Research and development at the Kansas Aquatic Mesocosm Program (KAMP) of the Kansas Biological Survey at the University of Kansas

Plant Biofuel Harvested from Lakes and Ponds

Low Tech – Low Cost
High Production

Transportation Research Institute
Kansas Biological Survey
University of Kansas

Tons of plants continue to grow in aquatic habitats from point-source and nonpoint-source nutrient contaminants.

Removing these plant excesses helps to protect water resources.

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Processing these plants for fuel production provides a renewable resource.
Cheney Reservoir (9500 acres) near Wichita, Kansas, 2003

Marion Reservoir (6200 acres) near Marion and Hillsboro, Kansas, 2003

Growthsof massive that they can be seen from satellite images

Color-infrared satellite imagery detects algae blooms, shown in red on images.

“Sick of that musty, earthy odor that has become all too familiar in Wichita’s tap water?” (Wichita Eagle, July 20, 2003)

So disturbing that drinking water, recreation, and wildlife are impaired

“Following a three-week ordeal with anabaena algae in the Marion Reservoir, the water plants in Hillsboro and Marion were able to restore service in early July.” (Kansas Municipal Utilities Newsletter, August 2003)