

# Glossary of Terms

<b>Aerobic</b>	Living, active or occurring only in the presence of oxygen.
<b>Alewife</b>	A small food fish of the herring family.
<b>Algae</b> ( <i>Anabaena sp.</i> )	Chiefly aquatic, nonvascular plants.
<b>Anaerobic</b>	Living, active or occurring in the absence of free oxygen.
<b>Anoxic</b>	Oxygen-deprived
<b>Benthic Barrier</b>	A growth-inhibiting, usually synthetic material; laid across infested areas of a lake bottom and secured with pins or weights; to control or eradicate invasive plants.
<b>Cladocera</b>	Minute, chiefly freshwater crustaceans
<b>Diatoms</b>	A class of minute, planktonic algae with silicified skeletons that form diatomite.
<b>Epilimnion</b>	The surface water of a lake, which is warm, well-mixed and high in oxygen.
<b>Eurasian Watermilfoil</b> ( <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> )	A particularly aggressive invasive aquatic plant with finely pinnate submersed leaves.
<b>Eutrophication</b>	The process through which a body of water becomes rich in dissolved nutrients but often shallow and seasonally deficient in oxygen. In essence, the dying of a lake.
<b>Herbivorous</b>	Feeding on plants.
<b>Hypolimnion</b>	The deepest layer of lake water, cold and devoid of oxygen.
<b>Invasive Plants</b>	Non-native plants which tend to spread aggressively.
<b>Limnology</b>	The scientific study of physical, chemical, meteorological and biological conditions in fresh waters.
<b>Mesotrophic</b>	Having a moderate amount of dissolved nutrients, ie. in the middle stages of eutrophication.
<b>Nannoplankton</b>	The smallest planktonic organisms.
<b>Oligotrophic</b>	Deficient in plant nutrients and having an abundance of dissolved oxygen with no marked stratification.
<b>pH</b>	A measurement on a scale of 1 to 14 of alkalinity (greater than 7) and acidity (less than 7), with 7 representing neutrality.

<b>Phosphorus</b>	A nonmetallic multivalent element of the nitrogen family which promotes plant growth in water. This is often found in <a href="#">detergents</a> and fertilizers.
<b>Phytoplankton</b>	Planktonic plant life.
<b>Plankton</b>	The passively floating or weakly swimming (usually minute) plant or animal life of a body of water.
<b>Rip-Rap</b>	A foundation or sustaining wall of stones (as in deep water or on an embankment) to prevent erosion.
<b>Secchi Disk</b>	A yellow and black disk lowered into a body of water to measure water clarity.
<b>Stratification</b>	The process in which a body of water separates into distinct layers.
<b>Thermocline</b>	The region in a body of water which separates warmer, oxygen-rich surface water from cold, oxygen-poor deep water.
<b>TP</b>	Total Phosphorous
<b>Turnover</b>	The natural occurrence in most lakes, usually in spring and fall, in which the top water layers, previously separated (or stratified) by temperature, mix due to air temperature changes and wind and wave action.
<b>Water Milfoil</b>	See Eurasian Watermilfoil
<b>Water Chestnut</b>	An invasive aquatic herb of the evening-primrose family.
<b>Water Clover</b>	A non-indigenous, amphibious plant resembling a four leaf clover with a long plant stalk.
<b>Watershed</b>	An area bounded peripherally by a water parting and draining into a particular body of water.
<b>Zooplankton</b>	Planktonic animal life.