

Seidls Lake

2021 Water Monitoring Report

Lake Summary

Seidls Lake is located in the Cities of Inver Grove Heights and South Saint Paul, within the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization (LMRWMO). Land use within the watershed is primarily residential with a portion of the west watershed covered by a golf course and a portion of Highway 52. The lake is not currently listed on Minnesota's 303(d) List of Impaired Waters.

Lake Details

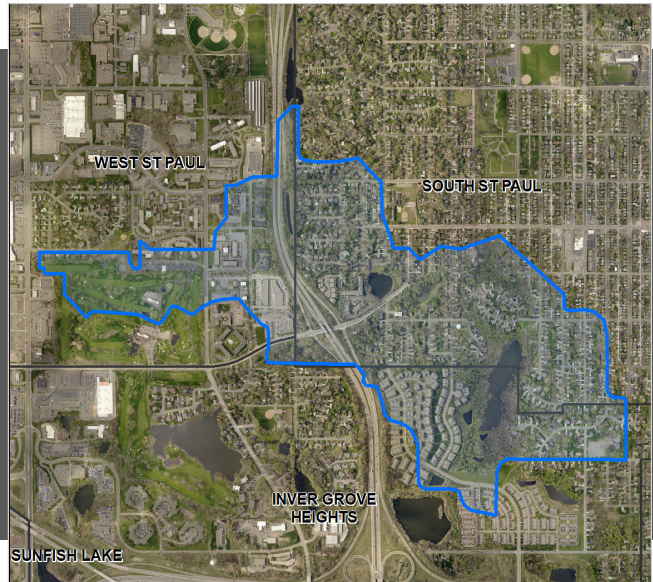
Max Depth: 17 feet

Watershed Size (shown): 420 acres

Major Watershed: Mississippi River

MPCA Lake Classification: Shallow

Met Council 2021 Lake Grade: **C**₍₂₀₂₀₎



Water Quality Monitoring Need

Seidls Lake is monitored as part of the LMRWMO's participation in the Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) volunteer water monitoring program. The lake is surrounded by parkland and is identified as a priority waterbody by the Cities and LMRWMO. High lake water levels compared to historic levels have been observed in the last 15 years; due to the lack of a natural lake outlet. A lake outlet project is nearly complete to maintain more consistent water levels and a vegetative shoreline restoration project is planned for 2023.

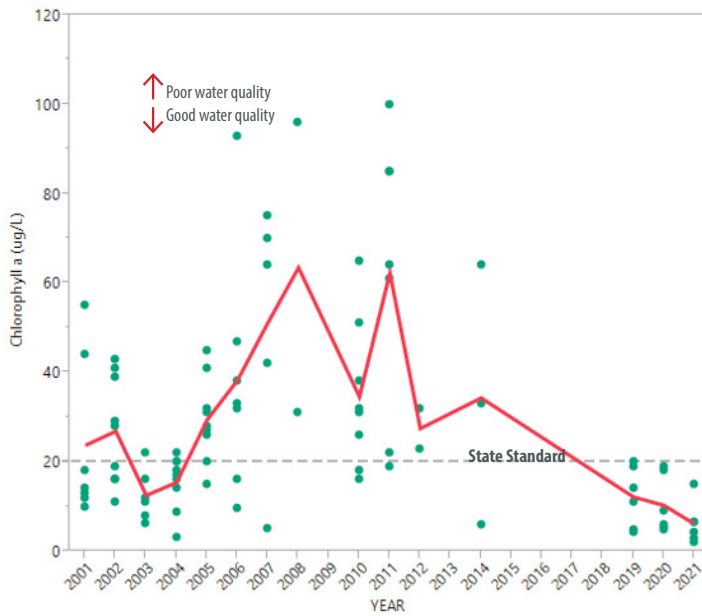
2021 Monitoring Summary

Following the 2018 water quality project, there are marked improvements for all three water quality parameters when comparing 2021 data to past results. Total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a both saw a drastic reduction from 2020 to 2021. Secchi reading improved, but minimally. The below table shows the 2021 data.

Water Quality Parameters	MPCA Standard	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Chlorophyll-a (ug/L)	20	2.1	15	6.15
Total Phosphorus (ug/L)	60	27	41	31.83
Secchi Depth (m)	1	1.3	2.6	1.95

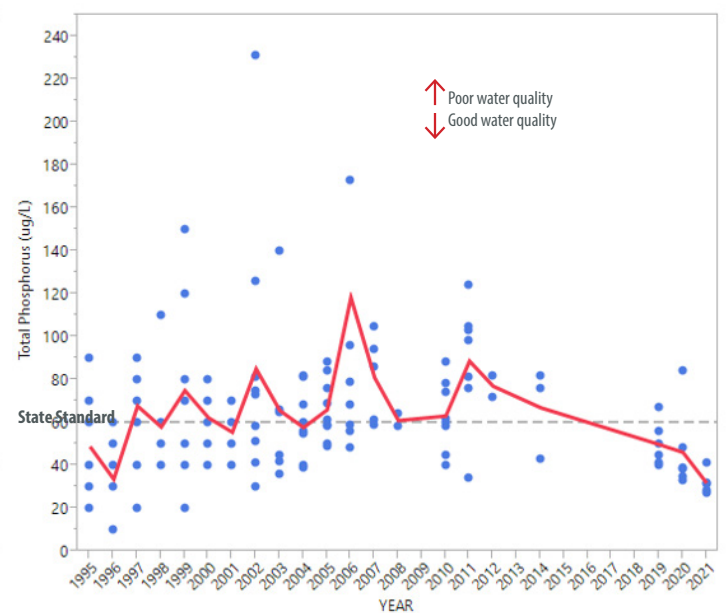
Water Quality Data 1995-2021

*micrograms per liter (ug/L) = 1,000 mg/L (milligrams per liter)



Chlorophyll-a*

Chlorophyll-a is the pigment that gives plants their green color. High levels indicate excessive algae from high nutrient levels in the lake. Low chlorophyll-a levels indicate good water quality. State standard is 20 ug/L (dashed line).



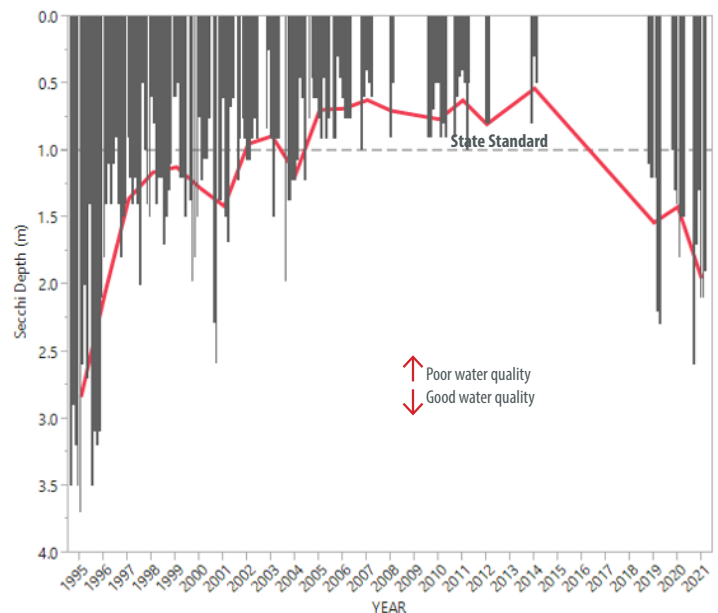
Phosphorus*

Phosphorus is a nutrient required for plant growth. High phosphorus levels can lead to algae blooms, turning water green. Low phosphorus levels indicate good water quality. State standard is 60 ug/L (dashed line).

Watershed Projects

The LMRWMO partnered with the City of South St. Paul to install large underground pipe chambers (shown below) in 2018 to clean and infiltrate stormwater before it enters Seidls Lake.

The lake will continue to be monitored to track further water quality improvements and the impact of the newly installed lake outlet.



Secchi Depth

A black and white secchi disc is lowered into the water until no longer visible and measures water clarity. High secchi disc depths indicate good water quality. State standard is 1 m (dashed line).

How can you get involved?

You don't have to live on a lake to help improve water quality, **anyone can be part of the solution!** Installing a rain garden **increases water infiltration**, decreases lawn maintenance, and reduces pollution runoff that can negatively impact local water quality. The LMRWMO offers grants to residents to install rain gardens or native shoreline plantings as part of the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District's **Landscaping for Clean Water** program.