

Are Lake Athens residents allowed to treat aquatic vegetation this year?

Yes, residents will be able to request vegetation treatment permits, as in years past.

When can we submit vegetation treatment permit applications?

You may begin submitting permit applications at 8:00 A.M. on Wednesday, March 1. No permits will be accepted before this date, whether by mail, in person, or dropped in AMWA's drop box prior to 8:00 A.M. on Wednesday, March 1.

TPWD and AMWA will accept permit applications through 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 31. Any application received after 4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 31, whether by mail, in person, or in AMWA's drop box will not be considered.

How much vegetation are we able to treat?

The maximum treatment area is 5,625 square feet (75' x 75', or approximately 0.13 acres). The maximum treatment area is the same regardless of what type of treatment you are requesting a permit for. This is the same maximum treatment area that was used for vegetation management in 2017 and 2022.

Each Lake Athens property owner will be allowed to apply for **one** treatment area, regardless of the number of lots or linear footage of frontage owned.

What types of treatment are available for 2023?

Both chemical and traditional mechanical treatment applications are still available to residents. For 2023, Texas Parks & Wildlife will be allowing up to 50 residents to apply for and install an "automatic mechanical" treatment.

What is an "automatic mechanical" treatment?

An automatic mechanical treatment is any mechanical treatment that you can install on Lake Athens, program that treatment to run, and moves water and/or vegetation. Examples of these treatments would be underwater fans (such as AquaThrusters, AquaSweeps, and other kinetic water features), aerators, rollers (such as Beach Groomer, Lake Roller, etc.).

For these types of devices, you will need to submit a permit application each year. If you already have this type of device, you must still submit and receive approval prior to operating it for 2023.

What are the restrictions on these "automatic mechanical" treatments?

TPWD is limiting the number of these treatments to 50 on Lake Athens, regardless of whether they are rollers, aerators, or fans. For the roller type, arms may not be longer than 38 feet (for a total treatment diameter of ~75 feet). For fans and aerators, the pump size may not exceed 3/4 horsepower, or whichever the manufacturer recommends for a treatment diameter of 75 feet. Additionally, the fan or aerator devices may not be placed closer than 12" from the lake bed.

If you apply for and receive a permit for an automatic mechanical treatment, you may not apply for or conduct any other type of treatment.

If I was approved for an automatic mechanical treatment in 2022, how do I make sure I get one for 2023?

AMWA and TPWD recognize that those that were approved for these types of permits in 2022, invested in equipment that can be used for multiple years. As such, the 29 properties that were approved for automatic mechanical treatments in 2022, will be given priority for permits in 2023. To ensure that you can receive a permit for 2023, your application must be complete and received by the Authority no later than 4:00 P.M. on March 14.

After March 14, any resident that had an automatic mechanical permit in 2022, will lose their priority status and will be placed in the queue for new applications.

If you received an automatic mechanical permit for 2022 and **will not** be requesting a permit for 2023, please let the Authority know, as soon as possible, by emailing permits@athenstxwater.org.

What are the chemical treatment windows for this year?

The four chemical treatment windows, where your chemical applicator may apply chemicals to Lake Athens, are:

- May 1 – May 12 (must have an **approved** permit no later than April 13)
- June 5 – June 16 (must have **approved** permit no later than May 19)
- August 8 – August 19
- September 25 – October 6

When can we begin mechanical and automatic mechanical treatments?

No treatment may begin prior to May 1, 2023. After that time, mechanical treatments may occur at any time, through December 31.

What is the permit process for this year?

The permit process is nearly identical to last year. If you are applying for both chemical and traditional mechanical treatments, you must submit a separate application for each treatment type.

If you apply for and receive a permit for an automatic mechanical treatment, you may not apply for or conduct any other type of treatment.

Chemical treatment applications:

- Page 1 of the AMWA application for aquatic vegetation treatment
- Contractor information/signature portion and applicant signature of page 2 of AMWA application
- Map with treatment area highlighted
- TPWD Aquatic Vegetation Treatment Proposal
- Non-refundable \$43 application fee

Traditional Mechanical Treatments

- Page 1 of the AMWA application for aquatic vegetation treatment
- Contractor information/signature portion and applicant signature of page 2 of AMWA application
- Map with treatment area highlighted
- TPWD Aquatic Vegetation Treatment Proposal
- Non-refundable \$43 application fee

Automatic Mechanical Treatments

- Page 1 of the AMWA application for aquatic vegetation treatment
- Automatic mechanical vegetation management equipment info and applicant signature of page 2 of AMWA application
- Map with treatment area highlighted
- TPWD Aquatic Vegetation Treatment Proposal
- Non-refundable \$43 application fee

Permit application may be submitted in person at 5302 FM 2495, via physical drop box at 5302 FM 2495, by mail to P.O. Box 229, Athens, TX 75751, or via email to permits@athenstxwater.org. If you email your application, be sure to also send a credit card authorization form. Applications are not complete without payment.

[Applications for permits will not be considered if submitted incorrectly, are illegible, or are incomplete.](#)

If you have additional questions, please visit the Aquatic Vegetation Management page at www.athenstxwater.org and the 2023 Vegetation Plan, found there. If you still have questions, please contact the AMWA office or email permits@athenstxwater.org