

The Benefits of Aquatic Plants

Buhl Lake is a popular fishing location within Addison Oaks County Park & Campground.

Aquatic plants, like those at Buhl Lake, get a bad rep for being a nuisance. However, native aquatic plants provide many important ecosystem services.

Aquatic plants like lily pads and pondweed:

- Reduce open water evaporation
- Provide hiding places for fish, amphibians and reptiles both above and below the water
- Reduce algae blooms by absorbing nutrients from fish waste
- Shade the water and reduce sunlight, helping to slow algae blooms
- Absorb pollutants and heavy metals
- Provide food for fish, turtles, insects, ducks, geese and some mammals
- Reduce wave action and provide erosion control by stabilizing the shore with large root structures
- Offer seasonal interest and improved aesthetics with attractive flowers, interesting structure, color and depth



Water shield



Yellow pond-lily



Water-lily



Pickerelweed



Long-Leaf Pondweed