

Public Notice: Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact – Village of Southampton Lake Agawam Algae Harvesting Project

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[Environmental Assessment for the Village of Southampton Lake Agawam Algae Harvesting Project and Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact, EPA No. N2024346](#)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Preliminary Finding of No Significant (FONSI) for public review and comment for 30 calendar days before making the decision on whether, and if so how, to proceed with a proposed action. The EA evaluated the issuance of a Community Grant award to the Village of Southampton for the Lake Agawam Algae Harvesting Project. The project involves algae harvesting at Lake Agawam using Hydronucleation Flotation Technology (HFT) to address impaired water quality conditions and the presence of harmful algae within the lake. Through this process algae-laden water will be withdrawn and captured through deploying a moored barrier (boom) and three weir skimmers at the north end of the lake. The concentrated algae-rich surface waters will be pumped to a land-based algae harvesting and nutrient removal/treatment system, including the HFT and storage tanks. Water that has gone through the process will be returned to the lake through a submerged discharge pipe at the south end of the lake. Congress appropriated \$5 million earmarked for the Village of Southampton under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328) to the Lake Agawam Algae Harvesting Project.

EPA considered six alternatives for the Project which are analyzed in this EA pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and EPA's NEPA procedures under 40 CFR part 6. The EA did not identify significant effects to resources as a result of implementing the Proposed Action. However, EPA will consider public and agency comments prior to making its decision regarding implementation of the proposed project. After evaluating any comments received, EPA will make a final decision. The preliminary decision and finding will become final after the 30-day comment period expires if no new significant information is provided to alter this finding.

The Draft EA and Preliminary FONSI are available for download from EPA's NEPA Compliance Database at <https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-II/public/action/nepa/details?nepaId=499776>. Questions and public comments may be sent to: Region2_EnvReviews@epa.gov, on or prior to January 15, 2025.