What’s happening

**ZEBA MUSSELS FOUND IN LAKE RILEY**

Zebra mussels, an aquatic invasive species (AIS) were discovered in Lake Riley in October 2018. This is the first lake within the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District where they have been spotted. Zebra mussels live in dense clusters and can spread quickly. They attach to docks, boats, rocks, logs, and other surfaces in the lake, and can threaten recreation and the underwater ecosystem.

The District will continue to monitor the zebra mussel population in Lake Riley, and work with our partners to try to prevent this species from spreading to other lakes.

**DIVE DEEPER**

Interested in learning more? Explore the following reports on our website.

- **Aquatic plants**

- **Stormwater ponds**
  RPBCWD. 2013. Stormwater pond project.

- **Watershed study**

**GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR PROJECTS THAT HELP PROTECT CLEAN WATER**

Decreasing pollution, beautifying your yard, and creating habitat are all possible through a cost-share grant with the watershed district. The district’s cost-share grant program was created to help community members implement clean water projects. These could be projects that conserve water, like rainwater reuse systems, or projects that clean water, like raingardens.

**Awards:** up to $5000 (25% homeowner match)

Technical help available

**Interested? Contact:**
952-607-6481
mjordan@rpbcwd.org

Located in Eden Prairie, Red Rock Lake is a part of the Purgatory Creek chain of lakes. During high water events it outflows through an overflow pipe to Staring Lake.

**CHARACTERISTICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Size</td>
<td>121 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume</td>
<td>615 acre-ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average depth</td>
<td>4.7 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max depth</td>
<td>19 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watershed size</td>
<td>1286 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land draining directly into</td>
<td>332 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPCA lake classification</td>
<td>Shallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment listing</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trophic status</td>
<td>Eutrophic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common fish</td>
<td>Bluegill, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive species</td>
<td>Curlyleaf Pondweed, Eurasian Watermilfoil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can help! Remember to always clean, drain, and dry any watercraft and equipment when leaving a lake.

**ZEBRA MUSSELS FOUND IN LAKE RILEY**

Water that falls anywhere within the white border drains to Red Rock Lake.

**DIVE DEEPER**

Interested in learning more? Explore the following reports on our website.

- **Aquatic plants**

- **Stormwater ponds**
  RPBCWD. 2013. Stormwater pond project.

- **Watershed study**

**Contact us**

and find out how you can get involved

**DISTRICT OFFICE**
18681 Lake Drive East
Chanhassen, MN 55317

**CONTACT INFO**
952.607.6512
info@rpbcwd.org

**FIND US ON**

[instagram](#)
[facebook](#)
[twitter](#)

**LAND USE**

7% Commercial
55% Residential
21% Open Space
9% Roads
9% Open Water

**WASHINGTON**

**BARR ENGINEERING**

2018

**RAPID CITY**

**2018**

**HARRIS**

**18681 LAKE DRIVE EAST**

**CHANHASSEN, MN 55317**

**INFO@RPBCWD.ORG**

**952.607.6512**

**rpbcwd.org**

**FIND US ON**

[instagram](#)
[facebook](#)
[twitter](#)

**ZEBRA MUSSELS FOUND IN LAKE RILEY**

Water that falls anywhere within the white border drains to Red Rock Lake.
How healthy is Red Rock Lake?

After decades of failing to meet the clean water standards set by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Red Rock Lake has improved and been at or near standards since 2011. However, 2018 did see a small decrease in water quality. Continued water sampling will help monitor whether the trend persists.

The graphs on the next page show the trends over time. The red line on each graph marks the MPCA standard. The goal is for the average values (the dots) to be below the red line.

During the growing season (Jun - Sept), the city of Eden Prairie visits Red Rock to collect water samples and take measurements. The samples are tested for several compounds including total phosphorous (TP) and chlorophyll a (Chl-a). The city also measures how clear the water is using a disk that is lowered into the water until it can no longer be seen. These tests help indicate if the water is clean.

Red Rock is classified as a “Shallow Lake”, which means that it is generally less than 15 feet deep and light can reach the bottom in most of the lake. This ample light means that shallow lakes often have a lot of aquatic plants, and are habitat to many types of fish and birds. To be considered healthy by the MPCA, shallow lakes need to be clear enough to see one meter down, and have low TP and Chl-a levels.

Rainwater runoff, the water that flows across yards, parking lots, and streets into stormdrains, is one of the main causes of pollution in urban areas. You can take simple actions to help protect Red Rock Lake.

**Keep the curb clean**
Sweep up leaves, grass clippings, and fertilizer from driveways and streets.

**Water with care**
Grass requires 1-inch of water per week, about one hour of sprinkling per week if it has not rained.

**Salt smart**
The salt we use to melt ice can pollute our lakes and creeks. Use salt sparingly and always shovel first.

**Reuse the rain**
Collect and reuse rainwater with a rain barrel.

**Build a raingarden**
Raingarden soak up water and filter out pollution. Visit our website for help.

Red Rock is a shallow lake, which means that it is generally less than 15 feet deep and light can reach the bottom in most of the lake. This ample light means that shallow lakes often have a lot of aquatic plants, and are habitat to many types of fish and birds. To be considered healthy by the MPCA, shallow lakes need to be clear enough to see one meter down, and have low TP and Chl-a levels.

**Phosphorus** is a nutrient that plants and algae need for growth. It is often measured as total phosphorus (TP). Too much phosphorous can cause algae blooms.

**Chlorophyll a** is the main pigment in algae, so measuring Chl-a can tell us how much algae there is. Too much Chl-a means that there are too many nutrients in the water.

**Water clarity** is measured using a Secchi Disk, a black and white disk the size of a dinner plate. It is lowered into the water, and the depth at which it is no longer visible is recorded.