

2018 Goodwin & Shoecraft Milfoil Update

What is Milfoil?

Eurasian watermilfoil, or milfoil, is a non-native, invasive aquatic plant. It grows rapidly, forming thick mats of vegetation at the lake surface and dense underwater canopies. It can:

- impair lake recreation
- crowd out and replace beneficial native plants
- harm fish and other aquatic life

2018 Milfoil Locations



Milfoil Plants

- Not Pulled
- Pulled
- Area Not Surveyed

What is being done?

Since the 1990's Snohomish County Surface Water Management and lake residents have worked together to control invasive milfoil in Goodwin and Shoecraft. The County manages the control work including diver hand-pulling and occasional herbicide treatments with direction from a citizen advisory committee. The work is paid for by Surface Water Management utility fees and lake residents through the aquatic plant fee.

2018 Milfoil Status

Lake Goodwin

- Divers worked six days surveying and hand-pulled all milfoil found.
- A small shoreline area (5%) was not surveyed, but the worst areas were covered twice.

Lake Shoecraft

- Divers worked two days surveying and hand-pulling.
- Divers pulled small milfoil patches along 60% of the shore.
- Severe infestations were found along 35% of the lake and were too large for hand-pulling.
- A small shoreline area (5%) was not surveyed due to lack of time.

2019 Control Actions

The following actions are recommended for milfoil control in 2019:

- Goodwin - continue successful diver hand-pulling (5-6 days).
- Shoecraft - conduct herbicide treatment in areas of severe infestation (10-11 acres) and conduct diver hand-pulling in the remaining areas.

Undertaking both actions in 2019 is likely not feasible given the current level of funding. The County will be working with the citizen advisory committee to formalize a plan, which may require multiple years of work to better control milfoil in Lake Shoecraft.

How do I recognize milfoil?

Lake Goodwin and Shoecraft are home to many native plants that are beneficial to fish and aquatic life but are often confused with milfoil. Visit www.lakes.surfacewater.info to learn how to distinguish milfoil from other common plants.



Grand Traverse Conservation District



Milfoil has leaves that look like small feathers

You Can Help Prevent the Spread

- ✓ Check boats and fishing gear when you enter or leave the lake; remove all milfoil fragments and toss them in the trash.
- ✓ Do NOT rake, cut, or pull suspected milfoil plants. New milfoil plants can grow from fragments as small as 1-inch.
- ✓ Report milfoil plants at lakes@snoco.org or 425-388-3204.
- ✓ Learn more at www.lakes.surfacewater.info.

If you would like to join the citizen advisory committee for Goodwin and Shoecraft milfoil control, please contact Marisa Burghdoff at 425-388-3204.

