

# **Lake Mason & South Branch Creek Watershed**

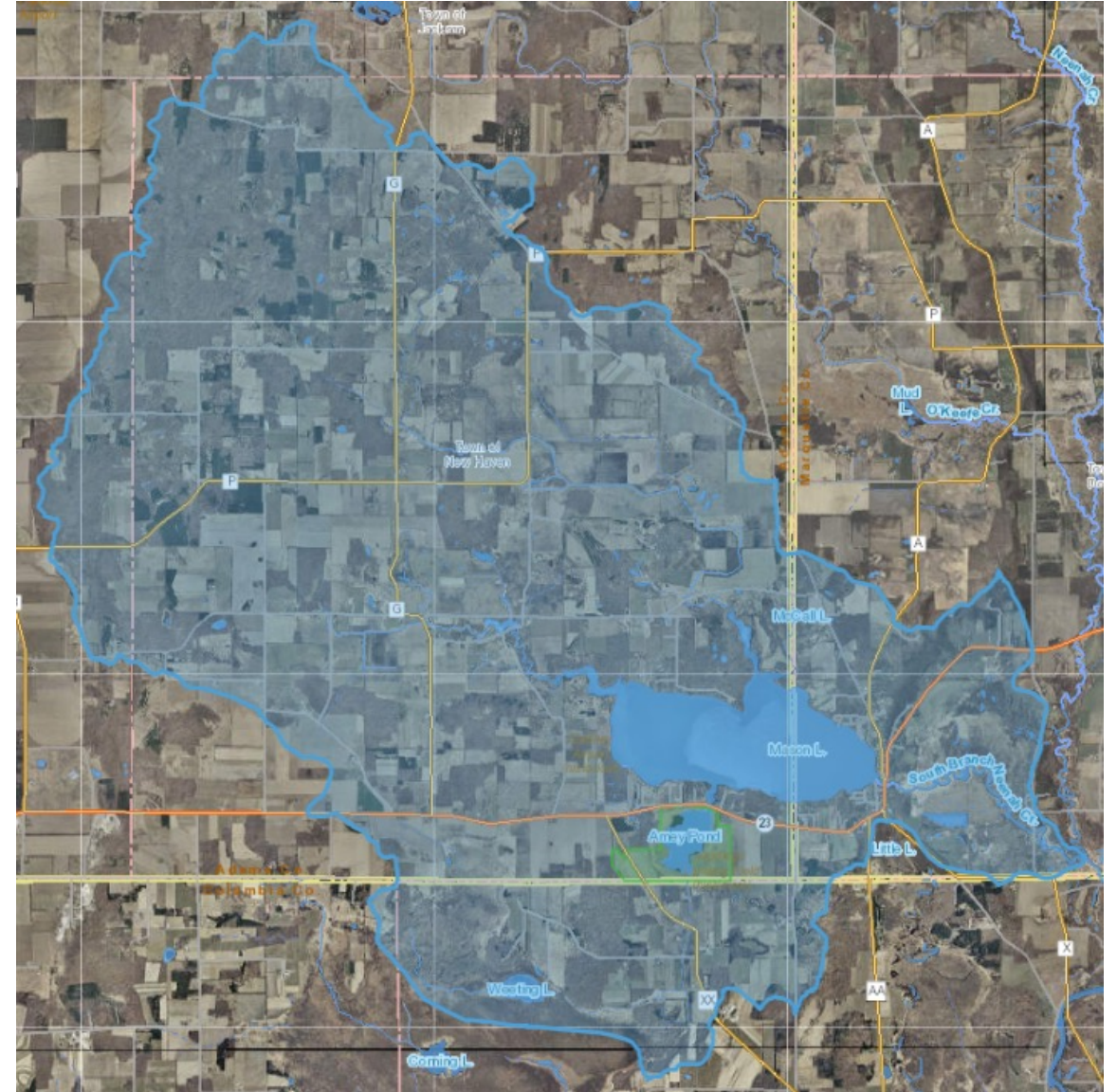
**Colton Hutchinson**

**Scott Provost**

**Jen Bergman**

# South Branch Creek Watershed

- Point Intercept Survey (2021)
- Long Term Trend Monitoring
- Citizen Lake Monitoring Network
- Stream Sampling by Volunteers
- Resources



# Fisheries

- Rough Fish Removal

- 3-year Landspread Permit Exemption Granted by DNR to Fisheries Program

- Thanks to the farmers willing to take carp and shad!

- (Jason Musiedlak, Ken Huber, and Jason Linder)

- 5,000lbs of carp and 800lbs of gizzard shad were removed; land spread

- Carp and shad removal was low

- Holiday market for carp fell early this year, Mason Lake still had ice.

- Asian carp flooded the market, Brooks could not find a buyer.

- Weird spring weather; few days of warm weather and then back to snow and cold; carp moved back to the stumps. Limited carp and shad removed, Brooks is eating that cost for his time, travel, etc.

- **Plans to be out in Late October – Early November**

- Fish survey planned for 2024; Rotation Schedule (all lakes are on rotations; Mason Lake has had “add-on” fish surveys over the recent years)

- **Common Carp Management and the Lost Island Lake Restoration Presentation**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4ebQmWb9Rc&t=2677s>

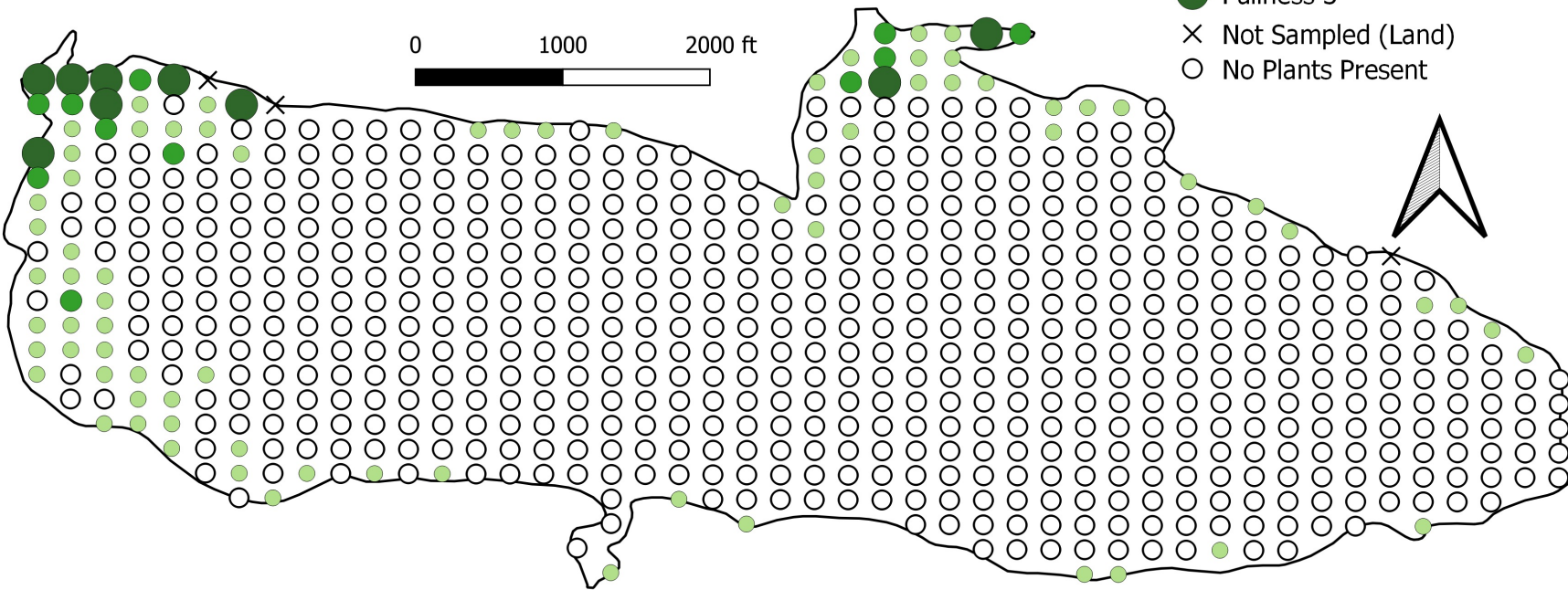
# Aquatic Plant Point-Intercept Survey




Mason Lake, Adams County  
7/19/21 - 7/22/21



## Aquatic Plant Distribution

- Fullness 1
- Fullness 2
- Fullness 3
- × Not Sampled (Land)
- No Plants Present



Fullness Rating	Coverage	Description
1		Only few plants. There are not enough plants to entirely cover the length of the rake head in a single layer.
2		There are enough plants to cover the length of the rake head in a single layer, but not enough to fully cover the tines.
3		The rake is completely covered and tines are not visible.

# Plant Community

Common Name	Scientific Name	Frequency of Occurrence in Vegetated Areas (%)	Relative Frequency	# of Sites Found	Avg. Rake Fullness	# Visual Sightings
Coontail	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	67.74	39.6	63	1.37	6
Eurasian Watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	22.58	13.2	21	1.10	2
Sago Pondweed	<i>Stuckenia pectinata</i>	22.58	13.2	21	1.19	4
Common Waterweed	<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	19.35	11.3	18	1.00	0
Small Duckweed	<i>Lemna minor</i>	11.83	6.9	11	1.27	10
Slender Naiad	<i>Najas flexilis</i>	7.53	4.4	7	1.00	0
White Water Lily	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	5.38	3.1	5	1.80	6
Long-Leaf Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton nodosus</i>	4.30	2.5	4	2.75	3
Small Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton pusillus</i>	4.30	2.5	4	1.00	0
Curly-Leaf Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	3.23	1.9	3	1.00	0
Muskgrasses	<i>Chara</i> spp.	1.08	0.6	1	1.00	0
Large Duckweed	<i>Spirodela polyrhiza</i>	1.08	0.6	1	1.00	1



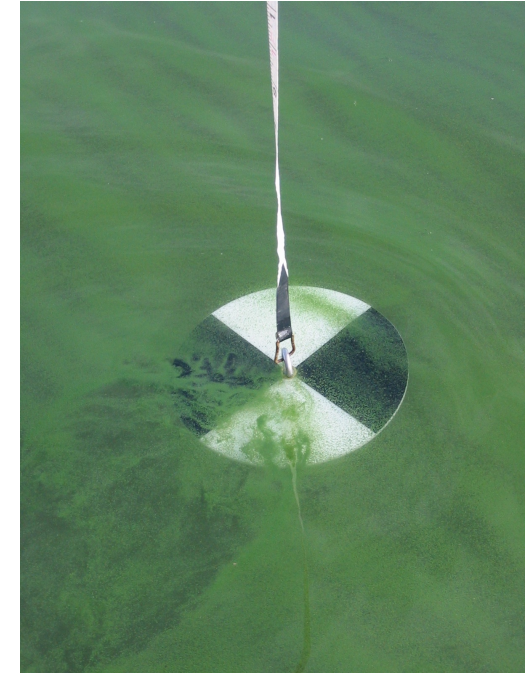
Total number of sites visited	697
Total number of sites with vegetation	93
Total number of sites shallower than maximum depth of plants	323
Frequency of occurrence at sites shallower than maximum depth of plants	28.79
Floristic Quality Index	16.13
Maximum depth of plants (ft)	6.00
Species Richness	12
Species Richness (including visuals)	12



# Long Term Trend vs CLMN Lake Monitoring

- LTT

- Collected by DNR Staff
- Spring, July, August, September
- Temp Profile, Dissolved Oxygen, Secchi Depth, Chlorophyll a, Total Suspended Solids, Total Phosphorous



- CLMN

- Collected by Citizen Volunteers
- Spring, June, July, August
- Chlorophyll a, Total Phosphorous, Secchi Depth



# Trophic Classification on Lakes



## **OLIGOTROPHIC**

- Clear water, low productivity
- Very desirable fishery of large game fish



## **MESOTROPHIC**

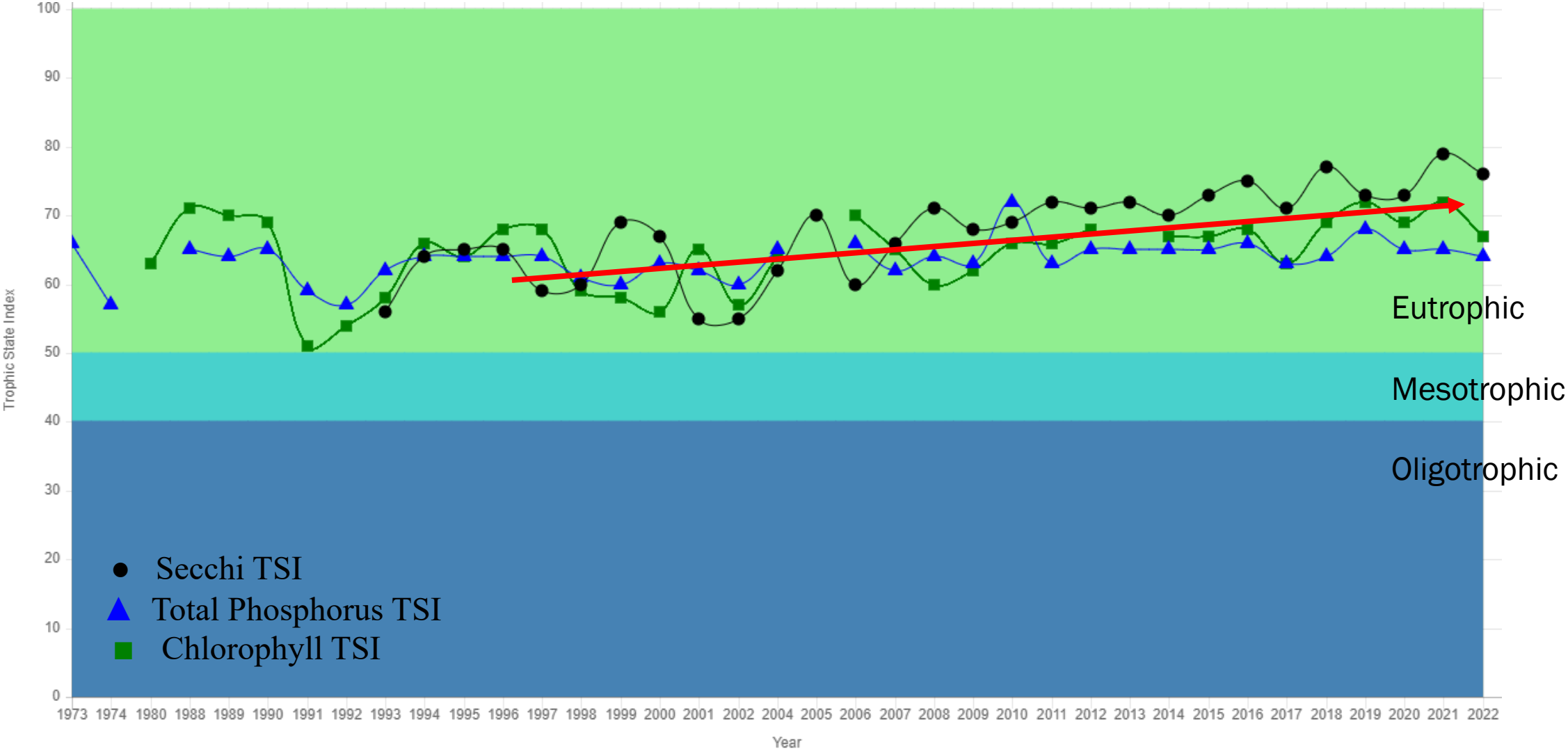
- Increased production
- Accumulated organic matter
- Occasional algal bloom
- Good fishery



## **EUTROPHIC**

- Very productive
- May experience oxygen depletion
- Rough fish common

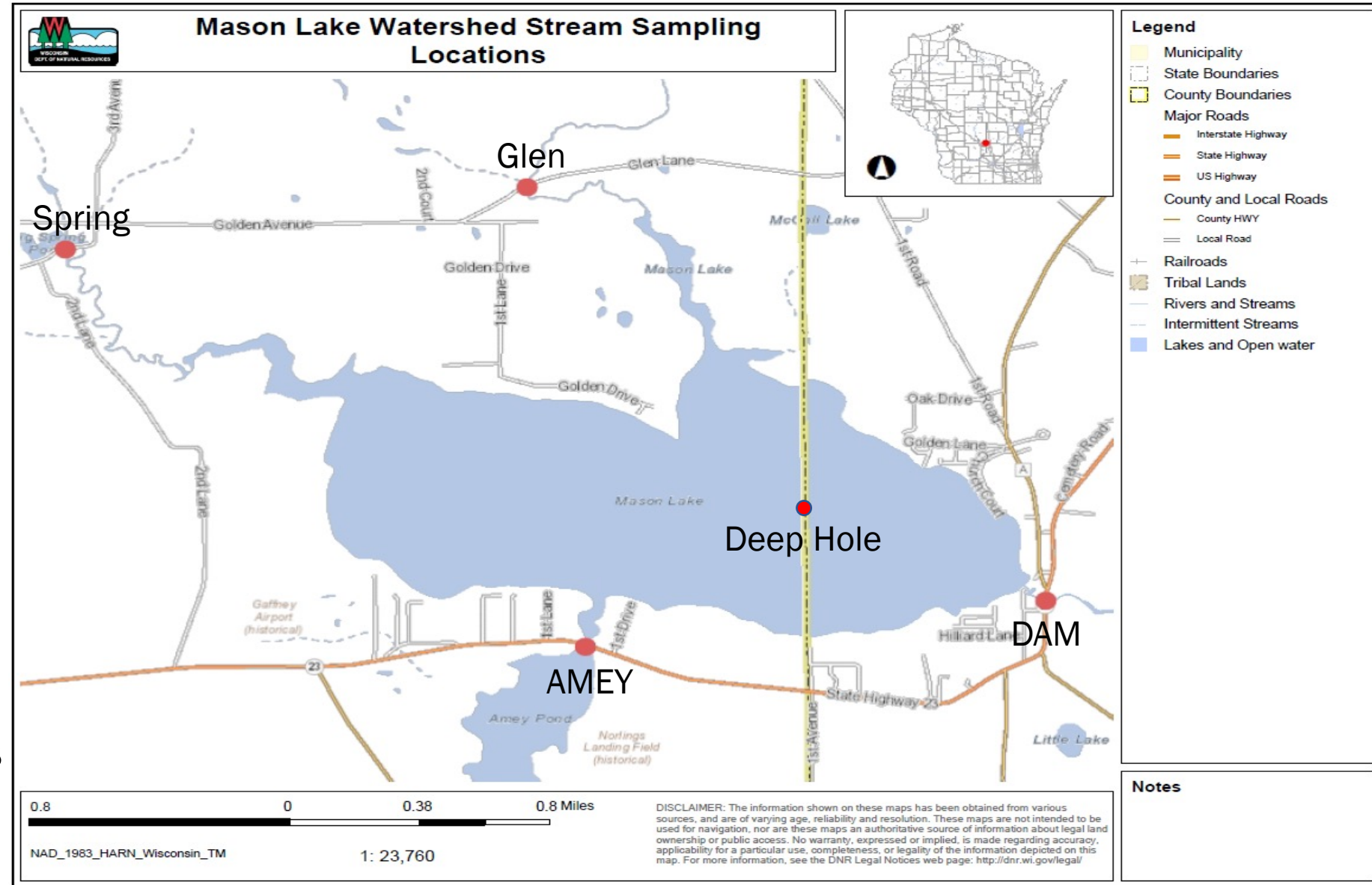
# Trophic Status Index





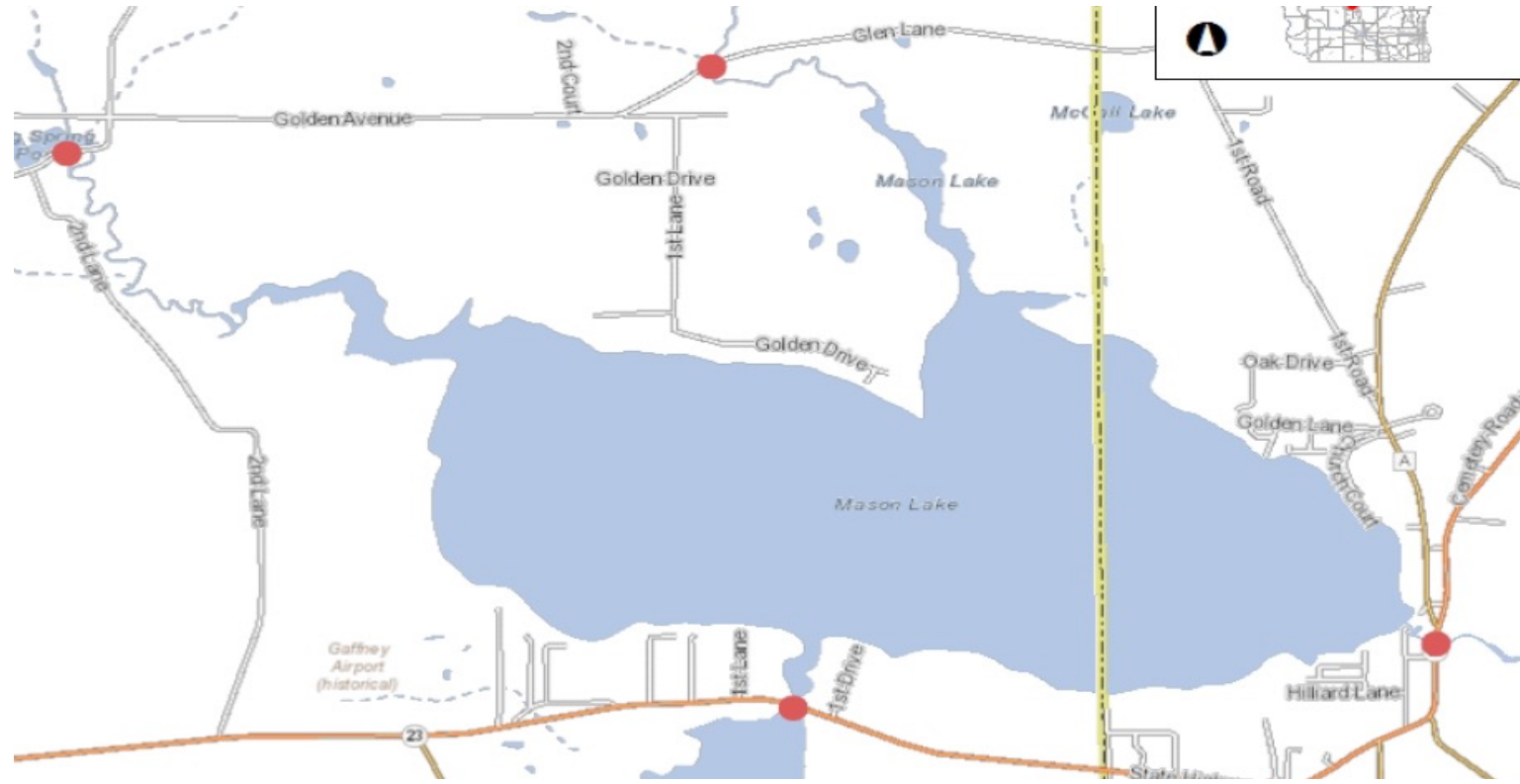
# Stream Sampling

- Sampling Time
  - April – April 2024
  - Monthly
- Parameters:
  - Temperature
  - DO (mg/L)
  - % Saturation
  - Streamflow
  - Suspended Solids
  - Total Nitrogen
  - Total Phosphorous



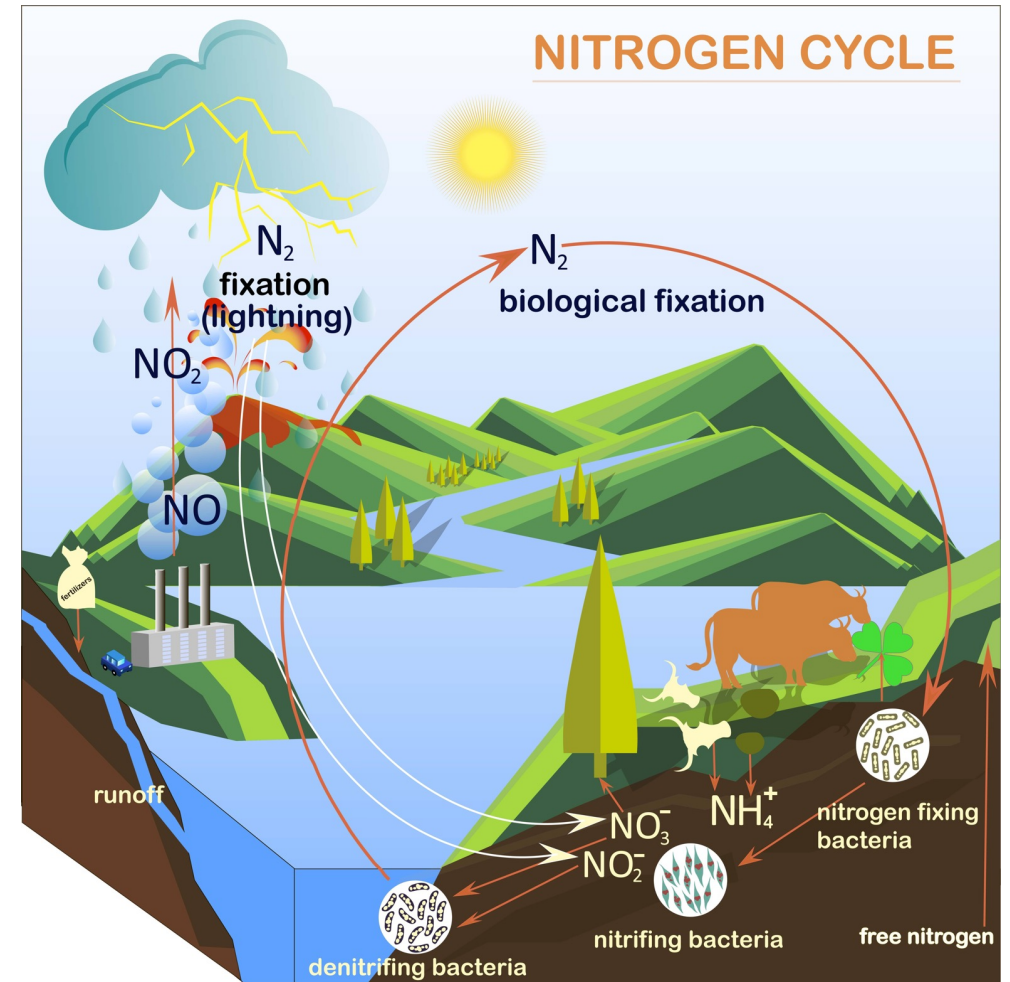
# Stream Parameters

Location	Temp Range	Avg Temp	% Saturation	DO mg-L	TSS
Spring	12.7 - 18.2	16.18	115.26	11.12	7.77
Glen	10.2 - 21.0	16.48	104.68	10.21	15.10
Amey	16.0 - 26.2	21.70	111.49	9.97	12.79
Dam	13.3 - 25.9	21.55	103.78	9.60	30.77



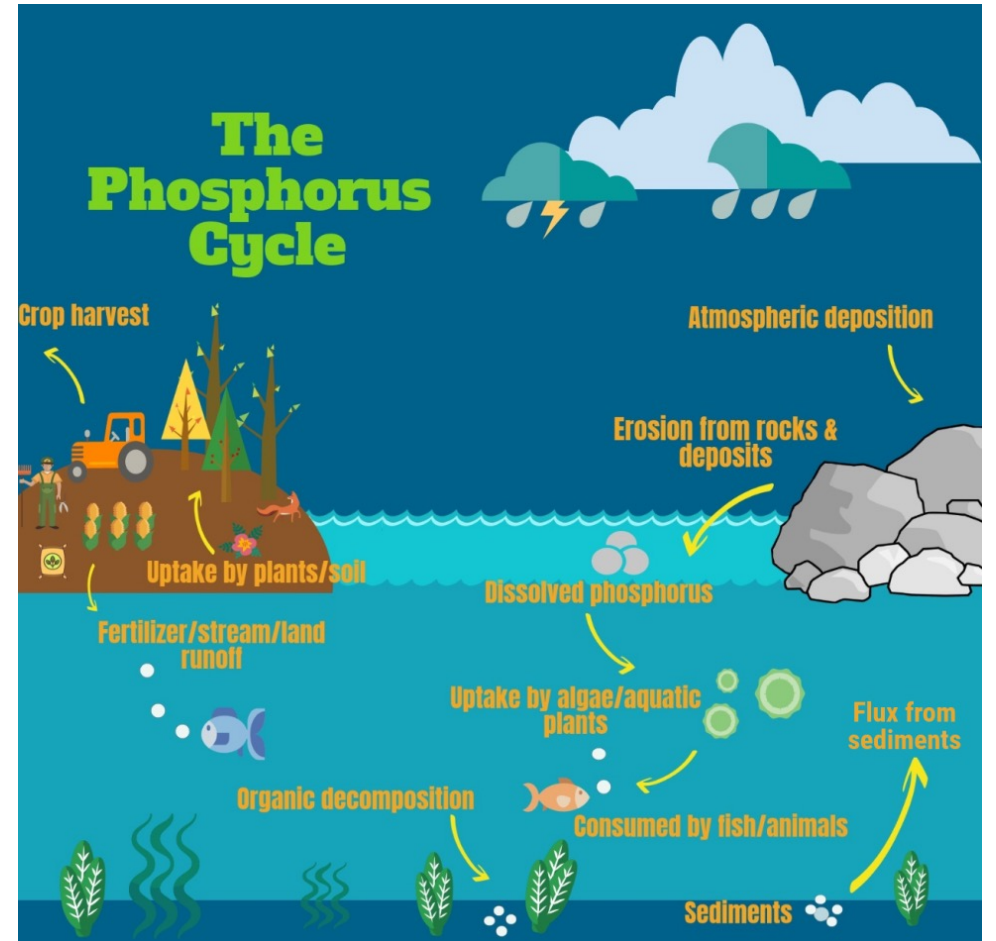
# Total Nitrogen Background

- No Standards in WI
- EPA Thresholds: 2 – 6 mg/L of Total Nitrogen for Streams
  - 0.30 mg/L of Inorganic N can sustain Algae Blooms
- Sources:
  - Fertilizer
  - Animal Manure
  - Septic Systems

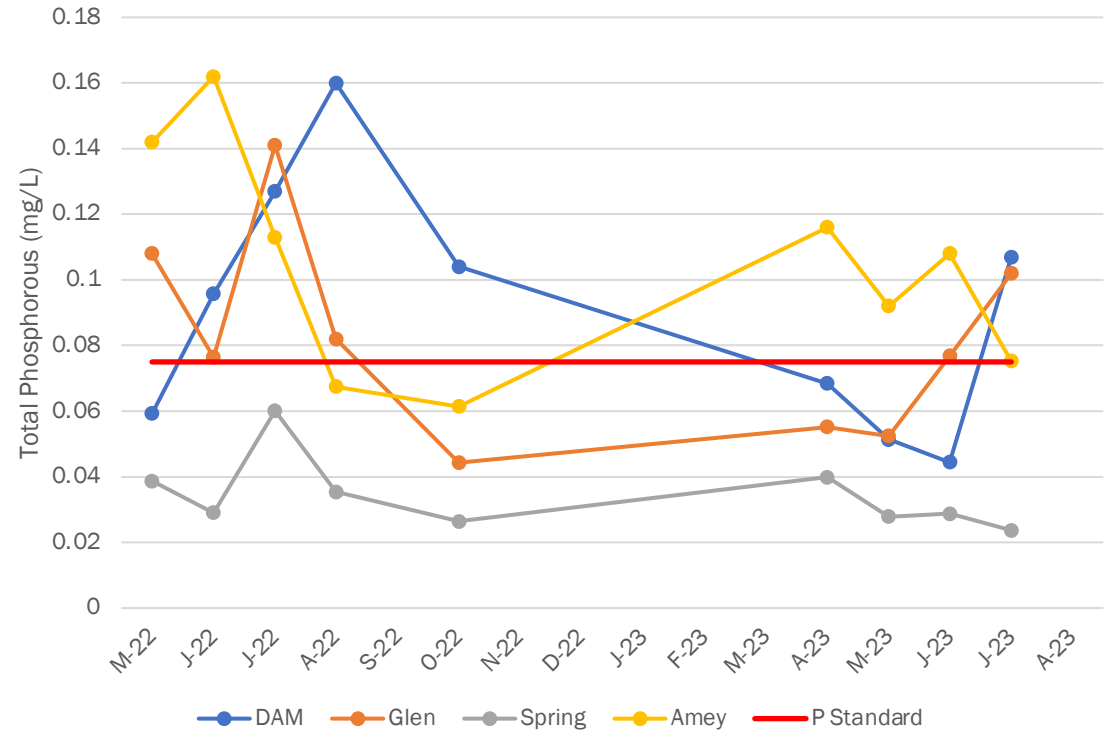
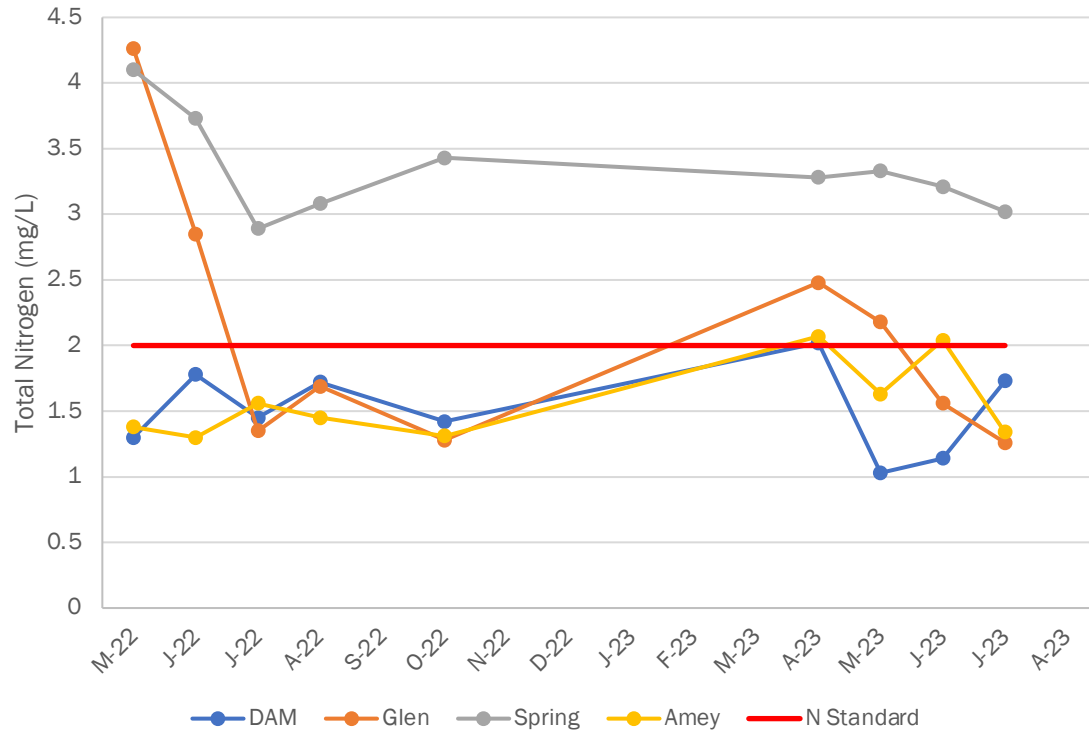


# Total Phosphorous Background

- NR 102.06
  - Streams and Rivers: 0.075 to 0.10 mg/L
  - Lakes: 0.015 to 0.040 mg/L
- Sources:
  - Erosion of Sediment
  - Fertilizer
  - Resuspension



# Results So Far...



Location	Daily Load of NO2+NO3	Daily Load of Phosphorous
DAM	210.72	13.25
Glen	19.45	0.79
Spring	328.52	3.40
Amey		

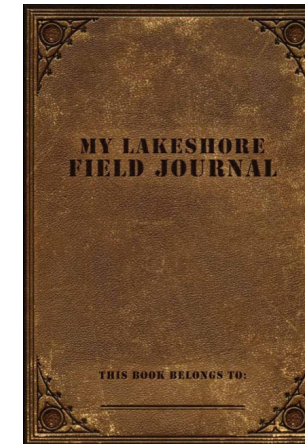
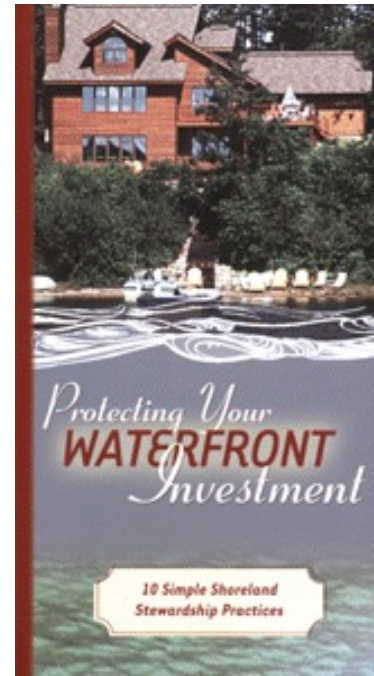
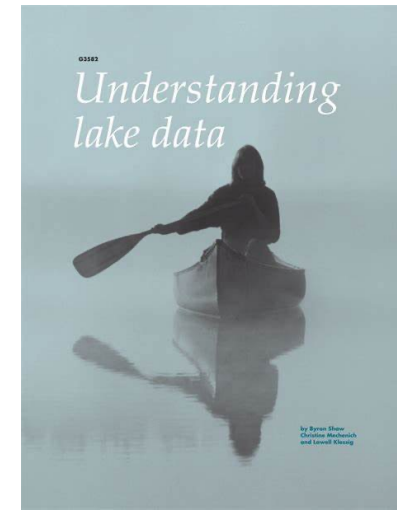
# Resources:

- <https://healthylakeswi.com/>
- <https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/lakes/lakepages/>
- <https://learningstore.extension.wisc.edu/>
- <https://knowlesnelson.org/>
- <https://www.ducks.org/>
- <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/contact/Hotline.html>

**REPORT A VIOLATION**

**CALL OR TEXT 1-800-847-9367**

**SUBMIT A VIOLATION REPORT ONLINE**



# CONNECT WITH US

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OFF THE RECORD"