

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



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more information.



Watson Lake Water Enhancement

December 2025

UTILITY PROJECT

Watson Lake Reservoir is listed as impaired by USEPA due to harmful algae and aquatic weed blooms, high pH, and low dissolved oxygen caused by excess organics accumulated in the lake. In response, the City of Prescott developed and implemented an action plan for water quality improvement.

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

To date, The City has initiated monthly water testing and monitoring, installed four solar-powered water circulators, and performed two phosphorus binding treatments. Treatments resulted in no harmful algae or aquatic weed blooms during the summer of 2025. The City plans to continue Watson Lake monitoring and treatment under the Public Works new Healthy Lakes Program. Monthly water quality data summaries are available at the Participate Prescott Website Surface Water Quality Dashboard. Additional treatments are being planned for Spring 2026.

City Contact Information

Project Manager: Jeremy Cordova

Phone: (928) 777-1130