



9 MILE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MINNETOGA LAKE FACT SHEET

Overall Health of Minnetoga Lake

Water quality of Minnetoga Lake is fair, with chlorophyll-a and water clarity better than state standards. Phosphorus is the nutrient that fuels algae and plant growth. Too much phosphorus can lead to unwanted algae blooms in a lake. The higher levels of phosphorus in Minnetoga Lake is from stormwater nutrient loading and explains algal growth that can occur later in summer. The plant data collected by the district also show great diversity with at least 13 different plant species present. Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and the city of Minnetonka will continue to monitor lake health and adjust maintenance in the future if necessary. Minnetoga Lake is a Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) lake. Citizen volunteers collect water samples which are analyzed by the Met Council. This data is used to supplement District monitoring data. Thank you to our CAMP volunteers.

Minnetoga Lake Projects

To maintain the health of Minnetoga Lake, in 2006, the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District installed three stormwater detention ponds and upgraded two additional ponding areas to stormwater detention ponds. These improvements were part of the larger Minnetonka Lakes Water Quality Improvement Project. The project's goal was to reduce the amount of phosphorus entering the lake by filtering stormwater before it enters the lake.

This project cemented Minnetoga Lake's reputation as a healthy lake suitable for fishing and swimming.

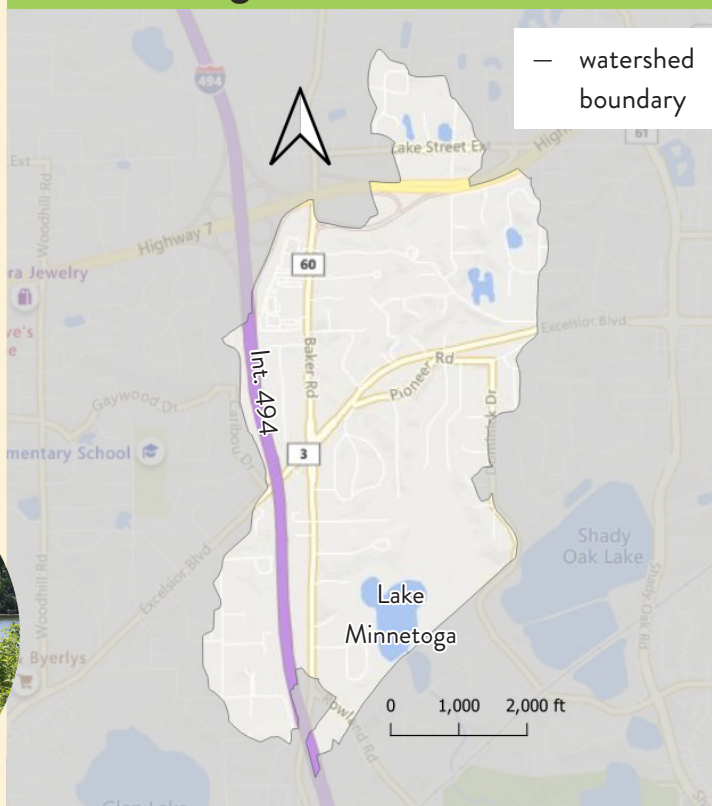


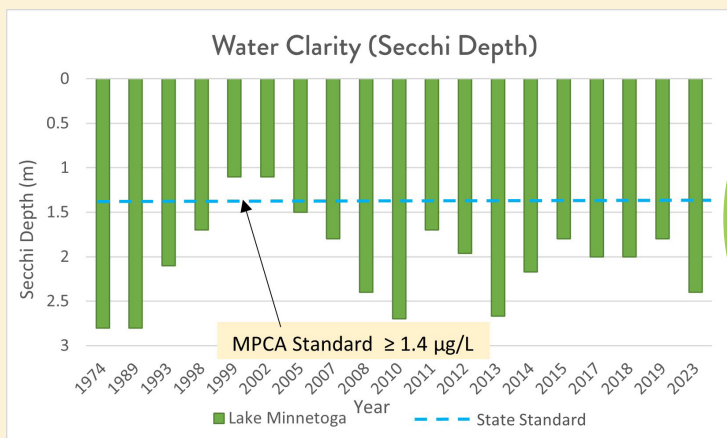
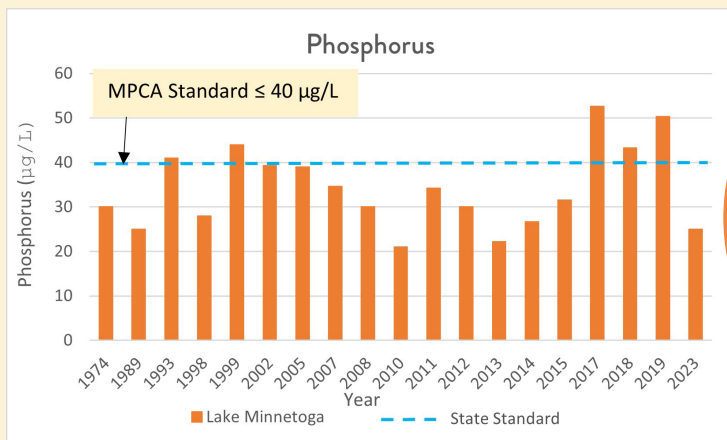
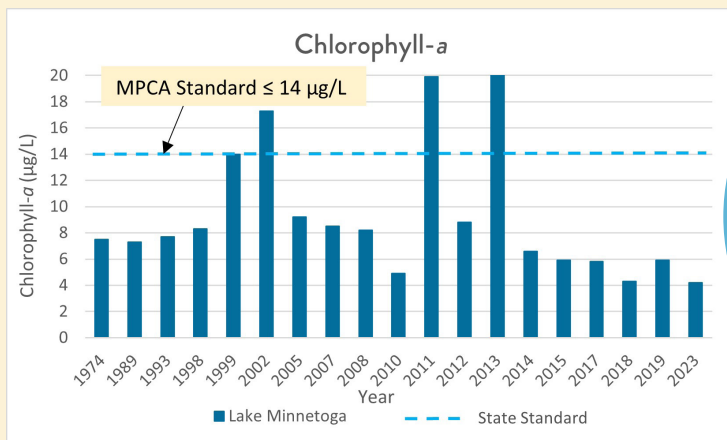
Minnetoga Lake, Minnetonka

Lake Characteristics

Surface Area	15 acres
Average Depth	13 feet
Max Depth	27 feet
Watershed Size	694 acres
Location	Minnetonka
Invasive Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Curly-leaf pondweed• Purple loosestrife• Reed canary grass• Narrow-leaved cattail

Minnetoga Lake Watershed





What is Chlorophyll-a ?
 Chl-a is the chemical that makes algae green. High levels of chl-a can mean that there is too much algae in the water. The lower levels of chl-a in Minnetoga Lake indicate that water quality is good.

What is Phosphorus?
 Phosphorus is a nutrient that algae need to grow. Too much phosphorus can “over-feed” algae in a lake, which can lead to algae blooms. Minnetoga Lake’s low phosphorus levels indicate good water quality.

What is Secchi Depth?
 Secchi Depth is a measurement of water clarity. To take the measurements, a Secchi disk is lowered into the water until it is no longer visible. These high Secchi depth values indicate good water clarity.

Recreation

Fishing
 Minnetoga Lake does not have public access for fishing.



Walking & Biking
 Regional trail passes along Minnetoga Lake for 1/10 miles.



Parks
 Minnetoga Lake does not have any public parks.



Swimming
 No public swimming beach.



Boating
 There is no public boat launch on Minnetoga Lake.



Learn more:
ninemilecreek.org

How Can You Help?

1



Clean watercraft and water equipment of all aquatic plants and mussels before leaving a body of water.

Why?

It is important to clean water equipment to reduce the spread of invasive species.

2



Sweep up leaves, grass clippings, and excess fertilizer from driveways and streets.

Why?

Sweeping up yard waste will limit the amount of pollution that enters lakes through storm drains.

3



Dispose of trash and pet waste appropriately.

Why?

Picking up your trash and pet waste will help keep pollutants out of our lakes and creeks.

4



Plant native plants in your garden, and water with care.

Why?

Native plants have long roots that are more efficient at soaking up water and prevent runoff.