

SOUTH BETHANY CANAL 2021 CANAL MONITORING PROGRAM

This is an overview of the visual monitoring program for the South Bethany Canal System in July, August and early September of 2021. This program is designed for twice monthly visual inspections of the canals. The water quality data is provided by the citizen monitoring program. The contract also allows for algae and/or widgeon grass treatments if needed with town and DNREC approval. We have visited the canals 7/8/21, 7/21/21, 8/11/21, 8/25/21, and 9/8/2021. The observations are done on land and by kayak. To summarize, the canals have not had the algae or weed biomass seen in past years. Through July and August, there are some small areas of Lyngbya (mat forming blue green algae) and some minor Green filamentous algae, but nothing meets treatment thresholds. The widgeon grass was present in the southern canal sections as noted in the past, but it did not seem to impede recreation in the channels. We did not seek treatment since the grass did not reach nuisance levels according to stated goals and previous correspondence with DNREC.

7/8/21:

We did a roadside inspection. The canals have no issues that meet treatment thresholds for algae or widgeon grass.

7/21/21:

The canals were checked via kayak and roadside inspection. Carlisle and York Canal has Widgeon Grass, but the densities are not high, particularly in the channels. Widgeon Grass was also observed in Bayshore and the Route 1 prongs in low density. The other canals along route 1 all had minor areas of Lyngbya and Green Mat algae. Treatment thresholds have not been met. The Canal Road canals had very little algae.

8/11/21:

The canals were checked via kayak and roadside inspection. While there were still some minor mats of algae in some of the canals along the bulkheads, nothing reached treatment levels. The Widgeon Grass is present, but not at the densities that caused issues in the past. We took some Lyngbya algae for toxin testing. It will be available this fall. This was to just analyze the chance of toxins. Initial results show no need for immediate treatment.

8/25/21:

The Canals were inspected via kayak. There is still no algae or weeds that need treated. The Canals have been clearer than SOLitude staff from the area has seen for years.

Competitively Sensitive & Proprietary Materials – The information contained herein is the intellectual property of SOLitude Lake Management. Recipient may not disclose to any outside party any proprietary information, processes, or pricing contained in this document or any of its attachments without the prior written consent of SOLitude Lake Management. This document is provided to the recipient in good faith and it shall be the responsibility of the recipient to keep the information contained herein confidential.



9/8/21:

The canals were inspected via truck. There was no change on the Widgeon Grass density. There was minor algae at the bulkheads. The intense rains and tides had water clarity reduce. Nothing is above harvesting or treatment threshold.

The purpose of the monitoring was to find issues for treatment or harvesting. The water quality data has been typical of the canals. Currently, there is no need for further action besides the monitoring. The lyngbya algae will be monitored. It is difficult to control and can produce toxins. If we feel treatment or further toxin testing are needed, we will let the town know. This summer there have been very few issues. Next year, a bi-weekly monitoring program may not be needed. This summer has not been typical, but the canals have not had any major issues.

Competitively Sensitive & Proprietary Materials – The information contained herein is the intellectual property of SOLitude Lake Management. Recipient may not disclose to any outside party any proprietary information, processes, or pricing contained in this document or any of its attachments without the prior written consent of SOLitude Lake Management. This document is provided to the recipient in good faith and it shall be the responsibility of the recipient to keep the information contained herein confidential.