



## 8/4/2021 Aquatic Services Report

### LAKE LINDEN

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*Dissolved Oxygen:* 9.2

*Temperature:* 79.1

*Vegetation Present:* Algae growth 5%, chara and floating chara growth 50%, horned/sago pondweeds 5%

*Work Done:* I sprayed for all of the surface algae and floating chara growth that I observed on the lake. I also went after some open water pockets of chara that were getting a bit overgrown. Water levels are down a bit further here as well which is also causing chara growth to appear much denser. I would expect treated areas to clear up in about a week's time!

### LAKE POTOMAC

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*Dissolved Oxygen:* 8.9 mg/l

*Temperature:* 79.7

*Vegetation Present:* Filamentous algae growth ~15%, chara ~15%, horned/sago pondweeds 25-35%, Duckweed 35%

*Work Done:* I treated for algae and excess submerged weed growth really focusing on the North end of the Lake. I went with a more focused blast to try and get some control back in areas where growth is thriving. Water has dropped down a bit more here causing my boat to kick up sediments more frequently, with this the sediments release nutrients that can cause growth and they can bind to our products and hinder our application in the area. Boat access is also becoming a bit more limited with the low water as well.

## SPRING LEDGE

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*Dissolved Oxygen:* 8.8 mg/l

*Temperature:* 80.2

*Vegetation Present:* Filamentous algae growth 5%, sago pondweed 5%, duckweed 1%

*Work Done:* I treated for the small amount of algae growth that was sticking to some shoreline areas. Water is a bit low but overall things here are looking good!

## WATERFORD LAKE

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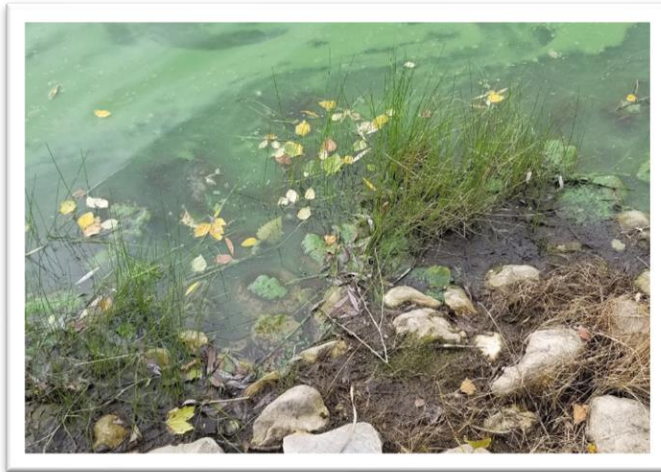
*Dissolved Oxygen:* 9.0

*Temperature:* 78.3

*Vegetation Present:* Planktonic Algae 100%, Blue-green planktonic 10-15%, filamentous algae 5%, horned/sago pondweeds 15%, Vallisnaria (eel grass) 15%

*Work Done:* Today I treated around the entire perimeter of the lake extending out 30-50 feet for planktonic algae, being sure to hit all of the blue-green growth. I also hit the small amount of filamentous growth and put a more focused application on the weeds in the North end of the Lake. The eel grass is acting very resilient against our products and Mechanical removal will likely be the best means for removal of the plant if it is unwanted. **With the blue-green sighting I would recommend keeping all pets out of and away from the water due to the phytotoxins that the blue-green algae contain. I would also suggest very limited recreational use of the water while planktonic blooms are present and to thoroughly wash off any water that makes contact to fisherman/kayaker, swimming I would avoid entirely.** I do recommend that we do some toxicity testing out on the lake to determine if there are any dangerous algal blooms present. See attached informational sheet.

## A McCloud Message: Harmful Algae Blooms and Cyanobacteria



**What is an algae bloom?** An algae bloom is when algae grows rapidly in a confined area and is visible without a microscope. *Not all algae blooms are harmful.*

**What is a harmful algae bloom?** Harmful algae blooms (aka HABs) are concentrated growth of blue-green “algae”, known as cyanobacteria. Cyanobacteria blooms can cause fish-kills, detriment

recreation, ruin aesthetics, and is also harmful to livestock, domestic pets, and humans. Cyanobacteria can also be high biomass producers, utilizing a lot of the oxygen in the aquatic ecosystem, depriving other species of oxygen. Species of cyanobacteria are difficult to identify without a microscope, so knowing whether or not a particular HAB is toxic is difficult. Treating each of these cyanobacteria blooms as if it is toxic is best practice by limiting access to the water until the bloom has dissipated or has been treated and deemed safe by a professional.

**What causes a harmful algae bloom?** Cyanobacteria is typically already present in the water, but temperature, light availability, and nutrient pollution can cause them to concentrate to the surface water causing a green “paint” appearance. These thrive in shallow non-moving bodies of water such as ponds and lakes. HABs typically occur in warm weather with nitrogen and phosphorus-rich water. It is difficult to prevent harmful algae blooms, but utilizing pond best management practices such as having a buffer zone, reducing fertilizer usage on lawns and keeping grass cuttings out of the water are all things that help reduce the phosphorous and nitrogen in the water which are all factors that feed these blooms.

**What should I do if I suspect a harmful algae bloom in my pond?** First step is safety. Because it takes laboratory testing to determine if an algae bloom is toxic, the safest route is to avoid contact with the water by humans and animals alike. Next step would be to contact your lake management specialist and alert them of the issue, and they can determine the best course to follow. One last thing is optional: You can report your algae bloom to the Illinois EPA using their bloomWatch app on your smartphone or tablet.