



Lake Management 101 Checklist

1. Drainage Outlet Control Structure (OCS)

- a. Location known, is it visible?
- b. Is water actively flowing into the structure?
- c. Is there a guard/debris screen in place and in good condition?
- d. Is there debris accumulation on the screen/opening of OCS?
- e. Visible leaks, cracks or rust deteriorated sections?

2. Dam Condition

- a. Visible leaks or seepage on backside slope or toe
- b. Visible low or soft spots on backside or toe
- c. Is there woody vegetation on front slope/face of dam?
- d. Is the dam adequately covered with grass type vegetation?
- e. Emergency spillway eroded or overgrown

3. Surrounding Slopes/Areas

- a. Does the shoreline have adequate vegetation for erosion control?
- b. Do sections of the lake banks have serious erosion issues?



4. Wildlife Concerns – Beavers, Muskrats, Canada Geese

- a. Evidence of beaver activity. Damaged trees?
- b. Are there gnawed sticks in the water?
- c. Is the damage recent? Still green, or leaves attached?
- d. Are there burrows along the shoreline and or dam?
- e. Are there geese present? Is there evidence of past activity (feces, feathers)?

5. Nuisance Vegetation Concerns

- a. Is there algae present?
- b. Filamentous or planktonic (floating film)? Percentage of coverage?
- c. Submerged aquatic vegetation present? Percentage of coverage?
- d. Nuisance floating vegetation? Percent of coverage?

6. Water Quality

- a. What color is the water?
- b. What is the clarity?
- c. Any unpleasant odors?



- d. Do fish/wildlife appear healthy?
- e. Aeration (if applicable)
- f. Decorative fountain
- g. Subsurface aerator
- h. Surface aerator
- i. Known maximum water depth?

7. Fish

- a. Have grass carp been stocked? How long ago were they stocked?
- b. Is the fishery managed for sport fishing?

8. Water Source

- a. Primary and secondary water sources?
- b. Fed by: stormwater, spring, wet weather stream, year-round stream, ground water

9. Management Objectives

- a. Just keep it clean from trash/litter?
- b. Eradicate all vegetation?



- c. Manage nuisance weeds, keep ornamentals?
- d. Fisheries management: intensive high cost, Balanced low cost?
- e. Swimming suitability?

10. Sedimentation

- a. Shallow at inlet(s)?
- b. Past sediment removal operations completed?
- c. Exposed sediment bars: Keep them clear or keep them covered with managed vegetation?
- d. Recent Sediment study performed?

11. Stakeholders

- a. How many stakeholders are involved?
- b. What is the primary objective for the impoundment use?
Fishing or recreational use?
- c. What is in the budget?

Please contact Evan Carpenter to discuss your lake management needs or to learn more about our services. 678-445-0077 or evancarpenter@aquascape.net