

# Re: Another Viewpoint To "Don't Spray" Lake Bomoseen

Castleton Hubbardton – No. 2650 • Luca Conte • Rustics Road,  
Castleton

*Posted to: Castleton Hubbardton*

Jun 2, 2022

## Discussion

Maybe the Loudest Group does not represent ALL of the community; here is the experience of Supporters on Lake Beebe, written by Dan Ewald, President of the Beebe Association:

Dear Friends: I apologize in advance for presenting a contrary view based upon three years of experience utilizing ProcellaCor and the many years before that fighting as best we could against the horrific Milfoil weed. For the record ProcellaCor treatments the past two springs in Beebe Pond in Hubbardton have been hugely successful and actually nothing short of miraculous. I am saddened to read the misinformation being bandied about regarding what we have experienced to be the overwhelmingly positive results of its early use in Vermont to manage the scourge of Eurasian Milfoil in our lakes. The fish population in our lake is now the healthiest it has been in memory due to our two treatments. As you know, Milfoil cannot ever be completely eradicated but can be managed. Our experience over the years has been that suction harvesting (known as DASH) is woefully ineffective and cost prohibitive. Going back 5+ years the use of the herbicide SONAR was indeed rough on our water bodies as it wiped out all the plants in the lake, severely limiting fish habitat resulting in declines of the fish population. The milfoil returned stronger than ever by the end of the second summer of the SONAR treatment. On the other hand our experience with ProcellaCor has been positive. ProcellaCor effects only milfoil and

nothing else. Under current State permitting guidelines only 40% of a lake "littoral zone" (the shoreline to approximately 15 feet deep water) may be treated in any given year. And only areas that are proven to have dense milfoil population by professional plant surveys may be treated. Strict post treatment lake water testing and monitoring is also required under the permit regime. We treated 40% of our lake littoral zone in 2020 and a different 20% of the littoral zone in 2021. Some signs of milfoil return were evident at the end of last summer but still negligible. Again, our fish population is thriving. They are now living in their natural habitat. Last August we could see literally clouds of minnows traversing around the lake. Initially skeptical (for legitimate reasons) property owners around our lake are now for the most part completely on board with these treatments as long as we keep the treatments to the least amount that will be effective. Prior to our first treatment in 2000 the Milfoil was overwhelming our DASH and hand pulling efforts and totally degrading the "lake life" experience we all love. So huge thanks to ProcellaCor and our advisors Solitude Lake Management for bringing this milfoil game changer to our water. That reality of our experience with ProcellaCor at Beebe Pond has been undeniably positive for all.

Regards, Dan Ewald, President Lake Beebe Watershed Association

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