

WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

PARKER POND, Fayette

MIDAS: 5186, Sample Station # 1, (North)

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME-DEP) and the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) have collaborated in the collection of lake data to evaluate water quality, track algal blooms, and determine water quality trends. This data set does not include bacteria, mercury, or nutrients other than phosphorus.

Water quality monitoring datasets for Parker Pond Sample Station # 1 have been collected since 1976. During this period, 19 years of basic chemical information was collected in addition to Secchi Disk Transparencies (SDT). In summary, the water quality of Parker Pond is considered above average based on measures of SDT, total phosphorus (TP), and Chlorophyll-a (Chla). The potential for nuisance algal blooms on Parker Pond is low.

Water Quality Measures: Parker Pond Sample Station # 1 is an uncolored lake (average color 12 SPU) with an average SDT of 7.2 m (23.6 ft). The range of water column TP for Parker Pond is 5-13 parts per billion (ppb) with an average of 8 ppb. Chla ranges from 1.4 - 3.6 ppb with an average of 2.5 ppb. Recent dissolved oxygen (DO) profiles show moderate DO depletion in deep areas of the lake. The potential for phosphorus to leave the bottom sediments and become available to algae in the water column (internal loading) is low. Oxygen levels below 5 parts per million stress certain cold water fish, and a persistent loss of oxygen may eliminate or reduce habitat for sensitive cold water species.

Sample Station # 2

Water quality monitoring datasets for Parker Pond Sample Station # 2 has been collected since 1980 (11 individual years). During this period, 7 years of basic chemical information was collected, in addition to Secchi Disk Transparencies (SDT). In summary, the water quality of Parker Pond is considered to be well above average, based on measures of SDT, total phosphorus (TP), and Chlorophyll-a (Chla). The potential for nuisance algae blooms on Parker Pond is low.

Water Quality Measures: Parker Pond Sample Station # 2 is an uncolored lake (average color 10 SPU) with an average SDT of 6.9 m (22.6ft). The range of water column TP for Parker Pond is 6-11 parts per billion (ppb) with an average of 8 ppb, while Chla ranges from 2.5-3.0 ppb with an average of 2.8 ppb. Recent dissolved oxygen (DO) profiles show moderate DO depletion in deep areas of this part of the lake. The potential for TP to leave the bottom sediments and become available to algae in the water column (internal loading) is low. Oxygen levels below 5 parts per million stress certain cold water fish, and a persistent loss of oxygen may eliminate or reduce habitat for sensitive cold water species. The moderate DO depletion may be causing some problems for cold water fish in this regard.

See the Maine DEP *Explanation of Lake Water Quality Monitoring Report* for measured variable explanations. Additional lake information can be obtained by contacting Maine DEP at 207-287-3901 or VLMP at 207-783-7733, and at these Websites: <http://www.lakesofmaine.org> and <http://www.maine.gov/dep/water/lakes/index.html> and <http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org>.

Filename: park5186-01,&_02, Revised: 3/02, By: rb. Updated 10/11, By: lal.