



# AQUA DOC

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## The Objective

The pond in this Aquafix case study was 1.5 surface acres (SA) with a maximum depth of 5.0 feet (ft) and an average depth of 2.0 ft. Located within the Olstead Twp in Ohio, it is situated within a retirement community and adjacent to a golf course. Sediment within the pond was rich in organic leaf detritus and nutrient-rich runoff was entering from a nearby golf course. The shallow nature of the pond, high amount of organic material, and runoff nutrient loading created the perfect environment for a potential nuisance algae bloom. Mid-summer, our client experienced a severe bloom of *Pithophora sp.* that blanketed the entire pond (Figure 1). This created an unsightly view and demonstrated a misbalance in the system. Over the course of 6 weeks, AQUA DOC repeatedly applied heavy rates of copper sulfate mixed with diquat, Hydrothol, and Clearigate with no substantial improvements. It was growing at a considerable rate and we were unable to burn it back. After 6 weeks without results, we were desperate for an alternative strategy.

*“After only 3 weeks, the pond was completely clear of algae and remained that way for the remainder of the growing season”*

## The Results

Working alongside Aquafix, we learned how PondZilla Pro was able to penetrate and kill akinete structures that aid cell regrowth in *Pithophora sp.* We considered that if we were able to attack the akinete we could reduce the reproductive potential of the algae and get ahead of it. Our first application was 5.0 gallons (gal) of PondZilla Pro mixed with 10.0 pounds (lbs) of copper sulfate and 0.5 gal of a non-ionic surfactant. We distributed the products evenly across the pond and throughout the water column. One week later we returned to the site and used 2.0 gal of PondZilla Pro and 1.5 gal of a 9 % chelated copper based algaecide. After only 3 weeks, the pond was completely clear of algae and remained that way for the remainder of the growing season (Figure 2): Ecological balance was restored to this pond and the retired residents have once again been able to enjoy it. Because of the success of PondZilla Pro, it has been implemented as part of the ongoing management strategy for the pond.



Figures 1 and 2: The state of a portion of the pond before our PondZilla Pro treatment (left) and after treatment (right). It was almost difficult to tell where grass stops and pond begins before treatment!

**AQUA DOC... Working full time on Lake Management...So you don't have to.**