

Lake-shading sweep of White Willows

to cool the water counteracting harmful effects of Global Warming in Boggart Hole Clough

During three recent weeks (10th to 31st July 2021) approximately 60 Canada Geese died from Avian Botulism at Boggart Hole Clough Lake. This coincided with extremely hot weather (Global Warming) over-heating the shallow water producing Eutrophic conditions in which the bacteria of Avian Botulism thrives. Photo (right) taken 24.7.2021 shows two Canada Geese drifting at the promenade edge apparently suffering from this disease. Manchester City Council (MCC) Park Management arranged for removal of carcasses.



Under MCC Park Management directive (against FoBHC's advice), Siltex calcium carbonate was poured across the Lake in March 2021 which, whilst reducing Toxic Algal Blooms, has not eliminated unhealthy Eutrophic dishwater-like conditions in which Avian Botulism spreads. Siltex treatment doesn't address the causes of Eutrophication, e.g. the floating islands & feeding food to birds at the Lakeside both of which increase rotting organic material in the Lake, & over-warm water partly due to lack of Lake-shading trees.

Friends of Boggart Hole Clough (FoBHC) continue urging MCC to plant a sweep of 15 White Willows (ancient woodland waterside trees) alongside the south-eastern promenade to cast shade across the Lake to cool the water. Photo (left), also taken 24.7.2021, shows two White Willows at the northeast side of the Clough Fish Pond.

This *Lake-shading sweep of White Willows* planting proposal is described in more detail in *Revivifying the Lake* (FoBHC, 17.10.2018) PDF on our website. This action plan, written after the 2018 outbreak of Avian Botulism, outlines several further proposals to restore the Lake's biodiversity health. But, to date, despite repeated requests, MCC has not carried out any of the proposals in this document - https://boggartholeclough.files.wordpress.com/2018/10/fobhc_17-10-2018_revivifying_the_lake.pdf

