

# Protecting the Quabbin Reservoir and Watershed



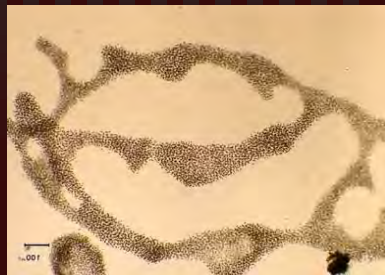
Paula Packard  
Aquatic Biologist



# Ongoing Programs at Quabbin

- ✓ Plankton Analysis
- ✓ Reservoir and Watershed Monitoring for Aquatic Invasive Species
- ✓ Boat Decontamination Programs (Warm Weather Decontamination and Cold Weather Quarantine)
- ✓ Education and outreach

# Phytoplankton Analysis

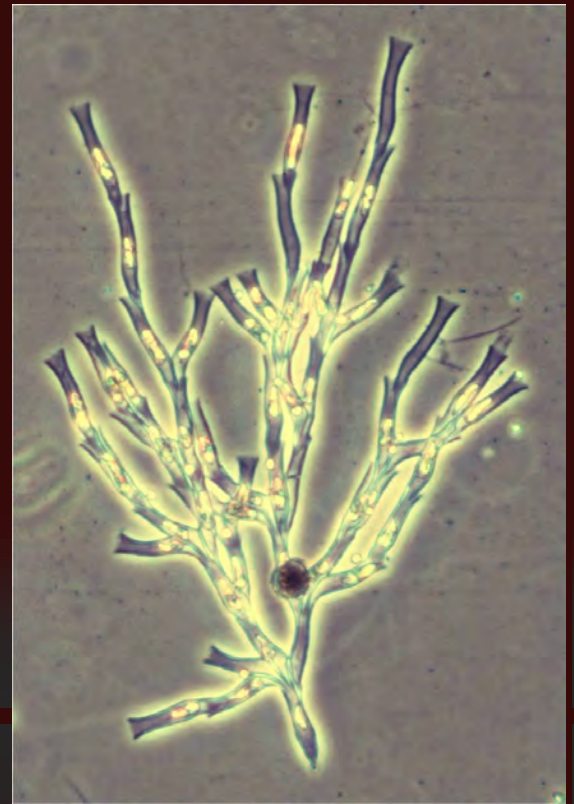
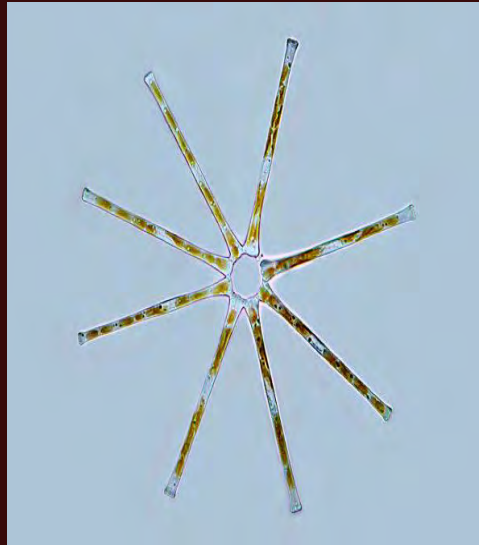
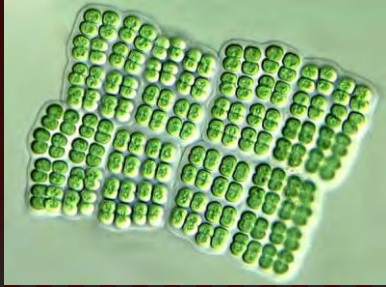


- ✓ Some plankton produce compounds that make water taste or smell "off"
- ✓ Cyanobacteria may produce toxins
- ✓ Some algae clog filters
- ✓ Enables us too see annual trends

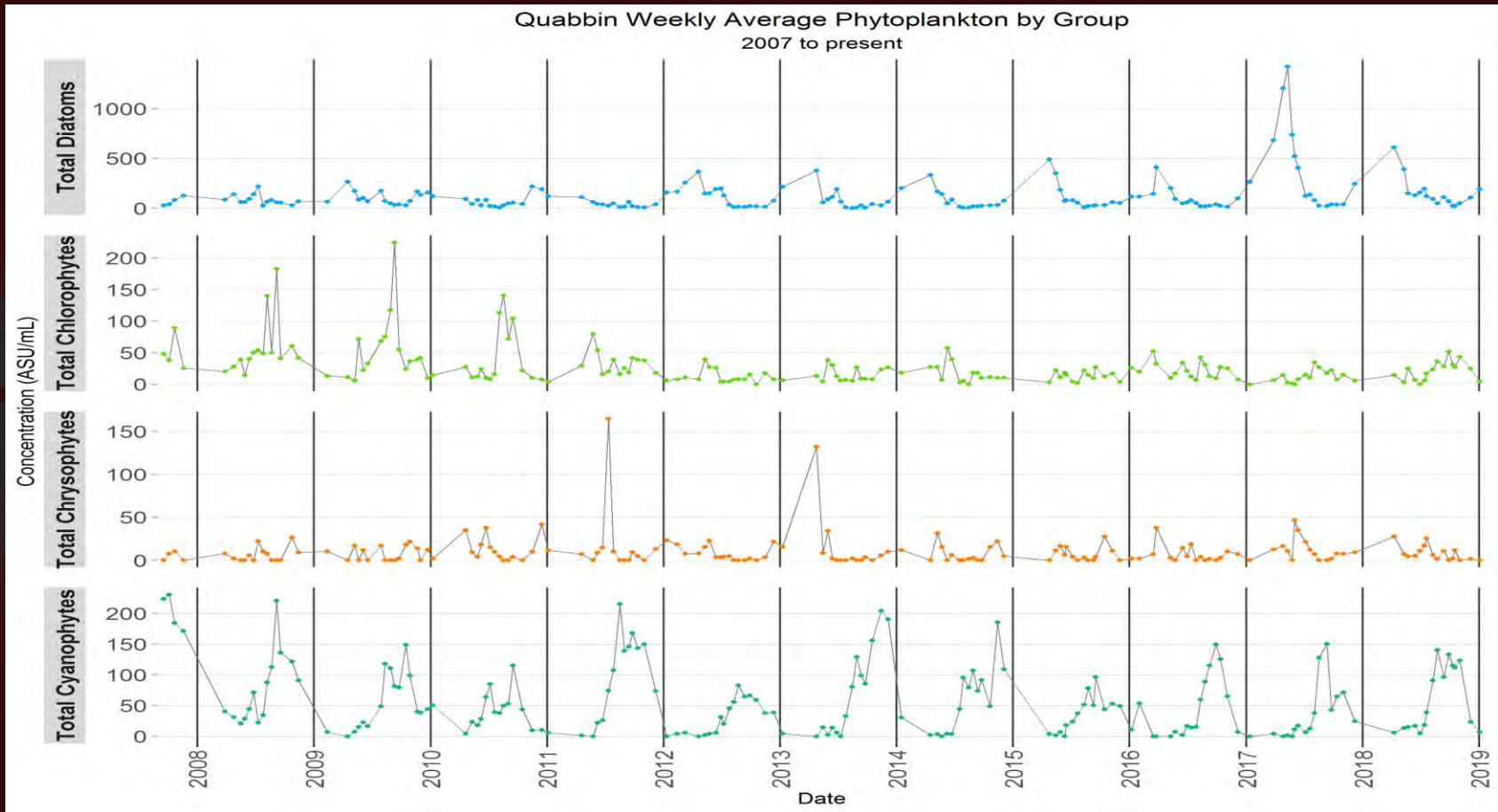
We sample twice per month from May to October

Once per month other months

# Common Plankton



# Phytoplankton Annual Trends



# Boat Decontamination Programs

## ✓ Warm Weather Decontamination

Info taken

Boat/trailer inspected

Motor run until exit water is  
140 Degrees F

Boat washed with water over  
140 degrees F

Boat is tagged

\$45 to House of Wax

## ✓ Cold Weather Quarantine

Info taken

Boat/trailer inspected

Boat is tagged

Offered free of charge

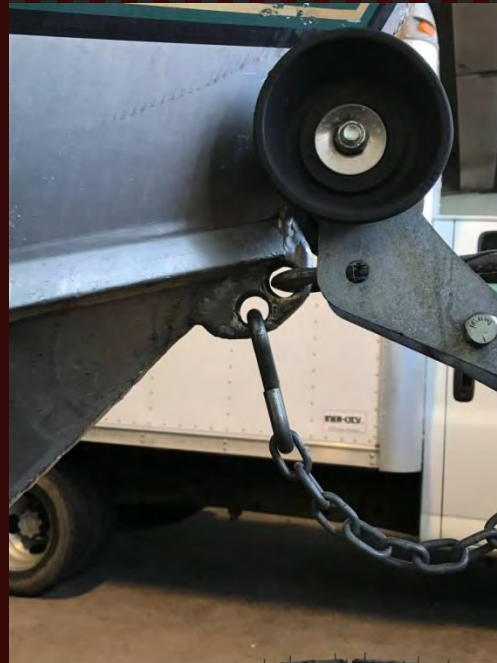
Belchertown & New Salem

Carpeted bunks allowed



**Boats are tagged with Quabbin seal.  
Each has a unique number**

# Examples of Placement of Boat Seals





# AIS of Concern

- ✓ Spiny Water Flea
- ✓ Asian clam
- ✓ Swollen bladderwort
- ✓ Brittle naiad
- ✓ Curly Pond Weed
- ✓ The list goes on.....





## Macrophyte Surveys

# Monitoring for AIS in Watershed



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Curly pondweed  
*Potamogeton crispus*  
Photo by M. Hammy  
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# Education & outreach

## Self-certification Program

- ✓ Ongoing at Long Pond in Rutland and Comet Pond in Hubbardston
- ✓ Honor system
- ✓ Good way to engage boaters and find out what's going on
- ✓ Seems successful

## Outreach

- ✓ Annual Visitor center Presentation on AIS
- ✓ Volunteer at local schools, clubs etc.
- ✓ Educate fishermen at decon & at fishing areas
- ✓ Distribution of brochures



**Thank you!!!**