

As part of grounds maintenance work, F&O Division crews have been working on the East Campus Pond lately. The growth of native pond lilies has been so successful, that some trimming is required to keep them in check. Using two boats, an automated aquatic plant cutter, and a large rake, last year's lily pads and stems are being cut near where they grow up from the bottom and then raked to shore for disposal. The goal is to maintain a balance between open water areas and lily covered portions of the pond. Over the summer the lilies will send up new leaves and flowers. Frequency of lily pad removal will likely depend on whether we have mild winters, heavy grazing by muskrats, or low nutrient levels in the water.

Workers in attached photo:

Far boat (L to R) Travis Parks, David Brackett.

Near boat (L to R) Jesse Crabtree, Andrew Elmore