



## JORDAN LAKE 2016 SNAPSHOT

Mike Backus continued his commitment to Jordan Lake by again doing regular water quality monitoring and aquatic invasive species monitoring, as well as serving as the District's County Board representative and regularly taking readings at the well on his property to track lake levels.

Average water clarity for the east basin was 15.1 feet (very good), with the west basin average close behind at 15.0 feet. Total phosphorus averages were also similar, with 12.5 micrograms/liter in the east basin and 12.9 micrograms/liter in the west basin (both in the good category). Chlorophyll-a averages were 2.4 micrograms/liter and 2.3 micrograms/liter respectively (very good).

Lake levels readings varied by 6 inches this year. This was less than most of the years in the past, when there were often very dry and very wet levels. With the steady rain in 2016, there was less variation. By the end of the boating season, many docks were under water due to heavy rain.

An updated aquatic plant survey was conducted in August 2016 with the help of Mike Backus and Scott Larson. The most frequently-occurring family was a combination of several plant-like algae species of the *Charophytes*. These made up 30% of the aquatic 'plant' community. The most frequently-occurring aquatic plant was *Potamogeton gramineus* (variable-leaf pondweed).

A careful eye was kept out for the invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), which has long been an issue in Jordan Lake. Although it is only a small part of the overall aquatic community, some beds were found this year in a few places. The District will be considering whether to continue with efforts at hand-pulling only or whether to resume some kind of chemical treatment.