WINTER PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

City of Winter Park Lakes (General) Pollution

You can lead carp to weeds, but you can't . .

Unique is tres chic in Winter Park, but city officials recently learned that exotic is uncool. Two "exotic" species have invaded the Winter Park Chain of Lakes and may muscle out the existing flora and fish, according to James W. Small, a Rollins College biology professor. In his final report on the college's assessment of area water quality, Small also cautioned against introducing another "exotic," the triploid grass carp that some biologists consider a natural weed killer. Grass carp, Small believes, simply are not smart enough to know good weeds that provide other fish with food from bad weeds that choke the oxygen supply. "There's no way you're going to teach a grass carp to eat the right weeds," he said.

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