

# Fairy Lake weeds will be composted

BY RICK SOUTAR  
The Acton Tanner

The Town is going to be doing some underwater gardening this week.

Aquamate Services has been hired at a cost of \$8,000 to dredge and remove some of the weeds from the bottom of Fairy Lake.

The dense growth of weeds

threatens the fish population during the winter and poses a danger to swimmers, anglers and boaters.

"We're concerned about helping maintain a balance," said Bryan

Shynal, superintendent of parks for Halton Hills.

"It is our assumption that the lake isn't managing itself in terms of controlling its weed growth."

Shynal says that the lake was managed by the owners of the Beardmore facility prior to the Town taking over its management a couple of years ago.

The lake is quite shallow so weeds are exposed to lots of sunlight, which promotes rapid growth.

Plant growth promotes aquatic life by creating oxygen in summer, but in the winter the weeds die off and the resulting decomposition removes oxygen from the water and chokes the life out of the

lake.

Shynal says the process of culling the lake may have to be repeated but, "we'll know more in two or three years."

The process involves cutting the weeds to a depth of six feet below the surface. The contractors will use a boat adapted to harvest the weeds which will be taken to a dumpsite for composting once they are removed.

Shynal says the whole process will be regulated according to guidelines set by the Ministry of Natural Resources. He says the culling doesn't pose a threat to fish or waterfowl because they can easily swim away from the slow-moving barge.



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## No progress on arena

BY DOUG HARRISON

The Acton Tanner

All's quiet on the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing front.

Ditto for plans concerning the proposed \$4.1 million Acton arena facility.

While Halton Hills Rec. and Parks staff met to review the situation last Tuesday, the message was still the same: remain patient until the OMB hearing resumes.

Four months ago, Town council approved an arena to be constructed on land, owned by Rinarin Developments, north of Highway 7 and east of Churchill Road.

"We're in a state of limbo now in terms of locations for the site and the potential implications that may affect a site in what comes out of the OMB hearings," said Tom Shepard last week. Shepard is director of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks.

Shepard says he doesn't know what studies for a proposed arena will have to be presented when the hearings commence and who will pay for them.

"It hinges on development, and what the Ministry of Environment thinks is reasonable considering the time delay and whether (the arena project) is two or three years away.

"We're the tail, not the dog."

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