

APPENDIX H
PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Public Comments

The draft supplemental environmental assessment (SEA) was released for public review through the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Research and Demonstration Project website and a public notice on the District's website. A 30-day public comment period from June 11, 2025 through July 13, 2025, was held in which 274 comments were received. The comments spanned a variety of topics from general support or disapproval, environmental concerns, human health and safety, pesticide registration, project design, project expense, and communication. This appendix contains a complete log of all public comments that were received during the public comment period, responses to the comments, and a summary section to address the most common comments.

2. General Support

Comments that expressed general support included support for the control of hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) and other invasive species. These comments either expressed full or partial support. Comments that described partial support supported the management of invasive species, but did not support the aquatic use of herbicides, including the use of diquat dibromide (diquat).

3. General Disapproval

The majority of comments received during the public comment period were in disapproval of the study and its use of aquatic herbicides, primarily opposing the use of diquat. Diquat-focused comments expressed concerns that the applications may result in non-target impacts and harm to the environment, fish and wildlife, and human health and safety. The majority of comments that disapproved of aquatic herbicide use suggested non-chemical alternatives. Responses to these concerns are provided in sections below.

4. Environmental Concerns

Comments received concerning environmental impacts included negative impacts to the environment, fish and wildlife (including federally protected species), water quality, environmental fate (pesticide movement in the environment), and application timing. The following sections provide responses to these concerns. A full discussion of the environmental impacts of the project can be found in Section 5 of the final SEA and 2024 EA (USACE, 2024).

4.1 Negative Impacts to the Environment (Ecotoxicology)

4.1.1 Habitat Quality Degradation

Comments included concerns that herbicide use, including the use of diquat, will result in degraded habitat quality and the loss of native plant species. Refer to Sections 5.2 of the final SEA for potential impacts to the biological environment. Herbicide application will use sub-surface injection methods, where there is minimal risk to adjacent habitat. Application would be restricted to the aquatic and intertidal habitats within the proposed treatment area. Previous research in the scientific literature has described the selectivity profiles of aquatic herbicides and key non-target (native) plant species. Many non-target plant populations are either: 1) physiologically tolerant to specific aquatic herbicides at concentrations and exposure times used to control hydrilla; 2) Do not occur at a sensitive growth stage during treatment timing; or 3) can withstand short-term herbicide injury and recover (from seeds, turions, belowground structures). Any impacts to non-target plants, and overall habitat, would be temporary in nature. Recovery of non-target plants is anticipated in the same or following growing season, and post-treatment vegetation monitoring will occur.

4.1.2 Fish and Wildlife

Comments regarding fish and wildlife were concerned about direct impacts from herbicide toxicity, including diquat, and with bioaccumulation. The final SEA discusses potential short-term and long-term impacts to fish and wildlife in Section 5.2.5. Indirect impacts to fish are also discussed in Section 5.3, which considers impacts to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) within the project area.

USACE consulted with federal and state wildlife agencies on potential impacts to fish and wildlife. USACE consulted with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP)'s Fisheries Division as described in Section 5.2.5 of the final SEA. USACE consulted with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the Magnuson-Stevens Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*). Consultation with NMFS and USFWS is described in Sections 5.3 and 5.4. Appendix A of the final SEA includes copies of interagency correspondences.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s pesticide registration process is described in Section 6.0, below, which includes comprehensive risk assessments to evaluate potential risk to humans, wildlife, fish, and plants, including threatened and endangered species. The proposed herbicide's ecological risks assessments considered exposure risk to fish and wildlife, including the potential for bioaccumulation in fish. Their registration was approved for aquatic use, in which EPA determined that the products would not result in unreasonable adverse effects on the environment (40 CFR 152.112(e)). There may be temporary, adverse indirect impacts to aquatic organisms due to habitat loss (reduction in plant coverage) following herbicide treatment. These impacts are expected to be minimal since aquatic organisms can relocate to other vegetated areas within the river or waterbody.

4.1.3 Threatened and Endangered Species

Comments were received concerning impacts to federally-listed threatened and endangered species. Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (16 USC §1536(a)(2)) requires federal agencies, in consultation and assistance with the USFWS and NMFS (collectively referred to as the Services), to insure any agency action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species. Refer to Sections 5.4 of the final SEA and 2024 EA for a discussion on potential impacts to threatened & endangered species and state-listed species. Refer to Section 8.1 of the final SEA and 2024 EA for a description of Endangered Species Act compliance.

4.2 Negative Impacts to Water Quality

Water Quality comments included concerns that herbicide application would result in low dissolved oxygen (DO) and subsequent fish kills; increased turbidity; increased nutrients and algal blooms; and overall water pollution. No significant, long-term impacts are anticipated from the herbicide applications. Section 5.1.2 of the final SEA and 2024 EA describes water quality impacts, including the long-term impacts associated with the No Action Alternative and short-term impacts associated with the proposed action. The proposed herbicides are approved by EPA and CT DEEP for aquatic environments. Herbicide applications will adhere to the EPA-approved label and will not exceed the maximum use rate. The application of herbicides is regulated under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act. Section 8.1 of the final SEA describes compliance with the Clean Water Act.

4.3 Environmental Fate

Comments were received regarding the environmental fate of pesticides. Environmental fate describes the movement, transformation, and degradation of pesticides in soil, water, and air following application. These comments expressed concerns primarily about the persistence of herbicides in the water column and soil. The aquatic herbicides selected for the project are registered for aquatic use and are not highly persistent in the water column or biologically available in soils. The environmental fate of a specific herbicide is determined during the EPA pesticide registration process described in Section 6.0, below.

In addition to persistence, additional comments were received concerning potential groundwater and drinking water contamination. USACE reviewed the CT DEEP's public water supply mapping application to identify public water supplies and private drinking wells near the proposed treatment sites. Refer to Sections 4.2.2 and 5.1.2 of the final SEA for a discussion of public drinking water resources and potential impacts. All proposed herbicides contain EPA-approved labels that provide restrictions (if any) related to drinking water. All products will be used according to product labels.

5. Human Health Concerns

Comments received concerning human health concerns included negative impacts to humans from herbicide use. Concerns included risks to human life and safety (including chronic health issues); exposure risk from recreational use; and risk of contaminated drinking water and ground water.

Comments regarding human life and safety raised concerns on the toxicity of diquat to humans. As described in Section 6.0, below, the proposed pesticides are registered and approved for aquatic use by the EPA. Human health risk assessments are conducted during pesticide registration. In 2015, EPA prepared a preliminary human health risk assessment for the registration review of diquat. The risk assessment characterized acute and chronic risks associated with dietary exposure of diquat. EPA determined that both acute and chronic risks for food and drinking water exposure were below the Health Effects Division's level of concern. Refer to Section 4.3, above, for more information on groundwater and drinking water. Pesticide application will follow the EPA-approved label; therefore, no human health risk is anticipated from the proposed action.

6. Diquat Pesticide Registration

Comments received included concerns on the use of diquat due to the herbicide being banned in Europe and other countries. The EPA registers herbicides under Section 136a of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIRFA) (7 U.S.C. §136(a)). Through approval, EPA determines that the product will perform its intended function without unreasonable adverse effects on the environment, and that, when used in accordance with widespread and commonly recognized practice, the product will not generally cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment (40 CFR 152.112(e)). The proposed herbicides are registered for aquatic use and application will adhere to the approved label. Refer to Section 2.2.2 of the final SEA for a description of the proposed herbicides and their registration status.

7. Project Design

Comments received concerning project design included support for alternative control methods (non-chemical alternatives), additional environmental review, and additional public review and involvement. These concerns are discussed in the following sections.

7.1 Alternative Control Measures

Comments received concerning control measures included support for non-chemical alternatives (in opposition of chemical use), concerns on the cost-effectiveness of herbicides, and concern on the use of systemic herbicides.

Comments regarding non-chemical alternatives favored the use of mechanical, biological, cultural, and physical control methods. Concerns were raised regarding the consideration of alternative control measures. USACE considered alternative control methods to chemical control (herbicide) in the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Research & Demonstration project (USACE, 2024). USACE considered various factors such as the extent of *Hydrilla*, water exchange environment, and species selectivity. Alternative control measures, such as mechanical and biological control, were not considered feasible within the Lower Connecticut River watershed. These alternative control measures are discussed in Section 2 of the final SEA. These alternative control measures were also considered in Section 3.3 of the 2024 EA (USACE, 2024).

Additional comments suggested the use of cultural methods such as volunteer clean-up efforts. The purpose of the project is to develop and verify effective, selective, and scalable management techniques for *Hydrilla* within the Lower Connecticut River watershed. While cultural methods may allow control, they were not considered further due to the lack of scalability.

Cost-effectiveness concerns suggested that use of contact herbicides, including diquat, is ineffective and costly. The purpose of the project is to develop and verify effective treatment methods for *Hydrilla*. The proposed action includes the use of both systemic and contact herbicides to understand effective, selective, and scalable techniques.

Comments were received regarding herbicide selection, which included the support of systemic herbicides rather than contact herbicides or proposed alternative herbicides to diquat. In addition to diquat, the Project proposes the use of systemic and contact herbicides approved for aquatic environments. Refer to Section 3.2.2 of the final SEA for a description of the herbicides considered in the proposed action.

7.2 Additional Public and Environmental Review

Comments were received that suggested additional environmental review such as independent environmental reviews, extended public comment period, or the preparation of an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The project's planning process followed the USACE's Civil Works Planning Guidance and USACE's NEPA implementing procedures (formerly Title 33 CFR Part 230.1-230.9). USACE rescinded regulations implementing NEPA for the Army Civil Works program on July 3, 2025 (90 FR 29464). As described in 90 FR 29464, an ongoing action as of July 3rd, will continue to use the rule in place at the time the action was started. The draft SEA was started in March 2025, and was therefore prepared following the Army Civil Works Program NEPA implementing procedures. These implementing procedures require the draft FONSI and SEA to be circulated.

Comments were received that suggested additional and/or independent environmental reviews. The USACE solicited environmental reviews from federal and state agencies. An initial interagency coordination meeting was held on March 19, 2025, to solicit initial comments and feedback from state and federal agencies. The draft SEA was released to federal, state, and tribal entities on June 10, 2025 for a 30-day comment period. Interagency comments and review is described in Section 7.0 of the final SEA and 2024 EA.

Comments regarding public review suggested increased public involvement in planning. Public involvement for the project included various public meetings and a public review of the draft SEA and draft 2024 EA. In addition to public involvement, information on the alternatives, proposed action, and monitoring of the project is found on the New England District's website. Refer to Section 9, below, for comments regarding public communication. For a description of public coordination, refer to Section 7 of the final SEA and 2024 EA.

Comments were received that suggested the preparation of an EIS. As described in Section 1.0 of the final SEA, the SEA provides sufficient information about the potential adverse and beneficial environmental effects to allow the USACE to make an informed decision on the appropriateness of completing an Environmental Impact Statement. Section 5.0 of the final SEA and 2024 EA considers the environmental effects of the project. The USACE New England District's Commander determined that the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Research and Demonstration Project is not a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and is therefore exempt from requirements to prepare an EIS.

8. Project Expense

Comments were received generally disapproving of the study's expense. The study is a part of USACE's Aquatic Plant Control Research Program. The program is authorized by Section 104 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1958, as amended, which supports the "prevention, control, and progressive eradication of noxious aquatic plant growths and aquatic invasive species from the navigable waters, tributary streams, connecting channels, and other allied waters of the United States".

Congressional funding is submitted and received annually through the Energy and Water Development appropriation. The project received \$11 million in funding from Congress through appropriations in FY23 (\$6million) and FY24 (\$5 million). No additional funding was received in FY25 due to Congress' budgetary continuing resolution. The study's funding allows for the field-scale research and demonstrations, which will inform future guidance on the management of hydrilla in the Northeast.

9. Communication

Comments were received concerning a lack of public communication and transparency. The draft SEA was published for a 30-day public comment period on June 11, 2025. Public comments were received and considered in the final SEA as described in this appendix. Eight public meetings were held for the project from 2023-2025. Refer to Section 7.0 of the final SEA and 2024 EA for information on previous public meetings and public communication for the draft SEA.

From: [Wendy Stein](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); gregory.bugbee@ct.gov; mburns@rivercoq.org
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Regarding success of mitigating hydrilla
Date: Saturday, July 19, 2025 7:19:51 PM

Good afternoon,

I'm not sure to whom I should write this, please forgive me if I have emailed the wrong person. Today I saw an interesting bit about Connecticut's River system and what the state is trying to do to mitigate the issue regarding the hydrilla. I know many people are expressing their anxious concerns, and that a mission like this has its challenges, especially regarding when your efforts collide with the public eye. However, I saw this being successfully mitigated in Texas by Texas State University and the local community of San Marcos, Texas.

While I was in Texas, I was visiting the University briefly after hearing about their glass bottom boat rides, and thought how interesting that was for such a low cost as a local tourist of my community at the time. I was able to witness some of the methods that they were using to mitigate the invasive aquatic plants that they were challenged with. They came up with impactful, forward thinking solutions involving divers working on getting their certifications, and a boat outfitted with a specialized collection system that retrieves the discarded material that comes to the surface. Then, they took what they collected and created compost and education programs that continues to widely benefit their community with education, training, job creation, and of course economically.

Everyone loves it when community leaders and government are doing their best to work a problem where the results maximize the benefits in multiple categories across the board. The people are a fan of non toxic waste product being recycled or reused, instead of going to waste. The byproduct of the efforts of the San Marcos, Texas, and Texas State University officials results in is a marketable product, local tourism, and a boosted community. The nutrient dense compost is prized by many gardeners as their best kept secret. It never left my mind and I thought to myself that I really wish something like that was available here, now that I've started my own garden. I would love the opportunity to purchase a product that I needed where I knew that my purchase was directly benefitting a cause locally.

It impressed me that we are doing our best to care for our local river and all of the life balances that depend on it. I felt moved to express my experience of another Community facing the same scenario. Their alternative approach using sustainable methods had the support of the local community and a positive effect on them and their local economy. I believe the impact here could be the same or even better.

I could easily see this as an opportunity to involve local schools for education and clean up efforts as well as Community programs. Considering similar efforts partnering with local universities and experts in the field could bring even more benefit to our state and local towns, including tourism and economic growth.

Thank you for caring about our amazing state and for your compassionate consideration for the domino effect of every decision made regarding helping all of us and everything coexist healthfully and happily together. For the welfare and benefit of us now, and for future generations of humans and wildlife alike, I sincerely thank you for your time and your efforts.

W. Stein

From: [David & Kim Proctor](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; canae-pa@usace.army.mil; brian.thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov;
[Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Halt the planned use of Diquat in CT Waterways
Date: Thursday, July 17, 2025 9:52:54 AM

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to express my grave concern about the planned use of Diquat Dibromide in Connecticut waterways in order to kill hydrilla. This chemical is currently banned in Europe as it is a known neurotoxin. As we learned with the widespread use of DDT in years past, chemicals do not stay in just one place. They become part of the food chain, they spread to birds, animals and other beneficial plants and to the *human beings* in and along the waters. Diquat bonds strongly to mineral and organic particles in soil and water, where it remains without significant degradation for years.YEARS.

Please, please, think about the immediate and long term effects of using this chemical. Surely there are non-chemical alternatives available. They may not be as readily effective but any alternative to dumping this toxic chemical into our water is worth considering.

Environmental Protection. That is the goal.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important matter.

Most sincerely,

Kimberly Day Proctor



From: [Kevin Papa](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov](#); [Brian.Thompson@ct.gov](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); [governor.lamont@ct.gov](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Destroying our waterways
Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 4:01:25 PM

Now that we are finding droves of dead turtles and other wildlife directly where you sprayed, who should be named in the forthcoming lawsuit? When this becomes a widespread problem, I know exactly who will be named. We won't forget.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Wednesday, July 16, 2025, 3:58 PM, Kevin Papa [REDACTED] wrote:

Still waiting on a response for this.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Thursday, July 3, 2025, 12:49 PM, Kevin Papa [REDACTED] wrote:

I have to ask- just how fucking stupid are you? Instead of utilizing other measures to combat invasives, you choose to spray materials that will destroy our waterways? Are you dumb enough not to recognize the widespread destruction on microbiomes, insects, birds and other animals that this will have?

It's insane that this is even a project that has been approved and greenlit. All of you will be remembered for the destruction this will cause. Maybe just maybe you can pull your collective heads out of your asses long enough to realize this is not YOUR planet, we all have to live and survive and this is quite possibly the stupidest solution to a problem that will cause infinitely more issues than it will solve.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Richard Duffy](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); [DEEP PesticidePermitting](#); [DEEP Communications](#); [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [Bugbee, Gregory](#); [MBurns@rivercog.org](#); [Fowler, James](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Herbicide Application - Salmon River
Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 11:31:00 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-qgewdt3y.png](#)
[Outlook-v2engepi.png](#)
[Outlook-hojpxtef.png](#)
[Outlook-qhoewkf3.png](#)
[Outlook-t4zdbc5c.png](#)

James,

Thanks for sharing. I have read through the project plans and all the details. What I am looking for is the date/time for the spraying in the Salmon River.

I am aware of notices being posted at the location at the time of/after spraying that details wait periods for specific activities, etc.

There is not a place at the Salmon River to post a notice where people that live along the Salmon River will see it. I want access to the information.

Rich

Richard R. Duffy

On Jul 16, 2025 at 11:01 AM -0400, Fowler, James <[REDACTED]>, wrote:

Thank you for reaching out about the hydrilla management project that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is leading here, in Connecticut. The best place to go for information on their multi-year hydrilla management program is on their website which I will include below with some other additional links and contacts.

As you may know, the Army Corps is running a multi-year project to control hydrilla in the Connecticut River. You may also be aware that hydrilla is an invasive plant that spreads quickly. It harms the river's ecosystem, limits recreational use, damages local water treatment facilities, and can cost communities significant resources if left unchecked.

DEEP's role in this effort is to review and issue permits to ensure the work is done safely, follows all laws, and protects people, wildlife, and water quality.

The Army Corps has used — and plans to continue using throughout this ongoing project — herbicides approved by both the federal government (EPA) and the state. These herbicides are applied in small, targeted areas by licensed professionals under strict rules. This method was chosen because it's the most effective way to stop Hydrilla from spreading, as other methods like hand-pulling or machine-pulling can actually worsen the infestation.

We recently issued a press release with more details, which you can find with all of our latest news on DEEP's website under the Press Releases section. Here is a

link for quick reference: <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/news-releases/news-releases--2025/state-of-ct-regarding-us-army-corps-of-engineers-efforts-to-control-invasive-hydrilla-in-ct-river>

There is some additional information in there about public outreach, education, community comment periods and upcoming opportunities to express your support for the health of our rivers and communities or concerns about the process.

For additional information about the project, in general, you can visit the project page here:

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/Connecticut-River-Hydrilla/>

If you have specific questions about how and where the work is being implemented, you can also contact the Army Corps directly at: **cenae-pa@usace.army.mil**.

If you have further questions about DEEP's permitting role, our Pesticides Permitting team can provide more information at DEEP.PesticidePermitting@ct.gov.

James Fowler

Senior Advisor and Media Relations
Office of the Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

m: [REDACTED]
<Outlook-ephx42oc.png>

*Conserving, improving, and protecting our natural resources and environment;
Ensuring a clean, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply.*

 | portal.ct.gov/DEEP

From: Richard Duffy [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 10:44 AM
To: CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil <CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil>; cenae-pa@usace.army.mil <cenae-pa@usace.army.mil>; DEEP PesticidePermitting <DEEP.PesticidePermitting@ct.gov>; DEEP Communications <DEEP.Communications@ct.gov>; keith.w.hannon@usace.army.mil <keith.w.hannon@usace.army.mil>; Bugbee, Gregory <Gregory.Bugbee@ct.gov>; MBurns@rivercog.org <MBurns@rivercog.org>
Subject: Herbicide Application - Salmon River

Some people who received this message don't often get email from richard.duffy@brewit.com.
[Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

I am a property owner on the Salmon River in Haddam Neck, CT. I am part of the Sherwood Camps Association, a registered CT Coop, that includes 21 cottages along the river.

We would like to understand the schedule for the application of herbicides into and around the Salmon River in order to ensure that adequate safety measures are taken by our members during the application period (i.e., restrict fishing, swimming, etc.).

Please share the scheduled dates of application and the location/s on the river as well as safety precautions we should/must take.

If a phone calls is the best way to get the information, do not hesitate to call me at [REDACTED] or provide a number I can call.

Thank you,

Richard R. Duffy
[REDACTED]

From: coordinator@connecticutstatenationals.org
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Unlawful poisoning of Connecticut's waters
Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 9:08:39 AM

Notice to Agents is Notice to Principals. Notice to Principals is Notice to Agents.

Keith W. Hannon,

Cease and desist the plan to use Diquat Bromide in any Connecticut water ways.

The Connecticut Assembly represents the living breathing men and women of all 8 counties on Connecticut soil.

You, our employees, are bound by Constitutions to serve us in good faith.

The spraying of Diquat Bromide in Connecticut's lakes and rivers, especially since this chemical is banned in Europe, poses an unacceptable risk of poisoning fish and all life, up the entire food chain.

Any violation of your Constitutional duties will be noted, by we the people, and appropriate actions will be taken against any criminal violations that you make.

Make note: There are other non-poisonous methods of controlling Hydrilla.

Notice to Agents is Notice to Principals. Notice to Principals is Notice to Agents.

ConnecticutStateNationals.org
TASA.AmericanStateNationals.org

From: [Lisa Nyland](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Concern about herbicide use to control hydrilla
Date: Sunday, July 13, 2025 6:10:25 PM

Hello -

I am a resident of [REDACTED] and am concerned about maintaining the health of aquatic wildlife while attempting to control the spread of hydrilla in the Connecticut River. I realize the task is not an easy one, but are there methods to control the spread that do not employ harmful herbicides that can disrupt the ecosystem in the river?

Can additional carp be added to the river to control the spread of the weed? Is there a way the public can become involved to help? There are fish and other aquatics that are at risk, not to mention the impact to humans if they ingest fish caught on the river.

Thank you for considering alternative methods. I am interested in receiving additional information on the methods you plan to employ.

Lisa Nyland
[REDACTED]

From: [SwampYankeeEarthcare](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Hydrilla
Date: Sunday, July 13, 2025 1:42:06 PM

As professionals who specialize in invasive species management without the use of herbicides or other poisons, we are deeply opposed to the use of diquat or any other toxic chemicals to address the growing problem of hydrilla.

Mechanical controls can and should be implemented.

-The entire Swamp Yankee team

--

.

.

.

Specializing in invasive species management and ecosystem restoration, without the use of herbicides or other poisons, **protecting the planet is our priority *and* our passion!**

We offer special rates for land trusts and non-profit organizations.

www.swampyankeearthcare.com

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [NextDoor](#), and [TikTok](#)!

From: [Cindi Pashley](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Dyquat Sunday,
Date: July 13, 2025 12:20:45 PM

Have you sprayed the CT River with Diquat yet?

We are not disputing this. We just want to know when and where so we don't go on the water for awhile.

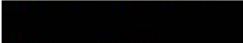
We have a boat at Chester Boat Basin.

From: [Steve Daddona](#)
Cc: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I support
Date: Sunday, July 13, 2025 10:33:02 AM

To whom it may concern

I am writing to voice my support for taking action to eradicate Hydrilla from the CT River. As an owner of property abutting the CT River in Chester I am seeing first hand the damage hydrilla is causing. It is rapidly spreading from one year to the next covering increased areas of water. I support the immediate action outlined in this plan.

Thank you
Steven Daddona


Chester CT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [SteveandAmy](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Cc: [Steve Daddona](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I support
Date: Sunday, July 13, 2025 10:31:52 AM


To whom it may concern

I am writing to voice my support for taking action to eradicate Hydrilla from the CT River.

As an owner of property abutting the CT River in Chester I am seeing first hand the damage hydrilla is causing. It is rapidly spreading from one year to the next covering increased areas of water. I support the immediate action outlined in this plan.

Thank you

Amy Daddona



Chester CT

As a resident of Chester

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fred Behringer](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Support for studies to control hydrilla with diquat dibromide
Date: Sunday, July 13, 2025 8:58:26 AM

To the Planning Division,

I support the project described in the "CONNECTICUT RIVER HYDRILLA CONTROL RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER, CONNECTICUT", dated June 11, 2025.

As a scientist I'm aware that nothing is ever perfect, but herbicides exist that can be used with negligible safety concerns to humans due to their specificity and short half-life. Diquat dibromide is such an herbicide. Given the highly likely serious environmental impact of hydrilla, all reasonable efforts need to be taken to control it. The study outlines a very thoughtful approach and should be implemented without delay.

It's unfortunate that the EU and China have banned diquat dibromide, which has contributed to the reaction against this project. What most people do not realize is these bans are based on extremely conservative criteria, such as the "Precautionary Principle", with little regard for risk/benefit and frankly not understanding important concepts such as "the dose makes the poison".

This project is needed to address a significant problem and needs to proceed.

Thank you for considering my views, Fred Behringer

Fred Behringer, PhD

[Redacted signature block]

From: [Chad Fairheart](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Request to Discontinue Use of Diquat Dibromide and Sonar H4C
Date: Saturday, July 12, 2025 9:35:15 PM

Subject: Request to Discontinue Use of Diquat Dibromide and Sonar H4C


To whom it may concern in this matter,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to respectfully request that you discontinue the use of diquat dibromide and sonar H4C in our waterways throughout the whole state of Connecticut. In fact, no herbicides should be purposely dumped in our waterways as there is enough leaching that is causing health problems in the ground water.

Diquat dibromide, is ban in the entire European Union as it poses significant risks to human health, wildlife, and the environment, including toxicity to aquatic life, potential groundwater contamination, or health risks to. If your goal is to make the waterways more bountiful and healthier, this is going to have the complete opposite effect. To promote safer and more sustainable practices, I urge you to consider alternative methods or products that are less harmful, such as organic herbicides, integrated pest management, or mechanical weed control. At this point, most of the vegetation in our area is invasive anyway I would much rather a plant growing in our lakes and waterways then you dumping chemicals in and calling it a protective measure for aquatic life, as it is harmful to fish and all other plants so this defeats the purpose of isolating it to just Hydrilla. The waterways suffer enough from runoff anywhere from road treatments in the winter time to the pesticides and herbicides that people use every day on their lawns. I'd rather see an invasive plant in the waterways than no plants or fish at all. Most of the highways and roads around here have dozens of invasive plants on the side of them anyway just the name a few autumnolive, phragmites and knotweed. I'd rather see the green of those plants than a scorched earth.

I would be happy to discuss this further or provide resources to help transition to safer alternatives. Thank you for considering this request, and I look forward to your response.

Best regards,
Chad Fairheart



From: [Emily](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Hydrilla treatment
Date: Saturday, July 12, 2025 9:31:35 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the use of aquatic herbicides such as **diquat dibromide** and **Sonar H4C (fluridone)** in the Connecticut River. While these chemicals are often used to manage invasive aquatic vegetation, their environmental impact is significant and long-lasting.

Diquat dibromide is a fast-acting, non-selective herbicide that kills plants on contact, while **Sonar H4C** is a slow-release, systemic herbicide that inhibits plant growth over time. Despite their differing mechanisms, both pose serious ecological risks:

1. **Aquatic Life Harm:** Both diquat and fluridone are toxic to non-target aquatic species. Diquat disrupts fish gill function and harms amphibians and invertebrates. Fluridone, though slower-acting, can devastate native plant populations essential for habitat and food sources, leading to **widespread ecosystem imbalance**.
2. **Oxygen Depletion and Fish Kills:** The death and decomposition of aquatic vegetation following herbicide treatment often results in **oxygen depletion**. This can suffocate fish and other aquatic organisms, especially in warm or stagnant waters.
3. **Persistence in the Environment:** Fluridone in particular is known for its persistence and slow breakdown. It can remain active in the water column for weeks or even months, with the potential to drift beyond the targeted treatment area and affect adjacent ecosystems.
4. **Degraded Water Quality:** The application of these chemicals can increase turbidity and nutrient levels, creating conditions favorable for harmful algal blooms and other water quality issues that can impact both wildlife and human health.
5. **Safer, Sustainable Alternatives Exist:** Mechanical harvesting, manual removal, and biological controls provide effective alternatives without introducing harmful chemicals into aquatic systems. These methods better protect biodiversity and water quality in the long term.

This is also not a single use solution and will require repeat applications to effectively eliminate the population while in turn eliminating the native vegetation and pose serious harm to aquatic life. Given the well-documented risks associated with diquat dibromide and Sonar H4C, I urge you to reconsider its use and prioritize safer, more ecologically responsible alternatives. Protecting our waters today is an investment in the health of our communities, ecosystems, and future generations. The potential for irreversible harm to aquatic life, drinking water, recreation, and local biodiversity demands a more responsible and sustainable approach.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I welcome further dialogue and encourage policies that prioritize environmental and public health over short-term chemical solutions.

Sincerely,
Emily Perko

From: srhpuccillo@gmail.com
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Hydrilla control with Diquat where my CHILDREN will be swimming
Date: Saturday, July 12, 2025 1:00:05 PM

Hello,

I am a mother of two kids, [REDACTED]. As young kids do, they love playing and swimming near our home in Chester [REDACTED]. My son is 8 and looking forward to camp next week and being able to swim in the lake. All water is connected. Has water in Chester been sprayed? Would you allow your children to swim and play in treated water? If children are sick or injured swimming in the lake, playing in the streams and surrounding area because you chose to spray a chemical banned by the EU, who will be held accountable? (You will in votes for sure, but monetarily? Legally?) Will you even feel guilty? Should I allow my son to even attend summer camp at the lake this year? Can you guarantee it is safe?

I am disappointed that this is even a solution to an invasive species. Non selective chemicals will obviously kill every plant it touches. Does that in itself not disrupt the ecosystem?

If all the plants in these water ways are killed it will affect all other living beings, and you know this.

Please be honest about where and when these areas are being treated. And please listen to the people that live in these areas that are urging you NOT TO USE THESE CHEMICALS AND PLEASE FIND A SAFER ALTERNATIVE.

If this chemical is banned by the EU and the UK, there must be an alternative plan. Have other solutions even been investigated? Or are we just going for cheap and easy?

Additional expense is worth keeping kids and other wildlife and ecosystems safe.

Sarah Hanks

Deep River resident and voter.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lauren Hill](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Specific dates for application 2025
Date: Saturday, July 12, 2025 12:47:14 PM

Hello,

I would like to know the dates and locations of when the waters are being treated so my family and I can avoid the locations.

Thank you,
-Lauren Hill

From: [Sandi](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying diquat for hydrilla removal
Date: Saturday, July 12, 2025 12:42:53 PM

Unfortunately we will never know the long term effects of spraying chemicals in our waterways. We here there are no long term consequences..they thought that when they sprayed for mosquitoes and it killed all the lobster and other marine life larvae. Has anyone researched to see how India combats the problem..we are told it came from there. It must be in other countries. We need to find natural ways to combat invasive species. When we get rid of one another takes its place. Many people in Connecticut use fish and other species caught in our waters as a food source. As with all man made chemicals they don't just go away and become harmless. Every living thing that comes in contact with them will be affected forever. You have people swimming in those same waters in which it will come in contact with their skin, eyes, lungs. No one knows how they will be affected. It is too bad this problem was not addressed in 2016 when it was first discovered. A lot of research could have been done on how to control it without chemicals. It might be an enormous task but without causing unknown consequences. It has taken centuries to clean up our waterways from the toxins the factories dumped into them and now we are doing the same thing.

Sandra Brunoli
Southington, CT
Active recreational water user

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: cassandra71195@gmail.com
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Cc: deep.information@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP CHEMICAL HERBICIDES IN CT WATER
Date: Saturday, July 12, 2025 8:53:18 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Connecticut DEEP,

I am writing as a concerned resident of Connecticut to express my strong opposition to the proposed application of chemical herbicides—particularly diquat dibromide—in our lakes and waterways as part of the Hydrilla Management Pilot Project.

While I recognize the threat posed by invasive hydrilla and the need for intervention, the use of toxic herbicides in ecologically sensitive areas raises serious concerns. Diquat is banned in the European Union due to its persistence in sediment, potential harm to aquatic life, and risks to human health. Introducing this and other chemicals into our rivers and lakes—some of which serve as recreational and drinking water sources—feels shortsighted and potentially harmful in ways we may not fully understand for years.

I urge you to reconsider this plan and prioritize less destructive management strategies. Mechanical removal, shading, or the use of benthic barriers may be more labor-intensive, but they offer solutions that do not carry the same long-term ecological risks.

I am also concerned about the lack of transparent community engagement around this issue. Many residents are only now learning about the herbicide applications, and it is troubling that such a large-scale chemical program could move forward with such limited public awareness and input.

Please delay this program until a more thorough environmental impact study is completed and alternative methods have been more fully explored. I hope you will consider the health of our ecosystems, wildlife, and communities before proceeding with this chemically intensive treatment.

Thank you for your time and for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Mazzacco

Woodbridge, CT

From: [Marissa Florio](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] opposition to the proposed herbicide treatments
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 9:27:28 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed herbicide treatments, including diquat and other chemicals, in the Connecticut River as part of the hydrilla control efforts.

As a local resident, I regularly use the river for recreation, and my dog frequently swims in these waters. I am deeply concerned about the potential health risks to pets, wildlife, and humans—even with posted waiting periods. Many of us rely on these natural spaces for safe, toxin-free recreation, and herbicide applications introduce unnecessary risks to our beloved companions and ourselves.

Additionally, the public has not been provided with clear information about long-term ecological effects of these chemicals, nor has there been enough community engagement on safer, non-chemical alternatives such as:

- Mechanical removal
- Biological controls like sterile grass carp
- Barriers and benthic mats

I urge you to delay any chemical treatments until safer, non-toxic options can be more fully explored and implemented. Please prioritize transparency, comprehensive public input, and sustainable solutions that don't put pets, people, and wildlife at risk.

I would appreciate receiving confirmation that my comments have been received and considered as part of the public record.

Sincerely,

Marissa Florio, Esq.
Franco & Associates
125 Elm Street
New Canaan, CT 06840

Phone: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

Sent from iphone

From: [Jim Ryan](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla; bwdennerjr@gmail.com](mailto:bwdennerjr@gmail.com)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Persistence of Diquat in the benthic zone
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 4:55:47 PM
Attachments: [EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0846-0024_content.pdf](#)

Dear USACE Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Research and Demonstration Project Manager. First, I'd like to thank the USACE for keeping us all safe and prosperous over the years! I agree that hydrilla has the potential to create an environmental crisis, but we may be making a regrettable mistake by injecting diquat into our waterways.

There are some critical holes in the USACE hydrilla plan, please take the time to read through this letter, especially the attached 2015 EPA Memorandum Subject, "Preliminary Ecological Risk Assessment for the Registration Review of Diquat Dibromide." In the EPA's memo Table 1.1 reports, "*Diquat is expected to persist for extended periods in both terrestrial and aquatic environments.*" while Table 7.1 lists potential direct acute and chronic effects to federally listed taxon by labeled use of Diquat. This stands in stark and deeply troubling contrast to the Feb. 2025 USACE, "[Lower Connecticut River Hydrilla Invasion – Herbicide Information fact sheet](#)" which reports, "Aquatic herbicides do not target fish or any other aquatic fauna, and any chemical selected for use does not exhibit any negative" To me this implies the USACE is operating from a different set of facts than those established by the EPA. The EPA memo *acknowledges* the persistence and ecological risks of diquat, conversely, the USACE herbicide fact sheet is effectively *dismissing* them. This is not only alarming, but raises serious questions about the scientific integrity and transparency of the current plan.

Upon further review of the plan, I have serious concerns about the adequacy of the pre- and post-treatment environmental monitoring protocols—such monitoring is not optional; it must be thorough, independent, and scientifically defensible.

- Does the USACE have an Aquatic Herbicide Risk Assessment document that can be shared with the public?
- How has the USACE established the information presented on the aforementioned "Herbicide Fact Sheet"?
- Which Environmental Fate and Ecotoxicological Studies were used in reference to the creation of this Herbicide plan?
- Where was the dangerous cyanobacteria found in the CT watershed?
- Which Triploid Grass Carp studies were reviewed in order to determine that an indiscriminate Herbicide was the best option?

According to the [USACE hydrilla removal proposal](#), "Post treatment monitoring surveys will be conducted through the fall months to assess the condition of the hydrilla as well as non-target impacts."

The public deserves to know how the USACE will be conducting the post treatment survey. I remembered back in Boy Scouts at summer

camp we had to mark out and observe a 4 square yd area of the forest floor for the week of camp and take notes on any species found, how much space they take up, and how it changed over the week. I am curious about how the USACE would do the monitoring of an aquatic habitat. On the side of the USACE webpage labeled **2025 supplemental EA** - Appendix C- [Monitoring Protocol](#) I found nothing! it's just a link to a USACE powerpoint about creating a Master Plan. I was expecting to see technical information about temporal sampling, liquid chromatography, mass spectrometry, bioassays of benthic organisms, sediment core sampling, impact studies on surrounding flora and fauna, etc. **How will the USACE follow up and why is that part of the plan not available to the public?**

Diquat is a close relative to Paraquat. There is no consensus on diquat's half life upon benthic adsorption, however with Paraquat there is some consensus of a [3-6.6 year half life](#)

Diquat has a, "contested" half life in soil.

- half life consensus in the [UK and europe](#) is 2,345-5,500 days (Paraquat was invented in the UK)
- In [Australia](#) it's greater than 6 months or 180 days
- In [Canada](#) I see more than one year
- In the USA I see anything from 0 (undefined) to 72 to 10,888 days to "stable" which means forever (see attached diquat PRA for review)

In the [USACE final plan](#), it is written, "Based on the half-lives of the proposed herbicides, no cumulative impacts are anticipated from the proposed action because the residual herbicide either do not adsorb to soil or will be degraded before the sites are considered for treatment again." This Hydrilla plan does not acknowledge the expected half life of the diquat that will be benthically adsorbed. There is evidence that benthically adsorbed Diquat could have a detrimental effect on root structures of the surrounding riparian zone, chemical pruning would potentially create a change in the riparian soil structure leading to unintended river bank erosion and subsidence.

The USACE also claims that diquat only works as a surfactant and does not travel within plant tissue. However a study was published in the [Journal of Plant Growth](#) demonstrating "The apparent translocation and activity of diquat beyond the area of root exposure has practical significance" this research was done to assess Diquat's utility in clearing root intrusions in sewer systems in a more ecologically sound way but it demonstrates the possibility that diquat isn't just floating downstream after binding to the targeted invasive.

Either way, once diquat is adsorbed to the riverbed, It will stay there for an unknown amount of time, suppressing regrowth of any non-target aquatic species. There is no published plan to monitor these effects to allow us to change course if needed.

In addition, I have seen no recent feasibility studies on mechanical removal now that we have access to cheaper autonomous technology. [Triploid Grass Carp](#) are an option I haven't seen any USACE feasibility study on. As of 7/11/2025 almost 20,000 people have signed a petition voicing their concerns about diquat. That is a large amount of people willing to take the time to put their name down for something that won't benefit them in any way.

The issue of hydrilla causing a deadly [cyanobacteria](#) bloom has been put forward as a justification for us to act fast! However, CT's bald eagle population has been steadily increasing since we [banned DDT](#), a chemical the CATO Institute is still trying to bring back into use.

The countries that have taken the step to fully ban all use of diquat were willing to pay an economic price because they did the research, and they determined the reward wasn't worth the risk. They have science to thank for that. If we continue poisoning our soil and waterways with persistent herbicides we will eventually realize that we made a mistake. Here in the USA we will do what the EPA says. I am grateful DDT isn't raining from the sky, we have the EPA and science to thank for that. Protecting Human Health and the environment means protecting our water.

In this situation a full USA ban on diquat isn't necessary, a moratorium on treating our lakes and rivers with diquat would be enough. The USACE should do a field demonstration with the triploid grass carp and get some volunteers to manually pull up as much hydrilla as they can in the meantime.

Thanks

From: [Dot Pepin](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Against usage of Dequat in CT waters
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 4:34:30 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to let you know I'm against putting the chemical of Dequat in any river, lake or body of water in my state of CT. It is known to cause disease in humans and we don't know the full affect it would have long term on our environment or animals. At a time where the environment in the US is not being taken care of and being taken away in other states, CT should stand up for what is best for humans and environment. There has to be other non toxic ways to help resolve this problem.

This is banned in other countries because of the dangers!

The U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in 2016 examined 144 diquat-related acute illnesses and though it confirmed that over-exposure, particularly ingestion, could be fatal, "Many illnesses could be prevented through stricter compliance with label requirements."

Please not add this to any waters in Ct.

Respectfully,
Dorothy Pepin

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rich Nassaney](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Chemicals in the water
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 7:27:10 AM

Hello Sir,

Please do not put chemicals in the water to kill weeds, That is not the right way to do it. Wallum lake in RI used LIME to kill off weeds and it works, they did it in the early 1900's it is safe for wildlife and people. The water is crystal clear and drinkable.

Would you let you family swim in those waters that had chemicals in it?

Thank you,

Rich Nassaney



From: [Sam Eidinger](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Cc: [katie.dykes@ct.gov](#); [audra.dickson@ct.gov](#); [env@cga.ct.gov](#); [renee.lamark-muir@cga.ct.gov](#);
[brandon.chafee@cga.ct.gov](#); [john-michael.parker@cga.ct.gov](#); [james.spallone@cga.ct.gov](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Formal Objection to Proposed Diquat Use in Connecticut Waterways
Date: Thursday, July 10, 2025 11:51:49 PM

To all involved,

I am writing to state, unequivocally, that I oppose the planned application of diquat in Connecticut's waterways. As a mental health professional, a parent, and a resident for whom Connecticut's beautiful nature is immeasurably important, I find this proposal reckless and short-sighted.

These waterways are not simply zones on a treatment map. They are an essential refuge for ecological life and human well-being. My children play in Salmon River countless times a summer. I go there weekly in the warmer months—not just to enjoy nature, but to restore myself. As someone who works daily with individuals grappling with anxiety, disconnection, and trauma, I understand deeply how access to clean, trustworthy natural spaces protects public health—mentally, physically, and socially. The idea that such a place would be chemically compromised under the guise of “control” is profoundly disturbing.

Let's be honest about what is being proposed:

- **Diquat dibromide is a toxic compound**, known to cause kidney and liver damage, respiratory distress, and neurotoxic effects. Children are especially vulnerable to these harms.
- It is **banned in the EU and UK**, where regulatory bodies determined its risks to human and environmental health were too great.
- It is **classified as a Restricted Use Pesticide** by the EPA—not a harmless tool, but a substance that requires significant caution and oversight.
- It does not target only invasive species. It disrupts entire aquatic ecosystems and harms non-target plants and animals—some of which communities rely on for recreation, education, and tradition.

The casual deployment of this chemical across public waters is not sound environmental management—it is a shortcut, and a dangerous one. The long-term consequences of introducing a banned, toxic substance into ecosystems that the public uses and cherishes should be a red line. Instead, they're being brushed aside as acceptable collateral damage.

Our community (and its ecological life) deserves to feel safe in their bodies and their world. Chemical exposure—especially without fully informed community consent—is a violation of that safety.

I am CC'ing DEEP leadership and relevant state legislators because the public has a right to more than buried notices and generalized reassurances. We have a right to protect what is ours.

I ask that this message be entered into the public record. I demand a full, transparent reevaluation of this plan, including consideration of nontoxic and ecological alternatives.

Please do better.

Sincerely,
Samantha Eiding, MA, LPC-A
Middlefield, CT

From: [ava.schnidman](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Cc: [Charles Harpin](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] We support Hydrilla treatment
Date: Thursday, July 10, 2025 5:40:09 PM


We are writing this email in response to the news we have been reading concerning objections to this project.

We wholeheartedly and fervently support this treatment. We have seen the invasiveness of hydrilla. Everything possible needs to be done to halt the spread.

Let us know when we can do to help.

Thanks for the good work you are doing.
Ava and Chuck

Ava Schnidman and Chuck Harpin



From: [Rachel D"Andrea-Drum](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Water
Date: Thursday, July 10, 2025 1:52:43 PM

Hello Keith,

Please stop your project of poisoning our water. This is coming from a cancer survivor and mom of two children. I'm extremely concerned with your project. It's enough that the air is being sprayed but now our water? There is already a movie about this when it happened in West Virginia and the outcome wasn't too pretty, many people and animals got sick. Make it stop.

Have a great day,
Rachel

From: [Madison Downey](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] End Use of Diquat in Public Waterways - Use Eco-friendly Alternatives Instead
Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 8:07:48 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned resident of Connecticut to urge you to reconsider the continued use of Diquat, a chemical herbicide, in the management of aquatic vegetation in our public waterways. While I understand the need for aquatic weed control to maintain recreational access and ecological balance, the reliance on Diquat poses serious risks to both human and environmental health—and there are safer, more sustainable alternatives available.

Diquat is a broad-spectrum, fast-acting herbicide that, while effective at killing aquatic plants, also disrupts natural ecosystems. It can harm non-target species, decrease dissolved oxygen levels, and result in the repeated need for reapplication due to its short-lived effectiveness. Moreover, Diquat residues may linger in sediments for years, impacting aquatic organisms and potentially entering the food chain.

Instead of recurring chemical treatments, I propose the use of sterile (triploid) grass carp as a natural and long-term solution for managing invasive aquatic vegetation.

Sterile grass carp:

Provide continuous, targeted control of invasive aquatic plants such as Eurasian watermilfoil and hydrilla.

Are non-reproductive, ensuring no unintended population spread.

Reduce or eliminate the need for repeated chemical applications, offering cost-effective and environmentally responsible control.

Have been successfully used in several states, including New York and North Carolina, as part of integrated aquatic vegetation management strategies.

This biological approach aligns with Connecticut's broader goals of environmental sustainability, water quality protection, and public health safety. By shifting away from chemical herbicides like Diquat and investing in natural solutions like sterile grass carp, we can better preserve our waterways for future generations. Which is more important than ever at a time where our natural spaces are already being threatened on a national level with protection roll backs, deforestation, underfunding, as well as global threats of climate change.

I respectfully urge your office to suspend the use of Diquat in public waterways and commission a comprehensive evaluation of sterile grass carp as a viable and eco-friendly alternative. The health of our ecosystems and communities depends on forward-thinking decisions like this.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Madison Downey

From: [GEORGE SINCAVAGE](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] There are alternative herbicides per ChatGPT
Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 4:05:26 PM

Yes, there are selective herbicides for Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*), though complete selectivity depends on the specific aquatic ecosystem and coexisting plant species.

Selective Herbicides Commonly Used for Hydrilla:

These herbicides are designed to target Hydrilla while minimizing impact on desirable native aquatic plants (especially native submersed species).

1. Fluridone

- Trade names: Sonar® , Avast!®, WhiteCap®
- Action: Systemic; inhibits carotenoid synthesis, leading to chlorosis (bleaching).
- Application: Often used in whole-lake or large area treatments, with extended contact time (30+ days).
- Selectivity: Can spare some native species like *Vallisneria* (eelgrass) if applied at low rates.

2. Endothall (dipotassium salt or monoamine salt)

- Trade names: Aquathol® K, Aquathol® Super K
- Action: Contact herbicide; disrupts cellular respiration.
- Application: Effective for spot treatments and fast-acting.
- Selectivity: Less damaging to coontail (*Ceratophyllum*) and American pondweed (*Potamogeton nodosus*) than to Hydrilla.

3. Flumioxazin

- Trade name: Clipper®, Schooner®
- Action: Contact herbicide; inhibits protoporphyrinogen oxidase (PPO).
- Application: Fast-acting, suitable for shallow or flowing water.
- Selectivity: Can be selective if used at the correct dose and with pH <8.5.

4. ProcellaCOR® (active ingredient: florasulam-benzyl)

- New generation herbicide
- Highly selective for invasive submersed plants like Hydrilla and minimal impact on natives.
- Low use rate: As little as 3–8 ppb.
- Short contact time: Just a few hours.
- Environmental profile: Low toxicity to fish and invertebrates.

5. Bispyribac-sodium

- Trade name: Tradewind®
- Action: Systemic; inhibits ALS enzyme.
- Selectivity: Moderately selective, but less commonly used due to slower action.

Important Notes:

- Herbicide selection depends on:
 - Water flow and retention time
 - Desired selectivity
 - Regulatory approval in your region
-
- Permit requirements: Often needed for aquatic herbicide application—
check with your state environmental or water resources agency.

George Sincavage



[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Maryellen Nilson](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov
Cc: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquot Dibromide
Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 2:56:57 PM

I am respectfully requesting that this project be halted immediately. This chemical, which is being added to lakes and rivers in CT and around the US to kill an invasive plant, has been banned in Europe and is known to be highly toxic to humans. Landscapers often refer to it as "the nuclear option". I'm sure the best and brightest scientists in this country are capable of finding an organic, non-toxic solution to this problem. Governor Lamont, you have the power to stop this dead in its tracks with one phone call. Please think about the health and safety of our children and grandchildren and end this now. Thank you for your consideration.

From: [Ashley McAvey](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: ashley96@aya.yale.edu
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please, please NO DIQUAT! NO DIQUAT!
Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 8:51:19 AM

From: [Angelus Tammaro](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov;
brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop Chemical Use in our Waterways
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 7:43:24 PM

Dear Governor Lamont et al.,

My family recently swam in the CT River in Chester, CT and we are now experiencing health issues, including chronic and severe burning in our eyes, nausea and irritable skin. I recently learned that the state is spraying chemicals into the water and has used severely harmful chemicals in the past, including Diquat. I am gravely concerned about the upcoming spraying of ANY chemicals in CT waterways including Diquat Dibromide, and fully intend on holding the State and others involved legally liable for any damage to my family's health as result.

Despite being banned in Europe, this chemical will harm human health, wildlife, and our water supply.

The U.S. Army Corps confirms they are prepared to spray 12 sites across the CT River with chemicals known to cause liver damage, kidney failure, and death.

Even if this strain of hydrilla is susceptible to Diquat, it does not justify poisoning the public, wildlife, and food supply. You are creating a toxic runoff pipeline with no medical safeguards or liability.

I demand an immediate halt to this program until:

- Genetic sequencing proves it will be effective
- Public safety concerns are addressed
- Medical liability is acknowledged

I do not consent to poisoning our lakes, rivers, wildlife, and bodies. Shame on you all for allowing and even considering this.

Sincerely,

A. Tamaro
CT Resident and Taxpayer

From: [Walker, Patricia W.](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Draft supplemental environmental assessment
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 6:24:30 PM

Thank you for this information. This along with the article in the CT Mirror is very informative and helpful to understanding the scope and purpose of this project and the research behind it. My comment at this time is that many people heard about this project for the first time through social media recently despite this being an on-going project and the holding of several public hearings in the towns along the rivers impacted. My suggestion would be to get the public notice of this and future projects and the notice of public hearings into mainstream publications throughout the state where they may be seen by a greater number of people. Many people throughout the state use CT waterways for recreation and will be concerned when they hear of such projects on social media rather than from more authoritative and reliable sources. It may also be helpful to hold educational meetings on environmental topics on an ongoing basis throughout the state where presenters can explain local threats to the environment in layman terms and answer questions about plans to address them. Given limitations to USACE staffing, organizations like the Rivers Alliance of Connecticut may be able to assist with this. I am in favor of conservation efforts to maintain CT waterways for recreational and commercial use. Receiving backlash on these efforts is unfortunate and makes the process harder but labeling residents' concerns as "conspiracy theories" is not helpful and probably won't result in the desired outcomes. I think education is the key and achieving it will probably require more accessible information, more listening, and more opportunities for engagement with the general public. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Patricia W. Walker, Ed.D., FASAHP
Dean Emerita
College of Health Professions
Sacred Heart University

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: CTRiver-Hydrilla <CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 5:17:48 PM
To: Walker, Patricia W. <WalkerP@sacredheart.edu>
Subject: RE: Draft supplemental environmental assessment

Hello

The public notice for the 30 day public comment period on the supplemental EA is attached –

the notice is also posted to the USACE New England District public notice webpage <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/PublicNotices/>.

The supplemental EA is labeled as 2025 Supplemental EA on the right side of the website. Instructions for accessing the supplemental EA and how to submit comments are described in the public notice. The instructions say to submit comments about the supplemental EA to this same email CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil

Thank you

*Plan Formulation Branch
Navigation, Coastal & Environmental Planning Section
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (NAE)
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742*

From: Walker, Patricia W. <WalkerP@sacredheart.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 12:09 PM
To: CTRiver-Hydrilla <CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Draft supplemental environmental assessment

Hello. An article in yesterday's CT Post newspaper on the eradication of hydrilla using Diquat, mentioned a draft supplemental environmental assessment that is available for public comment until 7/13. Can you tell me how to access the report and how to make a comment on it? Thank you.

Patricia W. Walker, Ed.D., FASAHP
Dean Emerita
College of Health Professions
Sacred Heart University

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

The sender of this email is external to Sacred Heart University. Do not click any links unless you know and trust the sender.

From: [thpfree3](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; cenea-pa@usace.army.mil; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] We object to spraying Diquat Bromide.
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 4:10:33 PM

The spraying of Diquat Bromide in Connecticut's lakes and rivers, especially since this chemical is banned in Europe, poses an unacceptable risks of poisoning fish and all life up the entire food chain. The living breathing Men and Women of Connecticut require full disclosure from our employees prior to any such action and full consent from these this same public, whom which you, our employees are bound by Constitution to serve in good faith. Any violation of your Constitutional duties will be duly noted and appropriate actions will be taken against these criminal violations. Those un-elected and unaccountable who's actions that harm the living will be held to full account for their dastardly deeds.

Please note that there are other non-poisonous methods of controlling Hydrilla.

Thomas Hall Philips III ©

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: [Faith Bertini](#)
To: michael.dietz@uconn.edu
Cc: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; mary.bercaw_edwards@uconn.edu
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Army Corp Project: River Hydrilla Control Project U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is a nightmare and not fully researched.
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 3:40:08 PM

Hi Michael or anybody on my list...

BTW Lamont's answering person is wrong-
It has been here much longer -

<https://cipwg.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/244/2016/10/PPT-PDF-Don-Les-Session-5.pdf>

I understand that you are aware of the issue...
Please note I do not live near these waterways -
Apparently our state is lacking limnologists and aquatic plant specials, as well as entomologists-and hydrologists perhaps. Even Storrs does not seem to cover nor teach water limnology. (One undergrad course.)

Things have changed over 12 years. So many websites, and/or scientists are gone; their work was started. They are now Emeritus.

Concern: the trophic level and damage to flora, fauna, fish, oysters and blooms running off to tobacco (and other) industries.
Who wants to eat oysters from our state? Go to the Pacific NW and better luck there.

Everything sprayed will cause algal blooms.

Aware carp fail, too.
Other states are focusing on midge larvae Chironomidae for eating the Hydrilla in the main beds of water and basins. They eat the weed.

Please look into the Army Project! I cc'd the head engineer and whoever is approving Pesticides not for this use.

I am hoping somebody can entertain a non poisonous approach -

Please let me know.
Concerned
Faith Bertini
Weston
Find Don Les or Tom Philbrick who rewrote

A Manual of Aquatic Plants

By [Norman C. Fassett](#)

**Don Les first to find it in CT-
I spent too much time collecting species not endemic to our
area.**

**Find another way to clear it- fine boaters for dredging and
throwing back into the water instead of bagging the junk
up.**

**Yes, it is hot and it is spreading but do something that will
not flow down into the LI Sound.**

Please and thank you.

From: [James Stowe](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat poison
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 12:50:48 PM

Do not spray our waterways with this poison, that has already been banned in Europe. Any studies on the collateral damage to humans, the fish & wildlife? Actual studies, not bs. Please post it.

From: [Kevin Ferry](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Nuking our water ways with toxic, dangerous, cancer causing chemicals.
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 12:26:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Gentlemen: What in gods name is wrong with you all? Do you hate nature so much that you must trash her? Have we learned nothing from the mass killing due to the toxic and deadly clot shot touted as “safe and effective”? Safe and effective at killing children would have been a much more truthful message.

Do the work required of us as we emerge into a higher form of consciousness that realizes we have been going down a road that leads to our extinction. Don’t believe me. Listen to Elon Musk. We have so much pharma in our water, our kids are sterile and men are incapable of being men. You folks are in a position of public trust and you may not realize it, but you have just a sliver of that left before the institutions you serve crumble and die. You’ve given the people every reason to not trust you. Why don’t you see it and how does that make you feel?

Regards,

Kevin C. Ferry
 Attorney at Law
Kevin@ferrylaw.com



**FERRY
LAW**

77 Lexington Street
 New Britain CT, 06052
 Phone: [REDACTED]
 Fax: [REDACTED]
FerryLaw.com

[Personal Injury](#) [Trucking Accidents](#) [Medical Malpractice](#)

“I cannot feel fear while in a state of gratitude”; “I cannot be in a state of judgment while in a state of love” Robert Edward Grant.

Confidential Information: The information contained in this e-mail message is confidential and privileged, and is intended only for the use of the named receiver. If you are not the named receiver, or the person responsible for delivering this e-mail message to the named receiver, you are notified that any use of this e-mail message or its contents, including any dissemination or copying, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail message in error, please immediately notify Ferry Law by telephone at [REDACTED] and destroy the original message immediately. Thank you.

WARNING: FRAUD ALERT. If you receive an e-mail or any other communication such as a phone call or letter appearing to be from this office which requests that you wire or otherwise transfer funds to any party, you must confirm the request and any corresponding instructions via a telephone call back to us TO SOMEONE YOU KNOW IN OUR OFFICE before you initiate any wire or other transfer. Crooks and hackers are imitating or

targeting e-mails and other communications of law firms and other businesses in attempts to initiate fraudulent wire or other MONEY transfer requests. PLEASE CONFIRM BY CALLING THE ORIGINATOR OF THE EMAIL or other communication, USING PREVIOUSLY KNOWN OR INDEPENDENTLY FOUND CONTACT INFORMATION, PRIOR TO WIRING OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRING FUNDS. DO NOT USE THE PHONE NUMBER IN THE EMAIL OR OTHER COMMUNICATION THAT REQUESTS THE MONEY. USE AN INDEPENDENT SOURCE TO DETERMINE OUR CONTACT INFORMATION TO CONFIRM THE ACCURACY OF ANY REQUEST FOR MONEY.

From: ltbeck4@gmail.com
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat poisoning
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 10:25:30 AM

I hear you are the head of the hydrilla project. Are you ignorant of the effects of diquat on wildlife and YOU??? Or have some evil scumbags paid ya enough that it doesn't matter? This shit is a neurotoxin!!! Ban the project now. If continued rest assured that when the deaths start tallying up from liver and kidney disease KEITH HANNON'S name will be spread across the planet for responsibility!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bette Kidd](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source]
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 7:49:42 AM

PUBLIC SERVANTS:

Are you serving your agenda?
And NOT we the people?

STOP poisoning our waters and food!!!
Especially with DIQUAT
Which is a HIGHLY TOXIC chemical.

Your gonna reap what you sew!!!
We all will.

This is down right GENOCIDE.

WHAT ARE YOU & YOUR FAMILY GONNA EAT & DRINK?

WHO IS BRIBING YOU TO DO THIS?
Is the money worth killing the population?

Human consciousness is eternal.

Please STOP

B.A Kidd

From: jnkddk@juno.com
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source]
Date: Monday, July 7, 2025 7:41:04 PM

I just found out that you intend to poison lakes & rivers beginning in the state of CT.
In fact I heard it's your project.

When were you planning to inform the public?

Guess you weren't huh.

I condemn your plans & I will spread your filthy name all over social media right along with your co-conspirators:

- Keith W Hannon - literally his project
- Robert E Kaliszewski - signed the permit
- Brian P Thompson - signed the federal constituency review
- Colonel Justin R Pabis - green lit the project
- Governor Ned Lamont - would the good people of CT tar & feather him if they knew?
- Senator Richard Blumenthal - secured the funding -

So Keith: does that mean that the taxpayers are paying for the poisoning of their own lakes & rivers?.

You must know the public will demand all of your heads on platters. You do know that. Right!

Don't be surprised if your end is treason.

By the way I posted notifications on Bondi's, Patel's & Bongino's X pages.

If they don't get you God will. Even demons like yourself know - God is real.

Oh, almost forgot, it's on Truth Social too.

From: [Warren Scott Fentress](mailto:Warren.Scott.Fentress)
To: [Harvey, Keth W Civil Liberties CENAE \(USA\)](mailto:Harvey_Keth_W_Civil Liberties CENAE (USA))
Cc: subject@businessinsider.com; subject@businessinsider.com; subject@businessinsider.com; subject@businessinsider.com; subject@businessinsider.com
Subject: [Non-GD Source] Diquat
Date: Monday, July 7, 2023 4:16:22 PM

Gentlemen,

If you are unfamiliar with the toxic effects of diquat, I urge you to look at the laws in the EU banning this poison: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R1532&from=PL#_text=The%20approval%20of%20the%20active%20substance%20diquat%20is%20not%20renewed.&text=Member%20States%20shall%20withdraw%20authorisations.May%202019%20at%20the%20latest

Here in the US most intelligent people can understand this is NOT to be used in the environment, ESPECIALLY if it's worse than Glyphosate (Round Up): <https://bestlifeonline.com/diquat-more-toxic-than-glyphosate/>

Even the questionable NIH considers it bad (and they liked the deadly COVID vax...): <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11001306/>

I could point out a lot more science - I was a Pfizer exec in the 90's, and I'm extremely intelligent with an IQ of 150 in my youth, but this isn't about me, this is about YOU. WHY DID YOU APPROVE a bill to spray this crap in CT? How much were you paid? You had better stop ANY such initiatives that harm the public - WHO YOU SERVE (unbeknownst to many these days). This goes for chemtrails, too.

CT is called Corrupticut for a reason. The people are waking up to how greed in politics has caused public suffering. IT MUST STOP!

Do the right thing. If you're not sure what that is, reach out to me and I can advise you. But it will require public service, which is, after all, your job. Mine is to make sure you do yours.

Sincerely,

WS Fentress
Torrington, CT

From: [Garrett Cantrell](#)
To: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: comments@whitehouse.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Monday, July 7, 2025 3:01:36 PM

Do not use Diquat Dibromide as this will harm far more than help.

Sterile triploid grass carp or white amur will resolve over time.



Garrett Cantrell

Digital Marketing & Strategy

P: [REDACTED]

From: [Tony Salerno](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Dibromide Spraying in Our Lakes and Rivers
Date: Monday, July 7, 2025 11:36:23 AM

Gentlemen;

The report below from Carl Higbie at Newsmax is very disturbing, to say the least. Although I am not a resident of the State of Connecticut, I am all the same outraged at the possibility of this information being true. Is it justifiably responsible to utilize a chemical that has been banned in Europe, posing the very real potential that its use will irreparably damage other foliage, wildlife, etc.... in your attempt to control a single weed known as hydrilla? Is it worth the added risk to all the other living plantlife and water life? Please rethink your current course of action and decide on a safer solution to the problem.

I thank you,
Anthony F Salerno
Father and Grandfather

Sun. 6 July 2025 Weather Manipulation: Carl Higbie at Newsmax was able to do more research and found Democrats will begin spraying our lakes and rivers with the toxic chemical Diquat THIS MONDAY JULY 7TH He was also able to find the company is owned by ChemChina. Chris Webby exposed the details for those who missed it: ...

From: Kara.Phillbin
 To: Heron_Kath.W.CIV.USARMY.CENAE.U.S.A.; robek.kahmeski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; CENAE.PA_M&E_governor.lampton@ct.gov; Richard.Blumenthal@ct.gov; Seavater@blumenthal.senate.gov; richard.blumenthal@ny.nyu.edu; Seavater@muryby.senate.gov; chris.maryby@ny.nyu.edu; Jim.Himes@mail.house.gov; Jim.Himes@gmail.com; Tina.Courpas@ct.gov; Ryan.Frank@ct.gov; Hector.Aranza@ct.gov; Stephen.Hester@ct.gov
 Subject: (New On) Source) Please Stop the Release of Banned, Harmful Pesticides Into All CT Bodies of Water and Neighboring Waters that Flow Into CT
 Date: Monday, July 7, 2025 10:44:59 AM

CT is planning to follow the NY (New York Croton River, Cayuga Lake Inlet, Tonawanda Creek/Erie Canal) and other states treatment plan for invasive hydrilla. CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Report
https://www.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/docs/Topics/CTRiver/FINAL_CTRiver_Hydrilla_EA_JUL2024%20Signed.pdf

Please stop the application of herbicide (diquat dibromide, dipotassium salt of endothal, and floryprauxifen-benzyl or a combination of these herbicides) to ALL sites within the Connecticut River watershed. This scheduled to occur after July 4th, 2025 and approved by the CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Proposed sites include
 1) Chapman Pond & Salmon River in Haddam, CT; (2) Chester Creek/Boat Basin in Chester, CT; (3) Keeney Cove in Glastonbury, CT; (4) Selden Creek/Cove & Hamburg Cove in Lyme, CT; and (5) Portland Boat Works in Portland, CT, Deep River & Lake Pocotopaug in Middlesex County Ct.

The citizens of CT require a safe, non-chemical alternatives, as the chemical: Diquat Dibromide is banned in Europe and is highly toxic to wildlife, aquatics and humans. Per the unearthed article below, the UK has offloaded 8,500 tones of banned pesticides to other countries. Pass legislation that demands only safe, non-chemical alternatives and solutions going forward. Work with neighboring states to ensure they also only use safe, non chemical alternatives and solutions to prevent harming our waters, wildlife and CT people.

A quick DuckDuckGo search and it's clear Diquat is harmful.

<https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2024/12/08/ultimate-hypocrisy-uk-exported-8500-tonnes-banned-pesticides/>

<https://hvrk.org/healthwire/diquat-herbicide-poisons-the-gut-may-severely-damage-other-organs/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/jul/06/weedkiller-diquat-organ-damage-study>

<https://www.fertilizerdaily.com/20250611-new-research-links-diquat-herbicide-to-gut-damage-and-broader-organ-toxicity/>

Petition 1

https://www.change.org/p/stop-the-chemical-poisoning-of-connecticut-s-waterways?utm_source=FB_Twitter_US_Campaigns&utm_campaign=NoDiquatCT&utm_term=1000+

Post by author of who created petition above with details about project & leadership.

[https://x.com/ChrisWebby/status/1939094294780096912?](https://x.com/ChrisWebby/status/1939094294780096912?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etwetmbot%7Ctwterm%5E1939094294780096912%7Ctwgr%5EB7b7f3be8cfa00271e6169c469e1bc28ee07a%7Ctwcon%5E%1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.snopes.com%2Ffact-check%2Fconnecticut-toxic-chemicals-hydrilla%2F)

[ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etwetmbot%7Ctwterm%5E1939094294780096912%7Ctwgr%5EB7b7f3be8cfa00271e6169c469e1bc28ee07a%7Ctwcon%5E%1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.snopes.com%2Ffact-check%2Fconnecticut-toxic-chemicals-hydrilla%2F](https://x.com/ChrisWebby/status/1939094294780096912?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etwetmbot%7Ctwterm%5E1939094294780096912%7Ctwgr%5EB7b7f3be8cfa00271e6169c469e1bc28ee07a%7Ctwcon%5E%1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.snopes.com%2Ffact-check%2Fconnecticut-toxic-chemicals-hydrilla%2F)

Alternate petition

<https://chang.itbGt.WQ5uxSZ>

Thank you for your immediate action to stop this project and the release of these harmful pesticides into our water.

Best,
 Kara Philbin

Greenwich CT

From: [david lawn](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] "they plan on spraying it in several lakes out here. Of course, when you start to follow the money, you see how this plan has huge state funding and therefore is lining a whole lot of pockets"
Date: Monday, July 7, 2025 5:10:53 AM

"they plan on spraying it in several lakes out here. Of course, when you start to follow the money, you see how this plan has huge state funding and therefore is lining a whole lot of pockets"

From: [Ellie Argumedo](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Request to Retract From Spraying Toxic Diquat
Date: Sunday, July 6, 2025 10:11:39 PM

Mr Hannon,

This email is to please, please, please request that the extremely toxic Diquat Chemical is not sprayed in Connecticut or anywhere else in the country! As you may know already, it is an extremely toxic chemical that not only kills the intended target but much more. Please protect our lakes and rivers by not spraying this deadly chemical.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Ellie Argumedo

From: [Christopher Blanchard](#)
To: canae-pa@usace.army.mil; governor.lamont@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov;
[Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please do not use diquat in CT waterways
Date: Sunday, July 6, 2025 8:36:45 PM

Good evening,

I simply wanted to ask as a Connecticut resident who grew up boating on a CT river, to please not use diquat to treat the hydrilla issue currently affecting our state.

There must be another way to treat this problem without toxic chemicals, and if I could assist with fundraising to alleviate the cost of this please feel free to advise me.

I understand a mechanical solution may not be as effective or inexpensive, and I'm not a scientist/engineer, but I understand basic concepts and a chemical like this should not be used in our waterways for any reason:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/jul/06/weedkiller-diquat-organ-damage-study>

<https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2024/12/08/brazil-farmers-poisoned-banned-pesticide-diquat-syngenta-export-uk/>

The fact that it is banned in the UK, EU, and China seems to speak for itself, that perhaps we should not be using this substance in our state.

Thank you in advance for your time.

Regards,
Chris

From: [DB Kinney](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] USACE use of Diquat in CT water
Date: Sunday, July 6, 2025 3:48:17 PM

Please explain the safety measures that have been taken, will be taken with the use of Diquat in CT water. What assurance can you give CT residents, like myself, that the chemical, Diquat is not harmful to humans?

This chemical has been banned in Europe, so how could it possibly be used in CT without harmful effects?

The [European Union banned](#) the use of diquat in 2019, with a ban in the United Kingdom following a year later.

Dave Kinney
Glastonbury, CT resident, father and concerned citizen.

From: [marie_vitucci](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DANGERS OF DYQUAT!!!
Date: Sunday, July 6, 2025 1:41:03 PM

I LOVE CT WATERS BUT THIS CHEMICAL IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS!! Please reconsider using it in our waters!
Ty

Project Manager – Connecticut
River Hydrilla Control Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers –
New England District

Office: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

38.3K

2,560

The image shows a social media profile card for a Project Manager at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The background is a photo of a man with a beard and tattoos. The text on the card includes the job title, project name, and organization. There are also icons for a heart (likes), a speech bubble (comments), and a share icon. The number of likes is 38.3K and the number of comments is 2,560. The office and email information is redacted with black boxes.

From: [KITKAT8868](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Sunday, July 6, 2025 1:25:31 PM

Hi,

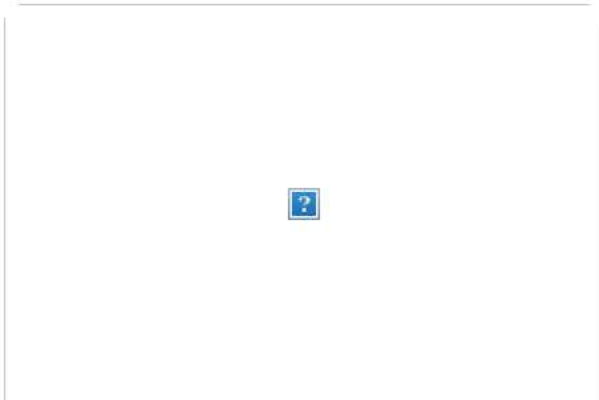
After reading this article I cannot fathom poisoning the CT river and multiple swimming spots with chemicals banned in Europe and UK. I understand trying to control an invasive species, however it clearly states the chemical kills whatever it comes in contact with so it will also damage good plants that we want around. Not only this, but in the height of summer when people are swimming. Why cant this be attempted in October or sometime when swimming in waterways decreases significantly. This is a bad idea. It will have terrible consequences down the road and we cannot poison our people like this. What about old fashion dredging, or scuba divers that can pull up the plants. Although time consuming, a safer option for our precious waterways.

I stand up and say NO to diquat!

Kate Burney

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [David Hurlburt](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Cc: governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP the Poisonings of our waters: diquat-herbicide-poisons-the-gut-may-severely-damage-other-organs/ STOP THINK STOP - HAVE A REVERANCE FOR LIFE AND NATURE. WE BEG YOU TO BE MINDFUL OF EXISTANCE AND LIFE.
Date: Sunday, July 6, 2025 12:58:35 PM



[Diquat herbicide poisons the gut, may severely damage other organs, research shows](#)
usrtk.org

Dear Governor Lamont and Officials: Stop the Diquat spraying: We & Nature are more important the money you will receive !!!!

Diquat, **an herbicide banned in the European Union** but still widely used in the U.S., damages the intestines and may also trigger a harmful chain reaction in the rest of the body—injuring the liver, kidney, and lungs, according to a new review of more than 100 studies.

The herbicide has traditionally been studied for its toxic effects on the liver and kidneys. However, this [review](#), recently published [May 2025] in *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, suggests the intestines are a key target for its harmful effects....

***** THIS IS SERIOUS*****

After July 4th rivers and lakes are about to start being sprayed with an **extremely toxic chemical called Diquat** in Connecticut with plans to go nationwide This has been sprayed before it kills EVERYTHING

Politicians are getting rich off this deal along with many more people in government

“Connecticut is about to poison its own lakes and rivers with a highly toxic chemical called diquat.

And it seems like no one knows about it. It's actually a coordinated plan that they're

about to roll out in states all over the country.

This particular chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike. I've even heard landscapers refer to diquat as the nuclear option.

The way these people are getting away with it is by saying it's used to kill an invasive plant species called hydrilla, which I'm sure it does, along with everything else in the water, and then us by circumstance.

When I looked up if they were doing it in my state of Connecticut, I was shocked to see that right after the 4th of July, they plan on spraying it in several lakes out here.

Of course, when you start to follow the money, you see how this plan has **huge state funding** and therefore is lining a whole lot of pockets.

There's quite a few players involved and they really don't want us to know who they are and what their involvement is.

So me being me, I listed all of their contact information in the caption below with exactly what their involvement to the issue is. (I'll add the list below)"

“This is not a partisan issue. It's downright evil.”

- 12 sites across the Lower Connecticut River to be sprayed first
- Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans)

- Scheduled after July 4th, 2025
- Approved by CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Sites Include:

- Chester Creek
- Hamburg Cove
- Selden Creek
- Salmon River
- Deep River
- Lake Pocotopaug

People involved in the deal:

Keith W. Hannon (It's Literally His Project)
Project Manager – Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District

Office: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Robert E. Kaliszewski (Signed The Permit)

Deputy Commissioner, Environmental Quality Branch (formerly)
Connecticut DEEP

Office: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Brian P. Thompson (Signed The Federal Constituency Review)
Director, Land & Water Resources Division, DEEP

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Colonel Justin R. Pabis, P.E. (Green Lit The Whole Thing)
District Engineer, USACE New England District

cenae-pa@usace.army.mil [REDACTED]

Governor Ned Lamont (Could Stop It All In One Phone Call)

Office of the Governor

Office: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Senator Richard Blumenthal (Secured The Funding)

U.S. Senator – Connecticut

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

>>>100K LAWSUITs from prior poisonings<<<

Monsanto has settled over 100,000
Roundup lawsuits, paying out about \$11
billion as of May 2022. There are still
30,000 lawsuits pending.

[Roundup \(herbicide\) - Wikipedia](#)

DIQUAT made by:

<https://alligare.com/markets-we-serve/>

From: [Rachael](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W](#)
[CTV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); brian_steele@blumenthal.senate.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent Request: Please Reconsider the Use of Diquat Dibromide in Connecticut Waterways
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 7:50:49 PM

To whom this may concern,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing as a concerned resident of Connecticut to respectfully urge you and your colleagues to reconsider any plans to apply diquat dibromide to rivers, lakes, or other bodies of water within our state.

While I recognize the challenges posed by aquatic invasive species and the need for effective management solutions, the use of diquat dibromide raises serious environmental, ecological, and public health concerns that I hope you will weigh carefully before proceeding.

1. Environmental Toxicity and Ecosystem Impact:

Diquat dibromide is a non-selective herbicide that, while effective at rapidly killing plant tissue, can disrupt entire aquatic ecosystems. Its application can result in large-scale die-off of aquatic vegetation, which in turn affects the oxygen balance in water. Decomposition of plant material may lead to hypoxic or anoxic conditions, threatening fish, amphibians, and other aquatic life. Furthermore, the loss of beneficial aquatic plants diminishes habitat and food sources for native wildlife.

2. Persistence and Contamination Risks:

Though diquat is known to bind to sediments, it can remain in the environment for extended periods and may leach into groundwater. There is a risk of unintended contamination of drinking water sources, which could affect both human health and agricultural use.

3. Public Health Concerns:

Diquat dibromide is classified as a moderately toxic substance, with documented risks of skin and eye irritation, respiratory distress, and gastrointestinal effects if ingested. There is also concern about long-term exposure for communities near treated water bodies, as well as for those engaging in recreational activities.

4. Safer, Sustainable Alternatives:

There are a growing number of mechanical, biological, and ecological approaches to managing invasive aquatic species that pose far less risk to our waterways and communities. Integrated pest management strategies, habitat restoration, and community-led stewardship

programs have proven successful in many regions.

Connecticut is known for its leadership in environmental protection. I believe that by exploring and investing in less hazardous alternatives, we can preserve the health of our waterways without exposing our ecosystems or residents to unnecessary risks.

Thank You

Rachael O'Brien

From: [Jaclynn DaRos](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Critical Message
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 5:01:25 PM

Hello Mr. Hannon,

I hope this email finds you well. It is with my upmost concern that you reconsider this decision to use Diquat in our CT waterways. As a lifelong, shoreline resident, I have seen many negative effects in the CT waters involving pesticides and sewage. I've done years of research and have taken college level courses in marine biology, animal science, and microbiology. I am sure that Diquat will kill our ecosystem. This is a non-selective herbicide that will kill everything in its path as well as affect the health of humans that enjoy the waters of the area that you are using this product. This product is banned in other country's such as in the EU, Switzerland and the UK due to its harmful effects on living organisms including but not limited to, the human body. I urge you to stop this project and find or create a selective Herbicide before our waterways are completely ruined and human lives are at risk.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Jaclynn DaRos

From: [M G](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov; [M G](#); [Marie](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop Diquat in our waterways
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 4:05:03 PM

Dear Sir or Madam,

Good afternoon everyone. It has come to my attention that A chemical Diquat is going to be sprayed into the Connecticut River, Salmon river and other waterways in CT. My family and I live in Haddam, right on the Connecticut river, at the mouth of the Salmon river. My 6 month old German shepherd puppy "Buddy James" and I frequent the park "[REDACTED]" right on the river. He likes to swim there and drinks the water from time to time. I do not want Diquat sprayed or poured into our waterways. Please, do not let this happen. We have enough chemicals in our environment from any and everything we eat and use in our daily lives. I am begging you, as an ARMY Nurse Veteran, [REDACTED] who served from 2005 to 2013 and did a tour in Iraq from 2008 to 2009, please DO NOT SPRAY DIQUAT in my river!

What else can be done? Please inform me. Thank you!

Marie Griffin
[REDACTED]

From: [t ly](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 3:28:47 PM

When you're okay drinking from the water and eating fish from water contaminated with diquat, giving your own kids diquat in their food, then I'll be okay. Stop using diquat and refer to agricultural specialist on how to control whatever hydrilla or other invasive things the safer way. There will always be invasive things and using chemicals to kill everything else along with it is just dumb! Come up with non chemical safer alternative that doesn't destroy other animals and lives!

Thien Than DeRosa

From: etuniverse@aol.com
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP SPRAYING DIQUAT
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 12:38:17 PM

STOP THE USE OF DIQUAT IN ALL LAKES, RIVERS, AND STREAMS
EVERYWHERE.

<https://x.com/wallstreetapes/status/1939670706956149013?s=46>

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

From: [Jill Paterson](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Use the Boats - Don't Poison Waterways
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 12:05:59 PM

Hello,

I have been informed of the herbicide use in CT waterways to eradicate a plant. There are boats designed for the purpose. Please don't poison us and our ecosystem - please use the boats.

Jill Paterson
Mansfield Center, CT

From: [Mason Boulay](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Diquat spraying in Connecticut
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 11:54:52 AM

Nice try pretending it was a funding issue that caused you guys pushing it back, but we know it's only cause we're watching. We are going to continue watching. I live in mass and am disgusted you guys already sprayed in worchestor. Stop this madness. None of the public wants this trash in our water. We're watching. And we're going to be calling it out.

On Fri, Jul 4, 2025 at 8:46 AM Mason Boulay <moneymace1794@gmail.com> wrote:

I saw your claims on the news, about how Diquat is safe for humans? Why are you lying. We see what it's doing to the turtles and all the other wildlife, it's been banned all throughout Europe, and here you are, spraying our water with this horseshit? Kind of funny how you live in Massachusetts, how come you're not spraying this crap into YOUR drinking water? Oh wait, we know why. Do better, you don't give a shit about Americans. And we're documenting all this. And you're going to be exposed Mr Chemical Kieth.

From: [Karen Woodford](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying for hydrilla
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 11:38:22 AM

Dear sirs,


While I applaud the efforts to clean hydrilla from our waterways, spraying with a toxin banned in Europe is NOT a safe alternative.

There are SAFE mechanical ways to clear the invasive weeds. And it's well established. This toxic chemical will pollute our waterways and kill countless other plants and fish.

I stand firmly against this spraying! And the entire state needed to be given notice of your intent, not just those on the waterways.

Thank you,

Karen Woodford


Monroe, CT 06468-1862

From: [Mary Strumpf](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Dibromide
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 9:54:56 AM

Mr. Hannon I am writing to you today to ask you not to Spray this wildlife killer in our state. This chemical is highly toxic to animals and humans which is why it was banned in Europe. Did you know Connecticut is ranked number two for breast cancer rates? If you spray this toxic chemical in our waterways we might rise to number, one. Please don't damage our wildlife, people and vegetation.

Sincerely Mary Strumpf

From: khismet@charter.net
 To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](mailto:CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil); Sen. Richard Blumenthal; senjeffgordon@cga.ct.gov; lamont.governor@ct.gov;
deep.webmaster@ct.gov
 Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: USE OF DIQUAT IN CT WATERS
 Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 9:30:07 AM

Please also note THAT ACCORDING NOAA:

Diquat is not degraded by microbes. When applied to a waterbody, diquat binds with the organic matter in the sediment indefinitely. It does not degrade and will accumulate in the sediments.

PLEASE EXPLAIN TO THE PUBLIC IN A PUBLIC MEDIA PLATFORM WHY YOU THINK IS SAFE? ---WE THE VOTERS AND TAXPAYERS WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.....

PAT POGMORE

From: <khismet@charter.net>
 To: <CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil>, "Sen. Richard Blumenthal" <info@richardblumenthal.com>, <senjeffgordon@cga.ct.gov>, <lamont.governor@ct.gov>, <deep.webmaster@ct.gov>
 Sent: July 3, 2025 at 12:25 PM MDT
 Subject: USE OF DIQUAT IN CT WATERS

I did not see any information on the effects of DIQUAT on humans. I saw no medical or health information. I did see the effects of DIQUAT on HYDRILLA-but not on people. I have serious concern as I have researched this chemical. Diquat, an herbicide banned in the European Union but still widely used in the U.S., damages the intestines and may also trigger a harmful chain reaction in the rest of the body—injuring the liver, kidney, and lungs, according to a new review of more than 100 studies. It is also related to Parkinson's disease.

This herbicide has traditionally been studied for its toxic effects on the liver and kidneys. However, recently published [May 2025] in *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, suggests the intestines are a key target for its harmful effects. Studies show that diquat weakens the intestinal barrier, kills beneficial bacteria, interferes with nutrient absorption, and triggers chronic inflammation, among other impacts. Diquat is [banned in the EU](#), Switzerland, and the U.K. due to its environmental and health risks. However, like paraquat, which has been linked to [Parkinson's disease](#) and [whose use is prohibited in more than 70 countries](#), diquat is still used in the U.S. to control agricultural and aquatic broadleaf and grassy weeds. This review coincides with mounting concerns about the long-term health impacts of pesticides, including [glyphosate](#) and [atrazine](#), especially in [children](#) and agricultural communities. It also comes amid efforts by pesticide manufacturers to try to limit damage awards in lawsuits related to pesticide-related illnesses and deaths. Diquat is also related to PARAQUAT.

WHY WAS INFORMATION REGARDING THE HEALTH CONCERNS NOT GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC?--ONLY THE EFFECTS OF DIQUAT

ON PLANTS.

WHEN AND WHERE ARE THE APPLICATIONS FOR THIS TOXIC CHEMICAL PLANNED? THIS SHOULD BE MADE PUBLIC ON PUBLIC MEDIA -

WHY WAS THIS NOT ON OUR LOCAL NEWS STATIONS ---and only on social media reposts, or on "hidden" links, or after many of us contacted the local news media with questions.

WHY IS THE INFORMATION REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENT IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND?--WHERE WAS THIS PUBLISHED FOR THE PUBLIC TO LEARN AND MAKE COMMENTS? AND AGAIN , WHERE IS THE INFORMATION REGARDING THE EFFECTS ON PEOPLE? IS THIS A FOREVER CHEMICAL? WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE PLANT HAS DIED--WHERE DOES THE RESIDUE FROM THESE APPLICATIONS GO? WHAT EFFECT DOES THIS HAVE ON AQUATIC LIFE--BIRDS, FISHES, INSECTS?

(remember the uses of PFAS?...)

WHY HASN'T CT DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ANNOUNCED INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ISSUE AND WHEN AND WHERE TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENTS? (They are aware of this--and even though it is still being discussed--at least tell the public where and when are the anticipated applications of diquat to be used. I am sure they know.)

As I HOPE you are aware, the waterways are ecosystems--so what you do to one aspect of the environment affects ALL in the environment.

Please respond--we the voters and taxpayers of the state of Connecticut are waiting for your response.

Patricia Pogmore

State of Connecticut, resident, taxpayer, voter and retired state of CT analyst.

From: [Janice Lawson](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source]
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 7:38:42 AM

Dear Sir:

Please consider not using the chemical Diquat from the company Chem China to kill bugs in lakes and rivers.

This chemical is very toxic and can kill wildlife. Also, it was banned in Europe.

Thanks in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Janice Lawson

From: [Anita Darin](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Don't poison our environment with your herbicides
Date: Saturday, July 5, 2025 7:15:36 AM

Please do not allow the poisoning of our waterways in Connecticut with the herbicide Diquat. Studies have shown this is a highly toxic chemical to the body. It is banned in Europe and other countries, but yet the US still uses it. **BLOCKED**<https://usrtk.org/healthwire/diquat-herbicide-poisons-the-gut-may-severely-damage-other-organs/> 90% of the environmental damage is done by the government allowing poisons into our environment, which gets into our food supply water supply it's almost like you're purposely trying to kill us all.

This invasive species is not a bad thing it is considered the world's healthiest food. **BLOCKED**<https://www.consciouslifestylemag.com/hydrilla-verticillata-superfood/> Please stop this madness and stop poisoning us and the environment!
Anita Darin

From: [Katie Rostron](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Poisoning our water supply? What is this, 1970?
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 11:54:15 PM

Hello there,

It has come to my attention that the US Army plants to poison the CT river in attempt to kill off an invasive plant that has been present since 1989.

Look around you... There are invasive plants EVERYWHERE. Japanese knotweed, English Ivy, Autumn olive, Oriental bittersweet, and about 1,000 others here in the USA. Life will find a way, and adapt. We don't need to poison the water, and ourselves, just to say "it's gone" for a season. Invasive plants ALWAYS come back. Life will find a way.

Rhode Island has the highest bladder cancer per capita in the USA. Evidence strongly suggests this is linked to a water supply contaminated by generations of factory/mill run off. Chemicals used in various industries. Improper disposal of toxic waste into our rivers.

Can we see these chemicals? No.

But they are there, and they are causing major health issues.

Now think about microplastics. Tiny little "insignificant bits of plastic" have been found in human blood. Creating plaques in arteries, leading to major cardiac issues. Not to mention the impact on the immune system, neurological system, fertility, and more. Evidence suggests a majority of microplastics enter our bodies through water.

All that to say, yes, every little thing we put into the environment STAYS there and causes changes. Sometimes they are positive changes--- but I cannot foresee a future where a large quantity of ANY KNOWN CAUSTIC CHEMICAL BEING DUMPED IN A 410 MILE LONG RIVER could possibly have a positive long term outcome for the general population and environment.

Please, think this through. We are one with the planet, whether we like to admit it or not. Whatever we do to fight it, it will fight back in another way ten times as hard. Every action has an equal and opposite reaction!

Thank you,

Katherine Rostron, RN

From: [ANDREW FELGATE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat spraying in CT rivers
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 11:19:31 PM

Hi Keith,

I am an avid fisher in CT. I heard you are the one pushing the spraying of these chemicals in our fresh bodies of water in order to prevent the spread of invasive weeds. I am concerned because I have heard these chemicals are toxic to humans and kill fish. Please inform me if this is true because not only do I fish these waters but I also walk the streams while fishing. I hope this is not true, and want to be educated on this matter. If this is the case though, I would like to know why killing an invasive weed is more important than keeping our bodies of water healthy?

Thanks,

Andrew Felgate

From: [Janette Salyers](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 6:18:35 PM

This is a demand from a very upset American citizen to STOP your project to poison our waterways!
Cancel it NOW!

From: [jurneez and the Dogs!](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 4:41:23 PM

Dear Sir,

I do not condone the use of diquat in CT's water or land. I stand firmly against it. STOP, do Not use this toxin.

I am informing the entire town through voters list and intend to fight this.

This is not safe and was a poor decision to drop it in our water. Find another way to fight invasion plants.

Patricia Cascio

Hampton, CT

jurneez and the dogs!

From: [Annette Tchelka](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying our lakes with Diquat
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 3:15:43 PM

I am opposed to using this toxic pollutant Diquat which is banned in Europe for spraying our lakes and waterways here in CT. I understand that there are other, safer remedies available and I hope you will switch to those.

Thank you for your consideration.

Annette N. Tchelka



West Haven, CT 06516

From: [Claire Stadtmueller](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] stop the diquat poisoning
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 2:21:32 PM

Keith Hannon,

Stop the poisoning!

Don't you think you, and your family, will also be sickened??

Claire Stadtmueller
Preston, CT

--

Sent from my PC connected to the internet with an ethernet cable; using a non-wifi modem, providing speedy internet with no microwave radiation.

From: [Joseph](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Don't poison the water
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 10:20:14 AM

The people of this state will remember who started the project to poison their waters. This chemical is banned in Europe. Why do you want to poison our waters. We the people will find out why and if necessary hold people accountable. You are disgusting people will not forgot.

From: [Rachel Blandina](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Public Comment on Hydrilla Control Project – Opposition to Diquat Use in Connecticut River
Attn: Keith Hannon, Planning Division
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 9:29:41 AM

Dear Mr. Hannon and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Rachel Blandina, a lifelong resident of Connecticut and a daughter of the waterways that breathe life through our state. I am writing in opposition to the proposed use of diquat dibromide as part of the Hydrilla Control Research Demonstration Project.

This river is not just a body of water. It is ancestral, living, and sacred—a pulse that connects generations past, present, and future. To speak of it clinically, as a problem to be “treated,” is to ignore the deep relationship many of us hold with the land and the life within it. This river carried me through childhood.

I demand full transparency:

Public release of all environmental impact studies conducted, including short-term and long-term risks of diquat dibromide to native species, soil, sediment, and human exposure.

A clear outline of alternative, non-chemical strategies that were considered and why they were dismissed.

Assurance that this “pilot program” will not pave the way for unrestricted chemical use in future years.

I ask that you pause and listen—not just to stakeholders in boardrooms, but to those of us who live close to the river, who raise our children in its proximity, and who understand that healing this Earth must come through harmony, not control.

Diquat is banned in the European Union for a reason. Its use here, especially under a banner of restoration, feels like betrayal dressed as science. I ask you—is there no other way? Are we truly so divorced from the natural intelligence of our ecosystems that poisoning one species is the only answer?

I urge you: do not poison our river in the name of protection. We are better than that. Let’s invest in native species restoration, manual harvesting, biological controls—methods that respect the complex, delicate rhythms of this watershed.

I speak as one, but I know I do not stand alone.

Sincerely,
Rachel Blandina
Connecticut Resident, Mother, River Steward

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Mason Boulay](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat spraying in Connecticut
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 8:46:58 AM

I saw your claims on the news, about how Diquat is safe for humans? Why are you lying. We see what it's doing to the turtles and all the other wildlife, it's been banned all throughout Europe, and here you are, spraying our water with this horseshit? Kind of funny how you live in Massachusetts, how come you're not spraying this crap into YOUR drinking water? Oh wait, we know why. Do better, you don't give a shit about Americans. And we're documenting all this. And you're going to be exposed Mr Chemical Kieth.

From: [Jen Sperazza](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov
Cc: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP THE SPRAYING OF DIQUAT!
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 7:56:55 AM

PLEASE STOP THIS!!

Connecticut is about to poison its own lakes and rivers with a highly toxic chemical called diquat. YOU CAN STOP THIS! This particular chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike. I've even heard landscapers refer to diquat as the nuclear option. Stop this, please! Jen Sperazza CT resident

From: [Adam Creighton](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please read
Date: Friday, July 4, 2025 4:47:16 AM

Are you a fucking retard or something? Stop spraying chemicals

From: [Sheariah Stevens](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#); FOIA-CENAE@usace.army.mil; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); Gregory.Bugbee@ct.gov; MBurns@rivercog.org
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to the Proposed Expansion of the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Research and Demonstration Project
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 10:55:42 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon, and respected parties,

As a deeply concerned resident of the Connecticut River watershed, I am writing in strong opposition to the proposed expansion of the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Research and Demonstration Project, which seeks to add twelve additional herbicide treatment sites and a host of new chemical agents to the current project scope.

While the threat of invasive hydrilla is real, the proposed widespread and repeated use of powerful herbicides, including bispyribac-sodium, imazamox, flumioxazin, fluridone, and penoxsulam raises serious environmental and public health concerns. Many of these chemicals persist in aquatic systems and are known to affect non-target aquatic species, disrupt delicate ecosystems, and potentially contaminate groundwater and drinking water sources. Applying such compounds in ecologically sensitive, high water exchange environments like tidal rivers, creeks, and coves risks unintended and irreversible harm.

Particularly alarming is the use of diquat dibromide and dipotassium salt of endothall at high concentrations (up to 370 ppb and 5 ppm, respectively), along with other herbicides that have not been independently studied for long-term ecological impacts in combination or in diverse tidal and freshwater systems. This raises questions about cumulative toxicity, impacts on native flora and fauna, and human exposure through recreation and fishing. These risks demand far more thorough analysis than the draft supplemental environmental assessment provides.

It is also troubling that this project, which represents a significant escalation in chemical use, is being advanced without a local sponsor and minimal public engagement. The 30-day comment period during the height of summer, when many residents may not be aware of or able to respond to this proposal, is insufficient for a project of this scale and consequence.

The Connecticut River is a cherished resource, ecologically, culturally, and recreationally. It is a living system that supports not only wildlife but local economies and community well-being. It deserves a management approach grounded in transparency, precaution, and long-term sustainability. Chemical control, especially at the scale proposed, should not proceed without exhaustive, independent environmental review and robust public discourse.

Therefore, I respectfully urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to halt the proposed expansion of this project and to fully reconsider the long-term implications of widespread herbicide use in the Lower Connecticut River. Alternative, non-chemical methods of control, such as mechanical harvesting, biological controls, and habitat

restoration, must be more thoroughly explored and prioritized.

I formally request a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed expansion of the Hydrilla Control Research and Demonstration Project.

The proposed application of multiple herbicides across 12 new treatment sites in ecologically sensitive, high-water exchange environments raises significant concerns about cumulative impacts on aquatic ecosystems, drinking water quality, public health, and non-target species, including those protected under the Endangered Species Act.

Given the geographic scope, number of chemicals involved, and public concern surrounding this project, a more comprehensive environmental review is necessary to ensure transparency, accountability, and protection of natural resources.

Thank you for considering this request in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Additionally, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), I respectfully request access to all records, reports, emails, data, and internal communications related to the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Research and Demonstration Project, including but not limited to:

1. Selection criteria for herbicide products and application sites
2. Environmental assessments, monitoring results, and health impact studies
3. Communications with EPA, DEEP, pesticide manufacturers, or local municipalities
4. Risk assessments regarding non-target species and drinking water contamination
5. Records of public and tribal consultation regarding the proposed expansion

Please include documents dated from January 1, 2022, to the present.

I kindly request that the information be provided in electronic format. If any part of this request is denied, please provide the specific exemption(s) relied upon and inform me of the appeal procedures.

I appreciate your attention to this critical matter. I ask that this comment be entered into the public record for the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Research and Demonstration Project.

Sincerely,
Sheariah Stevens

From: [AbsoluteHydrogen](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); Robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); Richard_Bilmenthal@blumenthal.senate.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] (No Subject)
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 8:55:16 PM

Sent with Proton Mail secure email.

Please do NOT go through with this!!!

Diquat herbicide poisons the gut, may severely damage other organs, research shows

<https://usrtk.org/healthwire/diquat-herbicide-poisons-the-gut-may-severely-damage-other-organs/>

Julian Song



From: [James Malcolm](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Alternative Methods to Deal with Hydrilla in CT Waterbodies
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 6:20:24 PM

To the New England USACE and the CT DEEP:

My name is Jimmy Malcolm and I have been an advocate for the Connecticut Rivers in my personal, academic, and professional life for many years.

In my current role, I aid the Regulatory team of *New England Hydropower Company*, including maintenance and operations of the first ever Archimedes Screw Turbine in America right in Hanover - which is less than 15 miles from my current home in Wallingford.

In the past, I have been employed through the *Connecticut River Conservancy* to remove and instruct on the removal of European water chestnuts on the main stem of the Connecticut River and have also served on the *Lake Beseck Environmental Committee* to help advocate for and process a herbicide treatment permit in Middlefield.

I have researched and mapped holistic methods for hydrilla removal at the *University of Connecticut*. I understand it is a problem that can't wait another season and I understand that there is a current plan for the use of Diquat Dibromide in many of our State's lakes this upcoming season.

While I believe DEEP and USACE have the best interest of our aquatic habitats in mind, I would urge deeper look into ProcellaCOR, manufactured by *SePRO*. It is a herbicide that targets milfoil, hydrilla, and other aquatic weeds through a growth hormone which essentially causes the plant to abnormally outgrow itself before it can spread and cause more harm. I would also recommend the operators of this project consider the safe use of triploid grass carp and assess the risk associated with use. I, nor New England Hydropower, do not have any stake in SePRO or any aquatic herbicide manufacturers.

I would be willing to share any methods I had in mapping and assigning removal methods for Hydrilla in riverine systems or aid DEEP/USACE in discussions on removing invasives in hydropower impoundments.

Thank you for your time,

JM

--



From: [ru Carley](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Dibromide to be used in Connecticut waters
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 4:48:16 PM

Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans)

Shame on you for allowing this to happen. Surely you are not a clear-thinking human being but part of a nefarious plan to destroy God's creation. Shame, shame, shame on you!!!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Laurel Thompson](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: CONNECTICUT RIVER HYDRILLA CONTROL RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 3:55:39 PM

Good afternoon,

I am writing to urge you to reconsider the proposed plan for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to treat 17 sites within the Lower Connecticut River Watershed with Diquat dibromicide and other herbicides. The report clearly states that the project will affect threatened and endangered species. This project is a dangerous and irresponsible use of harmful herbicides that will have extremely negative consequences on Connecticut ecosystems and residents. I am strongly against this project and urge you to instead pursue manual Hydrilla removal alternatives. You have a responsibility to protect and serve the citizens of Connecticut and our ecosystems, and this project is irresponsible and detrimental to the health and well being of our entire state.

Thank you,

Laurel Thompson
New Haven Resident

From: [Kathy Conyers](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Public Forum Requested to discuss public spraying of Diquat in Connecticut Rivers
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 3:18:25 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

I think it is extremely important that the public be aware and involved in the decision to spray Diquat in Connecticut Rivers.

I urge you to pause spraying of dangerous herbicide and allow the public to engage in debate about this decision and possible alternatives.

Sincerely,

Kathy Conyers

From: [Sharon Johnson](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov; deep.obpd@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] URGENT: HALT INTRODUCTION OF DIQUAT DIBROMIDE INTO CT WATERWAYS: TOXIC TO HUMANS & WILDLIFE
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:54:41 PM

To Keith W Hannon, Robert E Kaliszewski, Brian P. Thompson, Colonel Justin R. Pabis, P.E., Governor Ned Lamont and Senator Richard Blumenthal --

I have called each of your offices and know many others who are doing the same. I've learned about the imminent Hydrilla Control Project which is set to spray a HIGHLY TOXIC herbicide chemical - Diquat Dibromide - which is banned in Europe, into 12 sites across the Lower CT River. **I'm writing to urgently request that this project be HALTED EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.** As a CT resident, I strongly oppose the introduction of highly dangerous to humans and wildlife chemicals being introduced into our waterways. It is astonishing that this project was even considered, much less approved by CT DEEP & US Army Corps of Engineers.

The nature ecosystem of CT and this planet is delicate and if we mess with it - especially with such toxic entities - we risk the safety of all life in this area. These chemicals are never contained and seep into everything.

There are already examples of what Diquat Dibromide has done if you take a look at Caddo Lake alone. Killing of tree limbs, wildlife such as turtles, frogs, and also links to Parkinson's Disease in humans are just the tip of the iceberg of effects of DIQUAT.

I want to see action effective IMMEDIATELY on this issue. **Each of you has played a pivotal role in the introduction and progression of this project, and therefore you each have the power to HALT it before it is too late. This is URGENT because I understand this project is supposed to begin after the 4th of July which is only days away, and so I strongly ask you to HALT it now.**

We in CT and everywhere in this country deserve and have a right to water that is safe for us and for all life.

Thank you and please know I will continue to follow this issue very closely. CT Residents' eyes are on you. Please do the right thing for our safety and HALT the Hydrilla Control Project, and do not introduce DIQUAT DIBROMIDE into our water or our environment in ANY way, under this project or any other.

Thank you.

A VERY concerned CT resident,
Ms Sharon Johnson
Southport CT

From: [John Taylor](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#);
governor.lamont@ct.gov
Cc: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying of Diquat in Connecticut
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:45:17 PM

Sirs;

As a living soul in Connecticut that is one of your employers, I strongly and adamantly am telling you NO to the use of Diquat anywhere within the state! This chemical is dangerous for human inhalation and consumption!

NO, NO, NO!

John Taylor

Norwich

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tami Davis](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:26:29 PM

Good afternoon, all -

I am writing to discourage the use of Diquat in our CT rivers.

I am sure you understand that Diquat is toxic to humans and animals. It can cause vomiting, diarrhea, dehydration, abdominal pain among other serious cases - kidney failure, seizures and death. Long term exposure includes: possible liver, kidney and central nervous system damage. It can cause oxidative stress and cellular damage. Diquat is very toxic to the environment - to fish and aquatic invertebrates. It binds to soil particles. Since handling Diquat requires PPE during mixing and application, this alone should cause alarm.

If saving the environment is truly a concern, the dumping of Diquat into our rivers should NOT move forward. Again, this will affect multiple life forms. Please look into your souls when you consider poisoning your own environment.

Governor Lamont - as you are aware, YOU have the power to shut this down.

Thank you for your time,
Tami

From: [Sue Toth](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:23:38 PM

Stop the proposed spraying of CT's lakes and rivers with Diquat.

A tax paying CT citizen.

Sue T

From: lizklaus88@gmail.com
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying waterways
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:00:22 PM

>

> I have to say I am totally appalled that anyone that claims to be taking care of their people would ever consider having any part at all in this travesty! As I am sure you are fully aware of the devastating effects diquat can have on all people, animals and the environment! I strongly urge you to do what was right to begin with as we both know there are less poisonous ways to take care of the hydrilla. We the people are sick to death of being poisoned in our air, water and skies by the very people who claim to be helping us!! The time has come for accountability and you can be sure I have sent this info to Trump and many others.

> Elizabeth Klaus

> Sent from my iPhone

From: [Gabby Taylor](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Usage Thursday,
Date: July 3, 2025 1:38:14 PM

Hi,

I write you today over concern of using diquat in our waterways. Halt the project until safe, non-chemical alternatives are utilized. Check out the Instagram [@killing_cado_lake](#) to see diquats effects on an ecosystem.

Please do not nuke our waterways.

Sincerely,

A concerned CT Resident

From: [m. rigan](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] strong opposition to planned use of Diquat after July 4th
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 1:32:37 PM

I am writing as a deeply concerned resident to express my strong opposition to the planned use of the chemical known as “Deco” (Diquat Dibromide) in our waterways after July 4.

This substance is widely recognized as a toxic herbicide with harmful impacts on human health, pets, wildlife, and the overall ecosystem. I believe introducing this known poison into our environment is both irresponsible and dangerous.

I urge you to reconsider this plan immediately. Our state deserves safe, sustainable solutions that protect public health and preserve our natural resources—not the use of hazardous chemicals.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully ask that this harmful spraying be halted.

Sincerely,
michele riganese
bridgeport, CT

From: [Candace Glowac](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 12:57:41 PM

NO DIQUAT PLEASE !!!
Sent from my iPhone

From: [B. B.](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] NO to Diquat - there are alternatives
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 12:50:21 PM

All the semantics in the world around "proper application," "safe and effective," etc. don't negate the physical evidence of danger to other animals and of course by extension humans with diquat use. I'm sure the USACE designated Agent Orange as "safe" initially, too.

Don't do this. Use an alternative that is actually safe.

CT Resident,
BB

From: [Donna Mull](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CT use of diquat
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 11:43:11 AM
Attachments: [Diquat.docx](#)

I would ask that you please press pause on the use of diquat in CT waters. Attached are a list of concerns about the potential human impact. Once done, the impact can't be undone and the half-life in soil is long. We have been told for decades that glyphosate was safe and harmless when in reality it has cost the life and health of many. So companies pivo to other chemicals like paraquat which is now shown a **causation** in Parkinson's disease. If so many countries around the world acknowledge the danger to the environment and human health, one can only assume that in the US profit is far more important than health and human life.

Connecticut authorities planned to start spraying Diquat, a toxic chemical herbicide, into rivers and lakes after July 4, 2025. The target was an invasive plant called hydrilla.

Diquat dibromide has been reported to have a high level of persistence, with field half-lives exceeding 1000 days. This means that it can remain in the soil for an extended period, potentially impacting future plant growth and the surrounding ecosystem.

Diquat, an herbicide banned in the European Union but still widely used in the U.S., damages the intestines and may also trigger a harmful chain reaction in the rest of the body—injuring the liver, kidney, and lungs, according to a new review of more than 100 studies.

Diquat is banned in the EU, Switzerland, and the U.K. due to its environmental and health risks. However, like paraquat, which has been linked to Parkinson's disease and whose use is prohibited in more than 70 countries, diquat is still used in the U.S. to control agricultural and aquatic broadleaf and grassy weeds.

Studies suggest that diquat's harmful impact on the intestine can extend to other organs, the researchers say. In particular:

Kidneys: Diquat causes acute kidney injury by damaging cell membranes and activating inflammatory pathways, which causes scarring and worsens kidney function.

Liver: The herbicide disrupts mitochondria, the cell's energy centers, causing cell death and promoting liver inflammation and damage. This may also trigger immune responses that damage tissues beyond the gut.

Lungs: While less toxic than paraquat, diquat generates harmful molecules that can damage respiratory tissue.

Other: The herbicide may also interfere with autophagy, a process that clears damaged proteins from cells, which could lead to broader organ damage.

From: [Terri Franzi](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Planned Use of Diquat and Other Chemicals
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 10:38:35 AM

Good Morning/ Afternoon,

My concern is of course the above referenced topic.

I note in some of the media posts that use of this chemical is not likely to have an impact on human life (evidenced through testing). What about our wildlife? It's so sad to think of the torture we unintentionally inflict on wildlife and to what end? An unlikely eradication of an invasive species? What other options have been considered? Why have they been ruled out?

Please reconsider the plan to use diquat bromine to eradicate hydrilla .

Thank you.

Terri Franzi

ps: I also oppose the commercial and private use of chemicals that kill off mosquitos and ticks due to their impact on wildlife, waterways and well water.

From: [Kaylee-Anna Williams](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 10:37:47 AM

Good morning,

I am writing to you today as a deeply concerned constituent regarding the implementation of the chemical herbicide diquat in our communities—particularly in efforts to control invasive aquatic species such as Hydrilla. While I understand the importance of managing invasive plants, I strongly urge you to reconsider the use of diquat due to its well-documented and harmful effects on human health, aquatic ecosystems, and wildlife.

Diquat dibromide is banned or heavily restricted in many countries due to its toxicity and long-lasting environmental impact. Despite this, it continues to be applied in lakes and water systems in the United States, even in areas frequented by families, pets, and vulnerable wildlife. The very goals of protecting our waterways and preserving natural ecosystems are undermined by introducing a chemical known to cause respiratory irritation, neurological effects, and potential chronic health issues in humans, including reproductive harm and increased cancer risk with repeated exposure.

Furthermore, diquat does not selectively target Hydrilla; it also disrupts native aquatic vegetation, harms fish and amphibians, and compromises water quality. The short-term gain of temporarily controlling an invasive plant simply does not justify the long-term degradation of our water systems and the threats posed to both biodiversity and community health.

There are safer, science-backed alternatives to chemical treatment—such as mechanical removal, targeted biological control, and habitat restoration—that can offer sustainable results without sacrificing environmental safety.

As your constituent, I ask you to support a moratorium on diquat use and promote legislation that favors safer, ecologically sound methods for invasive plant control. The health of our families and our environment must come before the convenience of chemical shortcuts.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I look forward to seeing leadership that values clean water, thriving ecosystems, and public well-being.

Take care,

Kaylee-Anna Williams

From: [E G](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CT River Hydrilla Project
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 10:06:37 AM

Hi Keith,

I am a resident of Lyme, CT and have grown up spending my time in and along the Connecticut River. I just heard about your plan to use Diquat on 12 sites in the Lower Connecticut Watershed. To say the least, I am extremely concerned. This herbicide is non-selective and can cause major harm to the entire ecosystem. Diquat is also banned in the European Union, United Kingdom, and Switzerland due to health and environmental risks. Your proposal doesn't detail any impacts to human health and glosses over the impacts to wildlife/native species. Why is Diquat being used? What were the other alternatives considered? There has to be other mechanical or manual alternatives that negate the use of this herbicide all together.

On another note, my dog and I were swimming at the entrance of Chapman Pond all last summer. Now I see Diquat was used there and I had no idea it was happening. I understand that the ACOE looks into risk and evaluates, but individuals should be notified clearly what's happening and make their own decision on what risk they are willing to take on. What public notices were placed on site and how is your team spreading awareness of this effort? Yesterday was the first I heard of all this happening.

I look forward to your response.

Thank you,
Erin Gardell

From: [Mary Boone](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Public Comment from Essex, CT Resident
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 9:21:02 AM

I am very concerned about the decision to use Diquat Dibromide in the CT River. Given that it is banned in Europe and proven dangerous to humans and other animals, it seems that another solution might be preferable. At the very least, the public should be presented with a full explanation of the viability of the various alternatives to managing this problem.

Thank you.

--

Boone Associates

www.maryboone.com

From: sunsue38@aol.com
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Poisoning our waterways
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 9:18:59 AM

I have major concerns about you people poisoning our waterways. This poison had been banned in other countries because it kills everything. The EPA has "approved" it only because it's a corrupt agency that is paid by the chemical corporations.

Why do you destroy our environment? You poison our skies, our land and water. And you use OUR tax dollars. I'm sick of it.

STOP POISONING EVERYTHING. You people are disgusting, soulless, blackheart demons.

We The People should have a voice in this matter.

You should all have a nice cold drink of water after you poison it!!

Sue freniere



From: [Barbara Fairbanks](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] NO DIQUAT IN OUR LAKES AND RIVERS!!!
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 8:12:41 AM

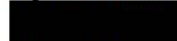
Diquat is BANNED in Europe and is highly toxic to humans and wildlife. We cannot poison our waterways, putting wildlife, needed vegetation and humans at risk. Please halt this reckless program and seek other alternatives to deal with hydrilla. Regards, Barbara Fairbanks,
[REDACTED] Woodbury CT

From: [Lynne Ramage](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat in CT rivers opposition
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 7:55:18 AM

I live on the Deep River and am the invasive species lead for the Deep River Garden Club so I understand the challenges of invasives like hydrilla. However, I also am working to support native plants and nontoxic ways to manage undesirable plants. I am opposed to using Diquat in our rivers since it is toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates. I just heard about this and hope that the local outcry will stop this project and other approaches will be used.

Thank you,

Lynne Ramage



Deep River, CT 06417

From: [Janice Auer](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying chemicals in our state
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 7:39:37 AM

I urge you to discontinue your program of spraying harmful chemicals in our state of Connecticut bodies of water. This is harmful on so many levels and I disagree.
Janice Auer Killingworth, Connecticut
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Erika Loubier](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] You are Wrong!
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 7:29:09 AM

You have a duty to protect American citizens and this is what you are polluting our waters with. You are wrong and you should be ashamed of yourself. You are doing the complete opposite of what you pledged to do for us. You need to stop what you are doing to us this is a war crime!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Hailey Rihel](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 7:20:16 AM

Good day, Mr. Hannon,

I'm sure you've received plenty of other messages, regarding your part in the decision on how to proceed with the Hydrilla invasion. I'm sure that I, like many others, disagree with your approach. Pouring Diquat, a harmful chemical to everyone (us, animals, plants, and the entire ecosystem) is not the way to deal with this situation. While it may seem cheaper now, the results will not be in the long run.

Diquat, a toxic herbicide, is banned in the following European countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and more. The ban was placed in the European Union in 2019, out of concern for life near agricultural areas. While this herbicide was the most effective for crops, it put a health risk on the humans growing said crops. Diquat raised concern for local wildlife as well. By going through with the safer (and more beneficial for EVERYONE in the long run) option, Europe continues to not only have high quality harvests, but healthy farmers and ecosystems as well. We, here in the United States of America, should all take this as an example and realize that 'cheaper' is not better.

Herbicides now in our country are already a problem. To get more information on my concerns and become more educated on the topic, I read articles. Here is a segment from *Diquat Poisoning: Care Management and Medico-legal Implications* from Pascale Baliscata, Maria Pieri, Angela Simonelli, Emanuele Capasso, Claudia Casella, Tina Noto, Fabio Policino, and Pierpaloo Di Lorenzo: "A smoker and hypertensive 50-year-old man arrives at the E.R., reporting that an episode of herbicide inhalation occurred few hours earlier. Physical examination evidenced alkalosis with hypoxemia, leucocytosis, mild hyperglycaemia and moderate increase in creatine kinase and myoglobin. Despite blood creatine kinase and myoglobin values that were higher than normal, he was prescribed with hydration and anti-pain therapy. During the night, the man left the hospital; he returned the next morning at 8:45 a.m., with cardiorespiratory arrest, medium fixed non-reactive mydriasis, diffused cyanosis of the skin and of the mucous membranes, as well as imperceptible pulse and peripheral pressure. Despite resuscitation attempts, the patient died at 9:30 a.m.;" (Abstract, *Diquat Poisoning: Care Management and Medico-legal Implications*, Article can be found at [National Library of Medicine](#)) Just from that short piece of text from the article, you can see the dangers of Diquat to us, citizens here in Connecticut. Not only does Diquat cause serious health issues, the chemical causes symptoms which lead medical professionals to think that the issue is something else. And yes, while the man in the segment was a smoker and hypertensive, so are many of Connecticut's residents. About 448,000 CT adults smoke everyday or every other day, using some form of substance, according to the Ct.gov site, which has recently been taken down. Enforcing Diquat in Connecticut's nature scene will be fatal to many. It is not in our best interest to go through with changing our environment and ecosystem with harmful, toxic chemicals, especially such as Diquat.

Thank you for your time, and I hope that this message finds you well.
Sincerely, Hailey Rihel. Please contact me back at [REDACTED]

From: [Dan Rubenstein](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: Robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); Governor.larmont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to Toxic Chemical Spraying in Connecticut Lakes
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 7:14:40 AM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

As a Connecticut resident and father of a young child who regularly enjoys our lakes and rivers, I am writing to express my firm opposition to the use of Diquat Dibromide as part of the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project.

This chemical is banned in the EU for good reason: it is highly toxic to aquatic life and presents serious health risks to humans. I'm appalled that a substance with such well-documented dangers is being considered—let alone applied—in our public waterways.

We are not willing to trade public and ecological health for chemical quick fixes. Spraying our lakes with hazardous herbicides is not control—it's collateral damage. There are non-toxic, environmentally responsible alternatives that can and must be prioritized: mechanical removal, targeted dredging, shading techniques, and native species restoration, to name a few.

The people of Connecticut care deeply about preserving the integrity of our environment and the safety of our communities. We are watching closely and expect government agencies, especially the Army Corps of Engineers, to act with foresight, responsibility, and respect for public health.

I urge you to immediately halt all chemical spraying and engage with environmental scientists, community stakeholders, and local leaders to pursue safe, non-chemical strategies.

We will not stay silent while poisons are dumped into our lakes.

Sincerely,
Dan Rubenstein
Westport, Connecticut

From: [Alisa Rubenstein](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: Robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); Governor.larmont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent Concern Regarding Use of Diquat Dibromide in Connecticut Lakes
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 7:01:24 AM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

I am writing as a deeply concerned resident of Connecticut in response to the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project. I recently learned of the plan to spray Diquat Dibromide—a chemical herbicide banned in the European Union due to its high toxicity to humans, wildlife, and aquatic ecosystems. I find this decision alarming and unacceptable.

There is ample evidence that Diquat Dibromide is a neurotoxin and respiratory irritant, and its impact on non-target species, including fish, amphibians, and waterfowl, is devastating. Furthermore, exposing our communities—especially children and vulnerable populations—to such chemicals in recreational and drinking water sources raises serious public health concerns.

The health of our waterways is non-negotiable. Chemical-based “solutions” to invasive species are outdated, reckless, and reflect a failure of imagination and responsibility. There are proven non-chemical alternatives, including mechanical harvesting, benthic barriers, biological controls, and strategic replanting with native species—all of which preserve ecological integrity without exposing humans and wildlife to poison.

I strongly urge the Army Corps of Engineers to halt all chemical spraying immediately and pursue safer, sustainable, and science-backed methods of Hydrilla control. The public is watching—and we will not accept the use of banned and dangerous substances in our lakes, rivers, and communities.

We demand transparency, accountability, and action that reflects the urgency of environmental protection, not short-term expedience.

Sincerely,

Alisa Rubenstein

Westport, Connecticut

From: [Tracy Wall](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W](#)
[CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Protect our water and wildlife
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 5:51:08 AM

Diquat Dibromide should not be use in Connecticut's waterways to control hydrillas. It is toxic to humans and wildlife and banned in Europe, raising valid concerns. Chinas waterways are effectively dead due to use of this chemical.

Proponents argue Diquat is effective against invasive hydrilla, while critics highlight safer alternatives like mechanical or biological controls. The debate warrants scrutiny, balancing ecological needs with health risks! More transparency is needed.and use of this toxic chemical should NOT be happening in the State of CT!

Sincerely a very concerned citizen
Tracy Wall

From: [robin whaley](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 5:48:48 AM

Mr.Hannon

As a resident of Deep River I write to ask you PLEASE put a halt to the project of using Diquat in the CT River and other water ways of our state. Please consider safe non-chemical alternatives.

A concerned citizen

Robin Whaley

From: [Mike Ladford](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut river hydrilla control project
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 5:20:35 AM

Hey there

Mike Ladford here again, guy who lives in the state that your project names. By now you've heard that people have figured out that diquat is dangerous and banned in Europe and is only allowed in America because our standards are kept pathetically low and pesticide lobbyists (presumably also dabbling in the treatment for there poisons so as not to miss out on profit) mean more to our politicians than the health of those in their states. Phew, that was a mouthful. You may have also heard that we all do not want that shit in our rivers. At least 2 petitions going around as well as every decision maker's contact info. You can't ignore us. And if our rivers get poisoned, we all can remember who did it.

For shame.

-Mike Ladford, Baltic CT

From: [Brianna Schwindt](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Cc: [Christopher Orozco](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ban Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 12:58:13 AM

Connecticut residents are in a flurry as we all find out your intent and allowance to use diquat dibromide after July 4th.

Diquat is banned in Europe and known to be extremely toxic. The excuse that it will kill invasive plants is as lazy as it is appalling - poisoning everything and everyone to kill one plant species makes no sense.

Every one of you who are receiving emails from concerned residents has the power and the duty to protect the people of this state. I know you've all done a lot of good, so I know I won't fall on deaf ears when I say you MUST ban diquat. Don't poison our rivers and lakes, don't sit idly by as we face threats to damage our people and wildlife.

Governor Lamont can and should stop this madness in it's track - 11,000 people have signed a petition asking for diquat to be banned; that's 11,000 people who offer support, who vote.

Again, all of you have a duty that I know you took seriously.

Please remember what first made you desire to strive for the position you are now in; think back to when you first thought of ways to better the world around you, to become someone remembered for the good they've done. Recall what that determination and hope felt like, then let it lead you.

We the people need you.

Thank you,
B Schwindt

From: [Joseph Vecchitto](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Concerns Regarding the Use of Diaquat in Connecticut
Date: Thursday, July 3, 2025 12:32:03 AM

I am writing to express my strong concerns about the continued use of Diaquat (diquat dibromide) in Connecticut, particularly given its well-documented environmental and health risks.

Diaquat has been banned in the European Union due to its serious adverse effects on both human health and aquatic ecosystems. The EU's decision was based on scientific evidence showing that Diaquat poses significant risks, including potential neurotoxic effects on humans and detrimental impacts on fish and other aquatic organisms.

Allowing its use in Connecticut raises important environmental and public health concerns, especially considering the state's many rivers, lakes, and wetlands. The persistence and mobility of Diaquat in water bodies can lead to contamination that affects not just aquatic life, but also drinking water sources and recreational areas.

Given these risks and the international precedent for banning this chemical, I strongly urge state officials and environmental regulators to reevaluate its use in Connecticut. Safer, more sustainable alternatives should be considered to protect our residents, wildlife, and water resources.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Joseph Anthony Vecchitto

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Stacy Tate](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 11:33:27 PM

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/18ku7iefGz/>

On Wed, Jul 2, 2025, 11:25 PM Stacy Tate <brokenforkinfo@gmail.com> wrote:

It has come to attention that there is a plan to use diquat dibromate to eliminate vegetation in Connecticut's waterways. While I can understand and appreciate the need to eradicate invasive vegetation, I feel the use of diquat, as the means to this end is reckless, and irrational. I believe all you gentlemen, have forgotten your oath of office. Spraying such a toxic chemical on open waterways is careless at best. Between a domino effect to the ecosystem and the inevitable overspray taking wind blown particles to untargeted species, this has the potential to be an environmental disaster.

Seeing that this is only becoming public knowledge through social media, I don't believe you're giving your constituents a fair opportunity to share their opinion on what should happen to their waterways. Can you guarantee without a shadow of the doubt that children swimming in these waterways will be completely safe from the repercussions of your pesticide? You and I both know the answer is a firm, "no". At the very least, it takes out invertebrates in these waters, and if you recall elementary school, you will remember that invertebrates are food for a lot of larger animals. If you also recall from your elementary school days, if you take out the food of one animal, the whole food chain crumbles. I cannot imagine that college educated people, such as yourselves, can't understand that. Therefore, the logical explanation for your intent to do such is that you either don't care at all about the plants, animals and humans in your districts; or your intent is to kill the plants, animals and people in your district. Either way, you are failing at your job, but more importantly, failing at being a decent human being.

By now, you probably have figured out that I do not live in the State of Connecticut, and for that, you might not care what I think and feel. However, you should note that I am one that takes vacations multiple times a year, and if this plan continues, I will never step foot in Connecticut, I am sure I'm not the only one that feels such ways. I don't want to visit a place where I can't even take a dip in the water without worrying about the poisons.

I ask you to deeply reflect on what your job title is and what you are meant to protect and who you are meant to serve. I ask you think about the reasons you ever started down your career path. I ask you to then be completely honest with yourself and the reasons why you're signing off on dumping a poison in open waterways. I ask you to rethink your position.

Sincerely,
Stacy Tate

From: [Eva Carrasquero](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] WATER PROJECT
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 10:52:31 PM

Keith Hannon,

You need to stop this pesticide project in the water supply. You are literally poisoning us. Do what's right and end this project.

Do better,
Eva Carrasquero

From: [Jason Buckley](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat in our waters
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 10:11:50 PM

How much money do you stand to make from this? Is it worth the lack of morality involved and going to sleep knowing you are poisoning thousands of people's water supplies and the environment itself? Or is the money worth more to you? You still have a choice to make. I hope you make the right one. At the end of the day we all know that money is the root of all evil, and that greed corrupts everytime. There is no morality in government, and the millions of Americans out there know this to be true. There is no hiding anymore. Make the right choice. Think about the people.

From: [Sarah Ramirez](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the project
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 9:07:17 PM

DO NOT Spray our CT lakes with poison to try and kill the invasive plant. Of course it's killing the plant but it's going to kill everything else too! Don't be stupid and reckless. You can stop this and should!

From: [Jonah Beauton](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat dibromide chemical DISASTER
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 8:38:15 PM

Good afternoon,

I'm taking the time to email you today in hopes you will come to your senses and realize dumping toxic chemicals in our rivers in lakes IS NOT the correct way to go about weed control. How about instead of poisoning our water, we advocate for better waste treatment plant systems so they don't dump raw sewage into the rivers whenever they have too much rain. Once again our state is an example of INCOMPETENCE! Use our tax dollars correctly, add overflow tanks to the waste water plants before you continue to destroy our environment.

Sincerely,

Competent Citizens of CT

From: [Trike7117](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Poisoning are waterways
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 7:15:35 PM

Please halt this project Europe banned it why are we not looking for a non chemical way to solve this problem please find a safer way this chemical is not safe the damage you will do will be [irreversible.in](#) this day with the technology we have there has got to be a better way. This is wrong.

From: [Mike Ladford](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] River poisoning project
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 7:06:35 PM

Hi there Keith,

Connecticut resident Micheal Ladford here, urging you to call off the spraying of diquat in our lakes and rivers. The loss of endemic life and risk to public health far outweigh the benefits of suppressing a nuisance plant.

Please, if you have any respect at all for the wishes of the communities this will affect, I implore you to look into safer alternative and call this off.

Mike L.

From: [Sandra Downie](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov;
Richard.Blumenthal@blumenthal.senator.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP the Toxic Diquat Spraying in Connecticut and Across the U.S.
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 6:32:15 PM

Hey,

I just signed the petition “ STOP the Toxic Diquat Spraying in Connecticut and Across the U.S. DEEP is destroying our lakes and killing our wildlife. They're supposed to protect them both not kill and destroy.

Please stop this from occurring before it's too late.

Thanks!
Sandra
Sandra Downie
[PETA.com](#) / [350.org](#)

From: [Logan Reynolds](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] *PLEASE READ*UConn Students Concerns Regarding the Use of Diquat in Connecticut Lakes and Rivers
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 5:53:14 PM

Hello there,

My name is Logan Reynolds and I am a recent graduate from the University of Connecticut. I am writing to express my concern regarding the use of Diquat in Connecticut rivers and lakes. Fishing our local waters has quite literally saved my life as it has been something I've used to get away from life's problems. I taught myself to fish when I was a young boy and want to teach my kids and grandkids one day. This is a serious concern for me as I have noticed a decline of the quality of our waters in my short lifetime. While this is a short-term option, I believe this will have a significant impact in the future.

I understand the urgency of managing invasive aquatic species such as *Hydrilla verticillata*, but the use of such a highly toxic chemical poses significant risks to our state's fisheries, wildlife, ecosystems, and public health. I am very educated with our invasive species across Connecticut as one of my family members actually work along the CT river checking boats.

From my research, I understand that Diquat dibromide is a non-selective contact herbicide known for its broad-spectrum toxicity. While effective in killing invasive plants, Diquat does not discriminate—it destroys native vegetation, plankton, and can severely impact aquatic food chains. These disruptions are not only ecologically irresponsible, but they also jeopardize Connecticut's recreational fishing industries, local economies, and the long-term health of our freshwater ecosystems.

Spraying our lakes and rivers with Diquat may offer short-term control of invasive species, but it will undoubtedly lead to long-term ecological degradation, economic loss, and public mistrust. Our local waters are already seeing a massive impact from climate change, as native trout species have been in decline as the water is not sustainable over the warmer months. As a concerned resident and advocate for sustainable resource management, I urge your agency to halt the scheduled application and reassess the environmental impact of this decision. Ask yourself, do you want your grandkids and future generations to be fishing, swimming, and boating in waters that contain harmful chemicals?


I am requesting transparency, public hearings, and a full review of all safety data, environmental risk assessments, and financial interests tied to this initiative. We deserve a plan that prioritizes our state's natural heritage and public health over profit and expediency.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Logan Reynolds

Manchester, CT



From: [Lisa Maldonado](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Request to Halt Diquat Spraying in Connecticut Rivers and Lakes
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 5:36:49 PM

Dear Officials,

I am writing as a concerned Connecticut resident to strongly urge you to halt the planned spraying of Diquat Dibromide in our rivers and lakes, including Lake Pocotopaug and the Salmon River.

This herbicide may target invasive plants, but the potential environmental consequences—including harm to native aquatic vegetation, wildlife, water quality, and public health—are deeply troubling. Many members of the community, myself included, are especially alarmed that such action is being taken without broad public awareness, open hearings, or opportunity for community input.

The long-term impacts of chemical spraying in vital water sources deserve transparent dialogue, independent review, and safer, eco-friendly alternatives. Our lakes and rivers are more than just bodies of water—they are community spaces, wildlife habitats, and essential natural resources.

Please pause these efforts until thorough public discussion can take place and less harmful solutions can be explored.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Lisa Maldonado
BRIDGEPORT, CT

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Brandee James](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); brian.Thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W](#)
[CTV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Request for Transparency and Accountability on Diquat Herbicide Use in Connecticut
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 5:33:58 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing as a concerned citizen to request a full and transparent list of all locations in the state of Connecticut where the herbicide diquat has been, or is planned to be, applied—especially in and around public waterways, recreational lakes, and wildlife areas.

It is extremely disappointing that our state would approve the use of such a toxic chemical when natural, ecologically sound alternatives exist—such as the introduction of native or compatible herbivorous species that feed on invasive aquatic plants like Hydrilla. These alternatives support long-term ecosystem balance rather than risking further disruption through chemical contamination.

Diquat is a hazardous material, and its toxicological profile raises serious red flags for public and environmental health. According to the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and hazmat classifications for diquat dibromide:

- It is corrosive to eyes, skin, and mucous membranes.
- It can cause permanent eye damage and respiratory distress with exposure.
- It is highly toxic to aquatic life and accumulates in sediments.
- Ingestion or prolonged exposure may affect the nervous system, kidneys, and other vital organs.
- The EPA lists it as Category I for acute toxicity via eye exposure—the highest level of hazard.

Given the rising rates of chronic illness, neuroinflammation, and

environmental toxicity, it is irresponsible to use such compounds without full public notice, signage at affected sites, and informed consent from nearby residents and recreational users. The public deserves to know when and where these chemicals are applied, what concentrations are used, and what monitoring is in place to assess runoff, leaching, and long-term damage.

Therefore, I respectfully request the following:

1. A detailed list of Connecticut sites (lakes, rivers, reservoirs, etc.) where diquat has been used or is planned for application in the last 3 years.
2. Documentation on any impact assessments or public comment periods held prior to these applications.
3. A list of non-chemical alternatives considered and the rationale for why they were not implemented.
4. Any hazard signage protocols, notification procedures, and exposure risk communications used before and after treatment.

This is a matter of transparency, public safety, and environmental justice. Our ecosystems—and our citizens—deserve better than a chemical-first approach. I urge your office to consider safer, more regenerative solutions to invasive plant control and to keep the public fully informed of any actions that may affect our shared natural resources.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. I look forward to your prompt response and to the release of this information for public review.

Sincerely,

Brandee James



South Glastonbury, CT 06073



From: [Susan Davis](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] No diquat in rivers, stream, water bodies!
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 4:38:47 PM
Importance: High

Dear Mr Hannon,

As project manager, your plan to kill an invasive weed by using a deadly poison (already banned in Europe) is a weak and wicked decision. Halt this decision immediately and find a safe alternative. I'm certain that if you shift to innovative research rather than highest bidders or the main industry, you will find ways of dealing with grasses that work with nature rather than destroying it.

If you care about this country and appreciate the song, America the Beautiful, you will not poison our waterways.

Don't do it!

Susan L. Davis

From: [S Thet](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; CENAE-PA, NAE; governor.lamont@ct.gov; doug.dubitsky@ct.gov; anne.dauphinais@cga.ct.gov; anne.hughes@cga.ct.gov](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] 12 sites across the Lower Connecticut River to be sprayed first - Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans)
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 3:52:09 PM

Dear Sirs/Madams,

After July 4th rivers and lakes are about to start being sprayed with an extremely toxic chemical called Diquat in Connecticut with plans to go nationwide This has been sprayed before; it kills EVERYTHING. It works by disrupting the cell membrane and photosynthesis, causing rapid desiccation and defoliation of plants upon contact. It is not discretionary and will affect anything it touches.

In humans, it can cause skin, eye and mucous membrane irritation upon contact, upon inhalation or ingestion can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and even damage to the kidney and liver.

This particular chemical is banned in Europe and as I've pointed out, highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike. I've even heard landscapers refer to diquat as the nuclear option. It's said it's used to kill an invasive plant species called hydrilla, which I'm sure it does, along with everything else in the water. This chemical cause profound illness in humans, and can be deadly in large amounts.

When I looked up if they were doing it in my state of Connecticut, I was shocked to see that right after the 4th of July, they plan on spraying it in several lakes out here. This seems like an arbitrary and unnecessary contaminant to our water sources for humans, animals and plant life. Because it works on a cellular level, once in the water system, would potentially affect growth of private gardens and farms. Why would our government do this to its own people?

July 4th, 2025 - Approved by CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sites Include: -Chester Creek -Hamburg Cove -Selden Creek -Salmon River -Deep River -Lake Pocotopaug People involved in the deal:

Keith W. Hannon (It's Literally His Project) Project Manager – Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District Office: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Robert E. Kaliszewski (Signed The Permit) Deputy Commissioner, Environmental Quality Branch (formerly) Connecticut DEEP Office: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Brian P. Thompson (Signed The Federal Constituency Review) Director, Land & Water Resources Division, DEEP Phone: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Colonel Justin R. Pabis, P.E. (Green Lit The Whole Thing) District Engineer, USACE New England District [REDACTED]

Governor Ned Lamont (Could Stop It All In One Phone Call) Office of the Governor Office: (860) 566-4840 Fax: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Senator Richard Blumenthal (Secured The Funding) U.S. Senator – Connecticut Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]

Please put a stop to this, because people, wildlife and livestock are at risk for becoming gravely harmed with this toxic chemical.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Respectfully,

Sheila Thetreatult

From: [Siobhan Treacy](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquot Chemical Project
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 3:05:29 PM

Hello Keith,

I am writing to urge you to halt the Diquot chemical project that you have spearheaded. I am deeply disturbed that in 2025, with all the research that has been done about chemicals like Diquot and given the fact that it is called a "nuclear option" by officials and entire continents have banned the chemical due to its irreversible negative effects on the environment and health of the people living around these beautiful natural lands, that you would be proud of a project like this.

There have been many studies done about the effects of Diquot, including [this study that proved it is poisonous](#) to humans. In this day and age, knowing what we know about the effects that poisons like this one have had on our environment, it is crucially important that any attempts to control invasive populations are done in a manner that causes NO additional harm to the environment that these invasive species are in. By using Diquot, you are effectively killing the entire environment.

While I do not have children, I grew up in CT. I adore the state, and I want to make sure that the children of the future are able to enjoy it too. I want to make sure that the people living or visiting these environments have a safe place to visit. Using this chemical will cause damage far worse than an invasive plant. I urge you to halt the project, use the funding to find environmentally friendly and non-chemical based alternatives.

The future of CT's gorgeous nature is in your hands with this project. It is up to you to save the lives of Nutmeggers across the whole state. If I were you, I'd love to have my legacy be one of environmental conservation, not environmental destruction.

Thank you for your time, and I hope you stop this project before it begins,
Siobhan Treacy
Glastonbury, CT

From: [Toni Zules](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] hydrilla proposed poisoning of our waters
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 3:03:17 PM

This came across my desk, I have multiple family members struggling with cancer. I love my waterways I live on the Potomac where we have the same Hydrilla issue. Family is up in Connecticut. With small children. I must emphasize this. Have you seen " Zone of Interest" there is a scene when a swimmer in a river sees something unforgettable in the water. This nightmare you propose emptying into our waterways reminded me of it. I also saw a post that outlined natural remedies to mitigate the Hydrilla. If you would please reference the following on Instagram:
[sarahscott_cosmetics_official](#)

She works with Botanical Ecological Advisory Group and their objective is to manage the spread of Hydrilla verticillate in fresh water lakes and rivers using non-toxic botanical and ecological methods.

I appreciate your time and attention. It's worth a look. Its life or death.
Thank You

From: [megha amira](mailto:megha.amira)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent Concern: Opposition to Planned Diquat Spraying in Connecticut Lakes and Rivers
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 2:54:33 PM

I'm writing because I'm honestly shocked and heartbroken to hear that lakes and rivers across Connecticut — including some of our most beloved and ecologically sensitive areas — are scheduled to be sprayed with Diquat Dibromide, a chemical that is banned in Europe and known to be highly toxic to humans, wildlife, and aquatic ecosystems.

This isn't just disappointing — it feels like a betrayal. How can something this destructive be approved to go into our water? The fact that this is happening so quietly, just after the 4th of July, feels intentional. People deserve to know that the places they swim, fish, kayak, and simply exist near are about to be poisoned with something landscapers themselves refer to as “the nuclear option.”

I understand the concern about invasive species like hydrilla — but this is not the answer. Diquat doesn't just kill hydrilla. It kills everything. Plants, fish, amphibians, invertebrates — the entire food web. This isn't control, it's destruction.

It also raises serious questions: Why are we using a chemical banned for being too dangerous elsewhere? Why weren't communities informed and given a voice? And who stands to benefit from this decision — because it's clearly not the people, animals, or environment of Connecticut.

Please, I am begging you to intervene. Halt this plan. We deserve better solutions — solutions that don't come at the cost of our water, our health, and the future of these ecosystems. We can't undo this kind of damage once it's done.

This isn't political. It's about protecting what's sacred. Clean water. Living ecosystems. Public health. Please — do the right thing. Stop the spraying before it begins.

Sincerely,
Ms. Megha A. Arraj

From: [Jane Trainor](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat kills everything, Plants PEOPLE and Animals ABANDON THIS PLAN
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 2:42:53 PM

Whatever is motivating you to take part in destroying Life in your area, I command you in the name of Jesus the Christ Jeshua to CEASE AND DESIST. I REBUKE your plan in His Holy Name, Jeshua

We have your names and we know your job titles..

Back down now and do all that is within your power to stop this attack on American people, on all animals and on plant life.

Jane Trainor

From: [Sara Roccisano](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: STOP DIQUAT SPRAYING IN CONNECTICUT NOW
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 2:31:46 PM

FIX THIS SHIT. GET IT DONE NOW BEFORE JULY 4.

WHAT THE **FUCK** WERE YOU THINKING???

See the alternatives **BELOW**.

DO IT NOW! **DO NOT POISON OUR WATERS!**

WE ALL SEE YOU. THIS IS GOING VIRAL AND **THE PEOPLE POINT TO YOU AS THE CULPRITS!!!**

Connecticut's Planned Use of Diquat Dibromide in Public Waterways: Documented Toxicity and Unused Alternatives

After July 4, 2025, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), in coordination with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), plans to begin herbicide applications across 12 public water sites in the Lower Connecticut River watershed.

Chemical Agent: Diquat Dibromide

- **Type:** Bipyridyl contact herbicide
- **Mechanism:** Disrupts photosystem I, generating reactive oxygen species that destroy plant cell membranes
- **Target:** Broad-spectrum; kills all green plant tissue on contact
- **Persistence:** Binds to sediment, low mobility but slow degradation under anaerobic conditions

Documented Toxicity:

- **Aquatic species:** Highly toxic to fish, amphibians, and invertebrates
- **Humans:** Toxic via ingestion, inhalation, or dermal exposure; causes burns, organ damage, and in extreme cases, death
- **Regulatory status:**

- **European Union:** Banned in 2019 due to environmental and worker safety risks
- **United States:** Approved, but classified as a Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) under EPA rules
- **EPA Label and Toxicological Data:** [EPA Registration #19713-729](#)

Project Documentation:

- [USACE Public Notice – June 11, 2025](#)
 - [USACE Supplemental Environmental Assessment – June 2025](#)
-

Officially Targeted Treatment Sites:

- Chester Creek
 - Hamburg Cove
 - Selden Creek
 - Salmon River
 - Deep River
 - Lake Pocotopaug
 - Additional tributaries and inlets listed in Appendix A of the SEA
-

Summary of Issue:

The state and federal government are about to apply a **non-selective, broad-spectrum, aquatic herbicide** into ecologically active public waters with:

- No public referendum
- No public hearing
- No cost-benefit comparison against safer or non-chemical alternatives

Although the intended target is the invasive aquatic plant hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*), the proposed response ignores numerous viable, lower-risk alternatives.

Alternatives to Chemical Application (Not Deployed)

Mechanical Removal

- **Aquatic weed harvester boats** can physically remove hydrilla biomass from lakes and rivers.
- Already in use in NY, VT, TX. Could be leased or purchased.

Volunteer Manual Removal

- Many CT lakes already use this method at small scale.
- Conservation volunteers, paddlers, and scouts could be coordinated across towns.

Benthic Barriers / Sediment Curtains

- Sunlight-blocking mats that suppress hydrilla in targeted areas.
- Low-tech, already in use nationally.

Sterile Grass Carp (where ecologically safe)

- Used in many states for closed or semi-closed water bodies.
- Highly effective and non-chemical.

Diver-Assisted Suction Removal

- Common in NH and ME for invasive milfoil.
- Removes hydrilla root-to-stem in sensitive channels and inlets.

Experimental Controls (Pilot Capable)

- Heat mats and UV panels under trial elsewhere.
- Mycoherbicides in early research stage.

Public Mapping and Targeting

- Citizen-driven hydrilla tracking (like iNaturalist) could enable dynamic mitigation.

Seasonal River Crews

- Employ seasonal workers through existing state conservation corps or workforce

programs.

- Manual + mechanical hybrid program.
-

Final Summary:

The planned use of diquat represents a chemical-first solution that has not been preceded by a serious trial of available alternatives. The toxicity profile of diquat is well-documented, its ecological impacts significant, and its approval in this context procedurally convenient but scientifically unjustified.

Connecticut has:

- Biological tools
- Mechanical options
- Volunteer labor
- Potential funding and job programs

But has chosen to skip all of them in favor of a neurotoxic, broad-spectrum herbicide without demonstrating necessity.

This should be reevaluated immediately before implementation.

SOURCE; <https://substack.com/home/post/p-167376616>

On Jul 1, 2025, at 5:45 PM, Sara Roccisano <sara.roccisano@gmail.com> wrote:

July 2025: Connecticut's Chemical Assault on Public Water

Just after the July 4th holiday, while most people are grilling and watching fireworks, a quiet but deeply consequential operation is scheduled to begin in Connecticut: the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will begin injecting **diquat dibromide**, a herbicide banned in the European Union for its toxicity, directly into **public rivers and lakes**.

The justification? To combat an invasive aquatic plant called *hydrilla*.

The truth? This is an ecocidal shortcut that trades long-term biological integrity for short-term optics and convenience.

The Chemical: Diquat Dibromide

- **Class:** Bipyridyl contact herbicide
- **Mode:** Generates reactive oxygen species that rupture plant cell membranes via oxidative stress.
- **Selectivity:** None. It kills **all** green tissue on contact.
- **Persistence:** Binds to sediment; low mobility but slow anaerobic degradation.

Human & Ecological Toxicity:

- **Banned in the EU (2019)** due to risks to workers and aquatic systems.
- **Highly toxic to fish, amphibians, and invertebrates.**
- **Symptoms in humans** (from exposure): chemical burns, nausea, pulmonary edema, kidney/liver failure. No antidote.

This isn't speculative. These are verified toxicological mechanisms.

Confirmed Sites of Application

The first 12 sites in Connecticut to receive chemical treatment:

- Chester Creek

- Hamburg Cove
- Selden Creek
- Salmon River
- Deep River
- Lake Pocotopaug

(Full list available in the official USACE notice)

These are **public waterways**. Used by families. Wildlife. Swimmers. Fishermen. No long-term health monitoring program is in place.

Systemic Failure: Why This Plan Is Broken by Design

1. **Non-target kill:** Native aquatic plants get wiped out alongside hydrilla. You destroy the ecological buffer.
 2. **Oxygen crash:** Dead plant mass decomposes → microbial bloom → hypoxia → fish kills.
 3. **Recreational hazard:** Swimmers and boaters are in contact with chemically treated water. No informed consent.
 4. **Cycle of dependency:** Diquat doesn't kill hydrilla roots. Expect repeat applications. Forever.
 5. **Ignored alternatives:** Mechanical harvesting, sterile grass carp (where applicable), sediment blocking, or microbial bio-controls. All real options. None selected.
-

Who Signed Off on This?

- **Keith W. Hannon**, USACE Project Manager
- **Robert Kaliszewski**, Former DEEP Deputy Commissioner
- **Brian P. Thompson**, DEEP Water Division Director
- **Colonel Justin R. Pabis**, District Engineer, USACE

- **Senator Richard Blumenthal**, secured federal funding
- **Governor Ned Lamont**, could stop it now

They moved this forward with minimal public awareness. No town halls. No public debates. Just a quiet PDF notice.

This Isn't Just About Connecticut

This plan is designed as a **pilot** for nationwide rollout.

If they succeed in normalizing the annual chemical assault on lakes and rivers in Connecticut, this template will be exported to other states. If you live in New York, Massachusetts, Georgia, Florida, Texas; your waters are next.

What You Can Do

1. **Submit a public comment** (before July 13):
Email: CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil
2. **Contact decision-makers:**
 - Gov. Lamont: governor.lamont@ct.gov
 - Keith Hannon: keith.w.hannon@usace.army.mil
 - Brian Thompson: brian.thompson@ct.gov
 - USACE public affairs: cenae-pa@usace.army.mil
3. **Contact the press:**
 - CT Mirror, Hartford Courant, WTNH, NBC CT
 - National outlets: ProPublica, The Guardian, Intercept
4. **Alert environmental orgs:**
 - Save the Sound, Sierra Club CT, Riverkeeper, Earthjustice
5. **Blow it up on social:**

Tag #StopDiquat, post videos, link to PDFs, name names.

Poisoning an ecosystem to manage a single plant species is not environmental stewardship. It's reactive chemical warfare.

We don't need more short-term patches. We need ecological intelligence.

If we don't fight this here, we will inherit rivers that are chemically dependent, biologically hollow, and administratively unaccountable.

Speak now. Before your lake is next.

SOURCE: https://open.substack.com/pub/jdbarker2/p/theyre-poisoning-the-connecticut?r=24sac2&utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=web&showWelcomeOnShare=false

From: [Jennifer Berluti](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please halt Diquat spraying!
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 1:59:32 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon, Governor Lamont & CT representatives,

Please halt the spraying of Diquat of our beautiful CT river and lakes. Though I understand the need to remove/destroy invasive plants, there must be a safer alternative for our aquatic animals and for the people who use the river and lakes, especially children. We are a family who spends a significant time in nature and love our CT state properties. Spraying a chemical that is banned in other countries and has many known side effects is harmful to our most vulnerable populations.

Please consider halting this scheduled spraying and consider an alternative!

Jennifer Berluti

From: [3standing](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] URGENT MATTER - USE OF HARFUL POISON IN CONNECTICUT
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 1:10:57 PM

Mr. Hannon,

As a Connecticut resident it has come to my attention that after July 4th, rivers and lakes are about to start being sprayed with an extremely toxic chemical called **Diquat** in Connecticut. This particular chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike causing severe harm to several organs. It has been forbidden in several nations because studies showed the catastrophic results this herbicide causes. On recent study was published in May 2025.

This use of Diquat that would take place this month in the Lower Connecticut River would cause terrible harm not only to the environment and wildlife but to us, human beings. I therefore am asking you to reconsider your plan and avoid at all costs using such a dangerous poisonous product that would affect the health of millions of human beings, wildlife, and our environment causing disastrous results.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THIS POISON IN OUR STATE.

Sincerely,

Madeline DeBiasi

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: debra@shelco.com
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#); brian.thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov
Cc: opinion@ctmirror.org; letters@courant.com; reportit@wtnh.com; tips@nbcconnecticut.com; tips@ctinsider.com
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Army Corps to Chemically Treat CT Rivers After July 4 – Proof Attached” Stop the spraying. Demand a public hearing. You work for us, not the Corps.”
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 1:09:59 PM

They're about to poison the Connecticut River. And no one voted for it. No one even told you. But it's real. It starts right after July 4th. While most people are grilling and watching fireworks, a quiet but deeply consequential operation will begin. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Connecticut's DEEP will start injecting diquat dibromide, an herbicide banned in the EU into public rivers and lakes. The target? An invasive plant called hydrilla. The truth? This is a chemical shortcut. One that risks ecological collapse, damages native species, and puts public health in the crossfire. Yes, hydrilla's a real problem. No one's denying that. But spraying entire ecosystems with high-collateral poisons is like napalming a neighborhood to kill weeds in one yard. It's not management. It's failure. Some pencil pusher named Keith Hannon woke up and decided our rivers needed purging. He doesn't live here. He doesn't swim here. He doesn't drink from it. But his signature just altered your ecosystem. Colonel Justin R. Pabis signed the final authorization. Governor Lamont? He shrugs. "Not our project." Yet if a private company tried to dump these toxins, you'd have cops and hazmat trucks blocking them within the hour. But because this came with a PDF and a federal logo, it sails through? Where's the National Guard? If the Governor gave a damn, he'd halt this right now and demand public hearings. Because no one gave consent to chemical warfare against a river. This isn't how a free people treat public water. This is how a collapsed bureaucracy poisons it. Because no one consented to this. No town hall. No vote. No opt-out. This isn't how a free people treat their water. It's how a collapsed system poisons it. Diquat dibromide is a bipyridyl herbicide. It kills by oxidizing plant cells on contact. It doesn't discriminate. It destroys all green tissue it touches. And it sticks in the sediment. It lingers. It's banned in Europe. It's linked to fish kills. It's dangerous to humans. But it's coming to: Chester Creek. Hamburg Cove. Selden Creek. Salmon River. Deep River. Lake Pocotopaug. All of them. These are public waterways. You use them. Your kids use them. Wildlife depends on them. There is no long-term monitoring plan. There is no consent. Just a quiet federal rollout. And here's the kicker: This is a pilot. If they normalize chemical warfare on Connecticut rivers, this template spreads. To Massachusetts. To Georgia. To New York. To everywhere. And you know the reason why? Because its easier to poison us the do the real work to remove the plant. And the real worst part? They are not even that difficult. They make boats designed for this exact purpose. And the worst of all worst parts? They don't even know if the plant is even that harmful in the first place. Its in their own PDF. section 4.6 It basically says the plant might be bad, but it might not.

https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/DRAFT_CTRiverHydrilla_SupplementalEA_JUN2025.pdf

https://www3.epa.gov/pesticides/chem_search/ppls/019713-00729-20250603.pdf

https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/DRAFT_CTRiverHydrilla_SupplementalEA_JUN2025.pdf

<https://weedooboats.com/>

Debra A. LeConche

Vice President

Shelco Filters Division

The Tinny Corporation

[REDACTED]

Middletown, CT 06457

PH [REDACTED]

FX [REDACTED]

Cell [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

www.shelco.com

From: [Alexis Presley](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CT Land and Water Concerns - Help!!
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 12:28:14 PM

Hi Keith,

I am a lifelong proud Connecticut resident. It has been brought to my attention that somehow the state of CT is allowing Diquat to be sprayed in some of our lakes and rivers. With a simple google search this seems to be a great risk and highly detrimental to our beautiful state. This will be highly disruptive to both land, water and all living species in the vicinity. Can you please give me a call or email me back with some information as to how we can prevent this from happening? It seems that you were in favor of this plan of action and I would love to understand better why that would be.

Thank you for your time. Looking forward to hearing back from you.

Best regards,
Alexis

Alexis Presley



image.png



From: [Michael Rekas](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquot Project in CT Lakes
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 11:41:12 AM

Hi Keith,

Just reaching out to urge you to cancel the use of Diquat to "treat" and eliminate hydrilla in Connecticut lakes. As I am sure you are aware Diquat is toxic to both humans, fish, and invertebrates, and despite the many measures of control you exercise when using it the Wisconsin DNR found that even at levels below the labeled application rates the chemical can be highly toxic to both humans and all aquatic wildlife, AND native grasses/aquatic plants. I'm not even from CT or the Northeast but I know that this shit will destroy the beautiful fisheries in your state.

From: [Annette Tamburrino](#)
Cc: saraheifler44@gmail.com; [Julia Eifler](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CT lakes and rivers and Diquat - illegal in some countries
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 11:30:26 AM

Dear Keith Hannon, Roberty Kalisqewski, Brian Thompson, Colonel Justin Pabis, and Senator Richard Blumenthal,

I just recently read about the planned use of Diquat in CT lakes and rivers, and I wanted to know if this is a set-in-stone plan. I feel that there is significant studies that show the detrimental effects that Diquat can have on wildlife, humans, and the environment.

I have friends who are Wildlife Biologists and I wholeheartedly believe these people to be helpers, protectors, and educators for the general public and the lands they work in.

Please see the below article, and let me know how I can proactively continue to share my discontent with the proposed plan and what options I may have to kindly and seriously ask that you reconsider. I appreciate your time and would like to appreciate also the judgment of the CT officials involved.

U.S. RIGHT TO KNOW

Pursuing truth and transparency for public health

[ABOUT](#)

[DONATE](#)

[ACADEMIC WORK](#)

[BEES](#)

[COVID-19 ORIGINS](#)

[FACTORY FARMING](#)

[HEALTHWIRE](#)

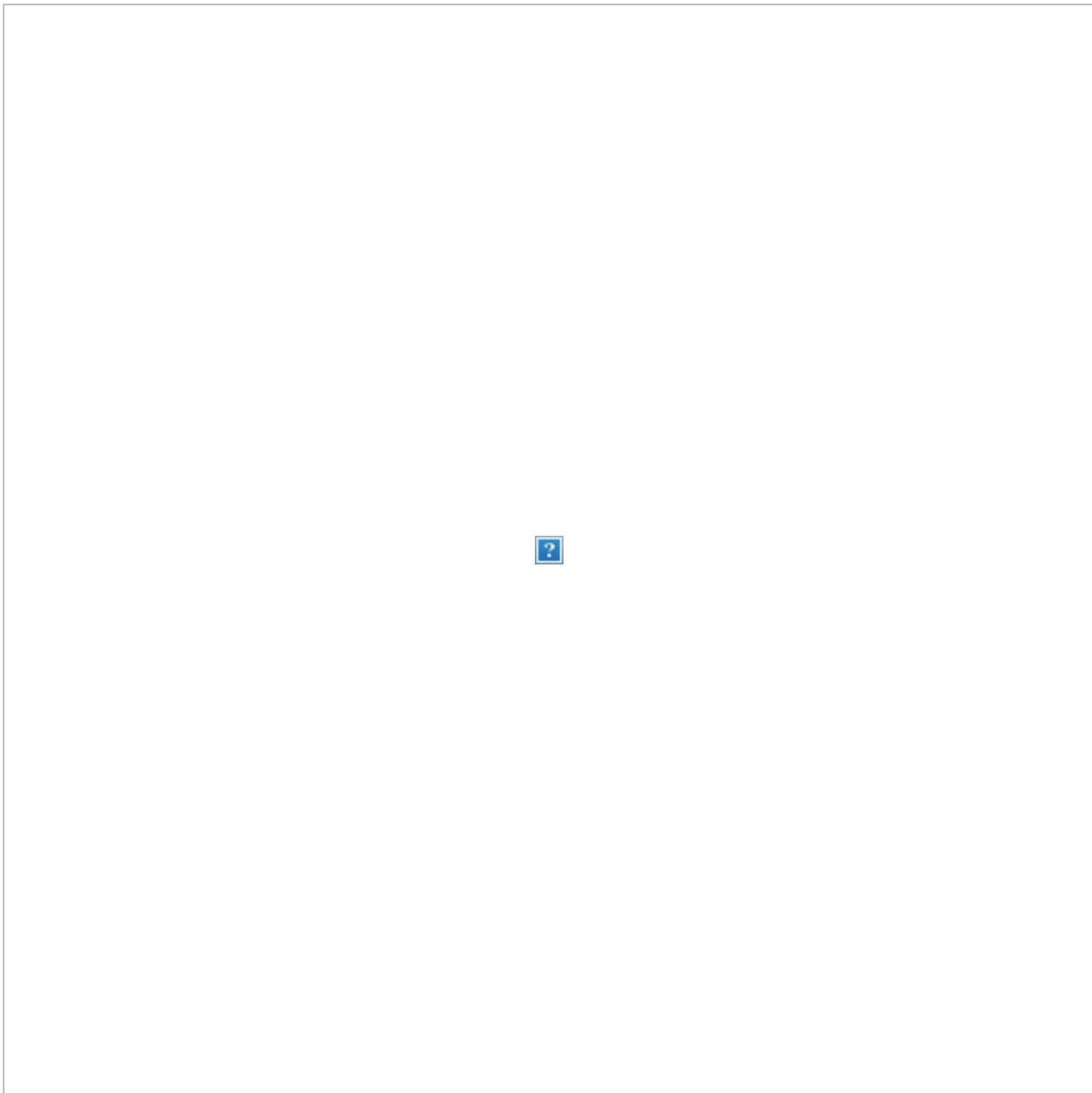
[PESTICIDES](#)

[ULTRA-PROCESSED FOODS](#)

Diquat herbicide poisons the gut, may severely damage other organs, research shows



[Pamela Ferdinand](#) | June 3, 2025



Widely applied in the U.S. on potatoes and other crops, diquat is banned in the EU, Switzerland, and the U.K. due to its environmental and health risks. (Photo credit: JESHOOOTS.com on

Unsplash)

Diquat, an herbicide banned in the European Union but still widely used in the U.S., damages the intestines and may also trigger a harmful chain reaction in the rest of the body—injuring the liver, kidney, and lungs, according to a new review of more than 100 studies.

The herbicide has traditionally been studied for its toxic effects on the liver and kidneys. However, this [review](#), recently published [May 2025] in *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, suggests the intestines are a key target for its harmful effects.

Studies show that diquat weakens the intestinal barrier, kills beneficial bacteria, interferes with nutrient absorption, and triggers chronic inflammation, among other impacts. These local injuries may fuel damage in distant organs through a “[gut-organ axis](#),” making diquat’s toxicity more widespread and dangerous than previously understood, the researchers say.

That perspective builds on increasing evidence of the gut’s central role in our health, and its interactions with the rest of the body. Similarly, toxic “[forever chemicals](#)” that accumulate in the environment have been shown to disrupt the intestinal barrier and affect other organs.

“Studies show that Diquat primarily enters the body through the digestive tract, leading to poisoning,” the researchers say. “The core mechanism of its toxicity involves reactive oxygen species (ROS)-induced oxidative stress, which not only directly damages the intestinal barrier function but also exacerbates inflammation and systemic toxicity by disrupting the balance of the gut microbiota and the normal production of metabolic products.”

Diquat and paraquat: toxic chemical cousins

The review coincides with mounting concerns about the long-term health impacts of pesticides, including [glyphosate](#) and [atrazine](#), especially in [children](#) and agricultural communities. It also comes amid efforts by pesticide manufacturers to try to [limit damage awards](#) in lawsuits related to pesticide-related illnesses and deaths—and after years in which the [pesticide industry](#) sought to [mislead the public](#) about their products. Bipyrindyl herbicides like diquat, and its highly toxic counterpart [paraquat](#), work by generating certain types of molecules (reactive oxygen species, or ROS) that destroy cells. Diquat remains active in the environment for up to 10 days in aquatic ecosystems and even longer in soil, where it can be absorbed into soil particles and potentially enter the food chain, the researchers say.

Diquat is [banned in the EU](#), Switzerland, and the U.K. due to its environmental and health risks. However, like paraquat, which has been linked to [Parkinson’s disease](#) and [whose use is prohibited in more than 70 countries](#), diquat is still used in the U.S. to control agricultural and aquatic broadleaf and grassy weeds.

Applied on potatoes, rapeseed, sugarcane, and cotton, among other crops, it is also used to dry silage (fermented green crops used for animal feed) and hay for storage. Registered with the EPA as a [non-selective contact pesticide](#), diquat kills all vegetation that it touches.

It also continues to be sold to countries like [Brazil](#), where its usage has soared since paraquat was banned in 2020 and small-scale farmers are less likely to use personal protective equipment (PPE).

Herbicide harms start in the gut

When ingested, diquat directly damages the intestinal epithelial cells that line the gut. Some of the ways diquat does this is by:

- Shortening finger-like projections (villi) and deepening small pits in the intestinal lining, impairing nutrient absorption
- Generating ROS that damage tight junction proteins, weakening the gut barrier, and allowing toxins and pathogens to leak into the bloodstream
- Releasing massive amounts of pro-inflammatory cytokines, proteins that worsen inflammation

Diquat disturbs the gut's microbial ecosystem, reducing beneficial bacteria like *Lactobacillus* while increasing harmful microbes, the researchers say. It also alters the production of key microbial metabolites, depleting resources that fight disease and making it harder for the gut to repair itself.

Diquat's role in the “gut-organ axis”

Studies suggest that diquat's harmful impact on the intestine can extend to other organs, the researchers say. In particular:

- **Kidneys:** Diquat causes acute kidney injury by damaging cell membranes and activating inflammatory pathways, which causes scarring and worsens kidney function.
- **Liver:** The herbicide disrupts mitochondria, the cell's energy centers, causing cell death and promoting liver inflammation and damage. This may also trigger immune responses that damage tissues beyond the gut.
- **Lungs:** While less toxic than paraquat, diquat generates harmful molecules that can damage respiratory tissue.
- **Other:** The herbicide may also interfere with autophagy, a process that clears damaged proteins from cells, which could lead to broader organ damage.

The resulting cascade of [toxic impacts](#) may serve as a “key driving force” in the development of [multiple organ dysfunction syndrome \(MODS\)](#), although the precise [mechanisms](#) are still unclear, the researchers suggest. MODS is a life-threatening condition that occurs when two or more organ systems fail.

Calls for human studies, pesticide detox methods

However, important research gaps remain, they say. Most of the studies they reviewed were based on data from rodent models, with a lack of human studies to confirm the findings. The models also did not mimic real-world, long-term, low-dose exposure.

Given the [gut microbiome](#)'s complexity and the influence of factors such as diet and genetics, the researchers call for epidemiological studies on populations exposed to diquat, targeted detoxification strategies centered on the intestine, and improved models to better understand diquat's full effects.

"[In-depth] investigation of its toxicological mechanisms remains essential for ecological restoration in contaminated areas, clinical management of poisoning cases, and toxicity assessment of structurally related herbicides," they say.

Reference

He C, Cai G, Jia Y, Jiang R, Wei X, Tao N. [Effect of diquat on Gut Health: Molecular Mechanisms, toxic effects, and protective strategies](#). *Frontiers in Pharmacology*. 2025;16. doi:10.3389/fphar.2025.1562182

Categories: [Chemicals of](#)

[Concern](#), [EPA](#), [Healthwire](#), [Pesticides](#) Tags: [children](#), [diquat](#), [EPA](#), [eu](#), [gut health](#), [gut-organ](#), [health](#), [kidneys](#), [liver](#), [lungs](#), [microbiome](#), [mods](#), [multiple organ dysfunction syndrome](#), [organdamage](#), [oxidative stress](#), [Paraquat](#), [pesticides](#), [publichealth](#), [Secondary Article](#), [toxicchemicals](#)

Sincerely,

Annette M. Tamburrino

"Let your soul stand cool and composed before a million universes."
~Walt Whitman

From: [gail corso](#)
To: [Senator Rob Sampson](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] spraying of our rivers/lakes w/toxic chemicals harmful to wildlife/humans
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 10:43:55 AM

JULY 4th spraying of **DIQUOT** which is banned in Europe! It's harmful to wildlife/humans and what is in our waters. Sites: chester creek, hamburg cove, selden creek, salmon river, deep river and lake pocotopaug.

How come we didn't know of this?!

PLEASE HALT THIS PROJECT



Virus-free www.avast.com

From: [Stacey](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP POISONING OUR WATER!!
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 10:38:09 AM

To whom this may concern,

I am a Connecticut resident and was born and raised here. I do not condone the use of Diquat Dibrobide being sprayed in our lakes and rivers!! Please put a hilt to this project, we demand a safe non-chemical alternative!!

Sincerely,

A worried mother

Sent from my iPhone

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: against spraying of diquat
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 9:49:07 AM
Attachments: [image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image013.png](#)
[image014.png](#)

From: DEEP PesticideProgram <DEEP.PesticideProgram@ct.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 9:07 AM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FW: against spraying of diquat

From: ronnie@nevertoolate.biz <ronnie@nevertoolate.biz>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 4:48 PM
To: DEEP PesticideProgram <DEEP.PesticideProgram@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: against spraying of diquat

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hey Zack,

Thanks for responding.

I don't care if it's legal or if the permits are correct– its BAD for the CT environment.

Please forward to the people in charge.

Thanks,
Ronnie

From: DEEP PesticideProgram <DEEP.PesticideProgram@ct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 8:14 AM
To: ronnie@nevertoolate.biz
Subject: RE: against spraying of diquat

Good morning Ronnie,

The United States Army Core of Engineers (USACE) does hold permits for treating

hydrilla in the Connecticut River.

Information on this project can be found at the below links:

[Connecticut River Project](#)

[New England District > Missions > Projects/Topics > Connecticut River Hydrilla](#)

Any additional questions or concerns should be directed to the USACE at cenae-pa@usace.army.mil

Best,
Zach

Zachary Donais

Environmental Analyst III
Pesticide Management & Arborist Programs
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

p: [REDACTED]

portal.ct.gov/DEEP-PMP



Connecticut
Department of Energy &
Environmental Protection

*Conserving, improving, and protecting our natural resources and environment;
Ensuring a clean, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply.*

[f](#) [t](#) [o](#) [v](#) [i](#) | portal.ct.gov/DEEP

From: ronnie@nevertoolate.biz <ronnie@nevertoolate.biz>

Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 2:37 PM

To: DEEP OPPD <DEEP.OPPD@ct.gov>; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov

Subject: against spraying of diquat

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Robert Kaliszweski,

I am against the spraying of the toxic herbicide diquat in CT lakes and rivers. That is illegal in Europe and toxic to wild life, plant life and humans.

Please don't do it.

Thanks,
Ronnie



From: [Rebecca Pepitone](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); brian.thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; opinion@ctmirror.org; letters@courant.com; reportit@wtrnh.com; tips@nbconnecticut.com; tips@ctinsider.com
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the spraying of DIQUAT. We DEMAND A PUBLIC HEARING. Army Corps to Chemically Treat CT Rivers After July 4 – Proof Attached
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 9:32:38 AM

These are public waterways.
You use them. Your kids use them. Wildlife depends on them.

There is no long-term monitoring plan.
There is no consent.
Just a quiet federal rollout.

Stop the spraying!

Attached are supportive documents for your review. Thank you

Rebecca Pepitone
Old Lyme, CT 06371

https://www3.epa.gov/pesticides/chem_search/ppls/019713-00729-20250603.pdf

https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/DRAFT_CTRiverHydrilla_SupplementalEA_JUN2025.pdf

From: [Christine Gordon](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Grave concerns over Diquat Dibromide
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 9:13:09 AM

Good morning, Mr. Hannon,

I hope you won't mind if I log a grave concern over the program to release diquat dibromide into CT lakes. I'm a resident of Sherman, CT and I have grave concerns because this chemical is banned in Europe and has been found to be toxic to wildlife, not to mention human beings, most assuredly pregnant women and children, and those with immunocompromised systems. Diquat Dibromide is not the solution to invasive grasses. Please scrap this idea.

Thank you,

Christine

Christine Gordon
[REDACTED]

From: [Merrill Maben](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP THE SPRAY
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 8:40:12 AM

Keith,

PLEASE stop this spraying scheduled to happen after this weekend. This is a cop out way of dealing with invasive aquatic plants. You are polluting our waters and killing our wildlife. How about we create an incentive program for high schoolers on summer vacation to hand pull these hydrilla plants? It can be a friendly competition amongst towns that have this problem. It will cost a FRACTION of the \$5 million dollars to send the right people out here to train volunteers and oversee it all. The rest of the money can be used to actually HELP taxpayers. There are so many good people in this town that would volunteer their time to combat this problem but yet you resort to poisoning us. I was hoping as a state we could ban the use of all herbicides, but we are moving in the opposite direction. This is yet again a representation of how little the Democrat party actually cares about the environment. I will never vote Democrat again.

Will it be told what days specifically we are being poisoned or is it the plan to just do it spontaneously anytime after the weekend so that we aren't able to protest?

Please respond via email or call [REDACTED]. Thank you

Merrill

From: [JoAnne Jones](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\); CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying of Diquat in our lakes and rivers
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 8:39:43 AM

Mr. Hannon,

It has come to our attention that rivers and lakes here in Connecticut are about to begin being sprayed with the extremely toxic chemical, Diquat, for the purpose of "aquatic invasive plant control" according to the public notice from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dated June 11.

This chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike.

We are asking you to please find another means that is not harmful to us and our wildlife.

Thank you for your diligent and responsible attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
JoAnne D. Jones
West Granby, CT

From: jchorse10@aol.com
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DIQUAT in CT water
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 7:07:43 AM

Dear Gentlemen

The use of Diquat in our water is NOT ok!! You have the power to put a stop on this insanity! As a taxpayer of CT , I insist you use every source available to stop this! You and your families all will be affected by this poisoning too.

Diquat is banned in Europe for a reason

- There are safer, non-toxic alternatives
- The public has a right to be involved
- We do not consent to this quiet poisoning of our lakes

This is about protecting our water, our health, and our future.

Thank you,

Jenny Goduto RN

[REDACTED]

Seymour, CT 06483

[REDACTED]

p.s I will be testing the waters

From: [Hilary Charman](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Chemical Spraying In Connecticut
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 5:43:15 AM

Dear Mr Hanson,

I understand you are part of a project that is planning on chemical spraying rivers in Connecticut (and many other states).

Basically Connecticut is literally about to chemically nuke its waterways and you are responsible for it.

I live in England and I want you to know people around the world know what you're doing and you will be held accountable.

For reference on the effects of Diquot spraying somewhere it sadly did already happen, check out [@killing_caddo_lake](#) (on Instagram)

Please reconsider what you're doing and halt the project and find a safe, non chemical alternative method that protects the rivers and wildlife.

Be remembered for something good that you can be proud of.

Kind regards,

Hilary Charman

From: [Amy Russell](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Scheduled Spraying of the Lower Connecticut River
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 5:30:35 AM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

There is a post circulating on social media stating that CT plans to spray Diquat Dibromide in 12 places on the Connecticut River after July 4th. If this is true, I am writing to ask that you not use this spray on our river.

I understand that the goal is to control the invasive Hydrilla plant. However Diquat Dibromide is a non-selective herbicide, meaning that while it may help control Hydrilla it will also kill native plants that are trying to out compete Hydrilla.

Diquat Dibromide is also highly toxic to all animals. Many people use the Connecticut River for fishing and swimming and the people of Connecticut do not want this chemical in our water!

Please cancel any plans to spray Diquat Dibromide into the Connecticut River. It will not solve any invasive species problem but it will poison us and our fish.

Sincerely,
Amy Russell
Scotland, CT

From: [Henry Hotkowski](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\); CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the spray
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 12:17:49 AM

Mr. Hannon/Colonel Pabis,

It seems our community is just finding out about the imminent spraying of Diquat dibromide in our local waters. This seems like a dangerous and harmful move that will not only harm local plant life and wildlife, but pose a great risk to our human population as well. We see no plan from DEEP or other agencies to restore local plant life, show impact on waterfowl from lack of food in these important creeks, potential damage to swimmers, etc.

This seems extremely rushed.

Please do the right thing - cancel this plan and come up with a less harmful alternative - your fellow citizens need you to make the right decision.

Regards,
Henry Hotkowski
Chester, CT

From: [Lynn P](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the poisoning of our Connecticut waters
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 11:48:43 PM

From: [Donald Curtiss](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to Diquat Spraying in Connecticut Lakes and Rivers
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 8:55:30 PM

Dear Keith Hannon,

I am writing as a concerned resident of Connecticut to strongly oppose the planned application of Diquat Dibromide and other herbicides across several sites in the Lower Connecticut River watershed after July 4, 2025.

While I understand the need to manage invasive species like hydrilla, I do not support the use of toxic chemicals in our public waterways — especially one like Diquat, which is banned in Europe due to its environmental and health risks. Connecticut's lakes, rivers, and wetlands are vital ecological and recreational resources, and the long-term impacts of spraying herbicides like Diquat are not fully known or acceptable to many of us who use and cherish these waters.

There are alternative, less aggressive methods of invasive species management that should be prioritized. I urge you to halt or suspend any approvals, funding, or support for this spraying initiative until a full, independent environmental and public health review can be conducted — with full transparency and community input.

Please stand with your constituents in protecting our water, our wildlife, and our right to safe public lands.

Sincerely,

Donald Curtiss

From: [Chelsea Lee](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proven Non-Toxic Alternatives to Herbicide Use for Hydrilla Control in Connecticut Rivers and Lakes
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 8:33:07 PM

Hi Keith

I am writing as a concerned Connecticut resident regarding the use of chemical herbicides—especially diquat—to control hydrilla and other aquatic plants in our state’s waterways, including the Connecticut River and surrounding lakes. The spraying of herbicides in such vital ecosystems raises serious concerns about public health, fish and wildlife safety, drinking water, and long-term ecological damage.

I urge the state and federal agencies involved to adopt proven, non-toxic methods that have already demonstrated success in both the U.S. and abroad—without relying on chemical spraying.

Successful Non-Herbicide Hydrilla Control Case Studies
Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia

Method: Sterile grass carp (no chemicals)

Result: Hydrilla nearly eradicated in under 2 years.

Source

Saranac Lake, Adirondack Park, NY

Method: Diver-assisted suction harvesting (DASH), no chemicals allowed

Result: 96% reduction in invasive plant biomass over 3 years.

Ecological integrity and recreation restored.

Thurmond Lake (GA/SC, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

Method: 17,000 sterile grass carp, no herbicides

Result: Over 50% hydrilla reduction.

Source

Lake Tutira (New Zealand) & Cayuga Lake (Ontario)

Method: Manual removal + biodegradable benthic barriers

Result: Targeted hydrilla control, native plant restoration, no toxic runoff.

Why This Matters for the Connecticut River

The Connecticut River is an ecological treasure and public resource for drinking water,

fishing, boating, and tourism. Introducing toxic herbicides into such a dynamic system is:

Environmentally risky (unpredictable downstream effects)

Potentially harmful to native fish, invertebrates, and wetlands

A threat to long-term ecological health and recreational safety

What We Recommend:

Halt herbicide spraying in the Connecticut River and adjacent lakes.

Implement pilot non-toxic strategies such as:

Triploid grass carp (where ecologically appropriate)

Mechanical harvesting and DASH operations

Benthic barriers near launch points, docks, and coves

Encourage state funding for alternatives and transparent ecological monitoring

Involve local communities and riverkeepers in watershed protection plans

Connecticut can lead by example in shifting away from harmful chemical management and toward sustainable aquatic restoration. These safer methods protect our water, health, wildlife, and future generations—without sacrificing invasive species control.

I would be happy to provide additional documentation, community support, or help organize discussions among stakeholders.

Thank you for your attention and service.

Best regards,

Chelsea Lee

Madison CT Shellfish Commissioner

From: [Ryan Farrell](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent Concern of Planned Diquat Use in CT Waterways
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 8:00:40 PM

Hello,

I am writing to express a serious concern regarding the planned application of diquat to control hydrilla in Connecticut's waterways, specifically within the Lower Connecticut River Watershed, including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, and Lake Pocotopaug. As I understand it, this chemical treatment is scheduled to take place sometime after July 4th as part of an ongoing effort to manage the invasive aquatic plant hydrilla.

While controlling hydrilla is important, the choice to use diquat, a chemical banned in Europe due to its environmental and human health risks, is deeply concerning. Diquat is known to be toxic to aquatic organisms, persistent in sediment, and potentially harmful to wildlife, pets, and the people who use these bodies of water.

What's even more concerning is the lack of public outreach and coverage surrounding this plan. Many community members were unaware of this upcoming herbicide application and have not received adequate information regarding the risks, timing, or safety precautions. For something that will affect our shared environment directly, there should be far more public engagement and accountability.

Moreover, there are safer and more sustainable options for managing hydrilla that do not carry the same long term ecological risks. These include mechanical harvesting, suction dredging, benthic barriers, and integrated aquatic management approaches that target the issue without poisoning the surrounding ecosystem.

Therefore, I strongly urge all stakeholders involved to:

- Reevaluate the use of diquat in these waterways and postpone any treatment until a public discussion and independent environmental review can take place;
- Provide clear and accessible communications to residents about all planned chemical treatments, including detailed information on timing, safety, and long term impacts;
- Prioritize safer alternatives that do not jeopardize the long term health of our lakes, rivers, and communities.

Our waterways are essential, not only for recreation and wildlife, but for the people and health of our towns. If diquat has been banned for being too dangerous to use in other countries then we should be asking why it's still an option here.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope to see action taken to protect our environment and the people who depend on it.

Sincerely,
Ryan Farrell
Bridgeport, CT

From: [Fern Patipunya](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Public Concern Regarding Use of Diquat Dibromide in Lower Connecticut
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 7:47:47 PM

Hello,

I am writing to express a serious concern regarding the planned application of diquat to control hydrilla in Connecticut's waterways, specifically within the Lower Connecticut River Watershed, including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, and Lake Pocotopaug. As I understand it, this chemical treatment is scheduled to take place sometime after July 4th as part of an ongoing effort to manage the invasive aquatic plant hydrilla.

While controlling hydrilla is important, the choice to use diquat, a chemical banned in Europe due to its environmental and human health risks, is deeply concerning. Diquat is known to be toxic to aquatic organisms, persistent in sediment, and potentially harmful to wildlife, pets, and the people who use these bodies of water.

What's even more concerning is the lack of public outreach and coverage surrounding this plan. Many community members were unaware of this upcoming herbicide application and have not received adequate information regarding the risks, timing, or safety precautions. For something that will affect our shared environment directly, there should be far more public engagement and accountability.

Moreover, there are safer and more sustainable options for managing hydrilla that do not carry the same long term ecological risks. These include mechanical harvesting, suction dredging, benthic barriers, and integrated aquatic management approaches that target the issue without poisoning the surrounding ecosystem.

Therefore, I strongly urge all stakeholders involved to:

- Reevaluate the use of diquat in these waterways and postpone any treatment until a public discussion and independent environmental review can take place;
- Provide clear and accessible communications to residents about all planned chemical treatments, including detailed information on timing, safety, and long term impacts;
- Prioritize safer alternatives that do not jeopardize the long term health of our lakes, rivers, and communities.

Our waterways are essential, not only for recreation and wildlife, but for the people and health of our towns. If diquat has been banned for being too dangerous to use in other countries then we should be asking why it's still an option here.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope to see action taken to protect our environment and the people who depend on it.

Sincerely,
Fern Patipunya

From: [Narran Radd](#)
To: Governor.lamont@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); [Hannon, Keith W](#)
[CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent environmental safety
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 7:34:23 PM

I do not approve of something that will kill our fish wildlife and put the American public in danger in which I know you would agree
Thank you for your time

Connecticut is about to spray Diquat Dibromide — a chemical banned in Europe for its toxicity — into 12 of our rivers and lakes, including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, Selden Creek, Salmon River, Deep River, and Lake Pocotopaug.

Diquat is known to kill more than just invasive plants. It harms wildlife, aquatic ecosystems, and potentially human health. Landscapers call it “a nuclear option.”

This is state-funded, federally approved, and environmentally reckless.

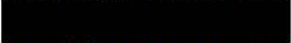
- Diquat is banned in Europe for a reason
- There are safer, non-toxic alternatives
- The public has a right to be involved
- We do not consent to this quiet poisoning of our lakes

This is about protecting our water, our health, and our future.

From: [Kathleen Malo](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\); CENAE-PA, NAE; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov;](#)
[brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov; richard_bilmenthal@blumenthal.senate.gov](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE:Project to spray the waterways in CT with herbicides
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 6:37:40 PM

I am writing for my husband and myself. We have come to understand that the waterways are scheduled to be sprayed with an herbicide on July 5,2025. We do not approve of this project. We ask that you will halt the spraying and pursue safer alternatives. We would appreciate public hearings and a chance to have our voices heard on this issue. In all good conscience it seems inconceivable that we would knowingly add to the pollution load in our area. I believe that the people should have a vote on an issue such as this. I am deeply concerned for the other plant and animal life that will be affected by this. It is a sad thing to think that every time we drink the water, take a shower or water our gardens this will now be present! I certainly hope that this is not true!

Thank you,
Alfred and Kathleen Malo


Brooklyn,Ct 06234

From: [John Barker](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CT river
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 6:17:50 PM

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will begin injecting **diquat dibromide**, a herbicide banned in the European Union for its toxicity, directly into **public rivers and lakes**.

The justification? To combat an invasive aquatic plant called *hydrilla*.

The truth? This is an ecocidal shortcut that trades long-term biological integrity for short-term optics and convenience.

The Chemical: Diquat Dibromide

- **Class:** Bipyrindyl contact herbicide
- **Mode:** Generates reactive oxygen species that rupture plant cell membranes via oxidative stress.
- **Selectivity:** None. It kills **all** green tissue on contact.
- **Persistence:** Binds to sediment; low mobility but slow anaerobic degradation.

Human & Ecological Toxicity:

- **Banned in the EU** (2019) due to risks to workers and aquatic systems.
- **Highly toxic to fish, amphibians, and invertebrates.**
- **Symptoms in humans** (from exposure): chemical burns, nausea, pulmonary edema, kidney/liver failure. No antidote.

This isn't speculative. These are verified toxicological mechanisms.

Systemic Failure: Why This Plan Is Broken by Design

1. **Non-target kill:** Native aquatic plants get wiped out alongside hydrilla. You destroy the ecological buffer.
2. **Oxygen crash:** Dead plant mass decomposes → microbial bloom → hypoxia → fish kills.
3. **Recreational hazard:** Swimmers and boaters are in contact with chemically treated water. No informed consent.
4. **Cycle of dependency:** Diquat doesn't kill hydrilla roots. Expect repeat applications.

Forever.

5. **Ignored alternatives:** Mechanical harvesting, sterile grass carp (where applicable), sediment blocking, or microbial bio-controls. All real options. None selected.

Poisoning an ecosystem to manage a single plant species is not environmental stewardship. It's reactive chemical warfare.

We don't need more short-term patches. We need ecological intelligence.

If we don't fight this here, we will inherit rivers that are chemically dependent, biologically hollow, and administratively unaccountable.

John Barker



From: [Ryan's multi-verse](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] WHY ARE YOU POISONING THE PEOPLE ?
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 5:51:51 PM

Diquat Poisoning: Care Management and Medico-Legal Implications

Acute chemical intoxication represents one of the major causes of Emergency Room admittance, and possible errors in diagnosis are extremely frequent, especially when patients present generic and non-specific symptoms. Diquat, a bipyridyl class of herbicides, exerts high intrinsic toxicity as a consequence of free oxygen radicals, leading to cellular death and organ dysfunctions. Following ingestion, with the major source of absorption for suicidal purposes, the chemical induces local irritating effects; systemic symptoms appear later,....

DON'T PRETEND IT'S SAFE Acute intoxication derives from a dynamic process characterized by a rapid negative evolution with possible lethal consequences...

From: [Sara Roccisano](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP DIQUAT SPRAYING IN CONNECTICUT NOW
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 5:46:30 PM

July 2025: Connecticut's Chemical Assault on Public Water

Just after the July 4th holiday, while most people are grilling and watching fireworks, a quiet but deeply consequential operation is scheduled to begin in Connecticut: the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will begin injecting **diquat dibromide**, a herbicide banned in the European Union for its toxicity, directly into **public rivers and lakes**.

The justification? To combat an invasive aquatic plant called *hydrilla*.

The truth? This is an ecocidal shortcut that trades long-term biological integrity for short-term optics and convenience.

The Chemical: Diquat Dibromide

- **Class:** Bipyrindyl contact herbicide
- **Mode:** Generates reactive oxygen species that rupture plant cell membranes via oxidative stress.
- **Selectivity:** None. It kills **all** green tissue on contact.
- **Persistence:** Binds to sediment; low mobility but slow anaerobic degradation.

Human & Ecological Toxicity:

- **Banned in the EU** (2019) due to risks to workers and aquatic systems.
- **Highly toxic to fish, amphibians, and invertebrates.**
- **Symptoms in humans** (from exposure): chemical burns, nausea, pulmonary edema, kidney/liver failure. No antidote.

This isn't speculative. These are verified toxicological mechanisms.

Confirmed Sites of Application

The first 12 sites in Connecticut to receive chemical treatment:

- Chester Creek
- Hamburg Cove
- Selden Creek
- Salmon River
- Deep River
- Lake Pocotopaug

(Full list available in the official USACE notice)

These are **public waterways**. Used by families. Wildlife. Swimmers. Fishermen. No long-term health monitoring program is in place.

Systemic Failure: Why This Plan Is Broken by Design

1. **Non-target kill:** Native aquatic plants get wiped out alongside hydrilla. You destroy the ecological buffer.
 2. **Oxygen crash:** Dead plant mass decomposes → microbial bloom → hypoxia → fish kills.
 3. **Recreational hazard:** Swimmers and boaters are in contact with chemically treated water. No informed consent.
 4. **Cycle of dependency:** Diquat doesn't kill hydrilla roots. Expect repeat applications. Forever.
 5. **Ignored alternatives:** Mechanical harvesting, sterile grass carp (where applicable), sediment blocking, or microbial bio-controls. All real options. None selected.
-

Who Signed Off on This?

- **Keith W. Hannon**, USACE Project Manager
- **Robert Kaliszewski**, Former DEEP Deputy Commissioner
- **Brian P. Thompson**, DEEP Water Division Director
- **Colonel Justin R. Pabis**, District Engineer, USACE
- **Senator Richard Blumenthal**, secured federal funding
- **Governor Ned Lamont**, could stop it now

They moved this forward with minimal public awareness. No town halls. No public debates. Just a quiet PDF notice.

This Isn't Just About Connecticut

This plan is designed as a **pilot** for nationwide rollout.

If they succeed in normalizing the annual chemical assault on lakes and rivers in Connecticut, this template will be exported to other states. If you live in New York, Massachusetts, Georgia, Florida, Texas; your waters are next.

What You Can Do

1. **Submit a public comment** (before July 13):
Email: CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil
2. **Contact decision-makers:**
 - Gov. Lamont: governor.lamont@ct.gov
 - Keith Hannon: keith.w.hannon@usace.army.mil
 - Brian Thompson: brian.thompson@ct.gov
 - USACE public affairs: cenae-pa@usace.army.mil
3. **Contact the press:**

- CT Mirror, Hartford Courant, WTNH, NBC CT
- National outlets: ProPublica, The Guardian, Intercept

4. Alert environmental orgs:

- Save the Sound, Sierra Club CT, Riverkeeper, Earthjustice

5. Blow it up on social:

Tag #StopDiquat, post videos, link to PDFs, name names.

Poisoning an ecosystem to manage a single plant species is not environmental stewardship. It's reactive chemical warfare.

We don't need more short-term patches. We need ecological intelligence.

If we don't fight this here, we will inherit rivers that are chemically dependent, biologically hollow, and administratively unaccountable.

Speak now. Before your lake is next.

SOURCE: https://open.substack.com/pub/jdbarker2/p/theyre-poisoning-the-connecticut?r=24sae2&utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=web&showWelcomeOnShare=false

From: [André Selino](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Public Comment CT River Diquat treatment for Hydrilla
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 5:07:16 PM

Hi,

My name is André Selino.

I am a CT born and raised resident. I currently work for State of Idaho's Department of Environmental Quality as a CWA Section 401 writer. Most of my experience lies in freshwater ecosystem assessments, harmful algal bloom research, public outreach/education. However I also have experience in the use of aquatic pesticides from my time at Aquatechnex LLC where I was a licensed Washington State Aquatic Pesticide Applicator.

After having experience working with aquatic herbicides and the work that is being conducted on the Connecticut River, I have grave concerns about the project, the efficacy of the herbicides being used, and am frankly in disbelief this project was approved by the ACE.

Diquat dibromide is a contact herbicide and will not eliminate hydrilla. It will only temporarily remove hydrilla for the season via chemical contact. Essentially diquat just "chemically mows" the plants. It does not systemically work on root systems like a systemic herbicide would do. This project will not see long term success through the use of contact herbicides to eliminate an invasive aquatic plant and will be more costly than beneficial if this is the route of herbicide treatment we go by.

In order to start effectively removing hydrilla, a systemic herbicide is suggested in order to systemically senesce the plants at their roots systems.

I would much prefer to talk if possible however I understand with a public comment period those direct responses may be unlikely.

Thanks so much!
André Selino

From: [Christine Northrop](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please Do Not Poison CT Waterways
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 3:47:48 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm writing to express concern over the continued spraying of toxic herbicides—specifically Diquat—into several local rivers and lakes. These chemicals threaten the health of our waterways, wildlife, and communities.

These are beloved natural areas, and there are safer, more sustainable ways to manage aquatic vegetation without putting ecosystems and public health at risk. I respectfully urge your office to investigate this matter and take action to pause or prohibit the use of Diquat in these waters.

Thank you for your time and commitment to protecting our environment and our health.

Sincerely,

Christine

From: [Kyle Casey](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Concerns Regarding Connecticut River Hydrilla Project
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 3:46:27 PM

Good Afternoon Mr. Hannon,

My name is Kyle Casey, lifetime resident of Connecticut. I recently saw a video starting to go viral online (540,000+ views in 72hrs) by a famous music artist/influencer named Chris Webby, also a lifetime CT resident. Before I saw the video, I had no idea what your project was or that it was even happening behind closed doors. Which is the first red flag to me, and other residents of CT. The second red flag is the chemical to be used in this project, to repel potential "hazards" to our waterways. I did some research on that (because everything is available online nowadays) and after learning about Diquat Dibromide, I was alarmed, and now full of fear. I found other locations, using that chemical for the same purposes, like Caddo Lake in Texas. With the evidence available to the public. It's not going to take long before the east coast is aware of what's going on here. Chris Webby has quite the reach if it hasn't made its way to you yet. To get straight to the point, your project is about to be more known than you probably wanted it to be. You will get hundreds to maybe thousands of emails, from concerned citizens like me asking you to refrain from the usage of such a harmful chemical. You are going to poison residents, children, animals, wildlife. I want to have a son one day, i'm only 26, i spent 45% of my youth in multiple bodies of water in CT. Many like Lake Pocotopaug, Salmon River, and Deep River. If these chemicals were to have been used back when i was young, i could be deceased, or my life could completely be altered due to the exposure to such chemicals, while not having much of an immunity. It may not seem like much now, but they make class action settlements after people's lives have been destroyed due to unnatural chemicals used by big corporations like you. Let's just skip the politics and do what's right. If you had/have kids, how would you feel about them swimming and enjoying past times in our home bodies of waters. For them to potentially be poisoned, affected for life, or their life taken from them. I really hope and pray this project is halted. I truly hope you take what i've spent my time typing out to you, into consideration, feel free to reach back out. Show us you care. No conspiracies, no malarky. If god didn't intend it to be there, it's extremely likely that it shouldn't be. The government manipulates and bends regulations for the almighty dollar everyday. It's only a matter of time before it catches up to those truly guilty of something wrong, thank you for your time. Sincerely - Kyle C. - Concerned Resident of CT requesting ZERO contamination of any of our waterways by any means. We will stand up as a community together, and unite. With or without you.

From: [Scott Sullivan](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat dibromide application in ct rivers and lakes
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 3:15:03 PM

Dear CT Officials,

I am writing to formally state that I am in complete disagreement with the application of diquat dibromide in any bodies of water in this state (or others) to combat invasive species. What evidence have you/can you share with the public about the safety of these measures? What gives you the authority to experiment with public safety? Again and again?

It is evident that these problems of invasive species have only come to fruition because of other detrimental human interference in nature. Root causes should be examined. Administering more toxic chemicals to arrest the increase of any invasive species has little to no long term effect, and more than likely leads to other deleterious consequences for both human, animal, and aquatic health and sustainability. In several places in my town of Woodbury, including the public fields that abut my property and the Nonnewaug River behind me, Glyphosate has been sprayed to try to control Japanese Knotweed with ZERO effect. We are simply poisoning everything around us (in the name of science) to facilitate rectifying problems we have more than likely caused do to the introduction to nature of a myriad of foreign substances derived in laboratories, probably initially for the use in war. This chemical will have little effect on the control of hydrilla, but in turn will probably lead to many more health risks for all.

Get the large multinational corporations out of the public decision making process. All parties in this panel should disclose all financial ties with chemical companies that are making/supplying this toxin for use in our waterways. All parties in this panel should disclose if they sit on the boards of the companies that are making/supplying this toxin. All parties in this panel should disclose if they hold stocks in the companies that are making/supplying this toxin.

Poisoning further our waterways to attempt to mitigate a complex problem is a travesty. Show the public an independent study, not funded by private industry, that claims this will have the desired effect, and simultaneously the true risk/benefit analysis to human, animal, and aquatic health. I personally do not have faith that government has the public's best interest at heart. It is evident today that no politician is uncompromised by the titans of industry, and therefore the public is at the mercy of theater and corporate theocracy. Stop this action.

Sincerely,
Scott Sullivan
Woodbury CT

From: [Joy Herbst](#)
To: [Joy Herbst](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] VOTE NO on Diquat in CT waterways!!
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 2:48:37 PM

I am writing with sincere urgency that you IMMEDIATELY halt the plan to pour diquat into ANY Connecticut water, including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, Selden Creek, Salmon River, Deep River, and Lake Pocotopaug . I am strongly urging you to research and consider water safe alternatives in lieu of using diquat in our precious water ways.

Thank you,
Joy Herbst


Fairfield CT, 06825

--

Joy Herbst MSN, APRN, FNP-C, CPC, CYT 500 hr
Dancing the 5 Elements™ | Sacred Lifestyle Medicine for Women
www.JoyHerbst.com | *Women's Community Wellness Collective*

From: [Sarah](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the Use of Diquat in Connecticut's Waterways
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 2:36:16 PM

Dear Decision Makers and Public Officials,

I'm writing today not just as a wellness educator and teacher — but as a concerned mother and citizen deeply invested in the health of our communities and ecosystems.

In just days, Diquat dibromide — a toxic herbicide — is scheduled for direct application into sections of the Connecticut River, including:

- Chester Boat Basin (0.36 ppm)
- Portland Boat Works (370 ppb, with two applications 14 days apart)

This information is publicly available in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Draft Environmental Assessment for the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project — and it confirms what many of us feared: this is no longer hypothetical.

Diquat is moderately to highly toxic. Exposure can happen through skin contact, air, or water — and it doesn't take much. Symptoms range from vomiting and dehydration to kidney failure and seizures. Long-term exposure? Liver damage, central nervous system issues, and more.

And this isn't just about people. Diquat is extremely toxic to aquatic life, disrupting the ecosystems that keep our rivers and lakes alive.

Let's not be lulled into a false sense of safety. I applaud any towns that have taken a stand and opted out. But Diquat will still enter the water upstream and travel. We're all part of the same watershed.

I urge you to halt these treatments immediately and explore safer, more sustainable alternatives. We cannot poison our way to balance.

Sincerely,

Sarah Yaiser

Newington, CT

From: [Kirstin Hallden](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] diquat
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 2:19:06 PM

Kirstin Hallden


07/01/2025

To Keith W. Hannon

I am writing as a concerned citizen to urge you to reconsider the use of the herbicide **diquat** in the management of aquatic vegetation in our waterways. The application of this toxic chemical poses significant risks to public health, aquatic ecosystems, and biodiversity — risks that have led to its **ban in the European Union**.

Diquat is a fast-acting, non-selective herbicide that works by disrupting plant cell membranes, causing rapid desiccation. However, its impact goes far beyond nuisance vegetation. Numerous studies have shown that diquat is **toxic to fish, amphibians, and aquatic invertebrates**, and it can **persist in sediments**, where it continues to affect aquatic life long after application. Moreover, the chemical can cause respiratory issues and skin irritation in humans, and there are concerns about its **neurotoxic potential** with prolonged exposure.

In 2018, the European Food Safety Authority concluded that diquat posed an **unacceptable risk to workers, birds, and mammals**, leading to its ban across the European Union. The EU's precautionary approach reflects a broader commitment to environmental and public health — a standard we should aim to match.

There are safer, more sustainable alternatives for managing aquatic vegetation, including mechanical removal, biological controls, and habitat-based strategies. These methods avoid the collateral damage to non-target species and reduce the chemical burden on our shared waterways.

I strongly urge you to **re-evaluate the use of diquat**, especially in environmentally sensitive and publicly accessible waterways. Our natural resources deserve protection, and so do the communities who depend on them for recreation, livelihood, and clean water.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. I would appreciate a response outlining your position on the continued use of diquat and any steps being taken to review its safety.

Sincerely,
Kirstin Hallden

From: [Kim](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 1:57:25 PM

Mr. Hannon,

Please please reconsider the spraying of diquat in our bodies of water. Explain to me how this is going to help. My back yard is Chester Creek and I am so afraid of what this is going to bring to the wetlands and wildlife and fauna in the surrounding areas. Please reconsider this devastating operation.

This chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to wildlife and humans...how can you approve this in good conscience? Please explain.

The so called 'invasive' plant hydrilla is far less toxic to the environment . Please. Please reconsider.

Respectfully,
Kim Tyler
Chester, CT

From: [Lynne Brown](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov](#); [Brian.Thompson@ct.gov](#); [CENAE-PA.MAE: govemnor.lamont@ct.gov](#); [senator.blumenthal@us.senate.gov](#)
Subject: [Non-Dod Source] PLEASE TELL ME THIS ISN'T TRUE!!!!
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 1:25:19 PM

If you people think for ONE MINUTE that I won't put this ALL OVER MY SOCIAL MEDIA, you better THINK AGAIN!!! STOP THIS ABOMINATION RIGHT NOW!!! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO COMPROMISE THE VERY PEOPLE WHO PUT YOU IN OFFICE!!!! A copy of this email has been sent to our President!!

After July 4th rivers and lakes are about to start being sprayed with an extremely toxic chemical called Diquat in Connecticut with plans to go nationwide This has been sprayed before it kills EVERYTHING. Hydrilla - the invasive water plant they're trying to kill - is better than poison. There are much better solutions, but that would require local knowledge rather than a deal with a corporation. Connecticut is about to poison its own lakes and rivers with a highly toxic chemical called diquat. And it seems like no one knows about it. It's actually a coordinated plan that they're about to roll out in states all over the country. This particular chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike. I've even heard landscapers refer to diquat as the nuclear option. The way these scumbags are getting away with it is by saying it's used to kill an invasive plant species called hydrilla, which I'm sure it does, along with everything else in the water, and then us by circumstance.

[From video post on X <https://x.com/WallStreetApes/status/19396707069561490131>]

"When I looked up if they were doing it in my state of Connecticut, I was shocked to see that right after the 4th of July, they plan on spraying it in several lakes out here. Of course, when you start to follow the money, you see how this plan has huge state funding and therefore is lining a whole lot of pockets. There's quite a few players involved and they really don't want us to know who they are and what their involvement is. So me being me, I listed all of their contact information in the caption below with exactly what their involvement to the issue is. (I'll add the list below)" This is not a partisan issue. It's downright evil. - 12 sites across the Lower Connecticut River to be sprayed first - Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans) - Scheduled after July 4th, 2025 - Approved by CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sites Include: -Chester Creek -Hamburg Cove -Selden Creek -Salmon River -Deep River -Lake Pocotopaug People involved in the deal: [?](#) Keith W. Hannon (It's Literally His Project) Project Manager – Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District [?](#)
Office: [?](#) Email: keith.w.hannon@usace.army.mil [?](#) Robert E. Kaliszewski (Signed The Permit) Deputy Commissioner, Environmental Quality Branch (formerly) Connecticut DEEP [?](#) Office: [?](#) Email: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov [?](#) Brian P. Thompson (Signed The Federal Constituency Review) Director, Land

& Water Resources Division, DEEP Phone: [REDACTED] Email: Brian.Thompson@ct.gov [?] Colonel Justin R. Pabis, P.E. (Green Lit The Whole Thing) District Engineer, USACE New England District [?] cenae-pa@usace.army.mil [?] [REDACTED] [?] Governor Ned Lamont (Could Stop It All In One Phone Call) Office [?] [REDACTED] [?] Office: [REDACTED] [?] Fax: [REDACTED] Email: governor.lamont@ct.gov [?] Senator Richard Blumenthal (Secured The Funding) U.S. Senator – Connecticut [?] Phone: [REDACTED] [?] Fax: [REDACTED] (Remove spaces in the emails if you are going to email them) "These people thought they could do this right under our noses without us even knowing. I say we remind them who they work for. Spread the word, blow these people's inboxes up and let them know we don't approve of the spraying of diquat in our lakes and rivers. And let's come together and try to find a way to stop it."

From: [homemade](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Formal Request Time Extension for Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 1:15:11 PM

Keith Hannon,

I am requesting a time extension for public comments in regards to the
"CONNECTICUT RIVER HYDRILLA CONTROL RESEARCH AND
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER, CONNECTICUT"

Thank you for your time.

From: [JPbookp](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat project
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 1:11:18 PM

Please speak to this troubling report. You are all on notice.

After July 4th rivers and lakes are about to start being sprayed with an extremely toxic chemical called Diquat in Connecticut with plans to go nationwide

This has been sprayed before (video 2 & 3) it kills EVERYTHING

Politicians are getting rich off this deal along with many more people in government

“Connecticut is about to poison its own lakes and rivers with a highly toxic chemical called diquat. And it seems like no one knows about it. It's actually a coordinated plan that they're about to roll out in states all over the country.

This particular chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike. I've even heard landscapers refer to diquat as the nuclear option.

The way these scumbags are getting away with it is by saying it's used to kill an invasive plant species called hydrilla, which I'm sure it does, along with everything else in the water, and then us by circumstance.

When I looked up if they were doing it in my state of Connecticut, I was shocked to see that right after the 4th of July, they plan on spraying it in several lakes out here. Of course, when you start to follow the money, you see how this plan has huge state funding and therefore is lining a whole lot of pockets. There's quite a few players involved and they really don't want us to know who they are and what their involvement is. So me being me, I listed all of their contact information in the caption below with exactly what their involvement to the issue is. (I'll add the list below)”

“This is not a partisan issue. It's downright evil.”

- 12 sites across the Lower Connecticut River to be sprayed first
- Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans)
- Scheduled after July 4th, 2025
- Approved by CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Sites Include:

- Chester Creek
- Hamburg Cove
- Selden Creek
- Salmon River
- Deep River
- Lake Pocotopaug

People involved in the deal:

Keith W. Hannon (It's Literally His Project)
Project Manager – Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District
Office: [REDACTED]
Email: keith.w.hannon@usace.army.mil

Robert E. Kaliszewski (Signed The Permit)
Deputy Commissioner, Environmental Quality Branch (formerly)
Connecticut DEEP
Office: [REDACTED]
Email: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov

Brian P. Thompson (Signed The Federal Constituency Review)
Director, Land & Water Resources Division, DEEP
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: Brian.Thompson@ct.gov

Colonel Justin R. Pabis, P.E. (Green Lit The Whole Thing)
District Engineer, USACE New England District
cenaepa@usace.army.mil
[REDACTED]

Governor Ned Lamont (Could Stop It All In One Phone Call)
Office of the Governor
Office: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
Email: governor.lamont@ct.gov

Senator Richard Blumenthal (Secured The Funding)
U.S. Senator – Connecticut
Phone: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

From: [Lisa Gaytan](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Spray CRIME
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 1:04:26 PM

hello Mr. Hannon

I am writing to express outrage on the planned spraying of Diquat in the CT Rivers and Lakes. What are you THINKING?? This herbicide is illegal in Europe for a reason. It harms wildlife and potentially humans as it moves up the food chain. It's bad enough we are being sprayed regularly with poison chem-trails laced with Aluminum, Boron and other harmful chemicals but to add to this with your project is outrageous.

At the VERY LEAST you should be conducting PUBLIC hearings on this matter so that the public who pay taxes (your salary) have the opportunity to hear the reasons why you think this project is necessary and who benefits from it (beside the chemical manufacturer).

Please cease this project. Do not proceed. For the life of all of us including your and your family, please do not go through with this project.

Sincerely,
Lisa Gaytan
Newtown, CT

From: [STEVE LESTAGE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat initiative
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 11:26:14 AM

Dear sirs,

To you who have schemed and planned this atrocious bill, even signing on to it, we are citizens of CT and demand that you cease and desist this act of toxic spraying of the chemical Diquat. If its toxic to the ecosystem and wild life it's also toxic to us. Whatever global agenda you are part of it is a evil act against we the people. You have no right to do this experiment on us and you are exposed for it. Please STOP this now! You do not represent us here in our state.

Laurie Lestage
Prospect, CT

From: edfiederlein@aol.com
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Do not use Diquat in CT in our lakes and rivers it is highly toxic and banned in Europe, the UK and Brazil!
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 11:25:16 AM

Good afternoon. Please do not use Diquat in our lakes, rivers, and streams in CT! This chemical is banned in many countries and is highly toxic to humans, animals, aquatics and birds. Brazil just banned it in 2020 because the farmers were severely injured from it It has already been banned in Europe and Switzerland. It can cause health issues such as disrupting mitochondria, cell death, gastrointestinal, kidney, liver, and lung damage and increased risk of Parkinsons disease, ect. It kills ALL vegetation that it touches. What is the purpose of that now? The lakes and rivers NEED oxygen for the beneficial plants to grow. This is precisely why we have a hydrilla problem to begin with. Now youre going to make it worse with these toxic chemicals?? The CT River is already so toxic to begin with with the recent PFAS spills and all th other past toxicities. DO NOT use this chemical in the Salmon River! Many people use this river to fish, they eat the salmon and trout. The bears eat the salmon and trout as well as OUR PRECIOUS ENDANGERED EAGLE POPULATION, they eat the salmon and trout and many other animals that dwell around the river. Do not use Diquat.

I hope you will take these very important things into consideration. Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Thank you
Donna Fiederlein
East Hampton, CT

From: [Jill McDermott](mailto:Jill.McDermott@ct.gov)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE; Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov](mailto:CENAE-PA, NAE; Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE (USA); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] HALT THE CT DIQUOT PROJECT
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 11:13:43 AM

Hello,

I am emailing you all in attempt to reach you about HALTING the CT DIQUOT project. As a lifelong resident of Colchester, CT - spraying this highly toxic chemical in rivers and lakes that are frequently used by families, children and pets is highly unsafe and quite frankly a disgusting use of power. Are you trying to kill us all? Just last week I swam in the salmon river with my daughter and my dog. Were you planning on telling the people of CT this is what you were organizing? To take place after the biggest holiday in the country, where thousands of people will be swimming in these waters.

HALT THIS PROJECT AND USE A SAFE, NON-CHEMICAL ALTERNATIVE.

Sincerely,

A very concerned resident

J.M.

From: lauranodrama@gmail.com
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 10:36:56 AM

Laura Duquette
[REDACTED]
Bristol CT 06010

June 30 2025

Keith Hannon
keith.w.hannon@usace.army.mil

Robert E. Kaliszewski
robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov

Brian P. Thompson
Brian.Thompson@ct.gov

Colonel Justin R. Pabis, P.E.
cenae-pa@usace.army.mil

Governor Ned Lamont
governor.lamont@ct.gov

Senator Richard Blumenthal
(who secured Funding)

Dear Gentleman,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the planned use of diquat to control hydrilla, an invasive aquatic plant, in Connecticut's natural water resources, as highlighted in a recent post by Wall Street Apes on X. While I understand the challenges posed by hydrilla's dense growth, which disrupts recreational use and ecosystems, I urge you to reconsider the use of this highly toxic herbicide and explore safer, environmentally friendly alternatives.

Hydrilla verticillata is a significant issue, but there are effective non-chemical methods to manage it. One proven approach is the use of triploid grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), a fish that voraciously consumes hydrilla and is recognized as an eco-friendly biological control agent. Studies, such as those from the University of Florida and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, show that stocking 7–15 grass carp per surface acre can effectively control hydrilla without harming native ecosystems when properly managed. These sterile fish prevent overpopulation and minimize ecological disruption, offering a sustainable solution that avoids the risks of chemical runoff, which can harm fish, wildlife, and human health. [(BLOCKED<https://aquaplant.tamu.edu/management-options/hydrilla/>)] [(<https://www.lsuagcenter.com/topics/environment/invasive%2520species/hydrilla>)]

The use of diquat, as noted in public discussions, poses serious risks. It can reduce dissolved oxygen levels, leading to fish kills, and may contribute to toxic algae blooms that threaten wildlife, including bald eagles, as seen in cases linked to avian vacuolar myelinopathy. Chemical treatments also carry long-term costs, both environmentally and economically, with Florida spending \$125 million on hydrilla control from 2008–2015. In contrast, grass carp provide a long-term, cost-effective solution that supports the health of our waterways and preserves Connecticut's natural beauty for future generations. [(BLOCKEDhttps://thetandd.com/lifestyles/poisonous-pest-hydrilla-doing-more-than-clogging-lakes/article_877f6172-383f-11e3-bfab-001a4bcf887a.html)] [(<https://liisma.org/hydrilla-hydrilla-verticillata/>)]

I respectfully request that the [Department/Organization] prioritize biological controls like grass carp, alongside

other non-toxic methods such as water drawdowns or mechanical removal, to manage hydrilla. Additionally, I encourage public education campaigns to promote the “Clean, Drain, Dry” protocol to prevent further spread of invasive species. These steps align with Connecticut’s commitment to environmental stewardship and public health, reflecting the values of our community, which cherishes its wetlands and diverse wildlife, from coyotes to turkey vultures. <https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/hydrilla>

Thank you for considering this urgent matter. I would appreciate a response outlining the Department’s plans to explore these alternatives. Please feel free to contact me at [your email or phone number] for further discussion or to connect with experts in biological control methods.

Sincerely,
Laura Duquette
Sent from my iPhone

From: ctinschick@yahoo.com
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DIQUAT IN CONNECTICUT
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 10:30:25 AM

s a citizen of this state I am absolutely disgusted in you all sneaking behind our backs to poison and kill the wildlife and vegetation by spraying this SHIT in our waters. STOP THIS IMMEDIATELY!!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kelly Chapman](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the Poisoning of CT Waters – Public Outrage and Legal Challenge Incoming Tuesday,
Date: July 1, 2025 10:28:32 AM

Dear Officials,

I am writing as a deeply concerned Connecticut resident to formally oppose the scheduled release of the toxic herbicide Diquat into several of our local water bodies, including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, Selden Creek, Salmon River, Deep River, and Lake Pocotopaug.

These are not just names on a map — they are living ecosystems, community landmarks, and places many of us call home.

I swim and tube with my dogs in the Salmon River. I've watched osprey, herons, and bald eagles return to these habitats year after year. Families fish, children wade, pets play — this is not an abstract environmental concern. It's a direct threat to our health, wildlife, and way of life.

And Lake Pocotopaug, which has already endured years of water quality issues, cannot sustain another chemical experiment. The public was not properly notified. No community input was sought. And now, we're told that a compound known to cause vomiting, seizures, kidney failure, and long-term neurological damage — not to mention devastating impacts to fish and aquatic invertebrates — is going to be introduced into our water?

With respect, this is unacceptable. And we're not standing by.

I am requesting the following immediate actions:

1. Immediate suspension of any Diquat application pending public review and environmental reevaluation.
2. A full disclosure of all permitting, safety assessments, and notification protocols used in this process.
3. A public hearing and alternative solution review before any further decisions are made.

If this moves forward without public engagement or scientific transparency, please know that legal, political, and media pressure will follow. This is not only an environmental issue — it is a public trust violation.

I, and many others, will not let this go unnoticed or unchallenged.

Sincerely,

Kelly Chapman

Moodus, Connecticut



From: [Noel C](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\); CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I OPPOSE DIQUAT DUMPING
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 9:36:26 AM

Good morning,

I am a lifelong CT resident. My family fishes and swims these rivers. Please don't do this!

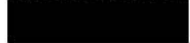
Find another way!!!

STOP THE DUMP

Thank you for your time and attention.

Please reply to tell me the outcome.

Thank you,
Noel Cherubino



From: [Erin Cameron](#)
To: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Concern Regarding the Use of Diquat in Connecticut Water Bodies
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 9:33:15 AM

Erin Cameron

62 Weston Road

Plainfield, CT. 06374

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing as a concerned Connecticut resident to respectfully urge the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to reconsider the use of diquat dibromide in aquatic weed control programs throughout the state, particularly in [insert water body name or region if applicable].

While I understand the need for invasive species and aquatic vegetation management, the use of diquat raises significant environmental and public health concerns. This herbicide is well-documented as being highly toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates, and it has been shown to cause long-term disruption to aquatic ecosystems. Its persistence in sediment, combined with potential runoff during rain events, increases the likelihood of unintended ecological harm.

Many communities across the country are transitioning to non-chemical and ecologically balanced alternatives, such as mechanical harvesting, benthic barriers, native plant restoration, and biological controls like sterile grass carp or aquatic weevils. These methods reduce long-term costs, protect biodiversity, and do not carry the toxic legacy of chemical herbicides.

I urge DEEP to:

1. Pause further use of diquat in public waters and reassess the risk-to-benefit ratio.
2. Increase transparency around aquatic pesticide permitting and usage, including public notice and input.
3. Prioritize funding and support for safe, non-toxic alternatives that protect Connecticut's freshwater ecosystems.

Connecticut's lakes, ponds, and rivers are vital for recreation, wildlife, and drinking water. We all share the responsibility to protect these resources for current and future generations. I would appreciate a response outlining the Department's current policy and any steps being taken to transition away from environmentally hazardous chemicals like diquat.

Thank you for your attention and for your continued service in preserving Connecticut's natural environment.

Sincerely,

Erin Cameron

From: [Pat Chadwick](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] diquat
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 9:24:19 AM

Dear all,

I wish for you all to reconsider using DIQUAT in the state of CT and all other states. This is TOXIC to birds, mammals and aquatic life! I don't understand why you would want to do this as your first concern supposedly is an environmental one. PLEASE STOP this plan immediately.

Patricia Chadwick
Old Lyme, CT

From: [Stephanie Esteves](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov;
brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the Use of Diquat in our Lakes and Rivers
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 9:22:22 AM

I am writing as a concerned citizen of CT about the use of Diquat to kill vegetation in our lakes and rivers. This is a dangerous chemical known to be a carcinogen and is currently banned in Europe due to its impact on public health. Diquat does not dissipate and builds up in the soils of the rivers and lakes. This can have a negative cumulative effect on our waters. There are safer, non toxic alternatives to consider that do not jeopardize our health. This decision should not be made without public input/hearings. The public has a right to weigh in on a decision that could impact our health and poison our waters and understand the risks vs benefits of this approach. As a homeowner with well water, there is always a concern when toxic chemicals are added to our waters.

Here is one case study of the effects of Diquat from oral ingestion:

Mid-to-late stage diquat accumulation in the central nervous system: A severe case of oral poisoning
- ScienceDirect

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0735675723005442>

I am asking for a hold on the use of this herbicide in our waters and for a period of time for public comment to be considered.

From: [Julie Moran](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP DIQUAT Tuesday,
Date: July 1, 2025 9:21:01 AM

Keith,

Nobody is okay with you putting poison into our lakes and streams and rivers! Stop! You are killing our land and water on purpose. Stop this project! Nobody is okay with you doing this!

Julie Moran

From: [Bill Moonan](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Spraying
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 8:53:40 AM

What's wrong with you? This isn't fucking Viet Nam, this is where we live. You don't ruin our wildlife to control Hydrilla.

<https://x.com/WallStreetApes/status/1939670706956149013>

From: [Chelsea Lee](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Immediate Concern: Request to Halt Diquat Spraying in Connecticut Waterways
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 7:49:22 AM

Dear Keith

I am writing as a concerned resident regarding the planned post-July 4th chemical herbicide applications—including diquat dibromide—in waterbodies such as the Salmon River, Selden Creek, Lake Pocotopaug, Chester Creek, and others across the Lower Connecticut River basin.

Diquat poses well-documented risks to aquatic ecosystems, native species, and even public health. We respectfully request a delay and reconsideration of these chemical treatments until:

Independent environmental and health impact assessments are conducted.

Viable non-chemical alternatives (mechanical harvesting, matting, benthic barriers) are explored and piloted.

A formal public hearing is held to allow community feedback and ecological oversight.

We support efforts to control invasive hydrilla—but not at the cost of our native ecosystems, fisheries, and recreational water safety. Many of us swim, kayak, and fish in these waters. Our voices deserve to be part of the solution.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this issue. I would appreciate a response and a clear outline of how our town/state plans to proceed.

Sincerely,
Chelsea Lee
Madison Shellfish Commission Chair


From: [Melanie Kellett](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Poison
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 6:51:59 AM

How dare you spray poisons into our rivers? You need to reverse this NOW, citizens of CT will not tolerate you making profits off of poisoning us any longer. ENOUGH!

Melanie Kellett



Watch our Video ▶

Melanie Kellett Billing Specialist

Tel [REDACTED]
Cell [REDACTED]
Fax [REDACTED]

AA/EOE
Visit www.sertexbroadband.com
Connect [Facebook](#) • [Twitter](#) • [LinkedIn](#)

[REDACTED] • Plainfield, CT 06374

From: [Gianni Higham](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] From a concerned outdoorsman and angler.
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 12:28:06 AM

Good evening Mr. Hannon

I'd like to raise a high concern for the use of Diquat in Connecticut Waters. I understand how the Hydrilla problem is a serious matter, and is a genuine concern.

However, the problem rises like this, if you have a hornets nest on your front porch, you don't burn your house to remove the hornets nest; you remove the hornets nest itself, and still have a home.

These chemicals will drastically change the environments in which they will be introduced.

There are so many people in this state that would be willing to help with the removal of the Hydrilla, and to come up with a different solution in order to maintain the health and stability of our waters, myself being one of them.

For example, I fly fish the Salmon River very often, the population of fish has been on a decline, and on another side, people love to tube and swim in this river, these chemicals raise a massive danger to those who swim in those waters.

Not to mention, the fish harvested in these rivers will also be contaminated, and will poison those who eat the trout they consume from them.

There are so many ways around this issue, without nuking the ecosystem.

From an outdoorsman, and from a man, i implore you to not use these chemicals. For myself, for my family, others, their families, other outdoorsmen, and overall, Americans do not want these chemicals in their water.

If given the opportunity i would love to speak with you, and maybe organize volunteers to help with removing the Hydrilla.

Sincerely,

Gianni Higham
Eagle Scout Troop 401

From: [WildernessFaire](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W.CIV USARMY CENAF \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat, there has to be a better way.. I have an IDEA! :)
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 11:51:00 PM

Dear Keith W. Hannon,

I am writing in regards to the upcoming plans to combat plant overgrown in our waterways with a band-aid of a solution for what has become a cancer-like plague to our environment. Perhaps you can ask yourself and your colleagues what the actual problem is again that requires a solution in the first place. I would assume that the intention of releasing the diquat into the rivers might be to overall protect the health and longevity of the environment? However I believe you have ignored the huge negative impact it has on our very environment that you are all supposed to be protecting. How can you live with yourself knowing animals will suffer? The animals who come into contact with this will receive no warning and there will be no other options provided for them. Peroid. I wouldn't wish the effects of drinking this on the most vile of society yet you all seem to be okay with innocent animals suffering in such a cruel way... or perhaps you're not yet informed. I will paste some links below for you to read up on. Please reconsider your actions! This is so so so important! There are many people who need jobs, my suggestion is to take care of the problem the old fashioned way, and we can clean up the trash polluting our water along the way! In the long run doing the job the right way will be better and feel better overall for everyone and everything involved as well as provide a better long term solution that doesn't require soulless decisions.

Thank you for your time and I do hope you read the links below and consider my words.

- Jelena Terrill

<https://www.merckvetmanual.com/special-pet-topics/poisoning/herbicide-poisoning>

<https://www.nj.gov/health/eoh/rtkweb/documents/fs/0808.pdf>

[https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8385319/#:~:text=DQ%20can%20easily%20enter%20into,\)%2C%20and%20other%20aquatic%20animals.](https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8385319/#:~:text=DQ%20can%20easily%20enter%20into,)%2C%20and%20other%20aquatic%20animals.)

From: [andrew kobierski](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 10:57:13 PM

Is there a plan to use this chemical in the states waterways?

From: [Megan Moore](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DIQUAT SPRAYING
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 9:20:04 PM

Good evening,

I am contacting you as a concerned citizen from New Hartford, Connecticut. I am deeply bothered by your choice to support and allow the spraying of diquat into our lakes.

The fact that this chemical is banned in Europe is alarming and should be taken into consideration. In the year 2025, we have numerous non toxic options. Why is the option we choose always to put our environment and wildlife at jeopardy? Without a thriving environment what is the point?

We as the public deserve to be involved and have a say in this matter. We do not consent to the poisoning of our lakes and demand for you to halt the spraying and find more environmentally friendly options.

Please do not ruin the environment for future generations. As someone who is expecting their first child; I would like them to have a safe and healthy planet for many years to come and for them to show respect to it. I hope you all can be role models for the younger generation and do what is right.

Thank you for reading my email and taking into consideration mine and others' concerns.

Sincerely,

Megan Tartaglino

From: [Thomas Marley](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Hazardous Diquat Application in CT Waterways
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 9:16:24 PM

Good Morning,

I hope this email finds you well, I have read online that the State of Connecticut plans to apply Diquat in various waterways throughout the state to control non-native plant species. While I do understand the risk non-native plants pose to our ecosystem I don't believe we should use Diquat to remedy this issue. Diquat is highly toxic, it is banned in the EU, UK and there is evidence of Brazilian farmers being poisoned from it. I urge you all to immediately stop the application of Diquat and employ other less toxic methods. Connecticut already has issues with PFAS chemicals but overall we have a fairly healthy ecosystem compared to other states, let's do our part to keep it that way by utilizing environmentally friendly chemicals.

Thank You,

Thomas J. Marley

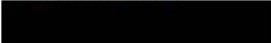
From: [Jack C](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source]
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 7:58:10 PM

You're going to kill all wildlife with your stupid fucking project you piece of shit. I hope you trip and fall. STOP THE CHEMICALS!

From: [David Archer](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Do Not poison CT water
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 7:44:52 PM

An "Invasive Species" is no reason to dump poison into CT waterways. Think about what you are doing. You need to look in the mirror and make sure YOU are not the invasive species. Your proposed action here is a direct threat to wildlife and humans.

Nature can mix its own species without your arrogantly playing God over it.

David Archer


From: [Chandra G](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); [Hannon, Keith W](#)
[CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] URGENT: Help Stop Toxic Spraying in Our Lakes
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 7:12:44 PM

URGENT: Help Stop Toxic Spraying in Our Lakes

Connecticut is about to spray Diquat Dibromide — a chemical banned in Europe for its toxicity — into 12 of our rivers and lakes.

Diquat is known to kill more than just invasive plants. It harms wildlife, aquatic ecosystems, and potentially human health. Landscapers call it “a nuclear option.”

I DO NOT approve of this project. Please halt the spraying and pursue safer alternatives.

- Diquat is banned in Europe for a reason
- There are safer, non-toxic alternatives
- The public has a right to be involved
- We do not consent to this quiet poisoning of our lakes

This is about protecting our water, our health, and our future.

Sincerely,
Chandra Grisanty

From: [homemade](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Formal Request: Time Extension for Public Comment
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 6:37:15 PM

Keith Hannon,

I am requesting a time extension for public comments in regards to the
"CONNECTICUT RIVER HYDRILLA CONTROL RESEARCH AND
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER, CONNECTICUT"

Thank you for your time,

M.N.

From: [Ann R](#)
To: [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat spray in Connecticut waterways post July 4th
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 5:44:30 PM

Hello USACE,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the planned or ongoing use of Diquat for aquatic vegetation control in Connecticut waters following the July 4th holiday. While I understand that invasive plant overgrowth can pose a serious challenge to the ecological balance of lakes and ponds, the application of Diquat—especially during midsummer—raises significant questions about the long-term health of our aquatic ecosystems and native wildlife.

Diquat is a broad-spectrum contact herbicide that can be highly disruptive to non-target species, particularly fish, aquatic invertebrates, amphibians, and waterfowl. When applied during warm-weather months, decaying plant matter resulting from herbicide die-off can lead to oxygen depletion, increasing the risk of fish kills and degrading overall water quality. Additionally, birds that rely on aquatic vegetation for foraging or nesting may be negatively impacted by the sudden loss of habitat and food sources.

The period just after the 4th of July is particularly sensitive, as it coincides with peak breeding and nesting activity for many species, as well as critical developmental stages for fish fry and juvenile aquatic organisms. The timing of herbicide use should take these biological factors into account, not just recreational and aesthetic concerns.

I urge your agency or municipality to reevaluate the timing and method of Diquat application, considering alternative vegetation control strategies such as mechanical harvesting, targeted hand-pulling, or low-impact biological methods where feasible. If chemical intervention is deemed necessary, applying it during cooler months or early spring—when environmental risks are reduced—could help balance the need for control with the responsibility to protect native biodiversity.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this issue. I respectfully ask that wildlife health, habitat integrity, and long-term sustainability remain guiding principles in the management of our shared natural resources.

Thank you!

Ann Russell

6/30/25

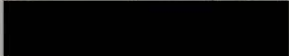
Gentlemen:

I have just become aware that a chemical called Diquat is going to treat 6 of Connecticut's rivers, lakes and creeks.

I am writing you to ask that you stop this plan and for the sake of humans and wildlife alike, look into a safer way to rid these waters of the pest weed it is intended to kill.

I realize time is short until the scheduled spray but please think of the detriment this chemical can cause.

Sincerely
Darlene Tardif
East Windsor, CT



From: [Joanne Krasnow](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA.NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please do not spray Diquat in CT waterways!
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 4:47:25 PM

Hello,

It recently came to my attention that the state of CT is planning to spray the toxic chemical Diquat to some waterways this summer.

I am writing to ask that you consider holding off on this kind of spraying as it will negatively impact other forms of life, including humans. Have you tried other environmentally friendly water treatments to manage Hydrilla overgrowth besides resorting to this toxic spraying? How about controlled clearing or stocking grass carp fish? Let's prevent soil contamination and explore all other options first.

Thank you for your hard work exploring how to naturally and safely protect our CT waterways.

Sincerely,

Joanne Krasnow
Resident of Fairfield and Old Saybrook CT

From: [Jason Newell](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] the collapse
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 4:10:23 PM

I don't have your clearance, I had to piece together what I know in a disinfo-heavy environment, but I know you know you're not working for America. Not us, it's people. We're Amalek. We're all Amalek.

Now the Jewish Jewish supremacists, those I can understand, and I've called quite publicly for the hanging of their leaders in America and in Palestine, as "Satanic" may or may not apply to their principles, but - from a goyim perspective - "evil" certainly does.

What I don't get is the willing slaves, the worshipers of the men with the dollars, with the paper. Take a look at what your organization's efforts have been doing to that paper. Why wouldn't you also be poisoning us?

From: [Sandra Fraser](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov; [Senator Jason Perillo](#); [Rep. Amy Romano](#); [Senator Christopher Murphy](#); [U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DIQUAT
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 3:54:33 PM

MY FAMILY AND I DO NOT approve of the DIQUAT spraying project. We demand the spraying is halted and pursue safer alternatives. We are also asking for public hearings so more residents can be informed.

- Diquat is banned in Europe for a reason
- There are safer, non-toxic alternatives
- The public has a right to be involved
- We do not consent to this quiet poisoning of our lakes

Sandra Fraser
Shelton, CT

From: [Griffin Carchidi](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut's river systems
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 3:12:15 PM

We are aware of the harmful things you intend to pollute our river with, it's not appreciated one bit. You're going to kill everything, what about all the fish our states two hatchery's spend growing all year ? Mine as well just fucking erase them right? You're a scumbag piece of shit. Fuck you punk

From: [Briana Waltman](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); cenae-pa@usace.armymil; robert.kaliszewki@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source]
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 2:50:40 PM

Dear Keith W. Hannon, Colonel Justin R. Pabis, Robert Kaliszewski, Brian Thompson, and Governor Lamont,

I urge you all to arrive at a new set of plans to eradicate hydrilla from rivers and lakes without the use of diquat. European countries have banned this due to the known and researched adverse effects it has on humans and wildlife. There are alternatives to polluting waterways with chemicals!!

Has manual removal of the weed been considered? With the right boats and environmentalists this issue could be addressed with people power.

Please consider the consequences a choice like this could have on wildlife and people. I personally would apply for a job to work with the state of Connecticut to remove hydrilla manually.

Thank you!
Briana Waltman

From: [Gil](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] URGENT: Help Stop Toxic Spraying in Our Lakes
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 2:30:01 PM

Connecticut is about to spray Diquat Dibromide — a chemical banned in Europe for its toxicity — into 12 of our rivers and lakes, including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, Selden Creek, Salmon River, Deep River, and Lake Pocotopaug.

Diquat is known to kill more than just invasive plants. It harms wildlife, aquatic ecosystems, and potentially human health. Landscapers call it “a nuclear option.”

- Diquat is banned in Europe for a reason
- There are safer, non-toxic alternatives
- The public has a right to be involved
- We do not consent to this quiet poisoning of our lakes

Stop this criminal event!

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: [Brian Duval](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CT River Diquat Treatments
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:52:47 PM

Hello Mr. Hannon,

I'm writing to express my concern regarding the pending Diquat treatments in the lower CT River. As a Deep River resident, I'm clearly in the epicenter of the program and thereby did some research on Diquat's safety and environmental impact. As I'm sure you're aware, there are questions about its safety, although perhaps it would be better described as well-known and documented dangers. Diquat has been shown to be dangerous to humans and wildlife, in addition to extremely damaging to non-target flora in and around treated waters. I'm requesting a pause in the planned treatments until more information can be shared with concerned citizens like myself.

I spend a huge amount of time on the waterways marked for treatment and am amazed that such a sweeping program has moved forward so quietly. I'm sure that with a more public forum you can make your case and avoid the negative press (to which I will gladly contribute) should the treatments have any negative outcomes.

Sincerely,
Brian Duval
Deep River, CT
[REDACTED]

From: [Jody Humiston](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The Use of DIQUAT in Connecticut waterways
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:48:17 PM

To Whom it may concern, Citizens in Connecticut are asking to HALT the DIQUAT project on our Lakes and Rivers. There are many concerns about the use of the extremely toxic herbicide, DIQUAT, that is going to be used in Connecticut's waterways.

We do not want more chemicals in our water supply. We must be leaders in Environmental protection and use safe non toxic methods to abate evasive species. NO MORE TOXINS.

Thank you,

Jody Humiston



West Cornwall, CT 06796

From: [Gregory Tuve](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Keith. What are you doing??
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:42:59 PM

Diquat is extremely poisonous.

It rots human lungs just like paraquat. I cannot think of a single reason for spraying this chemical anywhere.

Greg.

From: [Daniela Valle Purslow](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Hydrilla Control Project
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:13:48 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns regarding the use of Diquat as part of the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project. While I understand that hydrilla can be a serious issue for the river's ecosystem, I believe that the environmental and ecological risks associated with Diquat may outweigh its benefits. Specifically, I would like to highlight several reasons why Connecticut should reconsider using this herbicide in its rivers and ponds:

1. ****Aquatic Toxicity****: Diquat is highly toxic to aquatic life, including fish and invertebrates. If it enters the river or nearby water bodies, it could harm non-target aquatic species, disrupting delicate ecosystems that depend on biodiversity. This could have long-term consequences for the health of our waterways.
2. ****Non-target Plant Damage****: Diquat is a broad-spectrum herbicide, meaning it does not discriminate between invasive species like hydrilla and other aquatic plants. This poses a significant risk to native plant species that are vital for maintaining the balance of the ecosystem. The unintended destruction of these plants could further harm the health of Connecticut's aquatic environments.
3. ****Soil and Water Contamination****: Although Diquat is relatively fast-acting and degrades in the environment, its residues can still persist in the soil and water for some time, especially in areas with slow-moving water. This increases the risk of contamination beyond the target area and could lead to long-term environmental damage.
4. ****Harm to Wildlife****: Beyond aquatic organisms, Diquat has the potential to affect terrestrial wildlife, including birds and mammals, that might ingest contaminated water or plants. This could introduce unintended consequences to the surrounding ecosystems, further complicating the issue.
5. ****Alternative Methods****: There are non-chemical methods for controlling hydrilla that could be safer for Connecticut's rivers and ponds. These include mechanical removal, biological control, and the use of barriers to limit the spread of the invasive plant. While these methods may require more time and effort, they offer a more sustainable and less harmful solution in the long run.
6. ****Public Perception and Trust****: Given growing concerns about pesticide use and its impacts on public health and the environment, applying Diquat in Connecticut's rivers could undermine public trust in environmental management. Connecticut's natural resources are a precious asset, and we should be leading by example in protecting them.

For the sake of our state's waterways, wildlife, and long-term environmental health, I strongly encourage the project team to explore alternative solutions that avoid the use of Diquat. I believe we have an opportunity to safeguard the Connecticut River's delicate ecosystem while effectively managing the hydrilla issue.

I appreciate your time and consideration of these concerns. If you would be willing to discuss this further, I would be happy to meet or engage in a conversation at your convenience.

Thank you for your commitment to managing Connecticut's natural resources responsibly.

Best regards,

Daniela Purslow
Wilton, CT Resident

From: [Andrew Claus](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] No diquot
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:02:59 PM

This is an email expressing disapproval and disappointment for considering such harmful toxics to be put into our water cycle. Use your head!

From: [JOSEPH R THIBODEAU](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] True?
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:55:15 PM
Importance: Low

M. Hannon,

As a Vietnam veteran suffering disabling chronic pain from exposure to Agent Orange, I have to protest your plan to spray harmful herbicides over several Connecticut waterways. We must cut back on the overuse of toxins and further explore alternate, less harmful. solutions

Yours,

Reg Thibodeau

Middlefield, CT

"Memento Mori"

From: [LoriDawn Messuri](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:18:33 PM

It has been brought to my attention that a deal has gone through for the spraying of Diquat Dibromide at 12 sites across the Lower Connecticut River. This chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans) is scheduled after July 4th, 2025. Do you understand that the people of the United States of America DO NOT WANT THIS TO HAPPEN? We are tired of being poisoned by our OWN GOVERNMENT!!!! Do you want your children to grow up in a world that is poisoning them? For the love of God, please think twice before allowing this to happen.

--

Thank you,

LoriDawn Messuri
[LoriDawn Designs](#)

Create a Beautiful Day!

From: [Jared Artkop](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA.NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov; [U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal](#); news@wfsb.com; reportit@wtnh.com
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Dibromide Spraying in Connecticut
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:16:15 PM

After July 4th rivers and lakes are about to start being sprayed with an extremely toxic chemical called Diquat in Connecticut. This spray is highly toxic and kills everything. Connecticut is about to poison its own lakes and rivers with a highly toxic chemical called diquat. And it seems like no one knows about it. This particular chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike. I've even heard landscapers refer to diquat as the nuclear option. - 12 sites across the Lower Connecticut River to be sprayed first - Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans) - Scheduled after July 4th, 2025 - Approved by CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sites Include: -Chester Creek - Hamburg Cove -Selden Creek -Salmon River -Deep River -Lake Pocotopaug

This needs to be called off immediately. You are responsible for poisoning your community and the people you are tasked to serve.

The community at large is unaware of this and the toxicity of this compound is high via dermal exposure, meaning these areas that people swim in will be poisoning them.

Praying you come to your senses,

Jared Artkop

From: [Brenda Garman](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Poisoning
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:09:33 PM

Mr. Hannon,

Please reconsider NOT poisoning all of CT in order to kill one species of plant. My gosh .. there must be an alternative to managing this scenario without destroying an entire ecosystem??? Please think of the repercussions such actions have on the environment, the animals, and in the end.. the human beings with whom you SHARE a planet.

I do not live in CT but I am horrified enough by this abuse of our waterways and environment to send this email to you begging you to reconsider actions that cannot be undone.

Brenda Garman

From: [Tollie Miller](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent Request to Pause Diquat Spraying in Connecticut Waterways
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:07:53 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon, My name is Tollie Miller, a resident of Bloomfield , CT. I'm writing to urgently request that your office halts the planned spraying of Diquat Dibromide in the Connecticut River basin.

This chemical is banned in the EU for its toxicity to humans and wildlife. Spraying it into our rivers and lakes—without full public transparency or hearings—is deeply troubling. The justification for controlling Hydrilla cannot override the serious health, environmental, and ecological risks. I respectfully ask that your office pauses the project and pursues safer, non-chemical solutions. Sincerely, Tollie Miller Bloomfield CT

From: [Cammie Formo](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat in our lakes and rivers
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:00:37 PM

I grew up in Connecticut and this is NOT okay:

We, the under represented and very frustrated residents of Connecticut, along with concerned members of the public across the country and beyond, demand the immediate cancellation of all current and planned applications of the herbicide Diquat in Connecticut waterways.

They say it's to combat an invasive weed called hydrilla, but with the several million in federal funding that Senator Blumenthal raised for this initiative, there's surely a better way.

Why We Oppose Diquat Spraying:

- Diquat dibromide is a chemical with documented risks to human health, wildlife, aquatic ecosystems, and long-term water quality.
- Toxic to fish, amphibians, and aquatic invertebrates
- Causes kidney and liver damage in humans
- Linked to oxygen depletion, ecosystem collapse, and algae blooms after mass plant die-offs
- Banned in the European Union due to its environmental danger
- Lingers in sediment and may contaminate drinking water

Plain and simple : IT'S POISON AND WE DO NOT CONSENT !

This is not "management." This is chemical warfare on nature — disguised as environmental stewardship.

Where It's Happening:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in coordination with CT DEEP, is targeting 12+ sites along the Lower Connecticut River, including:

Chester Creek

Hamburg Cove

Selden Creek

Mattabesset River

Lake Pocotopaug

And others — with spraying scheduled to begin after July 4, 2025

We Demand:

-An immediate halt to all planned diquat applications in Connecticut

-A full moratorium on chemical herbicide use in public waterways until independent environmental and health studies are conducted

-A shift to non-toxic, mechanical, and biological alternatives for invasive plant management

-Full public transparency on contracts, permits, and monitoring data

-A public hearing before any future approval of herbicide projects

You were elected or appointed to protect the people you represent — not to authorize chemical dumping in natural ecosystems and the mass poisoning of the very state you pledged to serve.

We will not stand by as Connecticut's rivers, lakes, and wildlife are sacrificed to private contractors and short-term federal funding.

We now see this is happening all over the country, and I hope to see this energy spread well beyond CT.

It's about time we had a say in what happens here in our communities on a local level.

We know the people involved, and we know the roles they played.. and now it's time for some accountability and change.

Cammie Formo

[REDACTED]

Scottsdale, AZ 85260

[REDACTED]

From: [Everett Hawkins](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquot
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 11:44:11 AM

How about no. That plant isn't doing anything worse than your chemicals are going to do. You might as well drop some agent orange in there while you're at it. Stop putting chemicals in our ecosystem!

From: [Marissa Detlor](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP THE POISONING OF OUR LAKES!
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 11:35:37 AM

To Keith and whoever else it may concern,

We, the under represented and very frustrated residents of Connecticut, along with concerned members of the public across the country and beyond, demand the immediate cancellation of all current and planned applications of the herbicide Diquat in Connecticut waterways.

They say it's to combat an invasive weed called hydrilla, but with the several million in federal funding that Senator Blumenthal raised for this initiative, there's surely a better way.

Why We Oppose Diquat Spraying:

- Diquat dibromide is a chemical with documented risks to human health, wildlife, aquatic ecosystems, and long-term water quality.
- Toxic to fish, amphibians, and aquatic invertebrates
- Causes kidney and liver damage in humans
- Linked to oxygen depletion, ecosystem collapse, and algae blooms after mass plant die-offs
- Banned in the European Union due to its environmental danger
- Lingers in sediment and may contaminate drinking water

Plain and simple : IT'S POISON AND WE DO NOT CONSENT !

This is not "management." This is chemical warfare on nature — disguised as environmental stewardship.

--

Marissa Detlor
Singer/Songwriter



From: [william mezzano](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Poison
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 11:02:17 AM

Stop poisoning our rivers
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Og Readmore](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 11:01:52 AM

Don't do it. Find a better safer way.

From: [Noah Ezsak](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Don't poison the waters
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 9:54:01 AM

Hi Keith,

Think deeply about who you are, and what impact you hope to have in this life.

Find god

From: [Linda](#)
To: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Toxic chemical called Diquat in Connecticut
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 9:51:26 AM

Dear CT DEEP, Army Corps and Governor Lamont.

12 sites across the Lower Connecticut River are to be sprayed with this toxic chemical. - Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans) - Scheduled after July 4th, 2025 - Approved by CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sites Include: -Chester Creek -Hamburg Cove -Selden Creek -Salmon River -Deep River -Lake Pocotopaug
We do not need this toxic chemical Diquat to be sprayed contaminating our rivers.

Diquat toxicity refers to the harmful effects caused by exposure to diquat, a bipyridinium herbicide that is used to control both aquatic and terrestrial weeds. Diquat is a potent redox cycler, and its toxic effects depend on its ability to undergo a single electron addition to form a free radical, which then transfers an electron to molecular oxygen to form a superoxide anion radical. This process leads to oxidative stress, which is associated with the release of iron from hepatic ferritin and the depletion of reducing equivalents, including glutathione and NADPH.

The oxidative stress induced by diquat can lead to cellular death and organ dysfunctions. Following ingestion, diquat induces local irritating effects, and systemic symptoms appear later, while specific symptoms can occur in the following 48 h. Diquat toxicity is most commonly associated with acute kidney injury, and in severe cases, seizures, coma, and death may occur.

There is no antidote or effective treatment for diquat intoxication.

Do not spray this toxic chemical

Thank-you

Dr. Linda Dalessio **Wolcott, Ct**

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: [Cori Powers](#)
To: deep.oppd@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Upcoming Diquat Dibromide treatment
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 9:30:45 AM

To whom it may concern,

As a concerned resident I would like to know why we are treating our fresh water locations with toxic chemicals.

It is to my understanding Connecticut is about to start spraying toxic herbicides (diquat) into rivers and lakes — and most people don't even know it's happening. Notice has not been adequately provided. Diquat Dibromide is banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans.

Have we explored non- toxic options?
Have we weighted the fall out for wildlife?
Have we considered the harmful effects it will have on children?

Why are we permitting this?

Also why is this occurring during a national holiday weekend where many people in the state will be in vacationing and utilizing the great fresh water aspects CT has to offer?

I beg you to please to halt the project and explore safe options.

Sincerely,
Cori Powers

From: [Liana Sved](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] NO to Diquat
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 8:32:24 AM

Please do not spray Diquat Dibromide — a chemical banned in Europe for its toxicity — into 12 of our rivers and lakes, including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, Selden Creek, Salmon River, Deep River, and Lake Pocotopaug.

Diquat is known to kill more than just invasive plants. It harms wildlife, aquatic ecosystems, and potentially human health. Landscapers call it “a nuclear option.”

There are safer, non-toxic alternatives and the public has a right to be involved as it may impact our health and the wildlife we eat from these waters.

We do not consent to this quiet poisoning of our lakes

Liana M. Sved, PT, DPT, CMTPT

From: [Kristy Velazquez](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] NOT approved-Stop Toxic Spraying in Our Lakes
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:40:58 AM

Stop poisoning water and harming wildlife, aquatic ecosystem and human health. USE SAFE & NON TOXIC OPTIONS. This should be public knowledge and public hearings should be allowed. Let's protect our planet and everything on it and not harm it. DO BETTER CT! DO BETTER!

Connecticut is about to spray Diquat Dibromide — a chemical banned in Europe for its toxicity — into 12 of our rivers and lakes, including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, Selden Creek, Salmon River, Deep River, and Lake Pocotopaug.

Diquat is known to kill more than just invasive plants. It harms wildlife, aquatic ecosystems, and potentially human health. Landscapers call it “a nuclear option.

CONCERNING:

This is state-funded, federally approved, and environmentally reckless.

HALT the spraying and pursue safer alternatives.

- Diquat is banned in Europe for a reason
- There are safer, non-toxic alternatives
- The public has a right to be involved
- We do not consent to this quiet poisoning of our lakes

This is about protecting our water, our health, and our future.

From: [Comcast](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP DIQUAT
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 11:09:15 PM

Mr. Hannon,

As a lifelong CT resident, I urge you to STOP the spraying of toxic chemicals in our waterways. There are many other nontoxic, safe, clean ways to get rid of invasive plants. I fear for the safety of our waters, aquatic animals, environment, and communities.

Thank you for your time in this important matter,
Alexandria Sutfin

From: [Christina Zainc](#)
To: deep.pesticideprogram@ct.gov; [CTRiver-Hydrilla](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 10:55:44 PM

To whom this may concern,

I am writing as a concerned Connecticut resident to formally express my opposition to the continued or expanded use of diquat in our lakes and rivers for aquatic vegetation control.

Diquat poses significant environmental and public health risks. Its application can result in:

- The death of non-target plant and aquatic species,
- Harm to fish populations and amphibians,
- Residual chemical accumulation in sediments,
- Reduced water quality for recreational and drinking water purposes.

I urge your departments to reconsider the use of this chemical and to fully explore non-toxic, ecologically sound alternatives. Mechanical harvesting, biological controls, and preventative measures deserve greater attention and investment before introducing more chemicals into our already fragile ecosystems.

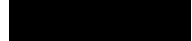
If a permit or demonstration project is under current consideration, I respectfully request:

- That no approval be granted without a full environmental impact assessment,
- A public hearing be held to allow residents to voice concerns,
- Complete transparency around all monitoring data and treatment results,
- The development of a transition plan away from chemical dependency in aquatic management.

Please keep me informed of any upcoming decisions, hearings, or opportunities for public comment related to diquat or other herbicides.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your service in protecting Connecticut's natural resources.

Christina Zaine



Please excuse grammatical errors, this email was composed from my phone while on the go!

From: helen.parker
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](mailto:Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE (USA))
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the diquot spraying project in lower CT waterways
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 10:09:24 PM

To whom it may concern,

My name is Helen miller, I am a life long resident of CT and grew up in Colchester Ct just down the street from Salmon River.

Every day in the summer, me and my sibilings would go swimming, fishing, and hiking at salmon River. when our family fell on hard times and could not afford to fix the quality in our water from our faucet we collected water from the spigots by salmon river to use for our water filter to drink.

Salmon River is nestled in the neighborhoods of CTs families, winding around homes where children and pets play in it.

I am now a mother to a sweet two year old girl and We love going to salmon River to enjoy the beautiful clean, fresh water there.

Now that there is apparently is a project approved by the CT DEEP to start spraying KNOWN cancer-causing chemical agents into these water ways, I'm disgusted.

There are so many alternatives to harmful pesticides that will help control the spread.

Attached are multiple ideas to try,(not mentioned stocking some water ways with grass carp), before taking the easiest and cheapest way but most dangerous to not only residents of CT but to the native plants and animals as well.

I voted blue in CT because I thought we cared about protecting the wildlife and our quality of life NOT cutting corners to try to fix a problem without trying natural, safe, and sustainable alternatives first.

I understand the need to control invasive species, trust me I do. Japanese Burberry, for one, is a weed that grows rampant in CT, including my own backyard. The Ticks love it and people wonder why the ticks are getting worse every year and bringing fatal disease with them. But riddle me why people can still buy this plant at their LOWES or Home Depot under the assumption it's just a rose bush without any education offered to buyers on how invasive these "flowers" are.

Why are we not trying to prevent known invasive species still being sold to ct resident today.

We should be implementing sustainable and safe options to controlling the invasive species.

We should be role models for other states to follow.

We should be setting a standard for environmental protection and ushering a new age that relies a little less on harmful pesticides and chemicals.

I'm begging you to stop the spraying of diquot on southern CTs waterways, for the quality of life and health for me, my child, the citizens of CT, and the lives defenseless animals.

Your possible not blue voter in 2027

Helen Miller

From: [Christina C.](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to the Use of Diquat Dibromide and Other Herbicides in Our Waterways
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 9:45:25 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

I am writing as a concerned citizen to express my strong opposition to the proposed use of **diquat dibromide** and other chemical herbicides for the control of invasive aquatic plant species in our local lakes and waterways.

While I understand that invasive species like hydrilla, Eurasian watermilfoil, and curly-leaf pondweed can disrupt ecosystems and recreational uses, the use of chemical herbicides—especially those as toxic as diquat—poses serious and well-documented risks to public health and wildlife.

Toxicity of Diquat Dibromide

Diquat dibromide is known to be toxic to humans, pets, fish, and other wildlife. Studies have shown it causes eye damage, organ toxicity, and neurological effects in mammals, and it is particularly dangerous if ingested or inhaled.

- The [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) reports that diquat is toxic to aquatic organisms and has human health risks.
- A [2011 study in *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*](#) found significant mortality and sublethal effects in fish and amphibians exposed to commonly used aquatic herbicides.
- According to [PubMed research](#), even sublethal concentrations of diquat caused respiratory stress and increased mortality in native fish species.
- The **World Health Organization** classifies diquat as “moderately hazardous,” emphasizing its potential to contaminate drinking water and cause serious health effects in humans and animals.

Safer, Sustainable Alternatives

There are safer and more sustainable alternatives that are already being used with success:

- **Sterile Grass Carp:** In **Grannis Lake**, the introduction of sterile grass carp has helped curb the spread of **curly-leaf pondweed** and **Eurasian watermilfoil** without the use of herbicides. These biological controls offer a long-term, non-toxic solution that supports ecological balance.
- **Mechanical Harvesting:** This method physically removes invasive vegetation and avoids introducing harmful chemicals into the environment.
- **Benthic Barriers:** These are mats placed on the lakebed to block light and inhibit plant growth in targeted areas, causing no harm to surrounding wildlife.

- **Public Outreach and Prevention:** Education and enforcement around boat cleaning, recreational practices, and early detection can dramatically reduce the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Natural Protocols for Hydrilla Control

Some natural protocols for the control of Hydrilla or other invasive species are outlined below:

- Manual and mechanical harvesting
- Seasonal removal
- Biocontrol species such as grass carp
- Promoting native vegetation to restore ecosystem resilience

Request for Immediate Action

I urge you to **oppose any plan to apply diquat dibromide or other toxic herbicides** to our waters. These short-term chemical fixes come at a high cost to ecological health, public safety, and long-term lake management. I ask you instead to **support environmentally responsible and proven methods** that protect both human communities and wildlife.

Please help keep our waters clean, our ecosystems healthy, and our management practices sustainable.

Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,
Christina Camera
Ridgefield, CT



From: [Nicki](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; canae-pa@usace.army.mil
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 8:56:00 PM

Good evening,

What kind of a decision is it to poison the lakes and wildlife of the state that you're supposed to represent and protect? What are you doing to the earth and environment for the generations to come? You're not protecting it or helping our future as a Nation. All because you're getting a kick back, because you're obsessed with money.

Big MONEY NOW RULES, and fakery is the order of the day, to quote a real man, Senator Whitehouse. You're parents, you have children. Ned, you went to Harvard, surely you must be smarter than this, you have a big brain, but I guess you lack a backbone. What do Ann, Emily, Teddy, and Lindsay think about your decision? You're poisoning the people of your state, you're poisoning your families. You're letting down each and every person in your state. You're letting down people of the Nation, I live in PA and I'm emailing you about this. Enough, there is enough bad going on in the world. It's unbelievable. It's disgusting. Truly disgusting.

I would ask you to reconsider, but I doubt that any of you are brave enough to stand up and do the right thing. Isn't that terrible? The majority of you work for the Army, all of you work for the government and you're all cowards. It makes me sick, you're an embarrassment to your state, and you're actively betraying your country. Defend and protect, right?!

I wish you nothing good.

From: [Kate Casanova](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Immediate Action Requested: Stop the Spraying of Toxic Diquat in Connecticut Rivers
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 8:43:17 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

I am writing as a concerned constituent, deeply alarmed by the planned or ongoing spraying of diquat in Connecticut rivers. As you may know, diquat is a highly toxic herbicide that has been banned in the European Union due to its significant health and environmental risks. It is linked to neurological damage, respiratory issues, reproductive harm, and long-term contamination of water ecosystems.

Using this chemical in our waterways poses a direct threat to:

- Public health, especially for children, pregnant women, and immunocompromised individuals,
- Aquatic life and biodiversity, disrupting delicate ecosystems,
- Local agriculture and drinking water sources, which may become contaminated by runoff or accumulation.

Connecticut has a proud tradition of environmental stewardship and community health advocacy. Allowing the use of diquat in our rivers is not only dangerous, but it also contradicts the values many of us hold dear—particularly those related to safe water, transparent public health policy, and ecological sustainability.

I strongly urge you to:

1. Immediately halt any plans for spraying diquat in Connecticut waters,
2. Call for a full environmental and health impact review by an

independent, science-based body,

3. Support legislation to ban the use of toxic herbicides like diquat in all Connecticut waterways,
4. Promote safer, natural, and ecologically sound alternatives for aquatic vegetation management.

Please act swiftly to protect the health of Connecticut residents, our wildlife, and future generations. I am happy to discuss this further or provide additional research. I also urge you to make a public statement opposing the use of diquat and demand immediate accountability from the agencies involved.

Sincerely,

Kaitlyn Casanova

Plantsville, CT

From: [sierrajackson](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] * Immediate Action Required * Say NO to Diquat Dibromide in OUR waters
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 7:15:58 PM

Dear Keith,

This is not just a bad idea—it's an environmental disgrace.

The proposed use of Diquat Dibromide in our Connecticut rivers is not only reckless but utterly heartbreaking. We are talking about poisoning living ecosystems, contaminating drinking water sources, and knowingly introducing a toxic chemical linked to neurological harm, cancer, and irreversible ecological damage.

As a mother, a steward of the Earth, and a voice for my community, I will not stay silent.

You cannot call it “management” when it's destruction.

You cannot call it “necessary” when safer, non-chemical methods exist.

You cannot say you're doing this for the public good when the public is rising up in outrage—because we are, and we will continue to.

If this goes forward, know this: you are not only complicit in environmental harm—you are choosing it, against growing science, public opinion, and moral integrity.

We demand you halt this plan immediately.

Instead, convene a panel of independent ecologists, water experts, and citizens to design a transparent, safe, and non-toxic approach to aquatic management.

We do not accept the excuse of “tradition” or “efficiency” when it comes at the cost of our health, our rivers, and future generations.

This is not just a technical decision—it is a moral one.

The world is watching. And so are we.

Do better. Be bold. Protect what's sacred.

Sincerely,
Sierra Jackson

From: [guy mister](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat dibromide use
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 6:59:15 PM

Hello,

I am writing in to ask that you please consider alternative options to treating hydrilla rather than the use of extremely toxic chemicals like diquat dibromide. I know you probably don't care, but that could have an awful effect on the rest of the wildlife along the Connecticut River as well as Lake Pocotopaug, as well as humans and pets that may swim in these areas. I'm tremendously disappointed to hear that this is the go- to action, as Hydrilla can be manually pulled. There is no need to polute our waters any further!

Zachary P Hintz
Zah's Bait & Tackle / Zah's Grateful Guide Service



From: [Duck](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewki@ct.gov; Aura.dickson@ct.gov; Graham.stevens@ct.gov; DEEP.industrialNPDESCompliance@ct.gov; DEEP.Webmaster@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Immediate opposition to the use of Diquat in Connecticut Waters
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 5:47:44 PM

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that the CT government intends to use Diquat dibromide in several lakes in the coming weeks. This is a chemical that has been expressly banned across the European Union because of how toxic and uncontrollable it is. It's absurd that it is deemed an 'acceptable risk' considering the uncontrollable nature of the chemical. You cannot prevent it from seeping into the rest of the area, both into the ground and animals drinking it. This is an egregious decision which I urge you to reconsider. Risking the poisoning of the local wildlife, and our DRINKING WATER, is an unacceptable risk, regardless of who's pockets your lining. Your job is to protect the citizens of this state, not poison us so that you can make a quick buck. Again, I urge you to reconsider this absurd plan.

With public interest at heart,
Eric Nix

From: [clare bear](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Request to Cease the Use of Diquat in Connecticut Lakes
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 4:36:53 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing as a furious and deeply concerned resident of Connecticut regarding the ongoing use of Diquat, a toxic chemical herbicide, in our lakes.

Let me be clear: dumping poison into public waterways is not lake management — it's environmental negligence. Diquat has been linked to serious harm to aquatic life, disruption of ecosystems, and potential health risks to humans and animals. Yet it continues to be sprayed into lakes that families swim in, dogs play in, and wildlife depends on.

Who is this really benefiting? It certainly isn't the communities who are left to deal with the long-term consequences.

This is unacceptable. I demand the following:

1. An immediate halt to all Diquat applications in Connecticut lakes;
2. A full, transparent investigation into the environmental and health impacts of its use;
3. Clear communication and accountability from the agencies and contractors responsible;
4. A shift toward non-toxic, sustainable alternatives — because they do exist.

If the state of Connecticut continues to allow this chemical dumping, residents will not stay silent. We care about our environment, and we will

fight to protect it.

I expect a response, not excuses.

Regards,

Clare

From: [Talk with Tiffany](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the diquot spraying
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 4:31:32 PM

Keith W. Hannon,

I am a resident of Connecticut and just learned about the state's plan to spray our lakes and water with a highly toxic chemical, Diquot.

This chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife.

Spraying this dangerous chemical will have lasting negative effects on fish, wildlife and on people's health.

Landscapers refer to Diquot as the nuclear option.

I am against this poisoning of our waterways and negative health effects for decades to come.

Respectfully,
Tiffany Hawley
Newtown, CT Resident

From: [Kaitlyn Maciag](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquot Bromide in Salmon River
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 4:03:44 PM

Hello Mr. Hannon,

I'm a Connecticut resident and avid visitor of the Salmon River. It's my 10 year old son's absolute favorite place to swim in the summer, his name is Kellan.

I've recently learned of the states intent to apply Diquot Bromide to multiple lakes and rivers in CT, among them including the Salmon River. I am deeply concerned that this chemical will have a negative impact on local wildlife and humans. It will certainly affect our ability to swim in the river this summer. I am genuinely saddened by this news, and I know my son will be very upset.

Please, I implore you to reconsider this action. Halt this project. Please consider using safe, non-chemical alternatives. Please allow Connecticut residents to continue enjoying nature in this beautiful state without fear of toxic chemicals.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Kaitlyn Maciag
[REDACTED]
Gales Ferry, CT 06335
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [nathan salas](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Subject: Urgent Concern: Stop Diquat Spraying in Our Waterways
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 3:58:58 PM

Dear Keith Hannon US Army Corp of Engineers,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the planned spraying of Diquat in Connecticut's waterways — and in other states as well. Many residents, including myself, are alarmed by the potential dangers of this chemical, especially its impact on aquatic life, water quality, and long-term ecological health.

Diquat is a powerful herbicide that has been linked to harmful effects on both animals and humans. Once introduced into lakes, rivers, and wetlands, it can persist in sediment, disrupt aquatic ecosystems, and potentially contaminate drinking water sources.

Sadly, in areas where Diquat spraying has already occurred, we've seen firsthand the damaging consequences — including fish kills, reduced biodiversity, and long-term harm to local wildlife and vegetation. I urge you to pause any further application of Diquat until a thorough environmental review is conducted and safer alternatives are considered.

Please take immediate action to protect our shared waterways and the communities that rely on them.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Nathan Salas

US ARMY SGT 2011-2019

From: [Sarah Carroll](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DO NOT Spray Diquat in Our Waters
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 3:40:18 PM

Mr. Keith Hannon,

I am writing to state my opposition to the planned Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project set forth by you, Project Manager Keith W Hannon, that threatens to destroy vegetation and wildlife in our Connecticut waters. Offered below is a viable alternative solution for the control of this invasive plant that does not cause the harm and destruction that a diquat application would. See also the excerpt from a risk assessment report from the Washington State Department of Ecology stating the harmful effects of a diquat application.

Natural Protocol to Control Hydrilla Overgrowth

Prepared by: Sarah Scott & Botanical
Ecological Advisory Group

Objective: To reduce and manage the spread of Hydrilla verticillata in freshwater lakes and rivers using only non-toxic, botanical, and ecological methods.

1. Allelopathic Suppression

Utilize plant-based allelopathic extracts known to naturally suppress aquatic weeds:

- Barley Straw Extract: Inhibits hydrilla and algae via phenolic compounds.
- Sorghum Extract: Releases sorgoleone, a potent natural inhibitor.
- Water Lettuce & Duckweed: Floating competitors that block sunlight.
- Turmeric Root Extract: May suppress tuber formation and root systems.

Application: Place barley straw mesh bags in infested zones; infuse turmeric and sorghum in biodegradable release capsules.

2. Biological Controls

Deploy native plant species and microbial agents to crowd out and inhibit hydrilla:

- Vallisneria americana (Eelgrass) & Coontail:

Compete with hydrilla for space.

- Beneficial microbes (e.g., Pseudomonas fluorescens): Colonize hydrilla and reduce vigor.

Application: Plant native vegetation along shallow zones; inoculate microbes via clay ball carriers.

3. Mechanical & Ecological Suppression

Physically limit hydrilla spread and create unfavorable growth conditions:

- Install bottom shading mats (jute or hemp).
- Manual harvesting and net dredging.
- Use solar-powered aerators to increase oxygen and reduce sediment anaerobic zones.

4. Organic Sediment Adjustment

Adjust sediment chemistry to limit nutrient availability for hydrilla:

- Use crushed clove and garlic extract to disrupt microbial support for hydrilla.
- Apply biochar or humic acid to bind nutrients and improve sediment balance.

Application: Use biodegradable mesh bags to apply to shallow lakebed areas.

5. Implementation Timeline

Phase 1 (Week 1-4): Initial suppression using barley, duckweed, and shading mats.

Phase 2 (Week 3-8): Introduce native competitors and microbial inoculation.

Phase 3 (Monthly): Maintain with organic inputs and partial re-applications.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DLdR9DOvmPb/?igsh=MTQybTBjaXI3cTl2>

https://www.instagram.com/sarahscott_cosmetics_official?igsh=MThkOXZ0ejdwaWcxMQ==

Because diquat is an herbicide, plants are most susceptible to injury caused by diquat exposures. Benthic and detritus-consuming invertebrates are the most susceptible animals to injury caused by diquat exposures. Care should be taken when treating water bodies where these organisms comprise an integral trophic level.

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/documents/0210046.pdf>

I urge you to consider these points and listen to the protest of your constituents on this matter.

Dearly,
Sarah Carroll, resident of East Windsor, Connecticut

From: [Delmy Villanueva \(Dell\)](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent Request to Pause Diquat Spraying in Connecticut Waterways
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 3:18:56 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

My name is Delmy V, a resident of Hartford, CT and a business owner who serves homeowners and families throughout the state. I'm writing to urgently request that your office halts the planned spraying of Diquat Dibromide in the Connecticut River basin.

This chemical is banned in the EU for its toxicity to humans and wildlife. Spraying it into our rivers and lakes—without full public transparency or hearings—is deeply troubling. The justification for controlling Hydrilla cannot override the serious health, environmental, and ecological risks.

I respectfully ask that your office pauses the project and pursues safer, non-chemical solutions.

Sincerely,

Delmy V

Hartford, CT

From: [Lindsey Spychalski](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop project
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 2:59:20 PM

Stop the project that includes

Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans)
Demand safe, non-chemical alternatives.

From: [Elana Sadlon](#)
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W](#)
[CTV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP PLANS TO PUT DIQUOT IN LAKES
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 2:15:34 PM

Dear those working on the Hydrilla Control Project,

I have just learned about the recent plan to control a plant species called Hydrilla, which has populated many lakes and waterways in Connecticut, with a known toxic chemical called Diquot Dibromide.

As we know from declining insect populations and works such as Silent Spring by scientist Rachel Carson, in addition to the banning of Diquot Dibromide in Europe, mass insecticide and herbicide in Connecticut's waterways will have a catastrophic environmental impact. The quality of drinking water, recreational water and fishing, and the entire ecosystem will plummet.

You should opt to work towards other solutions regarding the extermination of this plant, that will not exterminate all other living things within the rivers and lakes it is found in. It is shameful that large scale environmental poisoning was the final solution.

I demand a stop to the use of Diquot Dibromide to cleanse Hydrilla from Connecticut waterways.

Sincerely,
Elana Sadlon
Sandy Hook, CT

From: [Nathan Bullion](#)
To: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Duquat spraying in ct
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 1:01:49 PM

This shouldn't be allowed in our rivers and lakes in Connecticut ! This chemical is banned in Europe and will have a terrible effect on wild life. We need to come up with a better way to eliminate invasion plants . This is not the way to go at all. Thanks
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brendan Early](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] You better not
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 12:41:43 PM

Stop being part of the problem. Do not poison our water. You did not get our vote to do this. We are in charge not you. Fuck your hydrilla, you will kill everything else too and us. Stop purposely making us sick. To line your pockets. How do you look at your self in the mirror you sad sick pathetic pos.

From: [Kimberly Mallory](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 12:07:31 PM

Dear Mr. Hannon,

As the Project Manager of the Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project, I am urging you to use the power you have to STOP the plan to spray the toxic herbicide Diquat in Connecticut's lakes and rivers. In 2022 The University of Washington conducted a study of the Boat Street Marina located on Portage Bay in Seattle, Washington. The data suggested that diquat did have an adverse effect on wildlife as populations that came into contact with the toxic chemical decreased. At the same time, marine and wildlife populations fluctuated when diquat levels didn't change ("Aquacide: Diquat Dibromide"). I'm not a scientist, but what that means to me is that diquat, when used to control invasive species, kills other species as a consequence of its use. Unfortunately, the conductors of that study found that diquat wasn't a major "killer" of the wildlife in the marina. Clearly that was a lethal decision as one study is not nearly enough research to make that determination. The fact that diquat is BANNED IN EUROPE BUT WIDELY AVAILABLE FOR USE IN THE UNITED STATES is an outrage and should speak volumes to your agency and the politicians who have joined hands with you in the decision to kill the wildlife in Connecticut's waterways rather than protect them.

Another study titled "Diquat Poisoning: Care Management and Medico-Legal Implications" by Pascale Basilicate et al. found that diquat is a highly dangerous chemical. It not only kills invasive species of plants, it also kills humans who are at risk of coming in contact with the toxin. More and more humans are entering hospital emergency rooms after being poisoned. Medical staff is often unfamiliar with how to treat the chemical intoxication and more often than not, patients are dying. According to the study, "[a]cute chemical intoxication represents one of the major causes of Emergency Room admittance, and possible errors in diagnosis are extremely frequent, especially when patients present generic and non-specific symptoms. Diquat, a bipyridyl class of herbicides, exerts high intrinsic toxicity as a consequence of free oxygen radicals, leading to cellular death and organ dysfunctions" (Basilicate et al.).

As a concerned citizen of the United States I am urging you NOT to allow the spraying of diquat in Connecticut lakes and rivers. There are other ways to control invasive plant species. Please do the job you are expected to do by serving and protecting our environment. Please find a way to control invasive plant life with zero risk to humans and wildlife species.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Mallory

From: [Christine West](#)
To: DEEP.EJ@ct.gov; DEEP.PollutionPrevention@ct.gov; Mason.Trumble@ct.gov; Brian.Thompson@ct.gov; [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); Robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Keep Diquat OUT of our Waterways
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 11:51:00 AM

It is astonishingly disappointing that given the known hazards & risks of the toxic poison Diquat (in all of its various forms and applications) that you so called leaders, experts and managers would knowingly approve the use of such a dangerous substance in our beloved waterways.

It is already bad enough that our ecosystems suffer from the exposure of these types of poisons - depleting our soils and entering the water cycle through runoff (from golf courses, landscaping and monoculture agricultural sites) as well as assaulting our bodies through the food & environment (which your ilk continue to allow & defend).

Your tax payer funded jobs should warrant more respect, concern and compassion for those that you are meant to serve. These such programs & approvals are a shameful abuse of our time, money & of your positions. There are surely better alternatives than dumping chemicals into our precious waters; do better! We pay you to make informed choices, not to line the pockets of corrupt industries; do better!

We the people implore you, do not allow these actions to move forward. The constituents are getting restless and fed-up with rising taxes and hare-brained schemes - we are asking ourselves "what purposes are your positions really fulfilling"? Please do better as we all have to suffer the consequences of your lazy & dastardly actions.

Immensely disappointed,
Christine West

From: [Patrick Brough](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#); robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; canae-pa@usace.army.mil; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquot Spraying
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 11:41:34 AM

Good afternoon,

It has come to my attention that there are plans to spray a toxic chemical in the name of environmental protection which is extremely harmful called Diquot.

We live in a society today where rappers need to inform citizens of poor decision making and planning with the intent to harm the environment.

Please do not do this, this is my backyard and a beautiful area in CT.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DLdR9DOvmPb/?igsh=MWhodnpkaGl2bDhmdw==>

This is nuclear warfare to our waterways, please reconsider.

Thanks,

Patrick Brough
New England Sales Consultant



Web: www.keypre.com

"Creating success through collaboration"

From: [Sarah Scott](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Water toxins meet solutions
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 11:34:13 AM

Hi there! As a resident of Manchester CT- I've heard about the hydrilla issue and planned water chemicals to solve it- I have certification in functional and integrative health and I've come up with a natural alternative that won't poison the people, water, and nature from the proposed treatment plan in place- I'll break it down below- if you'd like to take on nature in a way that is conscious- I'd give this a try instead of what you're planning on doing- which will be followed up by major class action lawsuits by the residents of CT when they start showing up.

I'm originally from Florida and I've seen first hand the damage that can be done to entire eco systems- not just the residents when caution isn't exercised in this matter. Below- I'm listing the known hazards of Diquot, as well as a natural and easy/cost effective solution. Thank you for your time.

Diquat Water Contamination Alert

Short & Long-Term Dangers for People and Wildlife

Short-Term Dangers

Humans:

- Skin & eye irritation (rashes, corneal injury)
- Respiratory issues (wheezing, coughing)
- GI distress (nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain)
- Rare neurological symptoms (tremors, confusion)

Wildlife:

- Toxic to fish (gill disruption and oxygen loss)
- Harmful to amphibians (absorbed through skin)
- Secondary poisoning in birds & mammals
- Harm to pollinators and aquatic insects

Long-Term Dangers

Humans:

- Liver and kidney toxicity
- Reproductive harm and fetal risks
- Possible link to Parkinson's and neurological diseases
- Drinking water contamination

Wildlife:

- Chronic exposure affects reproductive systems

- Habitat collapse (oxygen loss, algal blooms)
- Food chain disruption
- Genetic damage in amphibians

Regulatory Notes

- Classified as moderately toxic by the EPA
- Restricted in several regions due to environmental risks
- Label warnings: Toxic to fish and invertebrates

Safer Natural Alternatives

- Barley Straw Extract (natural algaecide)
- Floating plant competitors (duckweed, water lettuce)
- Native vegetation and microbial controls
- Solar-powered aeration and jute shading mats

*Protect your health. Preserve the ecosystem.
Choose non-toxic water management.*

PROBLEM- meet-Solution

Natural Protocol to Control Hydrilla Overgrowth

Prepared by: Sarah Scott & Botanical Ecological Advisory Group

Objective: To reduce and manage the spread of Hydrilla verticillata in freshwater lakes and rivers using only non-toxic, botanical, and ecological methods.

1. Allelopathic Suppression

Utilize plant-based allelopathic extracts known to naturally suppress aquatic weeds:

- Barley Straw Extract: Inhibits hydrilla and algae via phenolic compounds.
- Sorghum Extract: Releases sorgoleone, a potent natural inhibitor.
- Water Lettuce & Duckweed: Floating competitors that block sunlight.
- Turmeric Root Extract: May suppress tuber formation and root systems.

Application: Place barley straw mesh bags in infested zones; infuse turmeric and sorghum in biodegradable release capsules.

2. Biological Controls

Deploy native plant species and microbial agents to crowd out and inhibit hydrilla:

- Vallisneria americana (Eelgrass) & Coontail: Compete with hydrilla for space.
- Beneficial microbes (e.g., Pseudomonas fluorescens): Colonize hydrilla and reduce vigor.

Application: Plant native vegetation along shallow zones; inoculate microbes via

clay ball carriers.

3. Mechanical & Ecological Suppression

Physically limit hydrilla spread and create unfavorable growth conditions:

- Install bottom shading mats (jute or hemp).
- Manual harvesting and net dredging.
- Use solar-powered aerators to increase oxygen and reduce sediment anaerobic zones.

4. Organic Sediment Adjustment

Adjust sediment chemistry to limit nutrient availability for hydrilla:

- Use crushed clove and garlic extract to disrupt microbial support for hydrilla.
- Apply biochar or humic acid to bind nutrients and improve sediment balance.

Application: Use biodegradable mesh bags to apply to shallow lakebed areas.

5. Implementation Timeline

Phase 1 (Week 1–4): Initial suppression using barley, duckweed, and shading mats.

Phase 2 (Week 3–8): Introduce native competitors and microbial inoculation.

Phase 3 (Monthly): Maintain with organic inputs and partial re-applications.

Phase 4 (Ongoing): Monitor and manually remove regrowth.

For further assistance or field deployment protocols, contact:



From: hibana.Oonana728.PSN
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](mailto:Hannon,Keith.W@CIV.USARMY.CENAE)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying of Diquat Dibromide in Connecticut Waters
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 10:31:06 AM

Good morning sir. I am a 19 year old life long resident of CT and lifelong long angler. The spraying of Diquat is not only evil morally but irresponsible to the preservation of our state's gorgeous natural beauty. Furthermore its a danger to not only our wildlife and natural pollinators but its is also a danger to the residents of Connecticut. As recent as 2024 there were deaths in Brazil directly linked to exposure to Diquat. The US Right to Know states that Diquat quotes, "damages the intestines and may also trigger a harmful chain reaction in the rest of the body—injuring the liver, kidney, and lungs, according to a new review of more than 100 studies."

<https://usrtk.org/healthwire/diquat-herbicide-poisons-the-gut-may-severely-damage-other-organs/>

The UK has banned the use of Diquat Dibromide for these reasons. I am emailing you with the hope that as the project manager you will have a change of heart to prevent the use of such a malignant chemical being forced upon our state's beautiful waters and our residents. Thank you and have a good day.

Concerned Citizen,
Steven Braun

From: [Kennedy Smith](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Project
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 10:01:45 AM

Good morning Mr. Hannon,

My name is Kennedy Smith and it's come to my attention that you have a project set in place to remove hydrilla from Connecticut lakes and streams. There are plenty of safer options to kill this plant from the water that do not include the use of DIQUOT. This chemical is DEADLY. We as humans do not deserve to have diluted water, and mother earth who works diligently for us every single day cannot handle more pesticides and chemicals being dumped into the water and on our precious soil. WE are earth. WE must take care of the ecosystem that we call home. Consider the children, the families and even your own loved ones who WILL be impacted by these chemicals. it does not go away, these chemicals are forever, and kill and destroy everything in its path, sterilizing all that it touches. it's genocide on a large scale. Please dig into your heart and soul and understand what you are doing leading this horrendous project. We are here to support you in the decision to find alternate ways to keep waterways clean, there are many and so many people out here to help, that have devoted their lives in research to help grow the earth in a healthy way and keep predatory plants out. I know you have the recourses. God bless you and may he be with you during this decision.

Kennedy Smith

From: [Nicole](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP DIQUAT
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 9:30:43 AM

I am reaching out in hopes to understand why there is a plan in place to start using Diquat in CT. After a quick Google search, the health hazards were listed as "...[causing] acute toxicity if swallowed, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin. It can also cause skin irritation, eye irritation, and respiratory irritation." Seeing as this herbicide, or should I say, poison, will be sprayed in our waterways, it is a guarantee that the humans people like you are supposed to be protecting will come into contact with this dangerous chemical. If you weren't already aware, this chemical will seep into our soil and poison our food supply by means of absorption seeing as our crucial crops are feeding off of our soil, which will become full of even more chemicals unless someone like you does something to stop this. Better yet, someone may go swimming in the poisoned waters and intake even more Diquat that way! Would you want your children swimming in this water? After relaxing and spending time with family and friends on the 4th of July, our population will most likely be too distracted to research what our government officials are doing without our consent, great timing by the way! As a resident here pursuing a career in healthcare so I can actually help the people of CT, I unfortunately have to take time out of my day to advocate for the people of our state who are blissfully unaware of the actions of people like you. If nobody stops this, I sincerely hope you are reminded of the damage you cause to the people you claim to serve and protect every time you spend a dollar you make from harming them.

~ *Nicole* ~

From: [Ashley Stevens](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Spraying in CT
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 9:20:16 AM

Good Morning,

I am reaching out in hopes to understand why there is a plan in place to start using Diquat in CT. After a quick Google search, the health hazards were listed as "...[causing] acute toxicity if swallowed, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin. It can also cause skin irritation, eye irritation, and respiratory irritation." Seeing as this herbicide, or should I say, poison, will be sprayed in our waterways, it is a guarantee that the humans people like you are supposed to be protecting will come into contact with this dangerous chemical. If you weren't already aware, this chemical will seep into our soil and poison our food supply by means of absorption seeing as our crucial crops are feeding off of our soil, which will become full of even more chemicals unless someone like you does something to stop this. Better yet, someone may go swimming in the poisoned waters and intake even more Diquat that way! Would you want your children swimming in this water? After relaxing and spending time with family and friends on the 4th of July, our population will most likely be too distracted to research what our government officials are doing without our consent, great timing by the way! As a resident here pursuing a career in healthcare so I can actually help the people of CT, I unfortunately have to take time out of my day to advocate for the people of our state who are blissfully unaware of the actions of people like you. If nobody stops this, I sincerely hope you are reminded of the damage you cause to the people you claim to serve and protect every time you spend a dollar you make from harming them.

Have the day you deserve,

A concerned resident

From: [Tyler Coyle](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat Dibromide in Connecticut Rivers
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 7:16:39 AM

Im gonna skip the greetings and get on with the questions. What the fuck?

How can you consciously consider using this chemical in the water despite knowing how dangerous it is?

Don't bother playing the ignorance card either, We The People know how this chemical reacts towards the environment and to humans. We demand you HALT this project and find a safe alternative to fight off whatever "invasive species" you found in the water.

If you continue this project, it will be looked at as domestic terrorism and being that you are in the Army i would assume you understand that you are attacking civilians whether directly or indirectly and that just makes it worse.

As a Marine Corps vet, I am thoroughly disappointed in you. STOP THE PROJECT

From: [Nicole](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP DIQUAT
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 5:18:06 AM

STOP DIQUAT FROM DESTROYING OUR ENVIRONMENT!! TOXICOLOGY REPORTS ALREADY SHOWED IN TEXAS THE DESTRUCTION AND DEATH TO ANIMALS, HEALTHY PLANTS WE NEED, FISH, ETC. ITS KNOWN TO CAUSE CANCER TO THOSE SURROUNDED BY IT, SWIM IN IT!

~ Nicole ~

From: [Jessica Roach](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CT River Hydrilla Control Project
Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 4:08:29 AM

Hello,

Can you please provide the evidence you have that using copious amounts of Diquat Dibromide is safe for humans and wildlife?

Here is a summary I found via ChatGPT below. Please do enlighten me as to how this is beneficial for the state of CT (and other states)? Would your family want to jump into this river right after this is used? We need to do better, I feel like we've learned our lesson that these chemicals are unsafe and unnatural, no? People should be informed of this and given the chance to advocate for themselves, their families, and their local environment. Also, waterways are NOT local in the end, are they? So this should be a country wide decision.

Please, reconsider.
Jessica Roach

Human Health Concerns

- **Toxicity:** Moderately to highly toxic if ingested; less toxic via dermal or inhalation exposure.
- **Exposure routes:** Primarily oral; also dermal and inhalation in occupational settings.
- **Acute effects:**
 - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dehydration.
 - In severe cases: kidney failure, respiratory distress, and neurological effects.
- **Chronic exposure:** Can lead to liver, kidney, and lung damage.
- **Carcinogenicity:** Not classified as a known carcinogen by the EPA, but data are limited.
- **No antidote:** Poisoning is difficult to treat and may be fatal in large doses.

From: [tyson_james](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Concern citizen
Date: Saturday, June 28, 2025 9:30:10 PM

Hello,

I've been hearing a lot of recent news about the state of CT planning on dropping herbicides and chemicals that are going to be sprayed into Connecticut's lakes and rivers. I believe the chemical is called Diquat along with other chemicals. Where can I find more information about this?

Thank you.

From: [Nicholas Kirby](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Do not put diquat in the water!
Date: Saturday, June 28, 2025 9:12:30 PM
Attachments: [Video.mov](#)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: New England District Contact Form: DIQUAT
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:59:42 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: noreply@dma.mil <noreply@dma.mil>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 3:34 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: New England District Contact Form: DIQUAT

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

This message was sent from the New England District website.

Message From: Patricia Pogmore

Email: khismet@charter.net

Phone:

Location (City, State, Zip):

Response requested: Yes

Message:

WHEN AND WHERE WERE THE NOTICES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND MEETINGS POSTED? AND WHERE IS THE INFORMATION REGARDING ANY HARMFUL EFFECTS FOR PEOPLE? I HAVE CONTACTED MY STATE SENATORS AND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, AS WELL AS THE GOVERNOR. WHERE WAS THE INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS POSTED? HOW LONG DOES DIQUAT REMAIN IN THE ECOSYSTEM? WHAT HAPPENS TO THE CHEMICAL ONCE THE PLANT HAS DIED--DOES IT REMAIN IN THE WATER? IN THE PLANT? WHAT HAPPENS TO ANY INSECTS (IN THE FOOD CHAIN) WHAT HAPPENS TO BIRDS THAT CONSUME INSECTS THAT HAVE BEEN FEEDING ON PLANTS SPRAYED WITH DIQUAT? OR ANY WATER THAT HAS BEEN DRUNK BY ANIMALS?-- IS THIS A FOREVER CHEMICAL? --remember PFAS? no one thought this was harmful either just because it was used in the past does mean it should continue to be used--there is a reason why this was banned in Europe and UK...
Has anyone read the harmful effects or recent studies?

I WILL HOLD THIS AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY AND ALL HARM DONE TO ME , MY FAMILY AND LIVESTOCK.

Ref Id: mFKYrLSY6ECS0eeEWlKx5Q

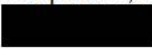
From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: CT River Diquat Treatment
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:07:45 PM

From: Brian Duval <Brian_Duval@siemon.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:55 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CT River Diquat Treatment

Dear Colonel Pabis,

I'm writing to express my concern regarding the pending Diquat treatments in the lower CT River. As a Deep River resident, I'm clearly in the epicenter of the program and thereby did some research on Diquat's safety and environmental impact. As I'm sure you're aware, there are questions about its safety, although perhaps it would be better described as well-known and documented dangers. Diquat has been shown to be dangerous to humans and wildlife, in addition to extremely damaging to non-target flora in and around treated waters. I'm requesting a pause in the planned treatments until more information can be shared with concerned citizens like myself.

I spend a huge amount of time on the waterways marked for treatment and am amazed that such a sweeping program has moved forward so quietly. I'm sure that with a more public forum you can make your case and avoid the negative press (to which I will gladly contribute) should the treatments have any negative outcomes.

Sincerely,
Brian Duval
Deep River, CT


From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] WE KNOW WHAT YOU ARE PLANNING IE DIQUAT
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:24:01 AM

From: Kathy <kfmilstead@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, July 7, 2025 9:16 AM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] WE KNOW WHAT YOU ARE PLANNING IE DIQUAT

hope you enjoy prison

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent Appeal: Review of Scheduled Diquat Use in Connecticut Waters : Our ecosystems are already under stress, and decisions like this must be held to the highest scrutiny. Please HELP
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 11:30:03 AM

From: Aesha Polanco <apolancorose777@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 3:25 AM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Urgent Appeal: Review of Scheduled Diquat Use in Connecticut Waters : Our ecosystems are already under stress, and decisions like this must be held to the highest scrutiny. Please HELP

District Engineer, USACE – New England Division

Cenae-PA@usace.army.mil



Dear Colonel Pabis,

I am writing with urgent concern regarding the planned spraying of Diquat Dibromide (DQOP) into 12 sites along the Lower Connecticut River, reportedly approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and CT DEEP.

Diquat is a chemical banned in Europe due to its extreme toxicity to aquatic life and potential health risks to humans. Approving such actions in the United States, particularly without public knowledge or sufficient environmental review, raises grave concerns.

I respectfully urge you to consider the following actions: Please

- 1. Suspend the scheduled spraying activities until full environmental impact assessments and public hearings can be completed.**
- 2. Provide transparency and access to the public records and decision-making documents regarding this approval.**
- 3. Re-evaluate the environmental and health consequences of using Diquat and explore non-chemical management solutions for**

aquatic vegetation.

Our ecosystems are already under stress, and decisions like this must be held to the highest scrutiny.

Thank you for your leadership and your time in reviewing this request.

Sincerely,

AP

A Child of God . In Jesus Christ , Yeshua

Almighty pour your blood all over our waters and protect us all from the greediness of people and selfish ways .

Thank you

For your time to read this and may this email find you in good faith and heart that God is watching you all

With lots of love

Anonymous

Sent from my iPhone

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] URGENT - STOP THE KILL in JULY
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:58:00 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Vicki Graham <harmonyvic@snet.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 6:15 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>; vicki graham <harmonyvic@snet.net>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] URGENT - STOP THE KILL in JULY

Subject : URGENT - STOP THE KILL in JULY

PLEASE, PLEASE STOP the poisoning of our public CT state waterways. Yes, hydrilla plants are prolific but it has not even been proven that the plant is so destructive that it warrants MASS poisoning of our lakes and stunning CT river.

This chemical poison, Diquat Dibromife, banned in Europe, is totally toxic and indiscriminate. It will kill fish, waterfowl and people. It will reside in the river silt and lake beds for decades. It does NOT matter whether small doses are used. Any amount of poison in our waterways will result in uncalibrated calamity.

WHY is the state of Connecticut, after years and years of "Save The Sound" successful efforts, now CHOOSING to kill it all?

Rather than arbitrarily dumping this toxin into all our waters, why not a pilot test on only one body, rather than ALL bodies of water at once? Let's make sure it works, without mass destruction of all wildlife first. There are other ways, such as aqua machines that can remove hydrilla safely. My marina in Chester uses this method. Yes, labor involved but better solutions rather than dumping a blanket of POISON! This approach hasn't even been proven to work but the damage it'll create, has.

Another thought. WHY DUMP DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE RECREATIONAL SEASON? This is the most ridiculous time of year, July, to dump poison. Why are the Army Corp and DEEP choosing the busiest, most populated time of year to dump POISON? So many people are going to get CANCER.

PLEASE, only you have the power to STOP this dead in it's tracks. Another alternative must be found. I have been on the CT River for 60+ years and have seen it at it's polluted worst and have witnessed tremendous effort to successfully clean it up. WHY would we reverse years of work and kill the most scenic, non-commercialized, river asset our state/country has?

Please place a permanent hold on this poison!

Thank you. Your agency has been one of CT's best. Please don't tarnish that standing by ignoring this urgency.

A reply would be appreciated, an action to stop this, even more so.

Your Concerned CT Citizen,
Vicki and Donald Graham
Sent from my iPhone

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] TIME URGENT - STOP THE KILL
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 11:10:22 AM

From: Tracey Wring <ways2go@snet.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 9:35 AM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] TIME URGENT - STOP THE KILL

PLEASE, PLEASE STOP the poisoning of our public CT state waterways. Yes, hydrilla plants are prolific but it has not even been proven that the plant is so destructive that it warrants MASS poisoning of our lakes and stunning CT river.

This chemical poison, Diquat Dibromife, banned in Europe, is totally toxic and indiscriminate. It will kill fish, waterfowl and people. It will reside in the river silt and lake beds for decades. It does NOT matter whether small doses are used. Any amount of poison in our waterways will result in uncalibrated calamity.

WHY is the state of Connecticut, after years and years of "Save The Sound" success efforts, now CHOOSING to kill it all?

Rather than arbitrarily dumping this toxin into all our waters, why not a pilot test on only one body, rather than ALL bodies of water at once? Let's make sure it works, without mass destruction of all wildlife first. There are other ways, such as aqua machines that can remove hydrilla safely. My marina in Chester uses this method. Yes, labor involved but better solutions rather than dumping a blanket of POISON! This approach hasn't even been proven to work but the damage it'll create, has.

Another thought. WHY DUMP DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE RECREATIONAL SEASON? This is the most ridiculous time of year, July, to dump poison. Why are the Army Corp and DEEP choosing the busiest, most populated time of year to dump POISON? So many people are going to get CANCER.

PLEASE, Army Corp, only you have the power to STOP this dead in it's tracks. Another alternative must be found. I have been on the CT River for 60+ years and have seen it at it's polluted worst and have witnessed tremendous effort to successfully clean it up. WHY would we reverse years of work and kill the most scenic, non-commercialized, river asset our state has?

Please place a permanent hold on this poison!

Thank you. Your agency has been one of CT's best. Please don't tarnish that standing by ignoring this urgency.

Your Concerned Ct Citizen,
Tracey Wring

Sent from my iPad

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] stop the diquat poisoning
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:38:07 AM

From: Claire Stadtmueller <claire.stadtmueller@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 4, 2025 2:26 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] stop the diquat poisoning

Colonel,

Stop the spraying.

Diquat is banned in Europe, and will kill everything, not just hydrilla.

Don't you think it's going to eventually wind up in the systems of you and your family??

Please cancel it.

Claire Stadtmueller

Preston, CT

--

Sent from my PC connected to the internet with an ethernet cable; using a non-wifi modem, providing speedy internet with no microwave radiation.

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Stop
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:50:51 PM

From: lindseyjospy69@icloud.com <lindseyjospy69@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2025 3:00 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop

Stop the project that includes

Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans) Demand safe, non-chemical alternatives.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:03:03 PM

From: Leslie Burnett <leslieburnett@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 10:25 AM
To: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>; governor.lamont@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying Diquat

To Whom It May Concern:

I have learned, that without consent of the governed, that you plan to move forward with a scheme to poison 12 targeted locations in Connecticut's lakes and riverways beginning after July 4, 2025. You plan on using a toxic chemical, diquat, known to be highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike, and banned for use in Europe. I am writing to you today to ask that you cease and desist immediately. Please refrain from poisoning our water and therefore, us.

Sincerely,
Leslie Burnett

"When God wants a great work done in the world or a great wrong righted, he goes about it in a very unusual way. He doesn't stir up his earthquakes or send forth his thunderbolts. Instead, he has a helpless baby born, perhaps in a simple home out of some obscure mother. And then God puts the idea into the mother's heart, and she puts it into the baby's mind. And then God waits. The greatest forces in the world are not the earthquakes and the thunderbolts. The greatest forces in the world are babies." — E. T. Sullivan

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying CT
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:05:36 PM
Importance: High

From: kim.sekelsky@gmail.com <kim.sekelsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 9:45 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Spraying CT
Importance: High

Dear Colonel Pabis,

I am PRAYING that God gets ahold of you and this decision about spraying our beautiful waterways. You KNOW it is wrong. Deep down inside, you know. Follow that instinct, let God speak to you. Ask him to show you the side effects of this. He will. All you have to do is ask.

Please make the RIGHT decision, keep the future generations in your mind and heart.

Kim Sekelsky

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Poising our waters
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 11:10:49 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Carla Jo O'Donoghue <carlajoo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 9:17 AM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Poising our waters

For what my little, insignificant voice is worth...I'm begging you to reconsider the decision to poison our CT waterways because of a mere species of plant. The consequences of this action will FAR outweigh what harm, if any, a natural life form will do to our environment. We deserve to have a voice and vote on this matter! In this day and age it seems shocking that this chemical (Duquat) would even be allowed...you and we as a people can do better!

Carla Jo O'Donoghue
Niantic, CT

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Plans to spray lakes and rivers in CT
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:25:11 AM

From: CAROL BRUSSEAU <brusscarol@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 5, 2025 3:07 PM
To: governor.lamont@ct.gov
Cc: robert.kaleszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Plans to spray lakes and rivers in CT

Got the following message, and believe we should avoid taking this action.

After July 4th rivers and lakes are about to start being sprayed with an extremely toxic chemical called Diquat in Connecticut with plans to go nationwide This has been sprayed before (video 2 & 3) it kills EVERYTHING Politicians are getting rich off this deal along with many more people in government "Connecticut is about to poison its own lakes and rivers with a highly toxic chemical called diquat. And it seems like no one knows about it. It's actually a coordinated plan that they're about to roll out in states all over the country. This particular chemical is banned in Europe and highly toxic to humans and wildlife alike. I've even heard landscapers refer to diquat as the nuclear option.

It is important to protect our lakes and rivers. Please stop this action.

Thank you,

Carol Brusseau
220 Monce Rd Unit 9
Burlington, CT 06013

Page: 1 of 1
Date: 6/30/25
Time: 10:00 AM
IP: 192.168.1.100
User: [REDACTED]

6/30/25

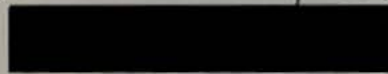
Gentlemen:

I have just become aware that a chemical called Diquat is going to treat 6 of Connecticut's rivers, lakes and creeks.

I am writing you to ask that you stop this plan and for the sake of humans and wildlife alike, look into a safer way to rid these waters of the pest weed it is intended to kill.

I realize time is short until the scheduled spray but please think of the detriment this chemical can cause.

Sincerely
Darlene Tardif
East Windsor, CT



From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Interesting Proposal
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:00:23 PM

From: Ryan Pollock <ryanpollock1010@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 2:54 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Interesting Proposal

Justin Pibas,

Hi there, I hope you're not doing too great thanks to what you've prompted, promoted, and were paid out on.

Your selfishness is exactly why the world is the way it is. Red or Blue, this isn't a political matter, this is self gain and it's horrendous.

Due to an invasive plant, you decide to poison water ways... Have you actually done any research into, I don't know, natural/organic solutions?

As in quite literally just repopulating native plants.

I don't feel the urge to insult you to get my point across, but to think you feel good about this bill is incredibly sickening. Granted, you probably have a few dollars in the bank, I don't mean to pocket watch, but you and your family/friends don't have to touch these waters.

Please try to think about anything besides personal gain and you will see the travesty you proposed and created.

I hope the obliteration of wildlife and reaction of human life around you is something you can withstand, because that will become prevalent.

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Hydrilla project
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 11:48:15 AM

From: michael boudreau <mike-jenboudreau@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 9:41 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Hydrilla project

I have to ask why are you going to put toxic chemicals in our water ways this seems absurd. Stop don't do it there is reasons this chemical is banned in other countries.
[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: Diquat Spraying Must Be Stopped
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:06:03 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

From: Kristen Cardilli <kristen.cardilli@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 5:43 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: Diquat Spraying Must Be Stopped

I'm writing as a Connecticut resident to express my strong concern about the use of diquat herbicide in our public waterways.

Diquat is a fast-acting, broad-spectrum herbicide with known environmental risks. Its application can result in the death of not only invasive plants, but also beneficial native aquatic species. The resulting plant die-off can trigger oxygen depletion and algal blooms, further damaging the health of these fragile ecosystems. Additionally, there are potential health risks for wildlife, pets, and humans exposed to these waters, especially when the community is not adequately informed or prepared.

I understand the need to manage invasive species; however, I urge you to **pause the use of chemical treatments like diquat** and instead prioritize more ecologically sound methods such as mechanical harvesting, drawdowns, or the use of biological controls.

Please reconsider the use of this herbicide and involve the public more meaningfully in these decisions. Transparency, safety, and long-term environmental stewardship should be central to any aquatic management plan in our state.

Thank you for your time and attention. I'd appreciate a response outlining whether alternative solutions are being considered.

Sincerely,
Kristen Cardilli

----- Forwarded message -----

From: DEEP PesticideProgram <DEEP.PesticideProgram@ct.gov>
Date: Mon, Jun 30, 2025 at 4:07 PM
Subject: RE: Diquat Spraying Must Be Stopped

To: Kristen Cardilli <kristen.cardilli@gmail.com>

Good afternoon Ms. Cardilli,

The United States Army Core of Engineers (USACE) does hold permits for treating hydrilla in the Connecticut River.

Information on this project can be found at the below links:

[Connecticut River Project](#)

[New England District > Missions > Projects/Topics > Connecticut River Hydrilla](#)

Any additional questions or concerns should be directed to the USACE a

Best,
Zach

Zachary Donais

Environmental Analyst III
Pesticide Management & Arborist Programs
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
p: [REDACTED] 6 | Zachary.Donais@ct.gov
portal.ct.gov/DEEP-PMP



Connecticut
Department of Energy &
Environmental Protection

*Conserving, improving, and protecting our natural resources and environment;
Ensuring a clean, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply.*

| portal.ct.gov/DEEP

From: Kristen Cardilli <kristen.cardilli@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:07 PM
To: DEEP PesticideProgram <DEEP.PesticideProgram@ct.gov>
Subject: Diquat Spraying Must Be Stopped

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear DEEP Pesticide Program,

I'm writing as a Connecticut resident to express my strong concern about the use of diquat herbicide in our public waterways.

Diquat is a fast-acting, broad-spectrum herbicide with known environmental risks. Its application can result in the death of not only invasive plants, but also beneficial native aquatic species. The resulting plant die-off can trigger oxygen depletion and algal blooms, further damaging the health of these fragile ecosystems. Additionally, there are potential health risks for wildlife, pets, and humans exposed to these waters, especially when the community is not adequately informed or prepared.

I understand the need to manage invasive species; however, I urge you to **pause the use of chemical treatments like diquat** and instead prioritize more ecologically sound methods such as mechanical harvesting, drawdowns, or the use of biological controls.

Please reconsider the use of this herbicide and involve the public more meaningfully in these decisions. Transparency, safety, and long-term environmental stewardship should be central to any aquatic management plan in our state.

Thank you for your time and attention. I'd appreciate a response outlining whether alternative solutions are being considered.

Sincerely,
Kristen Cardilli

--

Kristen Cardilli



From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Fuck you and your hydrilla
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:51:26 PM

From: B <3arly93@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2025 12:48 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fuck you and your hydrilla

Who are you to poison our water. Stop being part of the problem. You do not have our ok to do this. You arent protecting the environment with all your toxic chemicals. You are knowingly and purposefully kill the land and us. Stay the fuck away from our shit you sad joke of an official. You care only about ur pocket and not the impact it will have for everyone. How do you look at yourself in the mirror you are a pathetic joke of a human. You probably would willingly poison your family too stop it get some help. DO NOT FUCKING DO THIS. STAY THE FUCK AWAY FROM OUR WATER !!!!

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Formal Opposition to Use of Diquat in Connecticut Waterways – 2025 Hydrilla Control Project
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:53:03 PM

From: chriswebbyrap@gmail.com <chriswebbyrap@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2025 4:44 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Cc: deep.pesticideprogram@ct.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Formal Opposition to Use of Diquat in Connecticut Waterways – 2025 Hydrilla Control Project

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and CT DEEP,

I'm writing as a concerned resident of Connecticut to formally **oppose the planned use of diquat dibromide and similar herbicides** in our state's public waterways, particularly under the 2025 Connecticut River Hydrilla Control Demonstration Project.

While I understand the ecological threat posed by hydrilla, the proposed solution—spraying broad-spectrum chemical herbicides like diquat—is **a short-sighted and dangerous approach**. Diquat is known to **persist in sediment**, harm non-target aquatic organisms, and **contribute to long-term ecosystem imbalance**, especially when applied at scale across interconnected bodies of water.

The planned post-July 4 schedule at sites including Chester Creek, Hamburg Cove, and the Salmon River puts both **biodiversity and public trust** at risk. These are not isolated treatment zones — they are part of a fragile, flowing river system. The cumulative impact of repeated spraying across multiple summers has not been adequately accounted for, and the monitoring proposals offered are not a substitute for true ecological responsibility.

I urge you to:

- Halt the scheduled application of diquat and similar herbicides
- Prioritize **non-chemical control methods**, including mechanical harvesting and biological solutions
- Allow for **greater public transparency** in the permitting and decision-making process

- Extend the public comment period and hold an **in-person town forum**

This is more than a nuisance plant problem. This is a chemical assault on nature — one that risks irreversibly damaging the delicate ecology of our rivers and coves. We deserve better answers, better options, and most importantly, **a precautionary approach to pesticide use in public water.**

In my personal opinion this not only a crime against nature, but the people in surrounding areas who will most certainly be impacted by the use of this proven poison.. there's a reason the EU banned it.

Sincerely,

Christian Webster

Lifelong Connecticut Resident

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Disgust Spray Locations
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:15:04 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Antonio C. Esposito <antonio.esposito251@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2025 8:49 AM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Disgust Spray Locations

Hello-

Please share the list of lakes, ponds and waterways that will be sprayed.

Thank you,
Antonio C. Esposito



Sent via iPhone.

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Diquot Bromide in Salmon River
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:50:01 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Kaitlyn Maciag <kemaciag@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2025 4:12 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquot Bromide in Salmon River

Hello Colonel Pabis,

I'm a Connecticut resident and avid visitor of the Salmon River. It's my 10 year old son's absolute favorite place to swim in the summer, his name is Kellan.

I've recently learned of the states intent to apply Diquot Bromide to multiple lakes and rivers in CT, among them including the Salmon River. I am deeply concerned that this chemical will have a negative impact on local wildlife and humans. It will certainly affect our ability to swim in the river this summer. I am genuinely saddened by this news, and I know my son will be very upset.

Please, I implore you to reconsider this action. Halt this project. Please consider using safe, non-chemical alternatives. Please allow Connecticut residents to continue enjoying nature in this beautiful state without fear of toxic chemicals.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Kaitlyn Maciag
[REDACTED]
Gales Ferry, CT 06335
[REDACTED]


Sent from my iPhone

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat use in local waterways.
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:19:58 PM

From: guy mister <zahsbaitandtackle@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2025 6:57 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat use in local waterways.

Hello,

I am writing in to ask that you please consider alternative options to treating hydrilla rather than the use of extremely toxic chemicals like diquat dibromide. I know you probably don't care, but that could have an awful effect on the rest of the wildlife along the Connecticut River as well as Lake Pocotopaug, as well as humans and pets that may swim in these areas. I'm tremendously disappointed to hear that this is the go-to action, as Hydrilla can be manually pulled. There is no need to pollute our waters any further!

Zachary P Hintz
Zah's Bait & Tackle / Zah's Grateful Guide Service
204 Main St, Portland, CT 06480

Zahsbaitandtackle@gmail.com

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:02:41 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Michele May <michelemay@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 10:38 AM
To: robert.kaliszewski@ct.gov; brian.thompson@ct.gov; CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>; keith.w.hannob@usace.army.mil
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat

Dear Sirs:


As a citizen of Connecticut who frequents the waterways, I wholeheartedly object to the spraying of Diquat or Paraquat or any other toxic chemicals in or near CT waters. I demand public hearings be conducted prior to such a dangerous measure.

I understand 12 sites across the Lower Connecticut River are in your plan to be sprayed after 7/4/2025.

- Chemical: Diquat Dibromide (banned in Europe and Highly Toxic to Wildlife and Humans)

- I question and request public hearings on the approval of this chemical and like compounds by the CT DEEP & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Sincerely:

Michele May

Hebron, CT 06248

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:03:57 PM

From: Erica Johnson <roberica88@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 7:24 AM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Diquat

We do not need to spray chemicals for an invasive plant. Endangering our water system is not an option with poison. We know what this chemical has done elsewhere and we do not want our water systems contaminated with it. Please do not spray.

Erica Johnson
Moodus CT

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Consider a safer, non-toxic alternatives that protect both aquatic vegetation and public health.
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 11:29:49 AM

From: Aesha Polanco <apolancorose777@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 4:09 AM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Consider a safer, non-toxic alternatives that protect both aquatic vegetation and public health.

Hi , Good day, I hope this message finds you well ,
Please

Consider a safer, non-toxic alternatives that protect both aquatic vegetation and public health.

I am writing to express my serious concern regarding the planned use of Diquat Dibromide (DQOP) in 12 locations along the Lower Connecticut River, reportedly approved by CT DEEP and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

This chemical has been banned in Europe due to its high toxicity to aquatic ecosystems and potential risks to human health. I am alarmed that such a hazardous chemical will be introduced into our rivers and lakes, especially with minimal public awareness or community consultation.

Diquat is a chemical banned in Europe due to its extreme toxicity to aquatic life and potential health risks to humans. Approving such actions in the United States, particularly without public knowledge or sufficient environmental review, raises grave concerns. We only have one life here on earth we are in very sensitive time please let's make the best decision possible with logic and reason and the right action.

I respectfully urge you to consider the following actions: Please

- 1. Suspend the scheduled spraying activities until full environmental impact assessments and public hearings can be completed.**
- 2. Provide transparency and access to the public records and**

decision-making documents regarding this approval.

- 3. Re-evaluate the environmental and health consequences of using Diquat and explore non-chemical management solutions for aquatic vegetation.**

Our ecosystems are already under stress, and decisions like this must be held to the highest scrutiny.

Yeshua ,

Almighty pour your blood all over our waters and land protect us all , protect our surroundings. protect our homeland and states and the people we need to make it right we need to do our homework the right way in the most safest way not with chemicals,

especially if it harmful WHY ? why ? Do you want to do this Please please please, reconsider.

In conclusion

We are stewards of these ecosystems and must ensure that our actions do not bring irreversible harm to the environment or public well-being.

Consider a safer, non-toxic alternatives that protect both aquatic vegetation and public health.

Thank you

Best regards

A Child of God . In Jesus Christ, amen

AP

Sent from my iPhone

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut Public Requests Immediately Halt to Diquat Spraying Project
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:09:57 PM

From: Tollie Miller <tolliehmiller@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:12 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Lori Brown <lori.brown@ctlc.org>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut Public Requests Immediately Halt to Diquat Spraying Project

Dear Colonel Pabis, My name is Tollie Miller from Bloomfield , CT. I am reaching out with grave concern regarding the imminent spraying of Diquat Dibromide in Connecticut waters. I urge you to pause this project and call for a public hearing. This chemical is banned across Europe due to its toxicity and long-term risks. It should not be introduced into vital waterways that serve local families, wildlife, and ecosystems. We expect transparency and accountability from federal agencies. I look forward to hearing what action your office will take in response. Sincerely,

Tollie Miller
Bloomfield CT

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut Public Requests Immediate Halt to Diquat Spraying Project
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 12:50:39 PM

From: Delmy Villanueva (Dell) <villanuevatgfj@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2025 3:19 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Connecticut Public Requests Immediate Halt to Diquat Spraying Project

Colonel Pabis,

My name is Delmy V. Hartford CT. I am reaching out with grave concern regarding the imminent spraying of Diquat Dibromide in Connecticut waters. I urge you to pause this project and call for a public hearing.

This chemical is banned across Europe due to its toxicity and long-term risks. It should not be introduced into vital waterways that serve local families, wildlife, and ecosystems.

We expect transparency and accountability from federal agencies. I look forward to hearing what action your office will take in response.

Sincerely,

Delmy V

Hartford CT

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Chemicals sprayed in our lakes and rivers
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 11:31:24 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Leslie Dickerson <ldickerson1906@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 4:08 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Chemicals sprayed in our lakes and rivers

We the People in CT DO NOT consent to our waters being sprayed with anymore chemicals. Enough people have died from such, not to mention the Covid vaccine.

We demand that no spraying be afforded after July 4th with anything!!

Leslie Dickerson

Sent from my iPad

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source]
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:57:44 AM

From: hitch <chitchco8@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 8:01 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source]

Quit poisoning the rivers and waterways you fucking scumbags, I wish you and yours would bathe in a vat filled with the toxic herbicide Diquat. What the fuck is wrong with you vile sociopaths I truly pray the karma exists.

From: [CENAE-PA, NAE](#)
To: [Hannon, Keith W CIV USARMY CENAE \(USA\)](#)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source]
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:13:19 AM

From: Suzanne Freniere <sunsue38@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 13, 2025 3:35 PM
To: CENAE-PA, NAE <CENAE-PA@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source]

Way to go assholes!!! Like there's not enough poison in our environment! Now you're poisoning our water. How many fish and wildlife will die because you're fucking idiots??? That poison is 200 times more toxic than roundup. The EPA is bought by the big chemical companies, so of course they'll approve it. I bet you didn't even try to find non lethal alternatives. I bet you're all bought and paid for too. ASHOLES!!

Pub Comm

I'd like to first state that many people I know, as well myself, were blocked from being able to listen to the public meeting and make comments. If a meeting is public, it should be easy to access. Requesting to join and then receiving an email link after only works as an option if someone is monitoring the requests while the meeting is in progress. People have jobs, responsibilities and cannot be present for the entirety of a meeting. If someone were to walk in late to the meeting in person, they would be allowed to because it is a public meeting. Accessibility is important for transparency and trust, something that this project has been lacking.

In 1999, the EPA & the EFSA marked Diquat a group 2B carcinogen after studies revealed that it had risks of causing cancer in humans and animals. Studies confirmed long term exposure of Diquat caused liver and kidney tumors. the IARC, EPA, EFSA, NTP all performed risk assessments that supported these findings that exposure to Diquat leads to serious health risks. EPA- <https://archive.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/web/pdf/0288.pdf>
IARC-<https://publications.iarc.who.int/Book-And-Report-Series/Iarc-Monographs-On-The-Identification-Of-Carcinogenic-Hazards-To-Humans/Some-Chemicals-That-Cause-Tumours-Of-The-Kidney-Or-Urinary-Bladder-In-Rodents-And-Some-Other-Substances-1999>
-https://www.researchgate.net/publication/11545869_Effect_of_Diquat_on_the_Antioxidant_System_and_Cell_Growth_in_Human_Neuroblastoma_Cells
EFSA-<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R1532&from=SV>

Given the very real risks as it is classified as a group 2B carcinogen and its ability to cause DNA damage and tumors, why is it being used to manage weeds in our fresh water resources? Small Children cannot be exposed to Diquat in any amount. Children that will be playing in the water and neighboring areas where there are Summer Camps. They will all be exposed to the immediate effects after spraying, and subsequently the residual Diquat in the sediment. There are dozens of camps that are situated nearby the proposed sites where the Diquat will be used. As well, many camps not in the area have "Lake Days" where they will bring children to these bodies of water and the Connecticut river through the month of July and August. Hundreds, if not thousands of children will be exposed to the sites where the Diquat will be used.

As time goes on the Diquat does not 100% deplete; meaning it will still be in the area long after it is sprayed. There is a high risk for secondary exposure from the treated areas. The Diquat will be active on surfaces for weeks, leading to repeated exposure over the entire summer. Children play in all of the areas that are marked for spraying. It has been proven that no amount of Diquat is safe for children to be exposed to. It is known that Diquat has neurotoxic effects on children (and adults).

There are many known negative health outcomes to both children and adults as a result of chronic re-exposure which is what will happen after using the diquat. Regardless if it is an actual "spray" method or not, observing the spraying that companies have done this year under government approval, it is clear that the work is being performed without safety concerns in mind. The people spraying the product are doing so without PPE and they are spraying it above the water and in areas that people go in and out of the water like around docks and boat

launches. As recently as July 2025 this has been observed and reported on. There are videos of those companies who received permitting to use diquat doing so.

There have been known effects on children such as: Neurological and Neurodevelopmental issues, Cognitive decline and Low IQ, Memory and attention deficits and motor control like delayed physical development and coordination problems. It is also known that diquat exposure in children causes endocrine disruption leading to early puberty, reproductive health and fertility issues, thyroid dysfunction, growth retardation, immunosuppression, allergy risks, respiratory issues, and cancer risks. The direct connection between childhood cancer remains an area of concern in the scientific and medical research that is being performed. There are quite literally hundreds of research papers and journalism pieces documenting the negative, lifelong effects of these products on humans. Sources Linked on the bottom of page.

Syngenta Corporation produces the majority of the world's supply of Diquat and Paraquat. In recent reports, it has been said they produce 80% of the entire world supply of these products. They own 20% of the market share of all pesticides in the world. They spend millions of dollars every year on lobbying to American senators. The ChemChina (the parent company of Syngenta) made 13.6 billion in 2020 alone, of which 10 billion was made through selling pesticide products. Since 2019, Syngenta has spent about \$35,000,000 million dollars lobbying congress.

Syngenta has won many government contracts for both domestic and global work through many different programs. Syngenta has won global agricultural programs through USAID in regions like Africa, Asia, and Latin America. They have received sub-grants and contracts as a part of a larger consortium of projects.

USACE has received over \$447 million dollars in 2024 alone for invasive species management of which around \$150 million is spent on hydrilla projects and the like. Although the percentage of that yearly budget is unknown, a large percentage of that money goes towards the purchase of Syngenta products and products from companies like them that also have large lobbying budgets.

USACE, responsible for large-scale aquatic invasive species control programs, appears to be significantly influenced by corporate interests. Despite very obvious concerns over the environmental impacts, as well as the clear harm this will inevitably have on children, USACE continues to award contracts to companies like Syngenta (ChemChina) whether outright or through the fact that their products are being used instead of mechanical removal, hydrilla weevils, or organic herbicides. The corporate capture of government agencies has clearly shaped this decision.

There is clear evidence that these products are not in the best interest of Connecticut residents. The amount of residents that have signed petitions against Diquat, is enough to elicit a pause of the work performed, yet our Governor, Senator, and department heads of all of the branches of government involved have done nothing to look into this project further and look at the alternative methods. Methods that are great options.

The only real reason given that these methods weren't a good option was that you have to keep doing them year after year. Meanwhile this Diquat project is going on year after year. Its a nonsense answer and obfuscates the truth about the real reason why this project is moving forward, despite clear reasons it shouldn't.

Although I am a private citizen, it didn't take much research at all to see that this project clearly is not in the best interest of Connecticut and work should be stopped until a better plan with better alternatives is proposed.

I request that this public comment be made available for others to read and that it is read at the next meeting for this project and it is read into the minutes for the meeting. I request a copy of this be given to the other people who are involved in the project to read.

Some source material:

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11034119/>

https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/130/6/e1757/30399/Pesticide-Exposure-in-Children?_cf_chl_tk=d_Wi7cVSjz.BkFsTStUFoxaj2BKziK89saGare5FYN4-1754844886-1.0.1.1-AV_qmJRvwNPRM2JRv6H8BTTsyE_dcOha7mXgAiu7LbM

[DIQUAT \(addendum\) - World Health Organization \(WHO\)
https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/4308](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/4308)

https://www3.epa.gov/pesticides/chem_search/cleared_reviews/csr_PC-032201_2-Mar-92_a.pdf

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC12104255/>

<https://extoxnet.orst.edu/pips/diquatdi.htm?utm>

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0960327118765330>