

LAKE FACTS AS OF 6-26-2021 by Mike Backus

Lake Treatment

After two postponements because the chemicals failed to arrive in time from Indiana, the lake was treated for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) on June 2nd. It was a perfect day and the team was on site from 6:30am to 7:00pm. Leading up to the treatment date, the leader of the team and the DNR were provided with water temps six times looking for maximum effectiveness readings for treatment scheduling. As of this date, the results look very favorable.

Lake Level

The water level in early Spring after the ice went out was at about the same level as it was in late Fall. As of 6/26 the water level is down about 3" but is still 26" above the normal level before the high water started in 2018.

Water Temps

Aside from the water temp monitoring for the EWM treatment, the lake has been monitored six times thus far. During the winter a lake our size and depth has a pretty consistent water temperature from top to bottom. As the ice cover leaves and the outside temperatures rise, the water in the lake begins to mix and then stratify into layers of water temps. It actually turns over at some point in this process with the top layer going to the bottom and the bottom to the top. Spring stratification has taken place already and the current thermocline (10+ degree difference) is at 15' from the surface. No fish kill took place this year due to the depletion of oxygen that sometimes takes place at this time of the year. The warmest surface temp thus far was 77.7 degrees on 6/19.

Water Clarity

Tree bloom and algae were unusually high this early Spring! Most area lakes experienced the same situation and for unknown reasons. Did you know that one pound of Phosphorus from rain runoff that enters a lake can produce some 500 pounds of Algae!! Clarity readings were taken six times to date with the worst at 12' on May 11th and the best at 20' on June 9th. As of the 25th it was 12".

Chemical Testing

The normal chemical testing for Chlorophyll and Phosphorus were completed for May and June. The results of the analysis by Madison have not been published to date.

Boat Landing

Adams County stepped up and took the landing pier out of the water this past winter and also provided some needed repair work to it. Because of damage to a pier section, what was installed is shorter by one section. Positive steps! However, it would have been nice if they had taken the time to drive the pilings into the lake bottom to provide better stability!

Rain

Mother Nature has been kinder to us thus far this season. I show we only received 9.42" of rain since March 10th. Because of the dry weather, local field irrigation started early in the growing season which helps lower the water table. Milwaukee and Madison say the annual average rainfall is down some 7-9". Thankgoodness!