

## Grass Lake Questions and Answers, 2015 CSLAP

**Q1. What is the condition of our lake this year?**

A1. Water quality conditions in Grass Lake were probably similar in 2015 to those measured in previous years. Algae blooms were not reported, although overall algae levels were higher and water clarity was lower. Weed growth was again lower than normal.

**Q2. Is there anything new that showed up in the testing this year?**

A2. Chloride testing results were typical of lakes with only minor impacts from road salt runoff. It is not known if any shoreline blooms were present in 2015, given periodic blooms in (other) recent years.

**Q3. How does the condition of our lake this year compare with other lakes in the area?**

A3. Grass Lake had similar water clarity, but lower nutrient levels and similar algae levels, than nearby lakes. Aquatic plant coverage is usually comparable to the plant coverage in many nearby lakes, but was lower than normal in the last two years.

**Q4. Are there any trends in our lake's condition?**

A4. NOx readings have decreased, and aquatic plant coverage was decreased in recent years. It is not known if the latter is due to active management or natural changes.

**Q5. Should we be concerned about the condition of our lake? Are we close to a tipping point?**

A5. Water quality conditions are usually favorable in the lake, but the lake appears to be susceptible to fall algae blooms in the south end of the lake. Lake residents should be on the lookout for shoreline blooms or any nutrient inputs that might be contributing to these blooms.

**Q6. Are any actions indicated, based on the trends and this year's results?**

A6. Individual stewardship activities such as pumping your septic system, growing a buffer of native plants next to the water bodies, and reducing erosion from shoreline properties and runoff into the lake will help to maintain lake health by reducing nutrient and sediment loading to the lake. Visiting boats should be inspected to reduce the risk of new invasive species, since nearby lakes harbor several invasive plants not presently found in the lake.

<b>Lake Use</b>				
	PWL	Average Year	2015	Primary issue
<b>Potable Water</b>	□	□	□	Not applicable
<b>Swimming</b>	□	□	□	Not applicable
<b>Recreation</b>	◆	◆	●	High nutrients
<b>Aquatic Life</b>	◆	◆	◆	High pH
<b>Aesthetics</b>	●	◆	▲	Algae blooms
<b>Habitat</b>	●	●	●	No impacts
<b>Fish Consumption</b>	●	□	□	

● Supported / Good  
▲ Threatened / Fair  
◆ Stressed / Poor  
 Impaired  
 Not Known