PAW PAW LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET
2025 - 2028

Improvement	**Annual Cost**
Aquatic Plant Control	$45,000
Aquatic Plant Control Oversight & Administration	$12,000
Water Quality Sampling	$7,500
Watershed Engineering & Coordination	$25,000
Watershed Management Projects	$95,000
Dredging/Alum Feasibility Study	$27,000*
Information and Education	$2,500
Alum Sediment Testing	$20,000*
Project Administration & Coordination	$9,000
Administration and Contingency	$32,000
Total Annual Cost	**$228,000**

*2025 only ($275,000 total budget in 2025)

Aquatic Plant Control

The Paw Paw Lake improvement program will include the select use of aquatic herbicides to control aquatic plant growth. The plant control program will focus primarily on invasive species such as Eurasian milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, and starry stonewort.

Eurasian milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum)*

Curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)

Starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa)*

Aquatic Plant Control Oversight & Coordination

Plant control activities are proposed to be coordinated under the direction of the board's environmental consultant. The consultant would be responsible for preparing bid documents and/or contract extensions for the plant control program, assisting the lake board with the selection of the plant control contractors, conducting GPS-guided surveys of the lake to determine the scope of work to be performed by plant control contractors, and performing follow-up inspections to ensure work is performed in a satisfactory manner. The consultant would report to the SAD working group regarding the performance of the plant control contractors and would make recommendations to the lake board regarding payments to the contractors. Consultant administrative services would include periodic attendance at meetings, the review and processing of contractor invoices, and assistance with public hearing proceedings.

Water Quality Sampling

Samples would be collected on an annual basis to evaluate water quality conditions in Paw Paw Lake. At a minimum, samples would be collected at 10-foot intervals during the spring and late summer over the three deepest basins of the lake. Samples would be analyzed for soluble reactive phosphorus, total phosphorus, temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, and alkalinity. In addition, surface water chlorophyll-*a* and water transparency would be measured during each of the sampling periods.

Watershed Engineering, Coordination, and Watershed Projects

Watershed management would include evaluation of the watershed including the primary contributing sources of nutrients and sediments along with practical and beneficial watershed improvement projects to protect the long term water quality of Paw Paw Lake. This element would include identifying potential implementation of best management practices to mitigate contributing pollution sources and designing and overseeing the implementation of these best management practices.

Dredging/Alum Feasibility Study

The feasibility of dredging portions of Paw Paw Lake would be evaluated and cost estimates derived for implementing localized dredging. In addition, the use of alum (aluminum sulfate) would be evaluated in the deep basins of Paw Paw Lake as a potential to inactivate nutrients within Paw Paw Lake that are currently being recycled back into the water column by natural chemical reactions and mixing. The regulatory requirements for both of these options would be extensively evaluated as well.

Information and Education

Information regarding the Paw Paw Lake Improvement Program would be posted on the Paw Paw Lake Improvement Board's website (www.pawpawlakemanagement.org). The website would be updated periodically and include information regarding improvement plan activities, the invasive plant control program, water quality monitoring results, watershed improvement projects, and links to other relevant information sources.

Project Administration and Coordination

Project administration would include costs related to overall project coordination, permitting, and attending periodic meetings.

Administration & Contingency

Administration and contingency would include costs related to overall project coordination, legal notices and hearing proceedings, postage, copies, mailings, and any cost over-runs on other budget line items in a given year.