

Inflow and Outflow

1. Does the vegetation need to be removed from both sides of the outflow and inflow?
 - a. The vegetation for both the inflow and outflow must be maintained.
 - b. The outflow needs to be cut down on both sides of the bridge.
 - c. The outflow must be maintained and kept clear to allow for the proper outflow of the pond.
2. Should we be checking for erosion in the outflow?
 - a. Yes. No erosion currently exists but we should be checking for it.
3. What is the best way to control the phragmite from growing back at the outflow?
 - a. Glyphosate (the formulation approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use in wetlands is sold under trade names such as Rodeo, Aquaneat, and Aquastar) is a broad spectrum aquatic herbicide that is virtually nontoxic to mammals, birds, and fish when used according to instructions.
 - b. DNREC has not seen any evidence of Rodeo being toxic.
4. Where does the bulk of the pollution come from in the pond?
 - a. Bulk of the pollution comes from the streets.
5. Other than phosphorus, what are other concerns regarding runoff from lawns?
 - a. Nitrates are also a concern.
 - b. The pond has a strong buffer and is filtering over 80% of the solids
6. What filters the runoff before entry, after entry into the pond?
 - a. Streets also known as the point source; the aquatic buffer filters the run off
 - b. Lawns also known as the non-point source; the entire buffer filters the run off

Water testing and wildlife

7. Should we have the water tested?
 - a. The water does not need to be tested with any frequency.
 - b. If we see algae blooms or dead fish, we should have the water tested to determine next steps.
8. Should we have inspections done to the pond to ensure the bank is not weakened by wildlife habitats such as muskrat etc?
 - a. Periodic inspections should be conducted inspections should be completed to ensure wildlife is not weakening the bank.
 - b. When the tide is low, we should look for muskrat.
9. If we find wildlife are weakening the banks, what would we do to have them removed?
 - a. Wildlife would need to be removed ASAP by an experienced company.

Trees

10. What effect does large vegetation have on buffer integrity, ie. evergreens, other bushes?
 - a. Any tree growing on the bank should be removed. The evergreens have a short root system; they snap and fall over easily in strong winds.
11. Would you recommend removing trees from the banks of the pond?
 - a. Yes, recommend removing all trees from the bank of the pond. They will eventually fall in the pond and be costly to remove.

- b. The trees that we cut down can be put into the woods in an uplands area to provide a habitat for wildlife.
12. Maintain no trees growing on the pond bank?
- a. Correct. There should be no trees or wooded plants growing on the bank of the pond.

Pond Buffer

13. What is the length and height you would recommend for the pond buffer?
- a. 5 foot x 12-24 inches in height
 - i. A 5 foot in depth and 12-18/24 inches in height is a strong buffer.
 - ii. Geese will not land in the pond.
 - iii. Vegetation will filter the water.
 - b. Does it hurt the pond by maintaining the height of 24 inches
 - i. 12 – 18/24 inches is a good height.
 - c. Does it hurt to have a walking path around the pond?
 - i. The walking path around the pond does not hurt because of the strong buffer we maintain.
14. Would you recommend cutting back the vegetation in the late fall, early winter?
- a. Should this be a yearly event?
 - a. Recommend to cut back the buffer on a yearly basis to get rid of the saplings. Perhaps early Spring just before growing season.
 - b. Will this help with the health of the buffer?
 - a. Yes, it will be easier to identify invasive species and eliminate the trees and shrubs.
 - c. If the vegetation is cut back, would it hurt to put the debris in the woods?
 - a. This is a good idea. Putting the dead vegetation in the woods will provide a habitat for wildlife. Place cuttings in the uplands area of the woods.
15. Would you recommend a goal of the vegetation growing around the pond to be native plants or can we also have some non-native plants? i.e. from our garden
- a. Many pond management companies say native. As long as there is a buffer and the vegetation is not invasive, we can plant anything we want.
 - b. There are several beautiful flowering plants that could be planted in the buffer.
16. To keep control of the pond choking species such as phragmite and cattails, how would you recommend removing them?
- a. The phragmite need to be sprayed with Rodeo to kill the root system. This is the only way it can be removed. Cutting phragmite will not eliminate the plant since it is a rizome.
 - b. Would you have a list of vegetation that we must constantly control besides the 2 above?
 - a. Yes. Jessica is going to send Karen a list that she will forward to the HOA.
17. What are suggested beneficial plantings in buffer both aquatic and ground?
- a. List will be sent via email.
18. Do you feel it is necessary to plant additional aquatic vegetation?
- a. Not necessary. We can plant additional aquatic vegetation if we want.

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19. Would you have a list of vegetation and the description of each that should be growing around the pond?
 - a. Will be sent to Karen via email
20. Are there plants that we can grow to attract natural predators of mosquitoes and gnats?
 - a. Karen will have to research
21. What do you think about planting seeds for native flowering plants?
 - a. Purple Coneflower
 - b. Black Eyed Susan
 - c. Planting from seeds will be difficult because of the tidal flow. Recommend buying the plants.
 - d. Many flowers will attract birds such as the gold finch
22. Would you have recommended reading or reference sites to become better educated in maintaining the pond?
 - a. Books -
 - b. Web Sites –
 - c. Sending information to Karen.
 - d. October DNREC seminar for homeowners in Lewes or Rehoboth for pond maintenance.

General Notes

- a. When Solitude sprayed and we had the fish kill they sprayed for Algae Bloom.
- b. Envirotech may have some plants they would be willing to sell us.
- c. Environmental Concern in St. Michaels is a good resource for purchasing plants.
- d. The Center for inland bays may be another good resource.
- e. Tracey Wooten is the horticultural specialist at the Cooperative Extension and would help with plant selection and advice.