



Is That a Boat in Our Ponds? What's Up? Yes, Pond Management Team is Keeping Ponds Healthy.

Sue Remy, Ponds & Preserves Committee.

[Woodlands Word – April 2023]

You may see a boat in our ponds occasionally and wonder why and what they are doing. Working closely with the P&P Committee, Beautiful Ponds (BP) is now our pond management contractor and will be using new methods and strategies to keep our ponds healthy and vibrant. Every lake and stormwater pond community is a complex ecosystem that requires regular maintenance.

(Courtesy photo)



Beautiful Ponds uses less invasive and more environmentally-friendly approaches to manage aquatic communities. By implementing water quality management, erosion control, and biological control methods, they provide a safer, more natural alternative.

As part of their management responsibilities, the BP team will do maintenance work along the shorelines and sometimes in the water, especially in larger bodies of water, such as Placid, Eagle, Mallard, Millpond, Otter, Scherer, Rivendell, Bobcat, etc., or where shoreline access is not effective.



When needed, the boat used is a small 14' Carolina skiff powered by an electric trolling motor. While our HOA rules do not allow folks to operate a motorized or paddle watercraft on any portion of our surface water management systems for fishing or recreation, BP has been given permission by the Board of Directors to launch a boat and perform maintenance duties as required.

The primary actions in the water involve inspecting and targeting invasive plants and nuisance native species, such as cattails, primrose, torpedo grass, alligator weed, and algae, etc. Targeted areas are often near preserves areas where access has been difficult in the past. They may do water quality testing and sampling as well.

Rivendell is excited about this new relationship and working together with Beautiful Ponds for the benefit of our community, our ponds, and our wildlife friends. Their unique approach will help us improve our water quality, wildlife habitats, natural assets, and keep property values strong.



(Photos: N. Dobias)