

# 2016 OLHA Water Quality Report (2015 CY results) courtesy of Rick Walklet

## 2015 TESTING RESULTS:

### Secchi Disc - Depths ranged from 12.5 to 18 feet (14.3 ft average)

#### Prior years averages :

2010-2014 averaged 14.9 ft

1999-2006 averaged 13.8 ft

#### RW comments :

- Best depth of 18 feet was 2 feet deeper than the best 2014 reading.
- Early shallow readings occurred after heavy rains in the spring.
- Average of all CLMP monitored lakes in 2015 was 12.8 ft.

### Phosphorus - 2015 avg was 10 parts per billion, down from 2014 level of 11 parts per billion

#### Prior years averages:

2010-2014 was 11.0 ppb

1998- 2008 average was 10.3 ppb

#### RW comments:

- Lower levels of phosphorous minimize the opportunity for algae blooms / improves water clarity.
- Minimize fertilizer run off into the lake to help keep levels as low as possible.
- Average of all CLMP monitored lakes in 2015 was 2.5.

### Chlorophyll A - 2015 avg was 3.9 parts per billion

#### Prior years averages:

2010 - 2014 was 1.8 parts per billion

1998 - 2009 was 1.8 parts per billion

#### RW comments:

- While our Chlorophyll A readings were higher than prior years, there were no significant consequences to our water quality (see the following CLMP assessment).

## 2015 CLMP assessment

The lake keeps some dissolved oxygen in the bottom waters thru early / most of the summer, but by late summer the bottom water is completely void of oxygen.

“Long term trends indicate that the trophic status parameters have not changed beyond minor year-to-year variations since monitoring began in 1999”.

#### RW comments

At the 5/1/15 training, the trainers shared that oxygen generation occurs to a depth of roughly 2 times the Secchi disc reading....after that point there is not enough light to support photosynthesis. Spring areas feeding the lake at greater depths can provide additional sources of oxygen.

2016 Testing will include Secchi, Phosphorus, Dissolved Oxygen and Chlorophyll-A.

## May 1, 2015 CLMP training key points

- Invasive plant species early identification for prompt countermeasures is crucial to avoid impact to our lake. I will bring photos / samples to our June 2015 meeting, since both lake and shore invasive plants will be more easily identified in late spring.
- One major way to help ensure we do not bring invasive species to lake is to make certain to CLEAN and DRY our boats if we take them to other lakes (both before launching into other waters and upon return to Oxbow).

Power wash the boat exterior / trailer / intakes / bilges / fish wells / bait wells / exhaust (Suggestion : use the coin op car wash across from Oxbow Window....use lots of soap).

Let EVERYTHING dry for 2 days before re-launching into our lake.