

City of Prescott
Public Works Department
433 North Virginia Street
Prescott, AZ 86301



Visit www.prescott-az.gov for
more information.



Watson Lake Water Enhancement

September 2025

UTILITY PROJECT

Watson Lake Reservoir is listed as impaired by USEPA and suffers from harmful algae and aquatic weed blooms as well as low dissolved oxygen and high pH. In response, the City developed and implemented an action plan for water quality improvement.

The project consists of water quality monitoring, installing lake circulators, conducting large-scale water and sediment treatments, regular use of an electric aquatic weed harvesting boat, and stocking Watson Lake with grass carp (white amur) to consume vegetation.

The City of Prescott's next step in Watson Lake enhancement is to perform a phosphorus reducing treatment of lake bottom sediment in autumn when the most phosphorus is free in sediment and can be inactivated. Planning for large-scale water treatment is currently underway. The planned treatment will further reduce aquatic weeds and harmful algae while neutralizing pH and improving dissolved oxygen levels to improve lake health, fish habitat, and recreation opportunities in the lake.

City Contact Information

Project Manager: Jeremy Cordova

Phone: (928) 777-1130