



## Overall Health of Mirror Lake

Water quality of Mirror Lake is poor, measurements for phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and water clarity failed to meet the state standards for shallow lakes. Mirror Lake experiences frequent algal blooms as a result of excess nutrients coming into it from the surrounding watershed and curly-leaf pondweed. The blue-green algae in these algal blooms can pose health risks for lake users and pets because of the potential for algal toxins to form.

There is also limited plant diversity in Mirror Lake. During the 2019 plant survey, only two plant species were catalogued—both of them were invasive species.



*Curly-leaf pondweed, an aquatic invasive species*

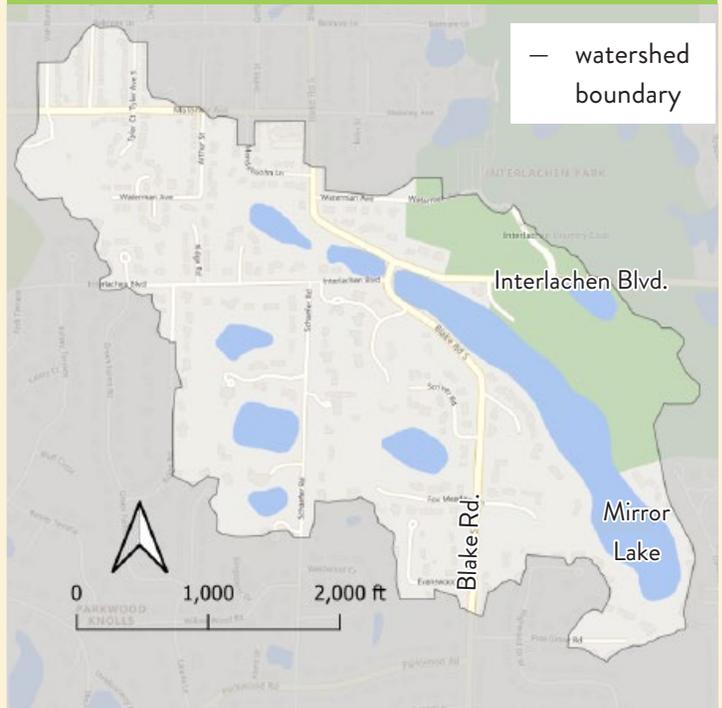
## Mirror Lake Projects

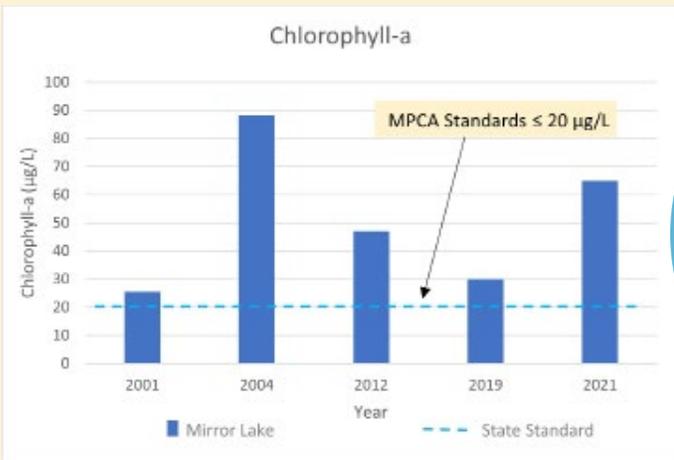
The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District has not conducted any major water quality improvement projects on Mirror Lake. Currently, the District is undertaking a lake water quality study to identify potential water quality improvement projects to help improve the overall health of Mirror Lake. The study will be completed in 2023.

## Lake Characteristics

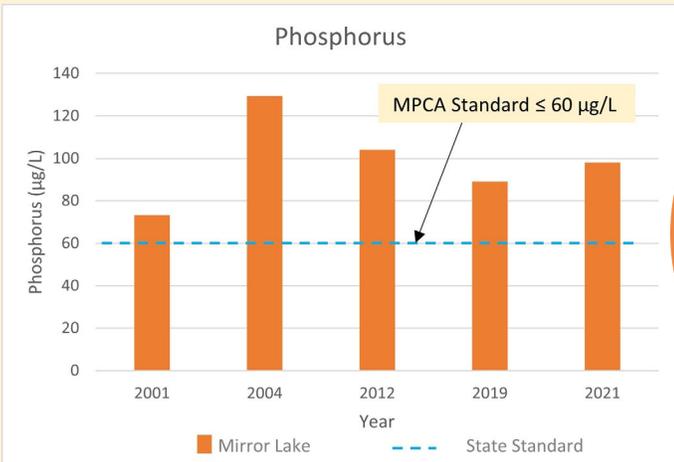
Surface Area	25 acres
Average Depth	3.5 feet
Max Depth	21 feet
Watershed Size	526 acres
Location	Edina
Invasive Species	Purple loosestrife Curly-leaf pondweed

## Mirror Lake Watershed

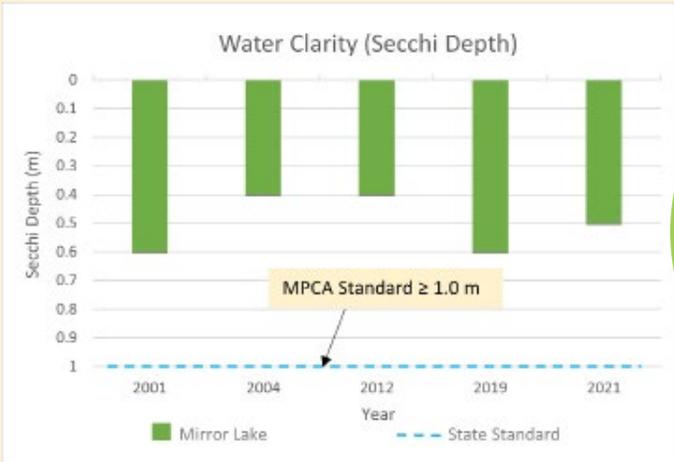




**What is Chlorophyll-a ?**  
 Chl-a is the chemical that makes algae green. High levels of chl-a can mean that there is too much algae in the water. The higher levels of chl-a in Mirror Lake indicate that water quality is poor.



**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. Mirror Lake’s high phosphorus levels indicate poorer 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 low Secchi depth values indicate poor water clarity.

## Recreation

- Fishing**  
Mirror Lake does not have public access for fishing. 
- Walking & Biking**  
Mirror Lake does not have public trails. 
- Parks**  
Mirror Lake does not have park amenities. 
- Swimming**  
No public swimming beach. 
- Boating**  
Mirror Lake does not have public boat access. 

**Learn more:**  
[ninemilecreek.org](http://ninemilecreek.org)

## How Can You Help?



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.



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.



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.



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.