



## Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management Aquatic Response Report

### Section 1: Response Project Summary

General Information	
<b>Date Response Action Conducted:</b> July 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	<b>County:</b> Albany
<b>Site Name:</b> Ann Lee Pond; Ann Lee Pond Nature and Historic Preserve	<b>Permit(s)/Permission(s) Acquired?</b> Permission obtained from Albany County Parks & Rec. DEC said no permit was required.
<b>Address (if different):</b> Heritage Ln, Albany, NY 12205	<b>Time Spent on Site (Hours)/ # of Staff on Site:</b> 3 hours on site/4 PRISM staff
	<b>Property Owner Name, Title, and Contact:</b> Albany County Parks & Recreation Olivia Downs, Program Coordinator— <a href="mailto:olivia.downs@albanycountyny.gov">olivia.downs@albanycountyny.gov</a>
<b>Parking Lot Latitude/Longitude:</b> - 42.739026, -73.813020 (main lot for pond w/ launch) - 42.738922, -73.814398 (neighboring lot with access rd to get vehicles closer to footbridge)	<b>Project Leader Name, Title, and Contact:</b> Alexa Howansky, AIS Program Manager— <a href="mailto:ajh363@cornell.edu">ajh363@cornell.edu</a>
<b>Total Parcel Size (acres):</b> 10.6 acres	<b>Disposal Name and Contact:</b> Disposed on site
<b>Worksite Size (acres):</b> 1.5 acres	<b>Team Member Name(s) and Title(s):</b> - Alex Picard, WISP Assistant Supervisor - Justin Zito, WISP Steward - Jamie Bratt, WISP Steward
<b>Report Author:</b> Alexa Howansky	<b>Data Recorder &amp; iMapInvasives ID:</b> Alexa Howansky— iMap ID 28804; ArcGIS user ajh363_CUGIS
<b># of Volunteers (if any):</b> No volunteers, but 2 Albany County Parks & Rec staff.	<b># of Total Volunteer Hours on Site (# of volunteers x Time spent on site):</b> 6 (3 hrs x 2 Albany County staff)

#### Conservation Goal:

- Delineate & assess a conservation value       To prevent and protect a conservation value  
 Local Eradication       Post-Treatment Monitoring       Containment  
 Suppression       Exclusion       Restoration

#### Response Type:

- Initial Response       Follow-up Monitoring       Crew Assistance Program Project  
 Research Action       Restoration       Volunteer Engagement

**Disposal method(s):** On-site—piled on concrete pad on the access road.





### **Project Significance:**

Ann Lee Pond is a nature and historic preserve, holding ecological and recreational value. The pond allows shoreline fishing and houses species such as Yellow and Brown Bullhead, Pumpkinseed, Bluegill, Largemouth Bass, Crappie, and Perch. This was the third year of hand-pulling Water Chestnut at this site, and the population is showing shrinkage (215 lbs removed in 2024 vs. 39 lbs removed in 2025), suggesting that this site is favorable for local eradication.

Additionally, Ann Lee Pond's native aquatic plant community is not only robust and healthy, but also dominant—the expansive population of native White Waterlily (*Nymphaea odorata*) covers nearly the entire surface of the pond, with Water Chestnut only sparsely scattered amongst it. White Waterlily in particular is a strong contender for competing against Water Chestnut and is even commonly used in restoration efforts, replacing removed Water Chestnut with planted Waterlily, due to its enhanced ability to occupy and shade out the water column, effectively outcompeting Water Chestnut that could otherwise take over that same space. For this reason, Ann Lee Pond is even more ideal for local eradication given the decreased likelihood of re-establishment, and without the need to spend resources on restoration efforts.



**Figure 1.** *Native White Waterlilies!* Virtually all the floating vegetation visible in the photo above is native *Nymphaea odorata*.

## Section 2: Response Results Summary

**Is this the first year of treatment?** No—pulls occurred in 2023, 2024, and 2025

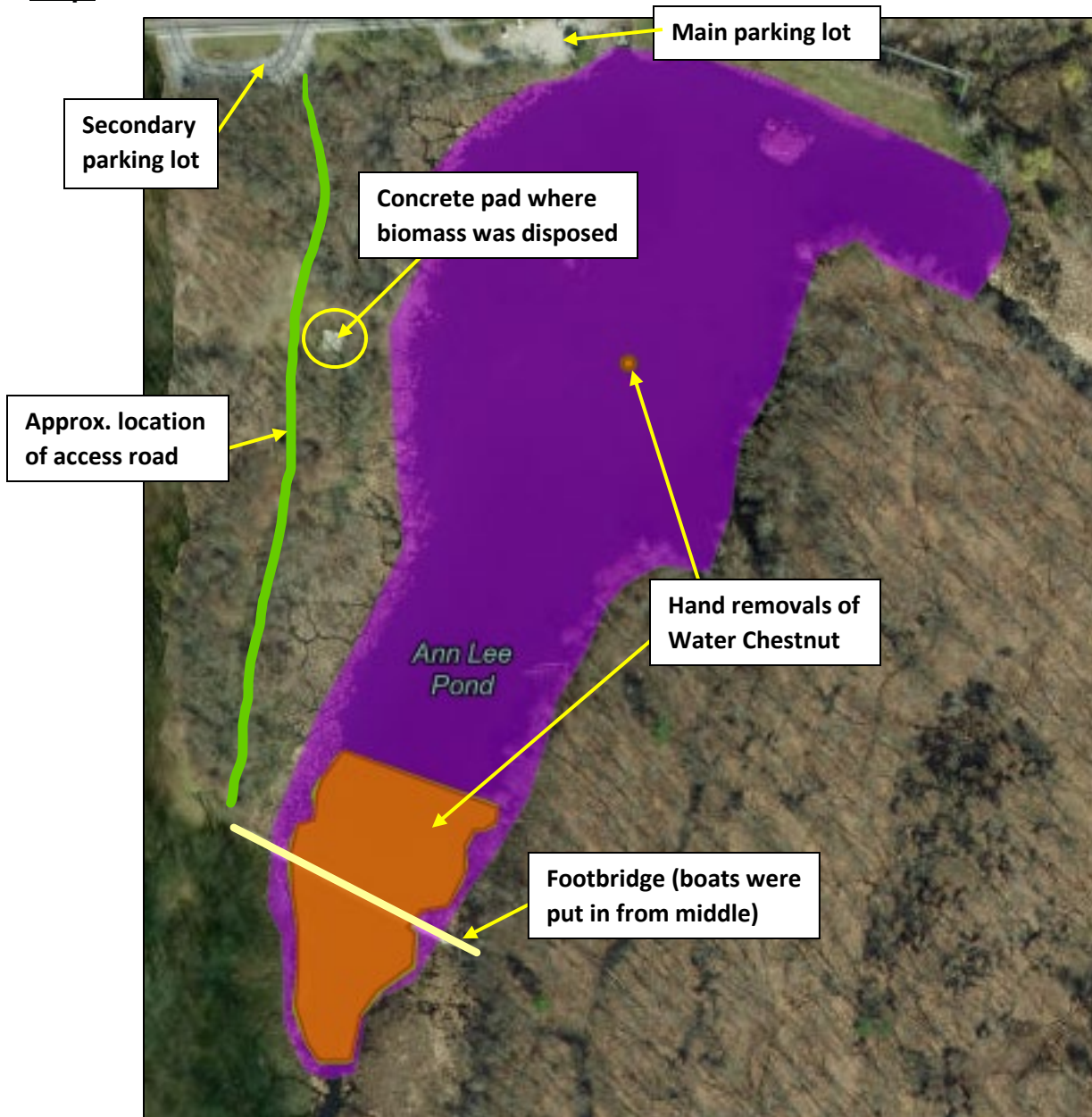
**Is follow-up needed? What time of year and how often during the season?** Yes—continued annual pulls are recommended with the goal of local eradication. Once during mid-season (i.e. mid July – mid August; before seeds drop) should be sufficient given the evident decrease in the population that has already occurred from once annual pulls.

**Number of stems/bags/pounds of biomass removed (if applicable):** 39 lbs. (2 contractor bags)



Common Name	Scientific Name	Tier/ Threat Rank	Growth Form/ Lifecycle	Phenology/ Life stage	Percent Cover (%)	Distribution/ Abundance	Response Method	Area Infested (acres/miles if linear)	Area Treated (acres/miles if linear)
Water Chestnut	<i>Trapa natans</i>	4; Very High	Floating	Vegetative	< 10%	Trace to Sparse	Manual (hand pull)	< 2 acres	1.5 acres

**Map:**



**Figure 2.** iMap Mobile Advanced (iMMA) aerial view of Ann Lee Pond. Purple = Searched Area; orange = Treatment (Physical).



Initially, boats were launched from the main parking lot—only a trace rosette was found in the middle of the pond (Fig. 2), and the native Waterlilies were too dense to paddle much further beyond that. Boats were then loaded back up on vehicles and taken to the secondary parking lot, where an access road allowed for the vehicles to be driven a bit closer to the next launch point. Vehicles were ultimately parked at the concrete pad (Fig. 2) and then boats were carried the rest of the way down the access road where they were then launched from the middle of the footbridge, 3 people on either side.

### Photos:



**Figure 3.** Native White Waterlily leaf pads coating the water's surface. None of the vegetation visible in this photo is Water Chestnut! Photo taken from the main parking lot, facing South.



**Figure 4.** Trace Water Chestnut. WISP Assistant Supervisor Alex Picard shows the sole rosette found in the northern section of the pond.



**Figure 5.** Boat Stewards amongst the lily pads. Jamie Bratt (front) and Justin Zito (behind) pictured searching through the Waterlilies for Water Chestnut.



Figures 6 & 7. Biomass & Group photo. CR-PRISM and Albany County Parks & Rec staff pictured pointing at the 39-lb. biomass pile.

## Section 3: Summary of Recommendations

### **Treatment:**

Hand pulls are recommended to continue on an annual basis with the goal of local eradication. Pulls should be conducted between mid-July and mid-August (depending on phenology) in order to capture Water Chestnut prior to the ripening of fruits/dropping of seeds.

### **Post-Treatment Monitoring:**

Each treatment iteration should be mapped using iMap Mobile Advanced (iMMA) or the web version of iMapInvasives. Each year's treatment polygons and removed biomass should be compared to track the continued decrease in population size/density. Once local eradication is assumed achieved (i.e. no plants can be found during a planned annual response iteration), the site should continue to be monitored annually for a few years to capture any regrowth from dormant seeds. During this post-treatment monitoring, non-detect records should be logged to show continued eradication.

### **Additional Notes:**

- 2 to 5 participants should be sufficient for future treatment iterations as the population dwindles.
- There are a few Common Carp present in the pond—be aware/cautious as it is a small pond and carp are known to be very large and strong (they may bump the bottom of your boat if startled—not likely to tip the boat or anything but merely jarring to experience when you're not expecting it).