

Just because it's green doesn't mean you want it!

For years, great mats of floating and submerged algae frequently turned the nearly three-acre irrigation lake at Banyan GC in West Palm Beach into an eyesore and source of complaints from club members. At times, the algae was so thick it clogged clay valves on the irrigation system, requiring the valves to be cleaned every two or three days.

Golf course manager Dan Jones, like most superintendents in Florida, looked for a solution to the problem. He

DAN JONES

DAVE REAGAN

An aerator can turn an ugly, algae-infested pond into a scene for a photographer's scrapbook in less time than one might imagine. Photo at right was taken on this three-acre pond just two weeks after photo above.





DAN JONES

Even after 12 hours, the effect of the aerator is obvious.

'Our lake went from an eyesore to a beautiful waterway in two short weeks... Our irrigation system now operates normally for the first time in 17 years.'

tried copper sulfate and the white amur fish, sometimes called the grass carp.

Although these chemicals and biological treatments worked well on other aquatic weeds in the lake, they barely affected the algae. Then Jones saw an ad for an algae- and odor-control aeration system and contacted an irrigation supply in Boynton Beach.

Jones installed two 3-hp units last April and he didn't have to wait long to see the results.

They were dramatic.

"Our lake went from an eyesore to a beautiful waterway in two short weeks!" he reports. "The water is crystal clear and the algae is 98 percent eliminated. Our irrigation sys-

tem now operates normally for the first time in 17 years."

Banyan's aerators, installed by Boynton Pump, were manufactured by Aeration Industries of Minneapolis. They are variations of the firm's patented surface-mounted aspirator aerators used in wastewater treatment and aquaculture production.

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