

## Duck Lake

Located in Eden Prairie, Duck Lake is one of the District's shallow lakes. Since 2011, it has seen improvement in water quality and met the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's clean water standards for several years.

From June to September every year, District staff visit the lake every two weeks to collect water samples and take readings. Samples are sent to a laboratory to be tested for nutrients and other compounds. Staff also measure water clarity by lowering a Secchi disk into the water and measuring how deep it goes before it is no longer visible. The data indicates the lake's health based on standards set by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

Duck Lake is classified as a "Shallow Lake" by the MPCA. To be considered healthy, the lake must meet standards set for shallow lakes. This includes low average phosphorus and chlorophyll-a levels and average water clarity of 1.0 meter (3.3 feet) or greater.



### Watershed Boundary



Duck Lake Water Quality Snapshot			
Parameter	Shallow lake standard	2025 average	Note
<b>Total Phosphorus</b>	Less than 0.06 mg/L	0.060 mg/L	No significant trend. Phosphorus has increased in 2025 and did not meet the standard.
<b>Chlorophyll-a</b>	Less than 20 µg/L	19.700 µg/L	No significant trend. Chlorophyll-a has increased in 2025, but remains below the MPCA standard.
<b>Water Clarity</b>	Greater than 1.0 meters	1.836 meters	No significant trend. Lake has met clarity standard for 12 years.

Water quality trends shown on back of page.



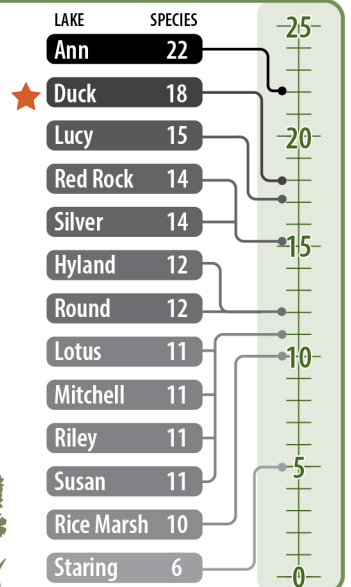
**Plant update:** Duck Lake was treated with herbicide for Eurasian watermilfoil in 2025, with a treatment area totaling 5.1 acres. The amount of vegetation present in Duck Lake may have impacted water clarity readings to be lower than actual measurement.

### Lake & watershed characteristics

Lake size	41 acres
Average lake depth	3.4 feet
Maximum lake depth	8 feet
MPCA lake classification	Shallow lake
Watershed size	233 acres
Impervious surface	20% of watershed
Impaired Waters listing	Not listed
Common fish	Bluegill, Black Crappie, Largemouth Bass, Green Sunfish
Invasive species	Curly-leaf Pondweed, Purple Loosestrife, Eurasian Watermilfoil, Goldfish

### Native Aquatic Plant Diversity

How does **Duck Lake** compare to **other lakes** in the District in **number of native plant species?**



# Duck Lake Water Quality by the Numbers

2025

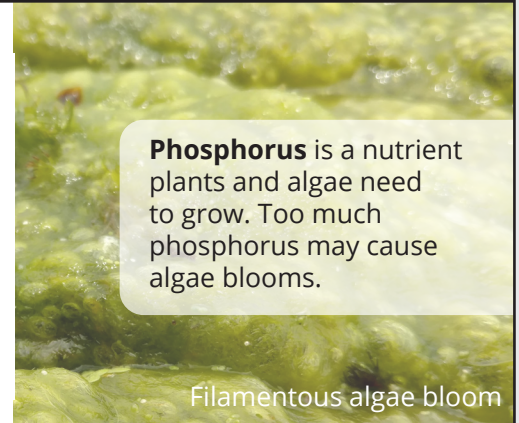
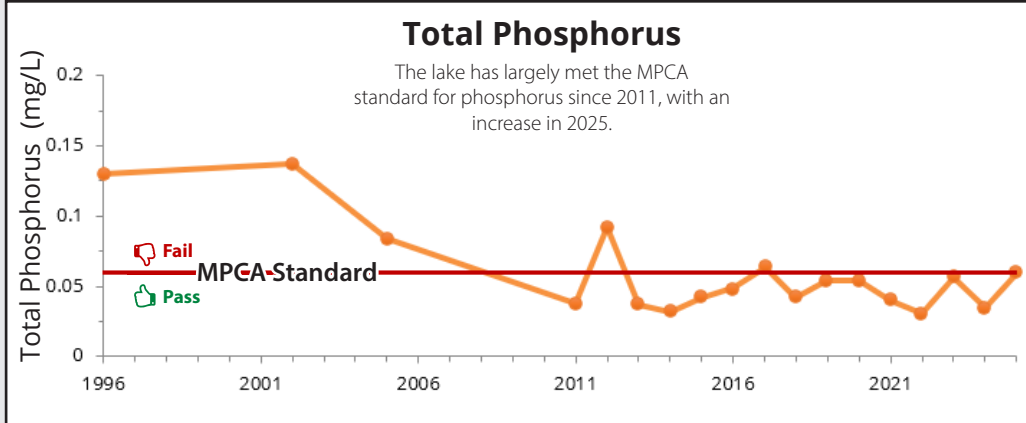
Water Quality Report Card



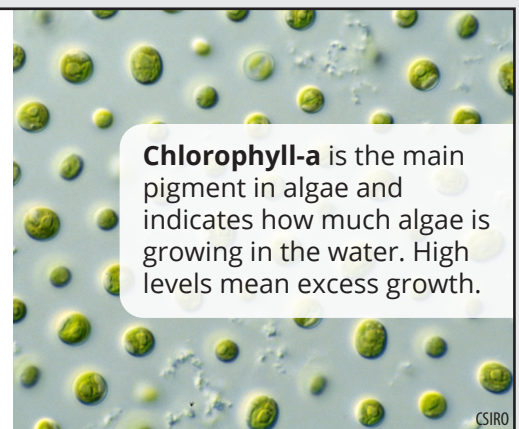
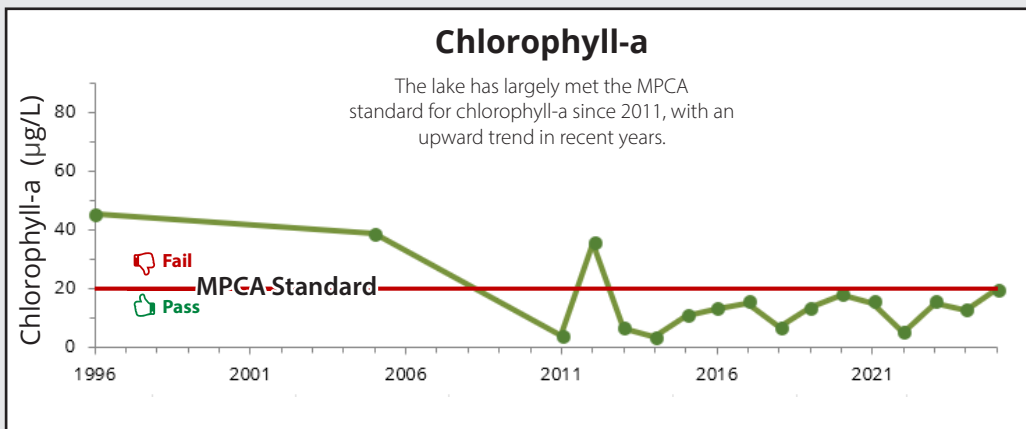
rpbcwd.org/grades

The graphs below show water quality trends over time with the red line representing the MPCA standard for shallow lakes. Over the last decade, Duck Lake has typically met the clean water standards set by the MPCA.

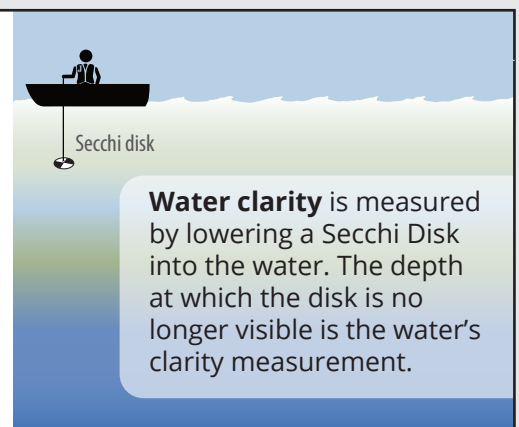
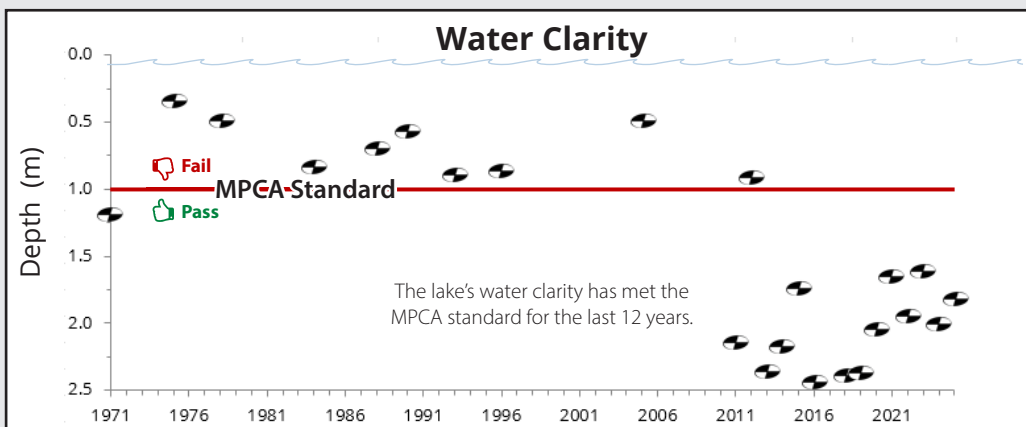
## Trends Over Time: 1972-present



**Phosphorus** is a nutrient plants and algae need to grow. Too much phosphorus may cause algae blooms.



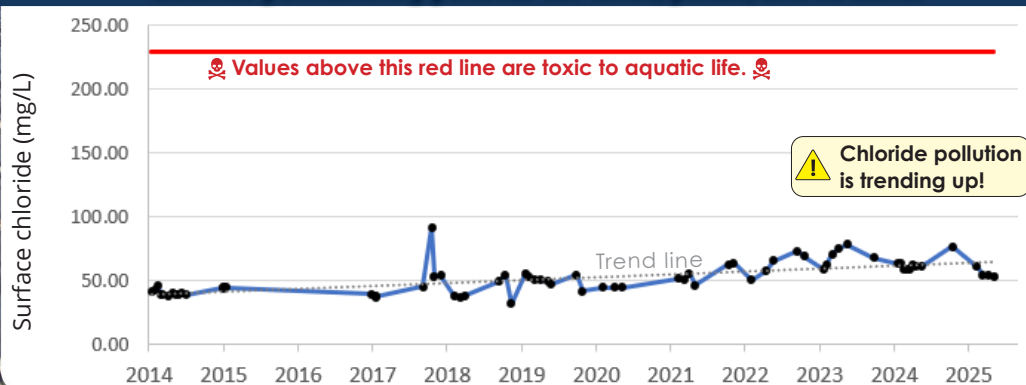
**Chlorophyll-a** is the main pigment in algae and indicates how much algae is growing in the water. High levels mean excess growth.



**Water clarity** is measured by lowering a Secchi Disk into the water. The depth at which the disk is no longer visible is the water's clarity measurement.

## Chloride: A Growing Concern

Chloride permanently pollutes our lakes, ponds, and streams!



### What can I use instead of winter de-icers?

All affordable & effective residential de-icing products contain chloride, even those labeled as "eco-friendly" or "pet safe."

Focus instead on reducing build up of ice on your property:

- ❄️ Shovel early & often
- ❄️ Prevent ice formation, avoid driving or walking on snow
- ❄️ Pile snow where it won't melt & refreeze on walkways

ONE TEASPOON of SALT POLLUTES 5 GALLONS of WATER FOREVER

Learn more [rpbcwd.org/salt](http://rpbcwd.org/salt)