



## 3M Company Announces Aquatic Weed Service

Constant treatment is necessary to keep south Florida flood canals free of aquatic weeds and algae. Weeds act somewhat like quicksand. A child falling into weed-choked water might not be able to swim in it.

ONE OF THE NATION'S largest industrial corporations has launched a program to help combat Florida's serious lakes and waterways weed and algae problems.

The 3M Company—known for its Scotch, Tartan and 3M brand labels on such diverse products as tapes, sandpaper, copying machines, synthetic football fields and reflective highway signs—has formed a new unit within its New Business Ventures division to accomplish the task.

Dr. William G. Paterson heads its Aquatic Control Systems program

at the firm's headquarters in St. Paul. Working under him is Dr. Robert W. Geiger who heads the program's "Lakes and Waterways Management Service" (LAWMS) with facilities in Miami Lakes and Pompano Beach, Fla.

LAWMS is specializing in clearing aquatic weeds and algae from highly-infested bodies of water and in maintaining water in an essentially weed- and algae-free condition. It is accomplishing its work in part with a series of new, selective herbicide systems of low toxicity that have wide margins of safety to fish and wildlife.

LAWMS offers two types of services:

- It will handle water management problems for local and county governmental units or private groups on an annual contract basis, or
- It will train personnel and provide products and "expertise" to qualified governmental agencies that desire to do their own water management work.

"In the first instance, our yearly contractual agreements are all-encompassing," Dr. Paterson says. "They include an initial survey to identify the scope of the problem and as many treatments as necessary to accomplish the objective."

"We won't merely furnish some herbicides or show up for one quick spray application," says Dr. Geiger. "We want full control over the entire year to make sure the job is done right."

LAWMS has actually been in Florida nearly two years. Initial aquatic weed and algae control work was done with Dade County (Miami). This work continues and LAWMS also has agreements with several city and related governmental units and lake associations.

LAWMS is equipped to handle virtually all of Florida's major aquatic weed and algae problems, including hydrilla, water hyacinth, aquatic grasses, watermilfoil, pondweed, filamentous algae and the weedlike algae, chara.

For more information contact: 3M Company Lakes and Waterways Management Service, 501E N.E. 28th St., Pompano Beach, Fla. 33064, (305) 943-0481, or Aquatic Control Systems, New Business Ventures division, 3M Company, 3M Center, St. Paul, Minn. 55101, (612) 733-1052.



3M Company's Lakes and Waterways Management Service is keeping the 15-acre pond in the infield area of Florida's famed Tropical Park race track free of weeds and algae. Severe infestations of hydrilla, southern naiad, large leaf pondweed, chara and algae scum had driven away waterfowl and were threatening game fish. Much aquatic weed work is left to be done, as indicated by lake of water hyacinths above.