9/1/2021 Aquatic Services Report

LAKE LINDEN

Dissolved Oxygen: 9.2

Temperature: 80.3

Vegetation Present: Filamentous Algae growth <1%, Chara/Nitella 30-40% (mostly matted down to the lake floor), horned/sago pondweeds 5%

Work Done: No treatment was performed on Lake Linden today as things are looking great and pretty much clear of any nuisance growth with a nice established population of Chara and some native pondweed! The very minimal amount of algae growth already appeared to be decomposing and I ran my boat prop through the growth to break it up. I saw a good amount of fish activity throughout the lake today as well!

LAKE POTOMAC

Dissolved Oxygen: 8.9 mg/l

Temperature: 81.3

Vegetation Present: Filamentous algae growth ~1-3%, chara/nitella ~20%, horned/sago pondweeds 15%, Duckweed/watermeal 15% (mostly around shoreline)

Work Done: Today no treatment was performed on Lake Potomac as things have cleared up nicely with the past few applications. With a fish stocking upcoming in the fall I am going to let the remaining submerged weed and chara/nitella growth be so that the Lake has a healthy and biodiverse ecosystem prepared for the stocking! Duckweed and watermeal will start to drop out of the Lake naturally once temperatures start to cool down for the fall.

SPRING LEDGE

Dissolved Oxygen: 9.2 mg/l

Temperature: 78.3

Vegetation Present: Filamentous algae growth 5-10%, duckweed 5%, sago pondweed 5%

Work Done: Today I treated for the filamentous algae growth present around the shoreline of the pond and for the light scatter of planktonic algae. I also mixed a bit of product to try and clear up some of the duckweed scatter as well. I expect that vegetation should clear up in the next 4-7 days!

WATERFORD LAKE

Dissolved Oxygen: 9.8

Temperature: 79.7

Vegetation Present: Planktonic Algae ~30%; Chara/Nitella scattered growth; horned, Vallisneria and sago scattered pockets

Work Done: Today I only made an inspection of the Lake to check water parameters and progress from the supplemental blue-green algae application made yesterday on the 31st. Planktonic growth cleared up a good amount but there is still a very light suspension of planktonic algae which has pretty much all been blown into Thunder Bay and the West half of the remaining lake. Blue-green was still observed in Thunder Bay at the public access and around shoreline areas, as well as scattered around/on top of the mounds of Chara. We are looking at an additional application next week to continue to gain control back from the planktonic growth. **I would still advise to avoid swimming and other rec activities that involve direct contact with water; fishing is OK but be sure to wash off thoroughly and be weary of eating any fish as they may have ingested potential phytotoxins as well.** See attached informational sheet.

McCloud AQUATICS
Friends of the water

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.