



Aquatic Plant News

The Newsletter of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. April/May 2025 – Issue 137

CONTENTS:

- Letter from the President
- Letter from the Secretary
- Social Media & Education and Outreach
- Update from the Editor
- 2025 Calendar of Events
- APMS Annual Meeting Events
- 2025 APMS Board of Directors Nominees
- Sponsors, Exhibitors, Scholastic Endowment
- Student Update
- Women of Aquatics Update
- In Memoriam
- Regional Chapter Updates
- Sustaining Members
- General Information



Alligator struggling through hydrilla
Photo Credit: Amber Riner

Letter from the President

Hello APMS Members -

I trust this newsletter finds you well and in preparation mode for another season of managing our valuable aquatic resources from troublesome plants and algae. Managing nuisance aquatic plants and algae can sometimes feel like we're doing the same thing over and over and not making any headway. However, because of your collaboration and efforts we're learning new and innovative ways to manage these problems and in a couple of months we're going to come together to discuss these developments and hard work to protect, preserve, and restore water resources.



Speaking of hard work, your APMS Board and Committees have been hard at work preparing for the 65th annual APMS Conference that will take place at the Omni Hotel in Providence, Rhode Island July 14-17th. The week will start off with the President's Welcome Reception at the Trinity Brewhouse on Monday night, followed by two and half days of oral and poster presentations, and the ever-popular APMS Awards Banquet on Wednesday night. Dr. Gettys and the Program Committee have an exciting program planned that will include sessions on harmful algal blooms, "new" hydrilla, and a northeast region focused component. The rest of the meeting is also coming together. The Student Affairs Committee has the student tour details locked in, the Awards Committee has submitted the proof for awards, and the Meeting Planning Committee is finalizing the behind-the-scenes items. Delegate information regarding abstract submission, registration, hotel arrangements, sponsorship, and exhibiting can all be found here: [2025 Annual Meeting – Aquatic Plant Management Society](#). Important dates to note are title and abstracts must be submitted no later than May 23, and the early-bird delegate and sponsorship/exhibitor registration ends June 14.

You might have noticed an uptick in APMS' presence on social media the last few months. I would like to give special recognition to our Social Media Coordinator, Brittany Chessier. She has done a great job of filling our feeds with interesting and relevant information including job announcements, weed comparisons, and affiliate chapter information to keep us all up to date on what's happening in our respective region. Thanks, Brittany!!

If you haven't noticed it takes a lot of work to keep APMS operating like a well-oiled machine and most of it is voluntary. Everyone plays an integral part to support the Society and industry. With an active and vast Society of professionals, APMS is always looking for those willing to serve in various capacities to make the organization even better! If you have interest in participating, please talk to a current or past board or committee member about how to get involved. Having served on a few Boards in different capacities myself, I can say the interactions and helping the organization fulfill its goals were very rewarding...personally and professionally.

In closing, I want to thank all the APMS Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs, and Special Representatives for all their hard work. I also want to thank our membership and supporters for all your efforts and contributions continuously strengthening the Society to make it what it is.

I look forward to seeing and interacting with everyone in Providence in July!

All the very best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeremy Slade".

Jeremy Slade - President APMS

Letter from the Secretary

Dear APMS Members -

Greetings and a warm welcome! I have recently taken over the duties of APMS Secretary from Amy Gianotti, who stepped down after 4+ years last fall. Amy did a great job and also served as Social Media Chairperson for the society. By way of introduction, I am a faculty member at the University of Florida, where I work on weed and invasive species management, and heavily involved in teaching most of the weed science and crop production courses. My first APMS meeting was as a student, at the 1990 APMS Annual Meeting in Mobile, AL. I continued to be involved in APMS, serving 6 years as the WSSA representative and President in 2010. I am delighted to be back serving APMS!



We are back in the northeast this year, with the Ocean State and its capitol Providence serving as our host. President-Elect Lyn Gettys is putting together an informative and robust program, so be sure to check out the program highlights in this newsletter and in the final program on our website. Once again, Bill Torres and the meeting planning committee have provided us with an excellent venue. Although Rhode Island is our smallest state, there is plenty to see and do. We look forward to seeing you there.

The nominating committee has provided a strong slate of nominees for directors and vice president for the society, and these are listed in this newsletter. Please review their bios and qualifications, as you will be asked to vote at the business meeting during the annual meeting in July.

We have streamlined the registration process for members, sponsors, sustaining members and exhibitors, so please visit the annual meeting site <https://apms.org/2025-annual-meeting/> to register for the meeting. We also would like to recognize and thank our meeting sponsors and exhibitors, and a special thanks to our sustaining members. Please be sure to read about them in this newsletter. Without your collective support, we would not be able to provide excellent meetings, student scholarships and professional outreach to our members and the greater aquatic plant community!

See you in Providence!

Greg MacDonald, APMS Secretary



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Social Media & Education and Outreach

We are thrilled to welcome Brittany Chesser as our new social media person, replacing Amy Gianotti who stepped down last year. Brittany continues to serve on our board of directors while she works on her PhD at Texas A&M University.

We are equally delighted to welcome Christine Krebs as our Chairperson for the Education and Outreach Committee, replacing Sonja Wixom. Christine is the Communications Manager for the Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants at the University of Florida.

Brittany Chesser graduated from Delaware State University with her B.S. in Natural Resources and later went on to receive her M.S. in Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture at Mississippi State. Brittany joined her current role in 2019 as Aquatic Vegetation Management Program Specialist for Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service. Her primary duties include providing technical expertise on aquatic vegetation management to the public through identifying plant species, recommending correct management practices, delivering presentations and outreach materials, and maintaining AquaPlant.tamu.edu. Additionally, she is the Lab Specialist for the TAMU Aquatics Diagnostic Laboratory where she performs routine water quality analyses and other diagnostics, produces client reports, and recommends amendments. In 2022, she served as President for the Texas Aquatic Plant Management Society (TAPMS). She is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Rangeland, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management at Texas A&M University.



Christine Krebs is currently the Communications Manager at the UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. She holds a Bachelor's degree in wildlife Ecology and Conservation (2018), a Master's degree in Agricultural Education and Communication (2020), and a PhD in Agricultural Education and Communication (2024), all from the University of Florida. Growing up in Central Florida, she spent a lot of her time enjoying the local lakes and state parks. She looks forward to contributing to the enhancement of education and outreach initiatives for the Aquatic Plant Management Society.



Update from the Editor

Journal of Aquatic Plant Management (JAPM) is an international Open Access scientific journal published by the Aquatic Plant Management Society since 1962, and Dr. Ramon Leon serves as Editor.

JAPM publishes original research, reviews, and short communications focusing on all aspects of aquatic plants including biology and ecology, vegetation management, field operations, and regulations. All manuscripts must mention and preferably discuss the relevance of the results for aquatic vegetation management. Our journal impact factor is 1.2.

Membership in the Aquatic Plant Management Society is not a prerequisite for publication, but authors are encouraged to join the Society. To join, please visit <https://apms.org/how-to-join/>

The Journal is published in two volumes each year (January and July), but articles are made available to the readership as soon as the edition process is completed. These are available on our website - <https://apms.org/journal/>

Recently published articles:

- Native woody species response to in-water triclopyr application. DOI: 10.57257/JAPM-D-24-00007
- Initial investigation of the impact of Aquashadew on phytoplankton assemblage composition in Florida ponds. DOI: 10.57257/JAPM-D-24-00010
- Short-exposure chill injury to investigate intraspecific cold tolerance of the giant salvinia weevil, *Cyrtobagous salviniae* Calder & Sands (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). DOI: 10.57257/JAPM-D-24-00017
- Assessment of online search terms associated with aquatic invasive species and plant management: Implications for education and outreach. DOI: 10.57357/JAPM-D-24-00012
- Growth of eight Florida ecotypes of Illinois pondweed under common nursery conditions. DOI: 10.57257/JAPM-D-00015
- Mosquito fern (*Azolla caroliniana*) response to submersed and foliar contact herbicide applications. DOI: 10.57257/JAPM-D-00005

2025 Calendar of Events



Aquatic Weed Control Short Course

May 19-22, 2025
Orlando, FL



65th Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society

July 14-17, 2025
Providence, RI

<https://apms.org/2025-annual-meeting/>



2025 South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting

October 13-15, 2025
North Myrtle Beach, SC

<http://scapms.org/meetings.html>



49th Annual Training Conference for the Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society

October 6-9, 2025
St. Petersburg, FL

<https://fapms.org/conference/2025-conference/>



44th MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Conference

November 3-6, 2025
Hot Springs, AR

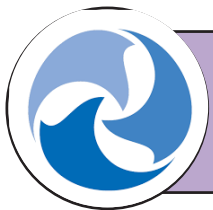
<https://msapms.org/2025-annual-conference/>



Annual Meeting of the Texas Aquatic Plant Management Society

November 3-6, 2025
Hot Springs, AR

*To be held jointly with
MidSouth APMS*



23rd International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species

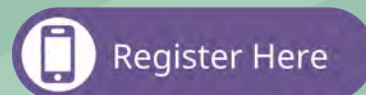
August 23-27, 2026
Belfast, Ireland

<https://icaais.org/icaais-2026/>



2025 ANNUAL MEETING

July 14 - 17 in Providence, Rhode Island



About Us

The Aquatic Plant Management Society is a respected source of expertise in the field of biological, mechanical, and chemical aquatic plant management and aquatic plant species.

The Society has grown to include several regional and state chapters. Through these affiliates, annual meetings, newsletters, and the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management, members keep abreast of the latest developments in the field.

Our Objectives

Promote the management of nuisance aquatic plants, algae, and cyanobacteria, provide for the scientific advancement of members of the society, encourage scientific research, promote university scholarship, and stir public interest in the aquatic plant science discipline.



**Home of the
Michael D. Netherland
Graduate Student Research Grant**



The Why?



network with
industry
professionals



boost your
knowledge and
skillset



contribute to the
industry by sharing
knowledge



stay plugged
into industry
trends

Why Not?

Annual Meeting Events at a Glance

Monday - July 14:
APMS Board of Directors Meeting
Registration
Exhibits & Poster Setup
Student Meet & Greet: Trinity Brewhouse
Presidents' Reception: Trinity Brewhouse
Tuesday – July 15:
Registration
Continental Breakfast
Exhibit Room Opens
Regional Chapters Breakfast
Session 1:
Moderator: Lyn Gettys
8:00am – 10:30am <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presidential Address • Plenary Session: Hydrilla and HAB's
10:30am – 10:45am <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshment Break
10:45am – 12:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations
Lunch on your own
Past President's Luncheon
Student Luncheon
Session 2:
1:30pm – 5:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations and Break
5:30pm – 7:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster Session and Reception
Wednesday – July 16:
Registration
Continental Breakfast
Exhibit Room Opens
Session 3:
8:00am – 12:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations and Break
Lunch on your own
Women of Aquatics Luncheon
Session 4:
1:30am – 5:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations and Break
5:00pm – 6:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APMS Business Meeting
7:00pm – 10:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APMS Reception and Awards Banquet
Thursday – July 17:
Continental Breakfast
Session 5:
8:00am – 12:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations and Break
12:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Adjourned

2025 APMS Board of Directors Nominees

The following candidates have been selected by the Nominating Committee for consideration to serve on the APMS Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee suggests a slate of candidates for positions that are about to come open on the Board. Each candidate must meet specific criteria set forth in the APMS Bylaws. The Board of Directors has approved the slate and active members will vote to approve or amend the slate of proposed officers and directors. Members will be voting during the Annual Business Meeting in July 2025 in Providence.

OFFICE	NAME	AFFILIATION	LOCATION
Vice-President	Matt Johnson	Aquatic Control, Inc.	Indiana
Director	Mirella Ortiz	Utah State University	Utah
Director	Carl Della Torre	The Orion Companies	Georgia



Vice President – Matt Johnson

Matt Johnson is the President at Aquatic Control, Inc. Seymour, IN. He began his career in 1993 with Aquatic Control, and during that time he earned a B.S. degree in Business Administration with a Marketing emphasis from the University of Southern Indiana in 2000. In January 2003, he became a sales associate and was promoted to Sales Manager of Aquatic Control in 2004. Mr. Johnson was appointed to the Aquatic Control Board of Directors in November 2005, elected Vice President of Sales and Marketing in December 2006, elected Chief Operating Officer in 2016, and President in 2017. He is also one of the technical specialists for Aquatic Control and facilitates an annual accredited applicator workshop for applicators throughout the Midwest. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois Lake Management Societies, the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Indiana Professional Lawn and Landscapers Association, Indiana Golf Course Superintendents Association, and the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation. He served as a board of director for the Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society from 2006-2014 and served as President in 2012. Mr. Johnson is an active member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Columbus, IN.



Director - Carl Della Torre

Carl Della Torre is the Director of Eastern IVM and Aquatic Sales and is located in GA. Carl earned his bachelor's in wildlife and fisheries from The University of Georgia and his Masters in Agronomy with a focus on Weed Science at the University of Florida. After completing his masters, Carl worked as a senior scientist at the University of Florida in conjunction with the US Army Corps of Engineers, conducting and overseeing research projects in the VM and aquatics industry across the eastern U.S. focusing on utilizing new and old chemistries on upland and aquatic native and exotic plant species. In his current role, Carl focuses on sales strategies that drive the Eastern IVM and Aquatic sales teams. Carl is currently on and previously served on numerous industry boards holding positions as President, Vice President, Director, Sponsorship Chair, Aquatics Chair, Regional Chapter and Committee Member (APMS, MSAPMS, SCAMPS, TVMA, FVMA, AERF) and he is currently associated with several regional and national industry societies.



Director - Mirella Ortiz

Mirella Ortiz is an assistant professor in weed science at Utah State University in Logan, UT. She is originally from Brazil, and earned a BS in Agronomy from the University of Sao Paulo in 2015. During her studies at Brazil she completed an internship at Colorado State University. Upon graduation she continued her studies at Colorado State, completing a Master of Science in 2018 in Weed Science and a PhD in 2022. She has received the Presidential Award of Merit and the Elena Sanchez Memorial WSWS Outstanding Student Award from the Western Society of Weed Science in 2022 and 2021. She was awarded the R. Ralph Baker Graduate Student Award for Research Excellence in 2021 from Colorado State University. She has been an active member of the Aquatic Plant Management Society for several years, and received the Outstanding Graduate Student Award in 2021. In her program at Utah State Dr. Ortiz leads research on the biology, ecology and management of invasive and problematic weeds in both terrestrial and aquatic systems.

Annual Meeting Sponsors & Exhibitors

APMS Exhibitors and Sponsors,

We're back in the northeast this year in the our nations smallest state. The 2025 Aquatic Plant Management Society 65th Annual Meeting will be July 14-17 at the Omni Providence in Providence, Rhode Island. The annual meeting provides an excellent forum to exhibit products and services and interact with key people involved in aquatic plant management throughout the country. Now is the time to register. For company information to be included in the Meeting Program and conference signage, sponsorship and/or exhibitor registrations must be completed by June 14, 2025. All forms of registration including, exhibitor, sponsor and individual can be processed online. To register, please go to the APMS Annual Meeting page. Exhibitor Registration can be found and processed on the Online Registration page.

Some sponsorship levels also come with complimentary individual and exhibitor registration(s). To Sponsor the APMS Annual Meeting submit the online sponsorship form on the Sponsorship and Exhibitor Information page. Please complete sponsorship signup first. Once processed, you will receive an email with a complimentary code for the delegate registration.

Link to registration can be found here -

<https://apms.org/2025-annual-meeting/registration/#register>

Link to sponsorship can be found here -

[https://apms.org/2025-annual-meeting/sponsorship/#!
form/2025Sponsorship](https://apms.org/2025-annual-meeting/sponsorship/#!form/2025Sponsorship)

Thank you for your participation. Please let me know if you have any questions.
See you in Providence

Dean Jones - APMS Exhibits and Sponsorship Chair
863.209.4015
dean.jones@upl-ltd.com

Scholastic Endowment



This year, we are not only focusing on enriching your knowledge and expertise in aquatic plant management but also on providing an unforgettable experience filled with fun activities and camaraderie. In addition to our usual lineup of enriching sessions, this year's conference will feature a variety of fun activities aimed at fostering connections and creating lasting memories. Here's a glimpse of what to expect:

- **Raffle Prizes:** Get ready to win some fantastic prizes! We have an array of exciting items up for grabs, and these are always a sure way to leave the meeting with a fun gift and/or useful item.
- **Silent Auction:** Peruse the great items for your bidding enjoyment, and get that gift you have always wanted.
- **All for Fun, All for Raffle Tickets:** Participation in the silent auction is not only a source of enjoyment but to win the big items raffle tickets are a must. The more you engage, the greater your chances of winning fantastic prizes in our raffle drawing. It's a win-win situation—enjoyable activities and the chance to take home some incredible prizes.

Join Us in July!

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for an unforgettable experience at the APMS Annual Conference in July. Whether you're seeking to expand your knowledge, network with industry peers, or simply have a great time, this event has something for everyone.

We look forward to welcoming you to a conference that promises to blend learning and fun in the world of aquatic plant management. See everyone in July!

CALL FOR PAPERS

65th Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society

July 14-17, 2025

Omni Providence - Providence, Rhode Island

Present Your Original Research

You are invited to submit a title and abstract for the 65th Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society to be held at the Omni Providence in beautiful Providence, Rhode Island. Oral and poster presentations are solicited for original research on the biology or ecology of aquatic and wetland plants and algae, control methods (biological, chemical, cultural/physical, mechanical) for invasive, exotic or nuisance plant or algal species, and restoration projects involving wetland or aquatic plants and algae. Presentation of original research will be given preference and should be indicated by including results in the abstract. This year's meeting is in the region of the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society, so regional presenters are strongly encouraged to submit an abstract.

Oral presentations will be allotted a total of 15 minutes with an additional 5 minutes for questions and discussion. Contributed oral presentations should be scientific or technical in nature, which will be determined from the submitted abstract. All presenters will be required to upload their final PowerPoint presentation to the abstract submission portal prior to the meeting. Note: All presentations that include externally run programs, models or special animation, must be reviewed and approved by the Program Chair prior to the meeting. You will not be allowed to set up a personal computer for your presentation. A poster session will also be scheduled. Free-standing display boards (4' x 4') will be provided for posters.

Plenary Session – Back to the Basics: Control Methods – Past, Present, Future

The society will hold a special session to start the conference discussing the various aquatic plant and algae control methods, their development through the years including how they may have been used separately and integrated together, and what the future outlook is for optimal management outcomes. At the end of the session, each presenter will be available for a panel Q&A. Invited speakers and submitted talks will drive discussions around how weeds and algae are managed with these techniques (pros and cons), management objectives with stakeholder input, and more recent technology development. Abstracts submitted for the special session should be indicated during the abstract submission process.

Students

The society will provide all student presenters with room accommodations and complimentary registration. First, second and third place prize money will be awarded in separate contests for both oral and poster presentations. In addition, a student tour of local management sites and scenic places is being put together for student enjoyment. Students may contact the Program Chair (Dr. Lyn Gettys: lgettys@ufl.edu) or the Student Affairs Committee Chair (Dr. Andrew Howell, awhowell@ncsu.edu) with any questions.

CALL FOR PAPERS

(Continued)

Abstract Submission Information

Abstracts must be submitted through the Confex abstract submission system at <https://vmx.m-anage.com/home/us/apms2025/en-US>. Instructions for abstract submittal are below. The submission system is open now and will remain open until Friday, May 23, 2025. Acceptance of contributed papers will not occur until after the abstract deadline and will be confirmed by a separate e-mail.

Logging in to the Confex System

Click "Submission Page" at the top of the webpage. If you have used this system before, enter your e-mail address and password to sign on to the system. If not, you'll be asked to create an account. Once you are logged in, go to the Submission Page, scroll down to the Abstract Submission section and click the "Submit New Abstract" button. Follow the directions and please pay attention to the formatting requirements outlined in the system. Abstract sections are as follows:

Title: Type in the title capitalizing key words (e.g., Response of Eurasian and Hybrid Watermilfoil to Five Auxin-mimic Herbicides). Please do not submit your title in bold typeface or all caps. Just capitalize the major words in the title.

Type: select "Oral" or "Poster"

Topic: Select "Student Competition" or "Regular Submission". Note: The society will provide all student presenters with room accommodations and complimentary registration. There will be a contest awarding first, second and third place for both the oral and poster presentations.

Add Authors: Be sure to include all the requested information for yourself and co-authors.

Are you a Student?: Select "Yes" or "No"

Abstract text: Type or copy/paste the text of your abstract into the abstract box (300 word maximum).

Review: Make sure that everything is correct, check the box in the "Approve Submission" section at the bottom of the page, and click the "Submit" button. You'll receive an email confirmation of your submission.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Dr. Lyn Gettys

2025 APMS Program Chair

lgettys@ufl.edu



Student Update

Student Mentors Needed!

The Student Affairs Committee is in search of mentors for this year's annual meeting in Providence, Rhode Island. One of the goals of the committee is to provide students with opportunities to expand their professional development through member support while attending the annual meetings. We are in search of 6-8 APMS members to share their professional experiences and provide advice to students as they navigate the start of their professional careers. We ask that if you commit to this opportunity, that you are available to provide mentorship to students during the hour before the President's Reception and also during the Student Luncheon. If you are interested in serving as a mentor at this year's meeting, or would like additional details, please reach out directly to Dr. Andrew Howell (awhowell@ncsu.edu). We look forward to a successful mentor program by linking students with our industry professionals during the 2025 annual meeting!

Student Tour - Scheduled Monday, July 14th

This year's tour will provide examples of active aquatic management occurring around Rhode Island and surrounding Connecticut. Please note that students will depart the conference hotel for the tour at 7:00am on Monday the 14th, so most students will need to use the weekend prior for travel to the conference hotel if wanting to attend the group tour.

Women of Aquatics Update

Upcoming Women of Aquatic Events & How to Get Involved!

Get Onboard with Women of Aquatics!

Join us in 2025 at these upcoming events:

- Our May Skincare Webinar was extremely informative, and our guest speaker Charla Malone provided a blueprint for choosing the right products and services to care for our skin through the decades. If you are a member and couldn't attend, please email us at info@womenofaquatics.org for a link to the recording.
- Annual Retreat: Save the date for our annual retreat, November 7th, following the NALMS annual meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC. Join us for a weekend of learning, networking, and relaxation as we come together to celebrate our shared passion for aquatics.
- Check out our website: updating continuously on open positions in aquatics, future webinar dates, events we are attending, ways to get involved, join our newsletter list and more. www.womenofaquatics.org.
- Know of an event we should be at? Send us an email - info@womenofaquatics.org

Annual Retreat - Lake Tahoe 2024



Why Join Women of Aquatics?

Joining Women of Aquatics has a wealth of benefits, including:

1. **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with like-minded individuals, share experiences, and forge valuable professional relationships within the aquatics industry.
2. **Professional Development:** Access resources, workshops, and mentorship programs designed to support your career advancement and personal growth.
3. **Community Engagement:** Engage in meaningful discussions, collaborate on projects, and contribute to initiatives aimed at promoting diversity and inclusivity in aquatics.
4. **Exclusive Events:** Attend member-exclusive events, such as our annual retreat following the NALMS (North American Lake Management Society) annual meeting, where you can immerse yourself in learning, networking, and rejuvenation.
5. **Access to Resources:** Gain access to educational materials, research articles, and industry updates to stay informed and inspired in your aquatics journey.

Still not a member? We would love for you join our community of women making a splash in the aquatics industry. You can learn more, become a member and/or sponsor on our website at womenofaquatics.org. We would love to connect with you on and off the water!

Women of Aquatics Update (continued)

Get Involved!

Women of Aquatics is actively seeking new members for the following committees:

Annual Retreat/Events – Plan our annual retreat, conference luncheons and happy hours, and other events throughout the year.

Strategic Planning – Help impact the future by ensuring our goals are aligned with our mission, vision and values.

Membership – Recruit new members and welcome them to the organization.

Publicity – Spread the word about our activities and events, exhibit at a variety of industry conferences.

Editorial – Support our editor with content for our newsletter and other updates.

Future Leaders – Recruit new student members and ensure that we are providing valuable resources and helping them to engage with the aquatics community.

Professional Development – Assist with our supportive content creation, orchestrate monthly webinars, guide program content for the annual retreat, and manage the mentorship program.

Sponsorship – Recruit sponsors and create value in exchange for their support.

Finance – Support our Treasurer and fiscal responsibility.

Our mentorship program will be launching soon. We are currently in the process of matching mentees with mentors, but it's not too late to participate. Please reach out if you are interested in either role.

Thank You!

We have been overwhelmed by the industry-wide support for our organization and want to give a shout out to our sponsors! Our Ocean Level Sponsor (\$2000) is AquaTechnex. Our Lake Level Sponsors (\$1000) are Clean Lakes, Inc., EasyPro Pond Products, EutroPHIX, Natural Lake Biosciences, Oase, The Orion Companies, and Phoslock Environmental Technologies. Our Stream Level Sponsors (\$500) are Airmax, AquaMaster, Foster Lake & Pond Management, Kasco, Nutrien, The North American Lake Management Society, SOLitude Lake Management, and Vertex Aquatic Solutions. We are also very grateful to The Aquatic Plant Management Society as they sponsor up to \$1500 of the Women of Aquatics luncheon during their Annual Meeting, which is coming up July 14-17 in Providence, Rhode Island – more details coming soon!

Stay Connected:

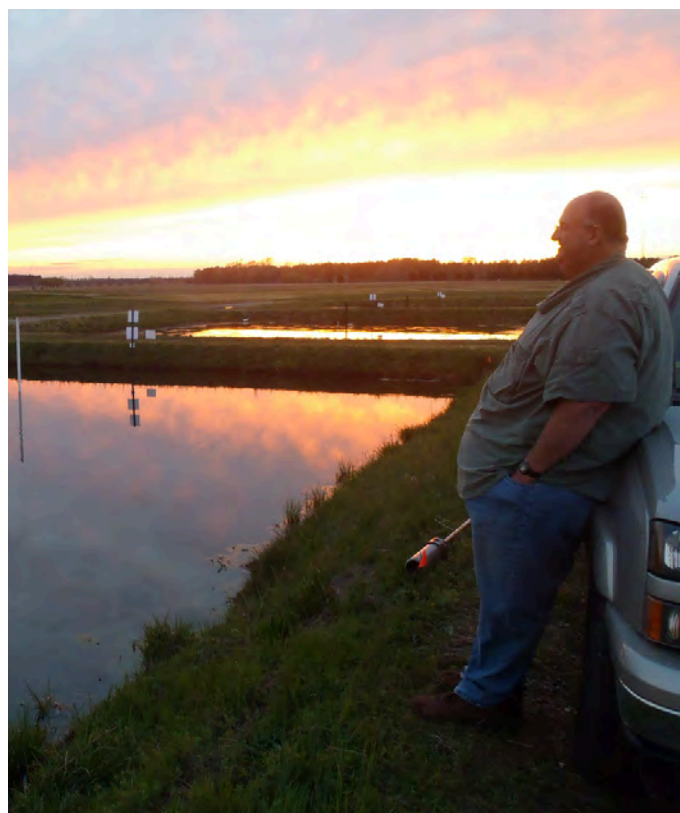
Follow us on social media and subscribe to our newsletter to stay updated on upcoming events, member spotlights, and exciting news from the world of aquatics. Thank you for being a part of Women of Aquatics. Together, we are making waves and shaping the future of aquatics for generations to come!

Dave Petty - Remembrance

David “Big Dave” Petty was a long-standing advocate and supporter of aquatic plant management. Dave graduated from Michigan State University with a BS degree in Entomology in 1986, and served as entomologist at The Dow Gardens until 1988. He was employed as a Senior Chemist with Dow Agrosiences from 1989-1996. During his Dow tenure, Dave became very interested in managing aquatic and wetland vegetation and was a major contributor in the USEPA sanctioned Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) studies that ultimately led to an aquatic use label for the systemic auxin, triclopyr. The triclopyr GLP efforts are still regarded as the industry gold standard in obtaining an aquatic label.

In 1996, Dave formed NDR Research in Plainfield, IN, and led that business for nearly 30 years as Director of Research until his recent passing. NDR provided technical and consultant services for managing aquatic vegetation across the US, including a long association with the US Army Engineer Research and Development Center. He quickly became a valued member and advisor of the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation (AERF) and among other duties provided technical and IT services to the AERF. Dave also became an active member and contributor of the Aquatic Plant Management Society. Dave’s technical and communication skills were frequently utilized by the aquatics industry and agencies to develop “EPA White Papers” to successfully support the expansion of labels and use patterns with many aquatic herbicides. He was an effective writer and authored numerous peer-reviewed articles and agency technical reports.

Dave Petty was a very talented and quietly knowledgeable individual - a behind-the-scenes type guy, making many significant contributions to aquatics. He loved the camaraderie of working with like-minded aquatics folks and had a great sense of humor. He will be missed.



Dave Petty

Brenda Culpepper - Remembrance

Brenda Kay Lancaster Culpepper, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and cherished community member, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2025, at her home in Zionsville, IN. Brenda was born on September 9, 1946, in Rocky Mount, NC, to Louis E. Lancaster and Agnes Adele Weaver. Brenda was raised on the beauty of her family farm in Castalia, NC and was a graduate of East Carolina University. She was married to her devoted husband William (Bill) Henry Culpepper, Jr. in 1967 for 57 years until the time of her death.

Many of us in the Aquatic Plant Management Society were fortunate enough to meet and interact with Brenda at one of our annual meetings or other industry functions over the past 30 years as she supported her husband Bill Culpepper, founder of SePRO Corporation. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bill, his family, and the SePRO team as they mourn the loss of Brenda, a long-time friend and supporter of the industry.



Brenda Culpepper

Regional Chapter Updates

2025 is going to be a big year for Texas Aquatic Plant Management Society. We are excited to announce the TAPMS Aquatic Insights Workshop on June 13th, 2025 at the Lake Waco Wetlands Center! This workshop is the perfect complement to our TAPMS Annual Meeting, offering in-depth and hands-on knowledge about aquatic plant management, restoration, and management of water and wetland resources. Whether you're in the public or private sector, this event provides valuable insights from industry experts that can elevate your work, from basic aquatic weed control to water resource management. This is an incredible opportunity to learn, connect, and stay up-to-date on the latest trends in the field. We truly believe this workshop will empower all of us to make a greater impact in managing our vital water and wetland resources. We hope to see you there!

In addition, we are very excited to be having a joint annual meeting with Mid-South APMS this November 3rd-6th, in Hot Springs, Arkansas! We look forward to the meeting and collaboration between industry experts from multiple states. We cannot thank MSAPMS enough for hosting this year's annual event and inviting us to attend.



Sustaining Members

APMS wishes to express our gratitude to our Sustaining Members for their support during the 2024-2025 period. Sustaining Members play a crucial role in the success and sustainability of organizations like APMS.

If you're interested in learning more about what Sustaining Membership entails or if you want to become a Sustaining Member yourself, you can visit the following link for more information: [APMS Sustaining Members](#).

Sustaining Memberships often come with benefits like increased visibility, networking opportunities, and a deeper connection with the organization, so it can be a rewarding partnership for both the organization and its supporters.

Thank you all for your support in 2024-25!



[AgroShield](#) has been serving the Agriculture and Aquatic industries since 2015. Our Vodaguard product was developed to cure infections in the upper water column. Vodaguard's unique follow the bloom technology concentrates the cure where it is needed the most. Vodaguard C is a copper sulphate pentahydrate product. Vodaguard O is a sodium percarbonate that becomes hydrogen peroxide when introduced to water. Both products have a patented formulation that allows them to be buoyant for 24 to 36 hours. Reduces manpower, machinery, and un-necessary product which reduces cost. Please visit us at: <https://www.agro-shield.com/our-products/algaecides>.



Since 1981, [Applied Aquatic Management, Inc.](#), (AAM) has provided innovative and effective water management services, selective vegetation control, wetland management and exotic weed control. AAM has clients throughout Florida including developers, homeowners associations, golf courses, mobile home communities, utilities, local, state and federal government agencies and industry. Our experienced professional staff provides unique knowledge along with advanced equipment to manage all types of waterway, right-of-way, wetland, and upland systems.



[Aqua Services, Inc.](#) (Aqua Services) is a full-service water resource management company that has operated continuously in business for 40 years. In addition to its original focus on aquatic weed management operations for federal, state, and private entities, Aqua Services now provides superior fisheries population management, HAB and cyanobacteria control, lake design services, aeration design and installation, and soil sealant services to mitigate lake and pond seepage. Our experienced biologists and technicians work throughout the Southeast and Midwest to provide critical services to numerous clients. Successful projects have also been completed internationally, including the countries of Mexico and The Bahamas.

Sustaining Members



[AquaTechnex, LLC](#) is a lake and aquatic plant management firm that operates in the Western United States. The company is expert in the use of aerial and boat GIS/ GPS technologies to assess aquatic environments. The firm is also expert in the management of invasive aquatic weed species and phosphorous mitigation to suppress toxic cyanobacteria blooms. Our web site is www.aquatechnex.com; please drop by regularly to get news updates as we have moved our blog onto the site.



[Aquatic Control, Inc.](#) has been managing aquatic resources since 1966. As a distributor of lake management supplies, floating fountain aerators, and diffused aeration systems, Aquatic Control represents all of the major brands of quality supplies and equipment. Aquatic Control has eight offices that offer aquatic vegetation management services including vegetation mapping, application services, fountain and aeration system installation, equipment maintenance, and factory-trained service and warranty repair throughout the Midwest. Harmful Algae Bloom monitoring programs with our in-house laboratory allow us to customize treatment plan design through control of the algae causing taste and odor or toxin production issues.



Aquatic Vegetation Control, Inc. (AVC) is a Florida corporation founded in 1986 offering vegetation management and general environmental consulting services throughout the southeast. Since its establishment as an exotic/nuisance vegetation management company specializing in the control of invasive wetland, aquatic and upland species, AVC has broadened its scope of capabilities to include; certified lake management, fish stocking, re-vegetation, mitigation and restoration services, mitigation monitoring services, aquatic, roadside, forestry and utility vegetation management, and environmental/ecological consulting.



Brewer International is a reputable manufacturer of aquatic and land management adjuvants that has been providing distribution services nationwide for over 40 years, with its headquarters located in Vero Beach, Florida. The company specializes in producing surfactants designed to improve pesticide penetration, wetting, bonding, and drift control. Our products are widely utilized by aquatic and land managers across the country to enhance pesticide uptake, thereby increasing efficiency while reducing the chemical footprint in natural environments. As a family-owned business, Brewer International is committed to producing only the highest- quality products and has consistently invested in product development and manufacturing innovation to provide its distribution partners with the best possible value. We take great pride in our reputation as a reliable partner, providing superior quality products that meet and exceed industry standards.



Chem One is a national leader of Organic Copper Sulfate for aquatic management. With eight standard EPA label grades; Fine 20, 25, 30, 100, 200, Small, Medium and Large. Chem One has a grade to meet every customer's needs. With our corporate offices and 78,000+ square foot warehouse in Houston, Texas, Chem One is a national wholesale company that is certified to ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001.



Compliance Services International (CSI) is a leading regulatory consultancy providing innovative solutions for organizations faced with regulatory and environmental challenges. CSI's experienced scientists and regulatory specialists in the USA and the EU provide innovative approaches to solving regulatory and environmental challenges – combining traditional sciences with developing technologies to deliver economically sensible and scientifically sound results.

Sustaining Members



[Cygnets Enterprises, Inc.](#) is a national single source distributor of aquatic management products with offices and warehouses in Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, California and Idaho. Cygnets is proud of its reputation for outstanding service, friendly, knowledgeable staff and our unmatched support of the aquatics industry. Cygnets Enterprises is the only aquatic distributor at the Charter Gold Member level in the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation (AERF).



Since 1973, Diversified Waterscapes, Inc. has offered lake management services and ecological products to professional applicators. Our proven field experience in pond and lake cleaning enabled us to develop an eco-friendly line of products that show dramatic results in any aquatic environment. With more than 45 years of experience, we have been providing aquatic treatment products and maintenance service for some of the world's best water features, including the famous Bellagio Fountain in Las Vegas – delivering clearly better results without harming the environment. Our mission is to combine extensive industry experience, mechanical aptitude and scientific knowledge to bring clarity, cleanliness and beauty to water features across the country.



Duke Energy “Building a smarter energy future”. Duke Energy (NYSE: DUK), a Fortune 150 company headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., is one of the largest energy-holding companies in the U.S. It employs 30,000 people and has an electric generating capacity of 51,000 megawatts through its regulated utilities, and 3,000 megawatts through its nonregulated Duke Energy Renewables unit. Duke Energy is transforming its customers' experience, modernizing the energy grid, generating cleaner energy, and expanding natural gas infrastructure to create a smarter energy future for the people and communities it serves. More information about the company is available at duke-energy.com. Follow Duke Energy on Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook.



Lake Restoration, located in MN, has specialized in controlling pond weeds, lake weeds, and nuisance algae since 1977. Lake Restoration's product line-up includes: Mizzen, a copper based algaecide, Spritflo and Dibrox herbicides, a variety of pond dyes and nutrient reducers. Lake Restoration also manufactures the TORMADA product application boat, Vitaflume floating fountains, the retractable Goose D-Fence system, and the patented LAKEMAID to eliminate lake weeds automatically.



The Lee County Hyacinth Control District was formed by the Florida Legislature in June 1961 to curtail excessive growths of water hyacinth. That same year, water managers from across the state convened in Lee County and formed the Hyacinth Control Society, now APMS, to share control strategies and develop a comprehensive management approach to Florida's most prolific aquatic plant. T. Wayne Miller, Jr. of Lee County served as the Society's President for the first two years and Lee County has been a supporting member of APMS since its inception.

Sustaining Members



[Maxunitech](#) is an integrated enterprise focusing on the Research and Development, production, sales of agrochemicals, and relevant intermediates and other fine chemicals. Established in 2000, under the principles of “people oriented, united for innovation and pursue excellence,” we have been researching and developing new products, solving commercial issues from the perspective of technology, and fulfilling enterprise value with value added for our clients.



For more than 100 years we've been growing with you, bringing crop protection choices to our supply partners and the growers they serve. Nufarm solutions are developed and manufactured right here in America from three state-of-the-art US manufacturing facilities.



Nutrien Solutions is a full-service vegetation management company, providing innovative solutions and quality products for the aquatic plant management industry. The cornerstone of our success is our highly educated and trained field staff. With strong commitments to environmental stewardship, innovation, and technology, Nutrien Solutions provides customized programs tailored to specific locations throughout the U.S. We are the country's leading vegetation management provider, and we're excited to introduce you to everything Nutrien Solutions has to offer.



At Oase Professional, our mission is to restore and sustain healthy, balanced aquatic ecosystems through efficient, all-in-one lake therapy solutions. By targeting eutrophication at its source, we address critical carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus (C:N:P) ratios to improve water quality and sediment health. Our advanced technologies boost dissolved oxygen throughout the water column and sediment, stabilize pH levels, and correct nutrient imbalances—all while fostering biodiversity. With innovative, sustainable treatments, we create thriving aquatic environments that serve both people and nature, now and for future generations. Oase Lake Therapy — Efficient, holistic and sustainable. Visit us at oaselaketherapy.com



SOLitude Lake Management is a nationwide environmental firm committed to providing sustainable solutions that improve water quality, enhance beauty and preserve natural resources. SOLitude's team of aquatic scientists specializes in the development and execution of customized lake, stormwater pond, wetland and fisheries management programs. Services include water quality testing and restoration, algae and aquatic weed control, installation and maintenance of fountains and aeration systems, shoreline erosion control, muck and sediment removal and invasive species management. SOLitude partners with homeowners associations, golf courses, private landowners, businesses and municipalities. For more information, visit SOLitude Lake Management at solitudelakemanagement.com.



Shoreline Aquatics provides a range of services to ensure that your lake or pond is healthy, balanced, and thriving. From water testing and analysis, to aquatic weed control and fish stocking, we have the expertise and equipment necessary to keep your aquatic environment in top condition.

Sustaining Members



Invasive weeds can devastate both natural and commercial habitats. [Syngenta](#) provides high performance products to control destructive weeds while helping to restore the habitat of aquatic environments. Syngenta offers proven aquatic herbicides like Reward® and Tribune™ that provide fast burn-down, work well in cool weather and are rainfast in as little as 30 minutes. The active ingredient, diquat dibromide, has been used successfully in sensitive aquatic areas for over 25 years.



UPL NA, Inc. is a premier supplier of crop protection products and technologies designed for the agricultural, specialty, fumigation and aquatic markets. The Aquatics Division is part of the Environmental Solutions group which has manufactured aquatic herbicides and algaecides for the management of lakes, ponds, rivers and irrigation canals for more than 40 years. These products are marketed as Aquathol®, Hydrothol®, AquaStrike®, Current®, Symmetry®, Cascade®, Teton®, and Top Deck™. Most recently the development and commercialization of the ADAPT aquatic drone boat for improved application accuracy and efficiency was launched. With a customer-centric focus, UPL is committed to providing product stewardship and technical support to ensure your plant management operations are successful.

Incorporated in 1961 as a forum to share water hyacinth control experiences, today APMS and its seven Regional Chapters promote research and outreach to manage all species of aquatic plants and algae.



General Info for Membership, Etc.

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. is an international organization of scientists, educators, students, commercial pesticide applicators, administrators, and concerned individuals interested in the management and study of aquatic plants and algae. The membership reflects a diversity of federal, state, and local agencies, universities and colleges around the world, corporations, and small businesses.

● VISION

The Vision of the Aquatic Plant Management Society is to be the leading international organization for scientific information on aquatic plant and algae management.

● MISSION

The Mission of the Aquatic Plant Management Society is to provide a forum for the discovery and dissemination of scientific information that advances aquatic plant and algae management policy and practice.

● STATEMENT ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

Creating an atmosphere of inclusion is vital to the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS). Contributions and perspectives from all members, students, event participants, and our local and international communities are important. Diversity includes age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, color, race, religion, sexual orientation, and diversity of thoughts and ideas. We recognize that embracing and encouraging diversity is critical to fulfilling our mission to 'Provide a forum for the discovery and dissemination of scientific information that advances aquatic plant and algae management policy and practice'. APMS will strive to further cultivate a Society built on mentorship, encouragement, tolerance, and mutual respect, and foster a welcoming environment for all.

To join, visit this link: <http://www.apms.org/society/membership/>

To renew a membership, login and visit this link: <http://www.apms.org/member-login/>

Follow us on Social Media at:



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@APMS1961



APMS now has a Professional Organizational Page (@Aquatic Plant Management Society), as well as a Public Group

Many of our regional chapters are active on social media, too. Give them a like and a follow!