

# Waseca Lakes Association

# NEWSLETTER

Web Site: [wasecalakes.org](http://wasecalakes.org)

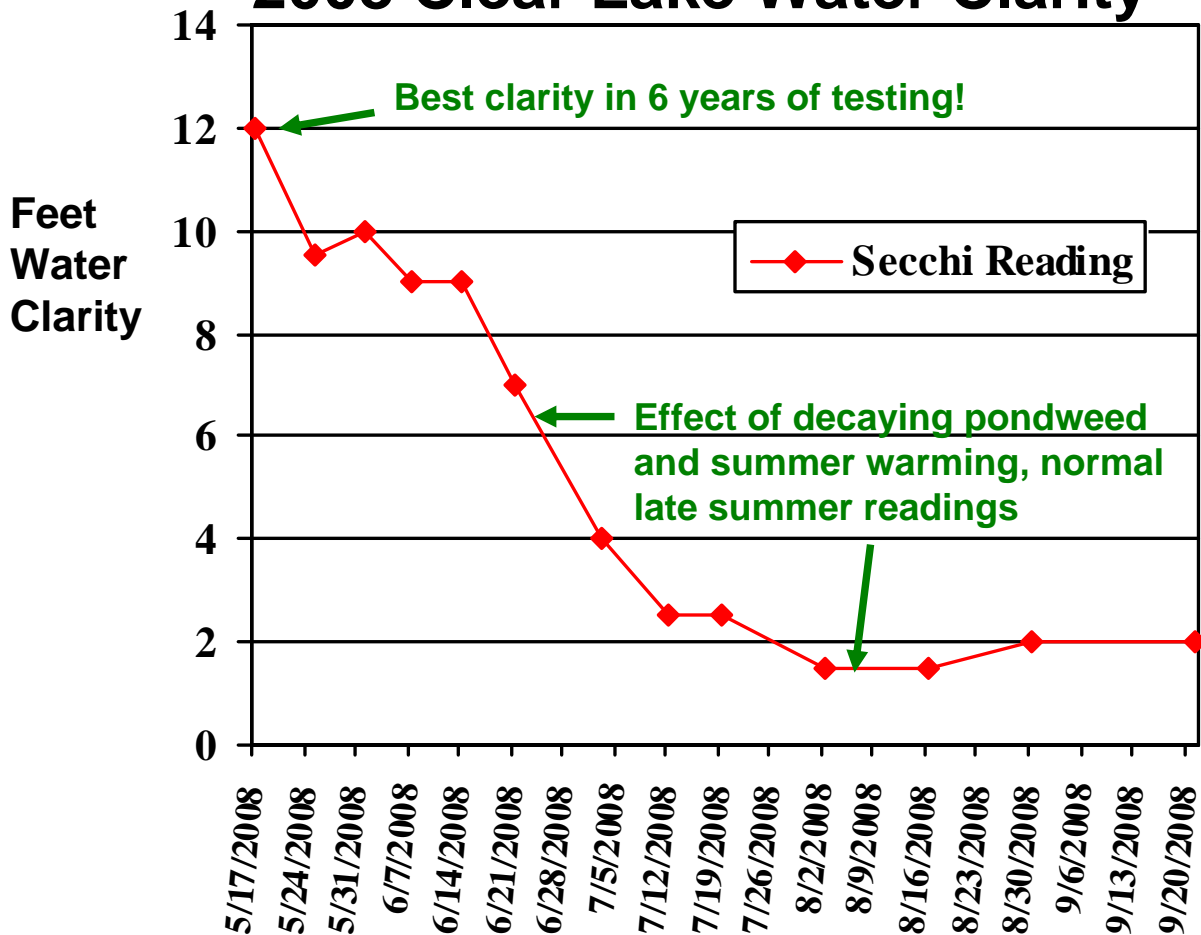


## Fall 2008 Edition

### October Meeting Notice:

**Monday, October 27th, 7 pm at the county highway building, Agenda will include:**  
Update on Gator Lake Storm water project from Stefan Gantert, new city director of engineering. This project holds the potential for having a significant positive impact on the water quality of Clear Lake. As you can see in the chart below, Clear Lake starts out the season with great water clarity, but the nutrient load from storm water and decaying curlyleaf pondweed quickly promotes algae growth and reduces clarity by mid-summer.

### 2008 Clear Lake Water Clarity



# Stewardship of Our Waters

## Thanks Maplewood Volunteers

Thanks to those who helped with the Maplewood Park buckthorn removal on Saturday morning, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Minnesota Waters Conference in Rochester in May, 2009

The Waseca Lakes Association belongs to Minnesota Waters, a state wide non profit consisting of the former Minnesota Lakes Association and Rivers Council of Minnesota. Minnesota Waters has decided to postpone the bi-annual Lakes and Rivers Conference until May 2009. If anyone has interest in attending on behalf of the Waseca Lakes Association, look for a detailed agenda in our Winter newsletter on the three-day conference to be held at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN.

## Shore Line Grants for Clear Lake Still Available

Please check our website at [wasecalakes.org](http://wasecalakes.org) or contact Joan Mooney if you are interested in help on lakeshore restoration planning and taking advantage of the DNR block grant awarded to the Waseca Lakes Association.

## Living on the Lake and Keeping it Beautiful

The WLA belongs to a tri-county coalition of lake associations (COLA) from Blue Earth, LeSueur, and Waseca counties. The group meets each month in Elysian to discuss common issues. Recent discussion was centered around providing more information to land owners in order to encourage lake stewardship.

A common problem faced by almost all lake associations is that there is not readily accessible and accurate information available to shore land owners for them choose the more environmentally friendly practices concerning their property. Common issues for long time as well as new landowners include:

- Shoreline alterations including fill, rip-rap, and vegetation.
- Impervious surfaces and structures near the shoreline.
- Docks and access.
- Contacts for permits and questions on DNR, county and city regulations.

Accurate information on these issues can help landowners make an informed decision which will consider the best possible outcome for the long term health of the lake as well as all inhabitants including fish, other wildlife, and its human occupants.

A goal of this group is to complete a brief guide to which outlines steps for those who live on the lake to help keep it beautiful. Look a publication to be available this winter. Meanwhile, here is a DNR link with information on various related topics: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/guide/index.html>