, water fowl have a high volume of waste that can contribute to contamination and disease.
 - Lastly, feel free to advise the board of issues or concerns with the ponds, however please be patient for response as all concerns are ultimately directed to Aqua Doc for review and response. You can quickly contact the board by visiting the web site and submitting an email.

Thanks for your time and cooperation!

The Maple Creek Home Owner’s Association Board