

## **Summary of Key areas of rule revision**

The DNR revised numerous aspects of the Aquatic Plant Management (APM) rules. Eight of the key topic areas are shown below:

- 1) **Definitions** - commonly used terms in the rule are added or clarified.
- 2) **Standards for Permit Issuance.**
  - The revised rules clarify actions that require a permit.
  - The revised rules specify the criteria DNR will use to make permit decisions.
  - Since 1976 a few lake groups in the Twin Cities Metropolitan area have been allowed to do aquatic plant control in excess of the lake-wide limit on herbicide use. This has been referred to as the “Grandfather exemption.” This provision will sunset in five years and the DNR will work with municipalities and lake associations to develop lake vegetation management plans to guide aquatic plant management and permit issuance.
- 3) **Management Practices at Individual Properties.**
  - The revised rules reduce the amount of submersed vegetation control allowed adjacent to the shoreline to up to 100 feet or one-half their shoreline frontage, whichever is less, to protect near-shore aquatic habitat.
  - In the new rules the limits on mechanical and chemical control of submersed vegetation at individual properties are the same.
- 4) **Permit Requirements.**
  - The revised rules clarify required permit application information.
  - The revised rules specify when permits maybe issued for multiple years.
- 5) **Procedures to Deny, Amend, and Revoke Permits**
  - The revised rules specify procedures the DNR will use to deny, amend, and revoke permit requests.
- 6) **Lake Vegetation Management Plans**
  - The revised rules define the required elements of a lake vegetation management plan.
  - The revised rules describe the role of lake vegetation management plans in the permit process.
- 7) **Variance Process.**
  - The revised rules specify the criteria used to determine when a variance will be granted.
- 8) **Review and Appeal of Permit Decisions.**
  - The revised rules specify that requests for review of a permit decision shall be responded to in 15 working days after receipt of the request.