

CRYSTAL LAKE WATER QUALITY TREATMENT PROJECT

The City of Newton has launched a treatment project to reduce algal blooms and improve water quality in Crystal Lake. This May, you may see our contractors dispersing a water treatment solution in the deepest areas of the pond. The water may appear cloudy for a few days.



Breaking the cycle of algal blooms

High levels of nutrients in the lake create a cycle of algal blooms, which can result in water that is unsafe for people, pets, and wildlife. Cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, is particularly harmful. In the summer, cyanobacteria blooms thrive in warm, still water, feeding on nutrients that recycle through the water column. To break the cycle, the City has adopted methods to reduce the algal blooms by treating nutrients in sediments sitting in the deepest portions of the pond.

What is the Water Quality Treatment?

The City of Newton explored several options for nutrient reduction in Crystal Lake and settled on a treatment solution that is low-impact and highly effective. The solution itself consists of an aluminum-based compound often used in municipal drinking water treatment. This is a common treatment process that is safe for aquatic life. Our contractors will disperse the solution in a targeted area of the lake from a motorized boat. While the water may initially appear cloudy, the water will clear and the solution will dissipate within a day or two of application. Our contractors will be monitoring the lake, before, during and after the treatment for lake water chemistry. You can help us by staying out of the water during treatment days.