

It's been a tough summer for the lake. A combination of heat, very little rain and a third less water than we normally have during the summer months can take its toll on a body of water. Allied Biological was here about every two weeks, checking on the health of our lake. At times the lake was so low we couldn't get into certain coves to treat. When we could get to those areas our DO (dissolved oxygen) was so low (due to the warm temperature of the water that treating could have caused a fish kill. (Treated, dying weeds use oxygen to break weeds down, which takes oxygen away from the fish and can cause their death) So often, we were caught between a rock and a hard place. Trust me, we have been monitoring the health of this lake constantly. You have no idea after all these years of overseeing the health and appearance of this lake, how frustrating it was not to be able to fix it. I can't thank everyone enough for your patience during this tough summer.

But things are looking up. Mid Aug brought cooler temperatures and rain. We finally got our permit, our temporary dam is up and they are working on fixing the hole in our earthen dam. And rest assured all the terrestrial plants that are growing will be taken care of. We have been told by Allied that all is treatable. Actually they sprayed some of the terrestrial plants they could get to make it easier for the plant to break down. A plant that has taken off since the lake has been down is called Purple Loosestrife. It grows in the mud, in the water and on land. There are certain areas it has really taken hold. The poor folks at North end are looking at a sea of purple. If it is possible try and pull it before we treat it. It will cost less and less dying plants using oxygen. This plant is easily treated and it is number one on our radar. Special thanks to Milt Felter who personally eradicated most of the plants in his cove.

And last I would like to bring you up to speed on our beach closing on the 12th of Aug. Normally our numbers (bacteria) are very low, (teens and single digits, where 200 is acceptable) We are convinced it was due to our geese population on the lake. The geese sleep on the sand at night and their droppings apparently washed into the shallow area and there was a concentrated area of water from which the testing company took their sample. (they should take it off the dock where they do now) They pulled the sample on Mon the 8th read it on the 9th (it has to develop a culture). It was high so the procedure is they come back on Wed to take another test. It's read on Thurs (also high, but half of what was on Mon) and the town has no choice but to close the beach until two more tests are conducted (with acceptable numbers) which was done on Fri and Mon. Both came back in the single digits. Our health officer assured us no one was in danger during those few days. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call me. Again thanks for your patience.