

AQUATIC WEED MANAGEMENT CONCERNS OF ILLINOIS POND OWNERS.  
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There are an estimated 100,000 ponds in Illinois and approximately 500 new ponds are being installed each year. Pond owners often identify aquatic weed management as one of their biggest challenges. In 2005, a survey of 428 pond owners was conducted in Illinois to help describe common characteristics of ponds, identify aquatic weed concerns, and determine the preferred methods for accessing educational materials. Survey respondents identified excessive algal growth as the most common aquatic plant management concern. Most ponds were 0.5 to 1 acre in size and over 20 years old. Pond owners listed workshops and seminars as preferred methods for receiving information.