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For Immediate Release: Friday, July 24, 2026

2026 Hydrilla Treatment on Cayuga Lake

As part of an on-going effort to eradicate Hydrilla from Cayuga Lake, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has contracted with SOLitude Lake Management to apply the aquatic herbicides fluridone (Sonar® H4C) and chelated copper (Harpoon® Granular) in the North Aurora Project Area again this summer.

The initial application of fluridone (Sonar® H4C) to the North Aurora Project Area will begin on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, weather depending, and it will take 10 weeks to complete the treatment. A map of the treatment zone can be found below as well as online using the link below. Harpoon® Granular will only be applied as a spot treatment to isolated hydrilla detections. The contracted herbicide applicator will also be posting signs along the lake at public access points when the herbicides are applied.

There will be no restrictions for drinking, fishing, swimming, boating, or domestic use of treated water at the levels at which the Sonar® H4C will be applied. Water that contains fluridone, should not be used for sensitive greenhouse and nursery plants, newly seeded lawns, and some vegetable plants.

The Cayuga County Health Department will conduct water quality monitoring of the public drinking water during this treatment period. The 2026 sampling results will be posted on the Cayuga County Health Department website when they become available. The 2025 report reviewing the effectiveness of the hydrilla treatment in this part of Cayuga Lake can be found on the New York State Water Resources Institute Aquatic Invasive Species Region 7 website.

To review sampling results, visit: <https://www.cayugacounty.gov/467/Hydrilla>

To view the 2025 Cayuga Lake Report, visit: <https://cals.cornell.edu/water-resources-institute/research-themes/aquatic-ecosystems/aquatic-invasive-species/region-7-ais-program>

To view the map of all the treatment areas, visit:
<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/23a9cdb8a5e842c6b12b30902f74abc0>



Legend

North Aurora

2026 Proposed Hydrilla Control

-  Wells College Bay (Sonar H4C) (19.4 Acres)
-  Airplane Bay and Mackenzine Childs (Sonar H4C) (56.4 Acres)
-  Copper Spot Treatments (11.88 Acres)
-  Great Gully (Copper) (2.7 Acres)



North Aurora Sonar H4C and Harpoon Granular Application Areas

Esri, CGLAR, USGS, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS,
(c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, New York
State, Vantor

2026



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Miles

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Km