

Lake George Questions and Answers, 2014 CSLAP

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

A1. The condition of Lake George continues to be very highly favorable. Water clarity is high due to very low algae levels, although nutrient levels are slightly higher than expected at some sites. Several invasive species are found in the lake, which potentially impact lake uses.

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

A2. The HABs testing includes information about the types of algae found in the water samples. These extensive results from multiple sites show very low total and blue green algae levels in the open water, and no shoreline blue green algae blooms have been reported.

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

A3. Lake George had much higher water clarity and much lower nutrient and algae levels than most nearby lakes. Algae blooms have not been reported. Aquatic plant coverage is highly variable from site to site, so it is difficult to compare plant coverage overall in the lake to other lakes in the area.

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

A4. Over the last decade, no clear trends have been apparent in the CSLAP dataset. Conductivity has increased slightly in the southern sites, although phosphorus levels have decreased slightly and algae levels have not changed in most sites.



















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






A5. Lake George continues to exhibit a low susceptibility to shoreline algae blooms, although this may change with climate changes. The lake continues to be susceptible to introduction from invasive species.

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 will help to improve lake conditions 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 found in the lake.

(Basin Bay Reference Site)

Lake Use				
Lake Use	PWL	Average Year	2014	Primary issue
Potable Water				No impacts
Swimming				No impacts
Boating / Fishing				Invasive plants
Aquatic Life				Invasive animals
Aesthetics				Invasive plants
Fish Consumption				Not applicable

 Supported
 Threatened
 Stressed
 Impaired
 Not Known