

# Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

## Newsletter

Volume 27 Number 2

May 2009

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## 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Dates Have Changed, Registration is Now Open



To avoid conflicts with other APMS chapters and industry meetings, the dates of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society at Lake Guntersville State Park, AL have been changed to **September 15-17, 2009**.

The meeting program will offer exceptional presentations covering a wide range of water resource management topics that you are certain to find informative. The regular program will begin Wednesday morning and end Thursday at noon. John Madsen is preparing a training session for professional applicators to be held Tuesday afternoon. This session will be highly informative and will provide an opportunity for additional CEU's. In addition, industry exhibits will provide useful information on aquatic plant management products and services. The Welcoming Reception following the training session on Tuesday evening will be an excellent time to reacquaint with old friends and meet new friends. The Banquet on Wednesday evening will be a memorable event, featuring great food and beverage.

Reservations for hotel accommodations at the Lake Guntersville State Park must be made before August 12, 2009. Our special guest room rate is \$90.00 per night plus applicable tax (12%) and \$1.00 county surcharge for "Bluffside" Rooms and \$80.10 per night plus tax and surcharge for "Parking Lot" rooms. A few King and Queen suites are also available at the rate of \$112.50 and \$157.50, plus taxes and surcharge, respectively. "Bluffside" rooms are limited so register early to secure a view of beautiful Lake Guntersville. Cabins and chalets are located within the Park as well. To make reservations call Lake Guntersville State Park Reservations at 800-548-4553 or 256-571-5440 and be sure to mention group code "1268". All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card or accompanied by a first night room deposit.

The meeting registration fees are \$75 for delegates, \$50 for guests (spouse, partner, child over 12 years of age), and \$35 for students (not presenting a paper), if received by August 12, 2009. After which, fees at the door will be \$100 for delegates and \$75 for guests. Please help by completing the Registration Form and submitting it prior to August 12, 2009.

Lake Guntersville State Park provides an exceptional venue with a variety of things to do including fishing, boating, and golf. These activities combined with an informative program will make this a memorable meeting, so plan to attend.

## President's Report May 2009

“Never say it can't get any worse – because it always can.” That's a motto I learned while working for the U.S. Government, and it has, unfortunately, been sage advice my entire career. All of us are persevering in the face of the worst economic conditions in a generation. Whether you are in private industry, a small business, government, university, or a nongovernmental organization; you are affected in some way by this downturn.

Our industry is adversely affected by two additional pending actions from the federal government.

The first is the decision by the 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court to vacate the US Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) final rule that a national Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit was not required for a pesticide that is applied to, over, or near waters of the U.S., as long as such an application was done in accordance with FIFRA. The NPDES program is administered under the Clean Water Act (CWA). For some reason, the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court decided that some sort of permitting would be needed. This decision does not only affect the aquatic industry, but it affects everyone that uses pesticides – farmers, foresters, rights-of-way managers, and the list goes on. As stated by Allison Wiedeman, a bureau chief in US EPA: “The Agency estimates that the ruling will affect approximately 365,000 pesticide applicators that perform 5.6 million pesticide applications annually.” Personally, I think that is an underestimate. At the request of the MSAPMS board, I wrote letters to Ms. Lisa Jackson, USEPA Administrator, and Mr. Eric Holder, US Attorney General, to request the administration appeal this decision. A copy of the letter to Ms. Jackson is included in the newsletter.

The USEPA has instead decided to request a two-year stay to the decision, during which time they would develop a general permit for pesticide applications under FIFRA. The implications of this course of action have yet to be determined; needless to say, this has significant implications to our industry.

The second pending action instead comes from the U.S. Congress. Representative Oberstar (D-MN) has introduced legislation to revise the definition of “waters of the U.S.” under the Clean Water Act (CWA). His bill would alter the definition from “navigable waters” to “all waters.” While no one is in favor of dirty water, the implications of this change would be immense. The CWA covers the NPDES program, so all pesticide applications anywhere would have to comply with this provision if there is any standing or flowing water. The southern practice of fertilizing ponds for fish production would be a violation of the CWA, as farm ponds would become a “waters of the U.S.” All wetlands throughout the U.S., regardless of size, would be covered under section 404. While most environmental and conservation groups are hailing this as a milestone in conservation, farm groups and others have yet to even recognize the potential implications of such a change.

Most applicators in the U.S. have already become familiar with filling out paperwork precisely indicating where herbicides have been applied, documenting quantities, and collecting residue samples to comply with state requirements for permitting herbicide applications. Most applicators in the Northeast, Midwest, and Pacific Coast states have already had to write management plans, permit applications, and compliance reports. I suspect that these procedures may be mandated by federal agencies to comply with the federal general permit. Only time will tell.

On a happier note, MidSouth APMS is trying some new things, too. This year, we will be offering a four-hour workshop for CEU credit. The workshop will be on the afternoon before the meeting begins, immediately before the welcome reception. We are seeking CEU credit from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. If we are missing a state, please let me know! Please see the enclosed agenda for content, and the registration form for cost. CEU credits will also be sought for the general session, so please come to the entire meeting. Due to the early meeting this year, the proposed by-laws changes, final call for papers, meeting information, and proposed slate of candidates are all included in this newsletter.

John D. Madsen. Ph.D.  
President '08-'09, MSAPMS

# 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the MidSouth APMS



## Registration Form

### Delegate/Student Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration (Includes Reception, Lunch, Banquet, and Refreshment Breaks)

	Early (by August 12, 2009)	At the Door	
<input type="checkbox"/> Delegate Registration (Includes 2009 Regular Membership Dues)	\$ 75.00	\$ 100.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Registration (Presenting Paper)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Registration (Not Presenting Paper) (Includes 2009 Student Membership Dues)	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest Registration Name: _____ (Spouse, partner, child over 12 years-of-age)	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Plant Management Workshop	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ _____

### 2009 Membership Dues

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$ 50.00	\$ _____

### 2009 Meeting Sponsorship

<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum	\$ 1500.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold	\$ 1000.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver	\$ 750.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze	\$ 500.00	\$ _____

### 2009 Newsletter Advertisements (Includes 1 Advertisement in Each Newsletter)

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page	\$ 400.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Half Page	\$ 200.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Quarter Page	\$ 100.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Card	\$ 50.00	\$ _____

### Donation to the Scholarship Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Total Amount

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Early registration accepted if form and payment received by August 12, 2009.

### **Please Mail Completed Form and Payment to:**

Judy Shearer  
MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society  
PO Box 822792  
Vicksburg, MS 39182  
Ph: 601-634-2516

### **Cancellation/Refund Policy**

Registration fees are fully refundable prior to August 30, 2009. No refund of any fees will be issued if cancellation of participation is received after August 30, 2009. Notice of cancellation must be received by MSAPMS via mail, fax, or e-mail. **Phone cancellations will not be accepted.**

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

You are invited to submit a title and abstract for the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society to be held **September 15-17, 2009** at the Lake Guntersville State Park in Guntersville, Alabama. Presentations on all aspects of aquatic plant management, biology, and ecology will be considered. Oral presentations are allotted a total of 15 minutes. An LCD projector, computer, projection screen, and laser pointer will be available for oral presentations. Only PC-based MS PowerPoint presentations will be accepted. You will not be allowed to set up a personal computer to run your presentation.

#### Electronic Submission

It is preferred that all presentation submissions be made electronically in MS Word. Please submit your title, abstract (250 word maximum), author(s), affiliation, and address exactly as you wish them to appear in the program. A title form is available in the newsletter, from the webpage, and from the program chair.

**E-mail Submission to:** [jcarlee@southernco.com](mailto:jcarlee@southernco.com)

**Submission Deadline:** July 10, 2009 (moved forward due to change in meeting dates)

**Note:** You will be required to submit a CD or flash drive with your final PowerPoint presentation upon registration. All presentations that include externally run programs, models, or special animation must be reviewed and approved by the Program Chair one (1) week before the meeting. No Exceptions!

### Aquatic Plant Management Applicator Workshop, September 15, 2009

MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Aquatic Plant Management Applicator Workshop,  
September 15, 2009, Guntersville State Park, AL,  
Fee \$50.

#### Agenda

**1:00.** Welcome and logistics. Dr. John Madsen, Mississippi State University Extension Service, Starkville, MS.

**1:15.** Biological control of aquatic weeds: Integrated Pest Management. Dr. Michael Grodowitz, US Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS

**2:15.** Chemical control of aquatic weeds. Dr. Linda Nelson, US Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS

**3:15.** Break

**3:30.** Federal and state pesticide label restrictions, personal protective gear, and compliance. Mr. Carlton Layne, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation.

**4:30.** Major aquatic weed problems in the MidSouth: Identification and specific recommendations for management. Dr. John Madsen, Mississippi State University Extension Service, Starkville, MS.

**5:30.** Workshop Ends

Visit the MSAPMS Website: [www.msapms.org](http://www.msapms.org)  
The membership list can be viewed by using the following:

User Name: msapms Password: lilypad



**MSAPMS 2009 Conference**  
***2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Papers***  
**September 15-17, 2009**  
**Lake Guntersville State Park**  
**Guntersville, Alabama**

Oral presentations will be 15 minutes, including questions. Posters will be mounted in the main meeting room. Presentations are encouraged on all aspects of aquatic and wetland plant management, biology, and ecology. Presenters are requested to register for the conference.

Please e-mail the Title Form, attached below, and a brief abstract (250 words or less) by July 10, 2009:

Jason Carlee  
Alabama Power Company  
600 North 18<sup>th</sup> Street / GSC #8  
Birmingham, AL 35291  
Email: jcarlee@southernco.com

A computer and projector to handle Power Point presentations will be provided. No other presentation format will be supported. Please bring your presentation on a USB compatible flash or CD.

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**Title Form**

Presentation Format: Oral Presentation \_\_\_\_\_ Poster \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Corresponding Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND, PRESENT, AND PARTICIPATE IN THIS CONFERENCE. INVITE THOSE YOU ASSOCIATE WITH TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT AS WELL!

# Editorial Guidelines

The Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

**Font:** Times New Roman, size 12

**Title:** Bold, upper case. Align Left. End with period.

**Author:** Name follows Title, sentence case. Underline name of presenting author. Separate authors with commas. End with semicolon.

**Affiliation:** Sentence case. Include author's affiliation, address with zip code, e-mail address. If needed, insert semicolon and follow with second author's information. If there are three or more authors, add superscripts for clarity (for example, John Smith<sup>1</sup>). Justify.

**Body of Abstract:** Leave one blank line between title/author/affiliations and the body of the abstract. No indentation; one paragraph only. Justify.

**Scientific Names:** For plants, animals, and microbes, etc., use the WSSA approved common name followed by the genus and species names in italics, wherever possible (for example, diquat dibromide).

**Scientific Units:** Use of Metric or English units are acceptable. Use of standard abbreviations is acceptable.

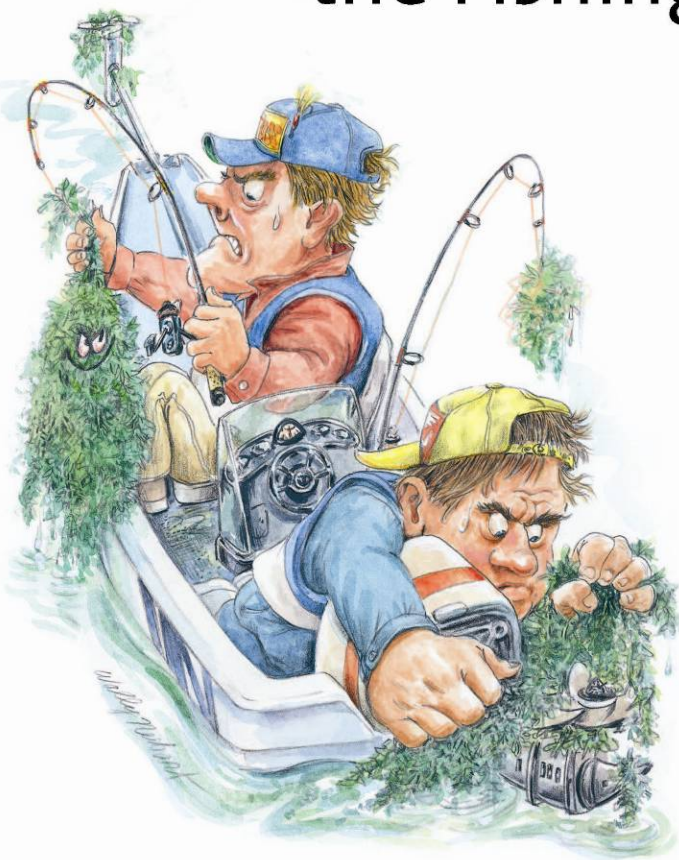
See example below:

## **LITTORAL ZONE PLANT COMMUNITIES IN THE ROSS BARNETT RESERVOIR, MS.**

Wersal, R.M.<sup>1</sup>, J.D. Madsen<sup>1</sup> and M.L. Tagert<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>GeoResources Institute, Mississippi State University, Box 9652 Mississippi State, MS 39762-9652, [rwersal@gri.msstate.edu](mailto:rwersal@gri.msstate.edu). <sup>2</sup> Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute, Mississippi State University, Box 9680 Mississippi State, MS 39762-9680

The Ross Barnett Reservoir is a 33,000 acre surface water impoundment created on the Pearl River near Jackson, Mississippi. The Reservoir is the primary source of potable water for the city of Jackson. It provides recreational opportunities in the form of fishing, boating, water sports, and onshore camping and hiking. In recent years, non-native aquatic macrophytes have increased in distribution, impeding navigation, fishing, and reduced the aesthetics of waterfront properties. We conducted a whole-lake survey in June 2005 to assess the distribution and abundance of plant communities in the Reservoir to serve as a starting point for a long term management plan. In October 2006 a survey of the littoral zone (water depths of  $\leq 10$  feet) was conducted based on the points sampled in 2005. A plant rake was deployed at each of 508 points visited. Species presence was mapped using handheld computers outfitted with GPS receivers, and data stored in database templates using Farm Site Mate software. A total of 21 aquatic or riparian plant species were observed growing in or along the shoreline of the littoral zone. American lotus and water primrose were the most common plant species observed in the littoral zone (17.7 % and 7.4% respectively). Non-native plants included alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) (3.9%), waterhyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) (2.9%), and hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) (0.6%). Bladderwort (*Utricularia vulgaris*), a native submersed aquatic plant was also observed (0.4%) for the first time. Overall, species occurrence was lower during in 2006 than in 2005.

# Too Many Weeds Spoil the Fishing



Exotic invasive aquatic plants such as Hydrilla, Eurasian Water Milfoil, Curlyleaf Pondweed, Water Chestnut and Water Hyacinth can be detrimental to a healthy fishery in lakes across the country.

These invasive plants when left unmanaged can alter the ecosystem of lakes and reservoirs, causing a decline in the fishery, as well as interfering with other valued uses of waterbodies.

## The Authoritative Leader in Aquatic Habitat Management

Successful aquatic habitat management is all about achieving a balance in the aquatic ecosystem. United Phosphorus, Inc. offers assistance and a full line of aquatic products for properly managing exotic and invasive plants and algae to achieve and maintain a healthy aquatic environment for native aquatic plants.

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## Hydrothol® 191 Aquatic Herbicide & Algicide

A broad-spectrum herbicide and algicide. Hydrothol® 191 provides a companion product or an alternative to copper algicides when controlling difficult algae species.



United Phosphorus, Inc.  
[www.upi-usa.com](http://www.upi-usa.com)

# ***Sponsorship Information***

Your sponsorship will assist the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society (MSAPMS) in conducting an informative and successful 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the educational, scientific, and operational advancement of aquatic plant management. A contribution to the MSAPMS meeting may be tax deductible. Please check with your tax advisor.

## **Meeting Sponsor Levels and Recognition**

<b>Sponsor Levels</b>	<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Recognition</b>
<b>Bronze</b>	\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website recognition - listing on meeting sponsor page, with direct link to sponsor's homepage</li> <li>• Program recognition - listing on meeting sponsor page</li> <li>• Meeting recognition - listing on meeting sponsor sign</li> </ul>
<b>Silver</b>	\$750	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website recognition - listing on meeting sponsor page, with direct link to sponsor's homepage</li> <li>• Program recognition - listing on meeting sponsor page</li> <li>• Meeting recognition - listing on meeting sponsor sign</li> <li>• Five (5) minute product update</li> </ul>
<b>Gold</b>	\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website recognition - listing on meeting sponsor page, with direct link to sponsor's homepage</li> <li>• Program recognition - listing on meeting sponsor page</li> <li>• Meeting recognition - listing on meeting sponsor sign</li> <li>• Ten (10) minute product update</li> <li>• One (1) complimentary meeting registration</li> </ul>
<b>Platinum</b>	\$1,500 or more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website recognition - listing on meeting sponsor page, with direct link to sponsor's homepage</li> <li>• Program recognition - listing on meeting sponsor page</li> <li>• Meeting recognition - listing on meeting sponsor sign</li> <li>• Fifteen (15) minute product update</li> <li>• One (1) complimentary meeting registration</li> <li>• One (1) complimentary single exhibit booth space</li> <li>• Meeting recognition – prominent sign as special event sponsor or co-sponsor</li> </ul>

**Meeting Sponsorship.** As a meeting sponsor, your contribution will assist the society in conducting the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. Your support will ensure a successful and enjoyable meeting.

## Raffle and Silent Auction Sponsorship

Items for the raffle and silent auction are being accepted. For information on contributing raffle and silent auction items, please contact Jason Carlee ([jcarlee@southernco.com](mailto:jcarlee@southernco.com)). Thank you for your consideration and support in helping make the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting a success.

## 2009 Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Scholarship Opportunity

The MSAPMS is seeking applications for the 2009 graduate student scholarship to be awarded at the 28th annual meeting at Lake Guntersville State Park, AL. One scholarship of \$2,000 will be awarded to a qualified student applicant. To apply, the Scholarship Committee should receive the following information on or before June 12, 2009:

1. A cover letter which includes the applicant's previous, current, and future relationship to the aquatic plant management industry, and a

comment on the importance of their proposed research to aquatic plant management.

2. Copies of official transcripts of undergraduate and any graduate work completed to date;
3. A letter from the student's major professor recommending the student for the scholarship, indicating that the student is currently enrolled and in good standing and has had their research proposal approved by their graduate advisory committee;
4. A copy of the research proposal; and
5. Two letters of recommendation (other than the major professor)

Send application package to:

Dr. John D. Madsen  
Mississippi State University  
Geosystems Research Institute  
Box 9652 Mississippi State, MS 39762-9652  
Ph. 662-325-2428  
E-mail. [jmadsen@gri.msstate.edu](mailto:jmadsen@gri.msstate.edu)

## Galleon\* SC represents an exciting new technology for management of a variety of submersed, floating and emergent invasive and nuisance aquatic weeds.



New Systemic Herbicide  
for Large-Scale Aquatic  
Plant Management  
**Galleon\* SC**  
Aquatic Herbicide

Galleon SC is a new tool for the selective control of emergent, floating and submersed aquatic weeds like hydrilla, Eurasian water milfoil, water hyacinth, water lettuce, salvinia and duckweed. Galleon SC provides a much-needed, additional systemic mode of action for hydrilla control in integrated control programs designed for improved herbicide resistance management.

For more information contact your SePRO aquatic specialist,

**Larry Hartmann at (210) 274-3626.**



SePRO Corporation 11550 N. Meridian Street, Suite 600, Carmel, IN 46032

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## **Proposed By-Laws Change to be Voted on at the 2009 Meeting in Guntersville, AL**

### **Currently, the by-laws state:**

"Section I. Term of Office. The President, President Elect, and Immediate Past President serve for one (1) year in those capacities and may not succeed themselves. The Secretary and Treasurer, elected annually, may serve up to three (3) consecutive years. The Editor, elected annually, may serve for two (2) consecutive years. Two (2) directors shall be elected each year for a two (2) year term of office, and may be elected for a consecutive term, but then must relinquish said office of Director for a like period of time equal to their term of office. Officers and Directors elected at any annual meeting shall begin their duties at the close of said meeting."

### **We propose to change the By-Laws to read:**

"Section I. Term of Office. The President, President Elect, and Immediate Past President serve for one (1) year in those capacities and may not succeed themselves. **The Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor, elected annually, may be elected to six consecutive annual terms.** Two (2) directors shall be elected each year for a two (2) year term of office, and may be elected for a consecutive term, but then must relinquish said office of Director for a like period of time equal to their term of office. Officers and Directors elected at any annual meeting shall begin their duties at the close of said meeting."

In other words, these three offices (Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor) may serve six years, but must be re-elected each year. This proposed by-laws change will be voted on at the annual meeting.

## **MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Nominees for Office, 2009-2010, to be Voted on at the 2009 Meeting in Guntersville, AL**

### **President-Elect**

Harry Knight, Applied BioChemists

### **Secretary**

Sherry Whitaker, US Army Engineer Research and Development Center

### **Treasurer**

Judy Shearer, US Army Engineer Research and Development Center

### **Editor**

Ryan Wersal, Mississippi State University

### **Director ('09-'10)**

Craig Aguillard, Estes

### **Director ('09-'11)**

Troy Goldsby, Aqua Services

### **Director ('09-'11)**

Tom Broadwell, Georgia Power Co.

## **Web Site Committee Update**



The MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society's webpage was moved this past winter and is now hosted by Mississippi State University, Geosystems Research Institute. The web page committee and board of directors are currently re-designing the site and adding new content so please be patient during this process. You will be able to view the new home page by the end of May and the entire site should be operational by the 2009 meeting.



# The MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

March 25, 2009

The Honorable Lisa Jackson  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Ariel Rios Federal Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Room 3000  
Washington DC 20460  
By fax (202) 501-1450

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I represent approximately 150 members within the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society, a group comprised of federal, state, and local government employees, utilities, university faculty and educators, manufacturers, and aquatic plant management professionals. We are all dedicated to an integrated approach for managing aquatic nuisance plants, which are predominantly invasive species, in an environmentally safe manner.

The Nation's battle against invasive and nuisance aquatic species has potentially been put in jeopardy by the recent 6th Circuit Court of Appeals decision to vacate the EPA's 2007 "Final Rule" exempting certain pesticide applications, compliant under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), from requiring National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits under the Clean Water Act (CWA). In response to this Court's action and their added interpretations of definitions presented in this decision, we request your Agency file an appeal to the decision before an en banc panel of the 6th Circuit. The possible unintended consequence of this decision will negatively impact operational control efforts in the Nation's waterways specifically regarding flood control, navigation, hydro power generation, drinking water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, irrigation, recreation, property values, aquatic ecosystem biodiversity and human health.

In the Final Rule, EPA correctly interpreted the provisions of the Clean Water Act as not intending to require NPDES permits for pesticide application in certain defined circumstances. The Final Rule states a permit is not required for application of pesticides directly into, over, or near waters of U.S. (e.g., application to forest canopy), providing the application is in compliance with relevant FIFRA requirements. In these circumstances, EPA cited that the pesticide application is not a discharge of a "pollutant", as defined under the CWA. Instead, the pesticide is a useful product, not a "waste", when it is released from the application equipment. The CWA definition of "pollutant"

includes "chemical waste" and "biological material," neither of which applies to legally applied pesticides. The EPA Final Rule was properly and intentionally based on science and asserted that EPA registered products labeled for use in the aquatic environment meet the stringent testing and regulatory review requirements under FIFRA. As such, these products when used in accordance with their respective label requirements provide an intended benefit. The environmental fates of these products are known and well documented based on the nearly 200 individual tests required to receive aquatic label approval by the Agency. Therefore, they are not considered pollutants.

We strongly urge the EPA to file a motion for rehearing en banc with the 6th Circuit Court. As it stands now, virtually all pesticide applicators and applications including those conducted for controlling harmful invasive species, protecting public health and supporting the agricultural economy through crop protection could be threatened with citizen lawsuits.

Based upon these potentially significant ramifications of this Court's decision, we strongly urge you to file a petition for rehearing before the deadline of April 9, 2009. In conjunction, we ask your consideration to file a motion to stay the mandate for reasons cited above.

We strongly endorse the historic commitment of US EPA to guide all of their decisions based on data derived from sound science, and are further encouraged by your public statements that this tradition will be upheld. We believe that the current registration process has resulted in herbicide labels that protect the environment from the herbicide, and allow the use of tools to control an even greater environmental threat – invasive species.

Thank you for your prompt consideration and response to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John D. Madsen".

John D. Madsen, PhD  
President, MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

## Habitat® Herbicide from BASF Receives Supplemental Label Approval for Terrestrial Use

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC, April 7, 2009 - Habitat® herbicide from BASF Professional Vegetation Management (ProVM) received supplemental label approval for terrestrial use from the Environmental Protection Agency.

This label provides clearer directions for terrestrial use of Habitat, in addition to the continued uses in aquatic and riparian areas. It also details the various sites in which Habitat use is appropriate, and use directions for the product in various aquatic and terrestrial areas.

Habitat is now labeled for spot treatments in pasture and rangeland, industrial noncropland sites, fence rows, bareground areas and railroad, utility and highway right-of-ways. It is highly effective

for hardwood control, as well as for control of invasive grasses like bermudagrass in right-of ways and around paved roads. Bermudagrass and bahiagrass treatment with Habitat results in a compacted growth habit and seed head suppression.

“Habitat provides effective control of many broadleaf and perennial grasses where bare ground is required,” said Jeff Birk, BASF ProVM Regulatory Manager. “It can be applied both preemergence and postemergence throughout the season based on the needs of the overall vegetation management program schedule.”

Habitat can also be used for crack and crevice treatments, or for weed escapes or weed encroachment in paved surfaces. Habitat can also be an important tool in the creation and maintenance of wildlife openings, providing long-lasting control of many tough-to-eradicate invasive species.

Habitat may be selectively applied by using low-volume directed application techniques or may be broadcast applied by using ground and aerial equipment. Habitat may also be applied using cut stump, cut stem, and frill and girdle treatment techniques within aquatic, noncropland and pasture and rangeland settings.

“While Habitat could always be used in terrestrial areas, the language in the supplemental label clarifies the appropriate circumstances and methodology for that use,” said Philip Donahoo, ProVM Product Manager. “Applicators can now work with confidence across a variety of landscape and waterfronts with just one product in the tank, which makes use of this effective herbicide even more efficient.”

For more information on Habitat, please visit [www.vanswers.com](http://www.vanswers.com) or contact your local sales representative at 1-800-545-9525.

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## Scholarship Recipient Updates

### Wilfredo Robles (2007)

My dissertation research focused on the use of remote sensing to monitor herbicide injury and estimate the biomass of waterhyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*). Remote sensing data were collected with a hyperspectral sensor and used to simulate data from a multispectral sensor TM onboard the satellite Landsat 5. Briefly, when herbicide applications were made to waterhyacinth remote sensing specifically the near-infrared band (Band 4) detected changes in herbicide injury. However, the use of remote sensing alone to estimate waterhyacinth biomass was not sufficient and other plant measurements such as leaf area and petiole length are needed to improve estimates. These results should facilitate the assessment of control methods used for invasive aquatic plant management in large areas. However, further research is needed to extend the applicability of remote sensing to other aquatic plant species. I have since successfully defended my dissertation research and am in the process of finalizing my dissertation document with Mississippi State University. I will be returning to Puerto Rico this summer where I will join the faculty of the Weed Science group at the University of Puerto Rico. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society for their support and enthusiasm towards students in the Aquatic Plant Management field.



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## **BASF Professional Vegetation Management announces 2008 QVM Project Habitat™ award winners**

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC, February 10, 2009 – BASF Professional Vegetation Management is excited to congratulate the winners of the 2008 QVM Project Habitat™ awards, announced at the third annual awards banquet on Thursday, Jan. 22, 2009, in Austin, Texas.

QVM Project Habitat is an annual awards program designed to honor projects that demonstrate the principles and practices of Quality Vegetation Management™ (QVM). Winning programs represented an outstanding commitment to one or more of the QVM Principals and Practices.

“All sixteen winning projects found a unique way to make a positive environmental change, while meeting the land-use goals,” said Brian Lish, business manager for BASF ProVM. “These projects set a new standard for quality in vegetation management, and we are proud to honor them.”

Winning organizations in each category include:

### **Forestry**

Danny and Sizzy Landrum with DonChem  
Vinegar Bend, Alabama

Logan and Associates with Drennen Forestry Services, Inc.  
Eutaw, Alabama

G&Y Still Partnership with Pineland Improvements  
Taylor, Louisiana

### **Aquatic**

Rancho Blanco with Provine Helicopters  
Laredo, Texas

Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge with Chem-Air, Inc.  
Liberty, Texas

### **Utility**

South Mississippi Electric Power Association with Southeast Woodland Services and Progressive Solutions  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

New York Power Authority with Lewis Tree Service, Inc.  
Marcy, New York

Amicalola Electric Membership Corporation with Southeast Woodlands  
Jasper, Georgia

### **Invasive Vegetation Management**

Georgia Forestry Commission  
Macon, Georgia

Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Necedah, Wisconsin

The Wilds with Townsend Tree Service  
Cumberland, Ohio

Kansas Water Office with Sky Copters, Inc.  
Topeka, Kansas

### **Roadside**

Indiana Department of Transportation with Townsend Tree Service  
Connersville, Indiana

Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

XTO Energy with Industrial Weed Control Co., Inc.  
Trinidad, Colorado

### **Specialty**

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline with Northeast Rural Services, Inc.  
Joplin, Missouri

For more information on the 2009 QVM Project Habitat Awards or QVM, please visit [www.vmanswers.com](http://www.vmanswers.com).

# YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

**Patrick Simmsgeiger**  
**Diversified Waterscapes, Inc.**

It's part of your organization. This lake, stream, pond, or this pain. Oftentimes property owners build a pond or lake thinking they fare well for the community.

Every water feature requires attention. They all experience problems; some seen; some unseen. All of these issues need to be attended to. Counties and States are addressing water conditions in their locales, are your troubles being dealt with?

Once in place, the initial design of a water feature is crucial to proper function. The features have been completed, filled and the project turned over to an Association. Characteristics will have to be dealt with as is and not altered. The lake specialist may bring attention to your design, or lack of a design. Just as man has toyed with nature, man has toyed with his idea of "natural" water.

Example: Your water feature has slimy globs of green matter covering the surface. There are huge tangles of grass floating from the bottom. The water is pea green. Two pumps have stopped working. A large number of fish are either dead or dying. The waterfall is clogged and the one remaining pump is making noises. You have several problems. All of the "answers" are different and you realize that only one thing is true . . . this is going to be costly.

There are two possible causes. First, there is a lack of money in the budget to cover treatment or repair. Second, after a few years the water features are just faulty.

There are two possible solutions. First, prepare a budget that will authorize a lake maintenance crew to treat the grassy sludge. They will also clear and dissolve the algae. You should approve the removal, repair, or replacement of pumps and authorize the additional expense for new aeration, fish or plants. This should be a 1-2 month process.

Second, find three reputable maintenance companies, request bids, conduct interviews, hire a company, and give notice to the current company. The longer you wait, the worse the condition will be. Your homeowners will become irritated and complain.

A budget, reserve planning and a regular maintenance program should be in place. The maintenance provider must be a professional. The company should provide proof of licenses, permits, general liability, workman's comp, vehicle insurance, and have a proven track record along with long term references. Working with responsible management, a board of directors and professional maintenance crew will insure a quality water environment.

Make a reserve study of repair costs, what is in need of replacement, or what has been repaired. Costs to replace pumps, fish, and plants should also be factored into a working budget. Also factor in the type of body of water you are dealing with.

A proactive solution to any problem is *regular maintenance*. The lake professional should have adequate options for repair or replacement issues, and be educated on how to repair / replace a float valve, pump, filter, coupling, or fill valve malfunction. Customer service and satisfaction is key. The company should also be able to distinguish between an urgent situation or non emergency.

The bottom line is to plan for your water feature's maintenance and repairs by having a budget firmly in place. Hire a lake maintenance company that has a good reputation. Keep lines of communication open between the board, the management company and the conservation company.

Remember, if you want to keep a lake healthy and balanced, use a professional of good reputation. Regular safeguarding of the aeration, the filtration, the pumps, the aquatic plants, the water, and pest control is vital.

# Thank you to Our Sustaining Members For Supporting the Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

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3rd National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration

## The Spirit of Cooperation



JULY 20-24, 2009 | LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA • USA | WESTIN BONAVENTURE



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend the 3rd National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration (NCER) 2009. Held in **Los Angeles July 20-24, 2009**, a West Coast location spotlights ecosystem restoration challenges and successes of the region as well as building on the knowledge base provided by previous NCER's.

### CONFERENCE PURPOSE & WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The purpose of NCER 09 is to bring together scientists and engineers, policy makers, planners and partners who are actively involved in or affected by all aspects of ecosystem restoration regardless of project or program size and provide an interactive forum to share their experiences and research results concerning large-scale ecosystem restoration on both national and international levels.

Conference participants will also have the opportunity to learn about both large-scale and small local ecosystem restoration efforts and what their colleagues working at these levels have learned, what factors contributed to success, and how barriers and obstacles were overcome.

NCER 09 will explore the roles of policy, planning and science in establishing goals and performance expectations for achieving successful and sustainable ecosystem restoration. We will also look at the importance of considering ecosystem services in restoration benefit-cost discussions. Successful partnerships and means to leverage resources will be important themes that run through this conference.

Previous NCERs established a forum for individuals engaged in all aspects of ecosystem restoration to exchange information and experiences. This and future NCERs will continue this tradition by being the leading National conference for interdisciplinary exchanges for sustainable restoration of ecosystems.

### WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

NCER '09 will help you expand your knowledge, share your experience and network with colleagues from across various disciplines such as engineering, science, economics and the social sciences. This is an excellent opportunity to increase your "toolbox" with cutting edge science, modeling and data management tools. Join us and participate in the ecosystem restoration discussion on:

- Effective partnering to integrate planning, policy, science and engineering to provide effective, relevant and timely solutions
- Combining state-of-the-art approaches, technology, tools and information to solve problems and achieve environmental sustainability
- Ensuring the continuity and completion of large-scale, multiple year projects that involve multiple government agencies, non-government organizations, tribal governments and other partners
- Setting goals and objectives
- Defining success

### PROGRAM THEMES

The primary focus of NCER 09 is to share lessons-learned from the conduct of large-scale ecosystem restoration programs both in the U.S. and internationally. Technical sessions will focus on six primary themes:

1. Ecosystem Restoration at the Watershed Scale
2. New Planning Approaches to Achieve Ecosystem Restoration
3. Science and Engineering Integration
4. Linking Monitoring Results with Management Decision-making
5. Urban Ecosystem Restoration
6. Ecosystem Goods and Services

### CONSIDER THE POWERFUL BENEFITS OF NCER '09 WHEN PITCHING ATTENDANCE TO YOUR SUPERVISOR...

- Your colleagues, and even your competitors, will be there. By joining them, you'll learn from your peers and keep the playing field even.
- When you meet face-to-face with others working on similar projects, you'll build more interactive, cooperative relationships and greater savings.
- In just a few days you'll get months worth of valuable technical training, education and networking. Piecing together an equivalent experience would keep you out of the office much longer and cost much more.
- Your whole team will benefit from the tips and expert knowledge you gather at NCER '09. And if you're new to the industry, NCER '09 is the best way to make connections to help you be more effective in your position.
- While it may seem counterintuitive to spend more money on advertising and marketing with so many people and organizations cutting back on expenses, NCER '09 is a great opportunity to build your brand, expand your presence and gain market share. **People will still be buying goods and services and they will buy from those who they trust and see in the marketplace.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT:  
[www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/NCER2009](http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/NCER2009)

Participate in NCER '09 and maintain visibility for your organization  
as a LEADER in Ecosystem Restoration! [www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/NCER2009](http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/NCER2009)

## Calendar of Events

June 21 – 26, 2009

Joint Meeting of the Society of Wetland Scientists,  
Wisconsin Wetlands Association, and the 11th  
International Symposium on Wetland Biogeochemistry  
Madison, Wisconsin  
[http://www.sws.org/2009\\_meeting/index.mgi](http://www.sws.org/2009_meeting/index.mgi)

July 12 - 15, 2009

Aquatic Plant Management Society 49th Annual  
Meeting  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
<http://www.apms.org>

July 20 – 24, 2009

3<sup>rd</sup> National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration  
Los Angeles, California  
<http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/NCER2009/>

August 12 – 14, 2009

South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society 31<sup>st</sup>  
Annual Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina  
<http://www.scapms.org/meetings.htm>

August 2 – 7, 2009

Ecological Society 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
[http://www.esa.org/albuquerque/call\\_latebreakingabstracts.php](http://www.esa.org/albuquerque/call_latebreakingabstracts.php)

August 30 – September 3

American Fisheries Society 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Nashville, Tennessee  
<http://www.fisheries.org/afs09>

September 15-17, 2009

MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society 28<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Meeting  
Guntersville State Park, Alabama  
<http://www.msapms.org>

October 12 – 15, 2009

Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
Meeting  
Daytona Beach, Florida  
<http://www.fapms.org/meeting/meet09/registration.htm>

### Midsouth APMS Newsletter

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