

Restoring a Lake-shading Sweep of Trees

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

The Lake has suffered outbreaks of Avian Botulism since 2014 & since 2018 it has struck annually, e.g. approximately 60 Canada Geese, among other Waterbirds, died from this disease during July 2021.

These outbreaks, among other possible causes, have coincided with increasingly hot summers (Global Warming) over-heating the shallow Lake producing Eutrophic water conditions in which the bacteria of Avian Botulism thrives.



Photo (below left) taken 10.2.2007 shows a sweep of Lake-shading Manchester Poplars beside the southern Lakeside promenade. Later in 2007 these trees were felled due to Venturia Populina disease rendering them unsafe. Photo (above right) taken 27.11.2021 shows similar view to 2007 photo but without the former sweep of trees.



The Lake-shading function of the former sweep of Manchester Poplars was not recognized until relatively recently. It is proposed that a similar sweep of suitably tall trees be planted for this purpose. A mix of Common Alders & White Willows, potentially growing to 75 feet & 90 feet high respectively, would when grown cast substantial shade across the Lake, cooling the water during increasingly warm summers.

Alder cones sprinkling into the Lake would help balance the pH / alkalinity of the water (Wildlife Trust, Russell Hedley, 2021). Willow bark sprinkling into the Lake would help suppress blue-green algae (*Problem pond plants - managing algae*, Ponds Conservation Trust, 2001).

We're urging Manchester City Council to approve this planting project for which there is growing support. For the health of the Lake's Waterbirds, the sooner these shading trees are planted the better.

Among other related papers on our website: *Revivifying the Lake* (FoBHC, 17.10.2018).

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