

Sweeney Lake Updates

October 29, 2024



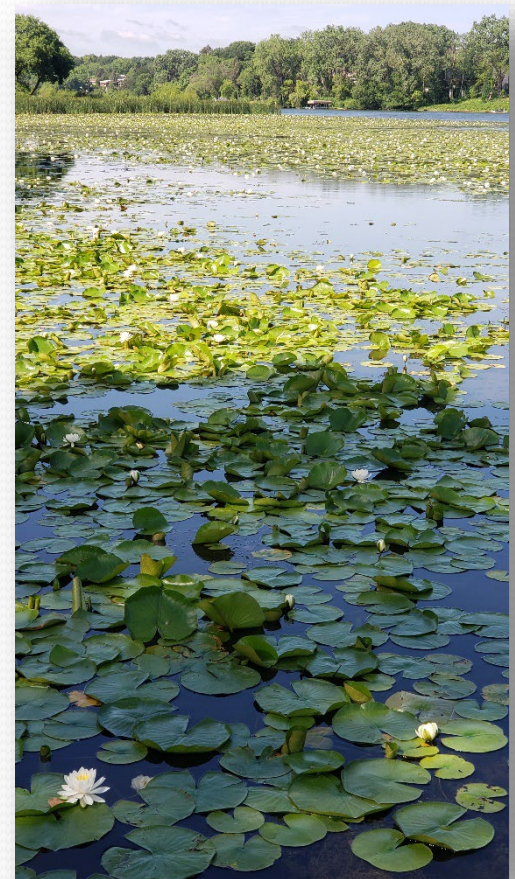
Sweeney Lake – the winding path

June 2023 Update



Since Then.....

- 2023 – 2024 Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM)
- 2023 BCWMC Monitoring Results
 - Improving water quality
 - Plants, plants, plants
 - Yellow Iris
 - Chloride Levels
- 2024 Carp Management Activities
- 2025 AIS Early Detection Training



Eurasian Watermilfoil



- Found in southwest corner on 8/25/2023
- 0.8 acres treated 8/30/2023
- Oct 2023 & May 2024:
Found EWM near boat landing
- 2.6 acres treated 5/15/2024
- None found during 7/7/2024 survey

Eurasian Watermilfoil

The Good News

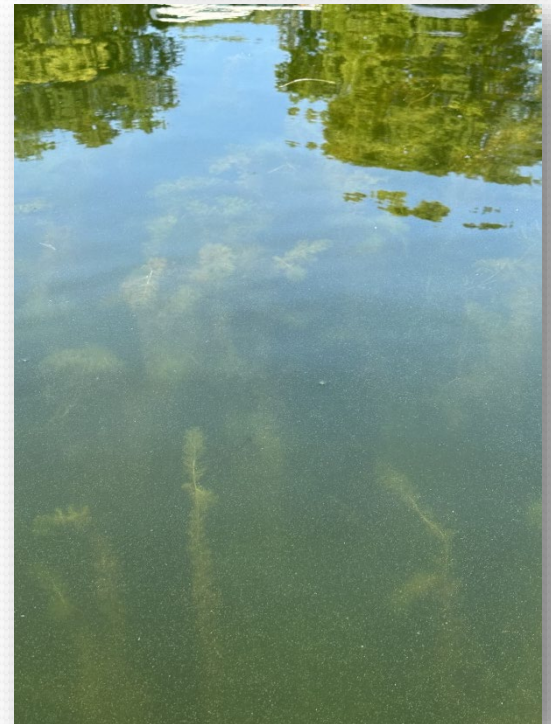
- VERY cooperative, patient residents and public
- Hennepin County AIS Prevention Grant
- No EWM found in Twin Lake
- No EWM found in ponds upstream
 - Schaper Pond
 - Lilac Pond
 - Chicago Pond
 - Spring Pond
 - Toledo/Angelo Pond
- AIS Early Detection Training



Eurasian Watermilfoil

Next Steps

- Next scheduled BCWMC monitoring = 2026
- Suggest whole lake plant surveys twice in 2025
- Potential grant funding from Hennepin County
- Could consider formally requesting funds from BCWMC
- 2025 early detection training



2023 Water Quality

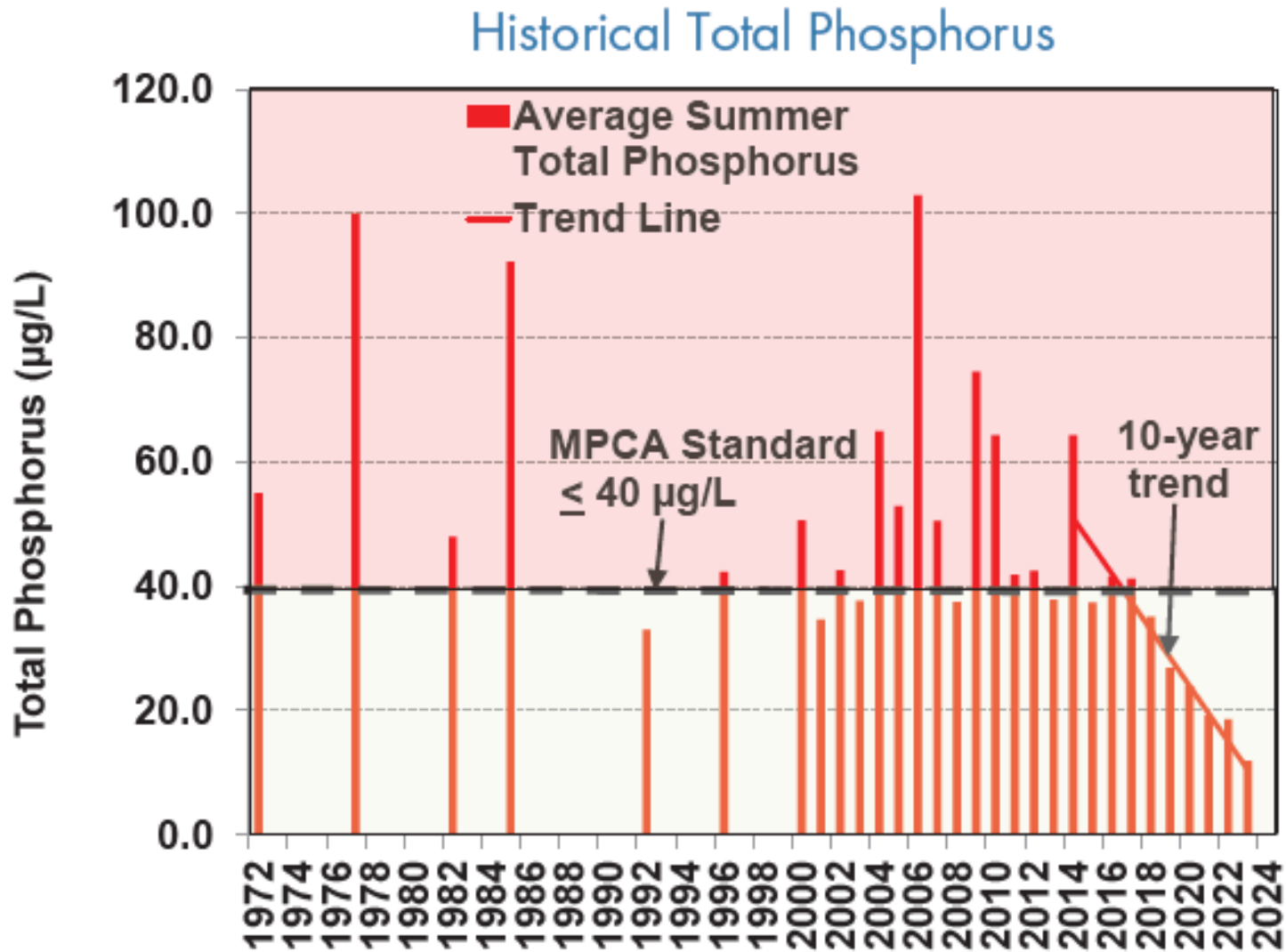
More Good News

- Statistically significant improvements in
 - Total phosphorus
 - Chlorophyll-a
 - Water clarity



2023 Water Quality

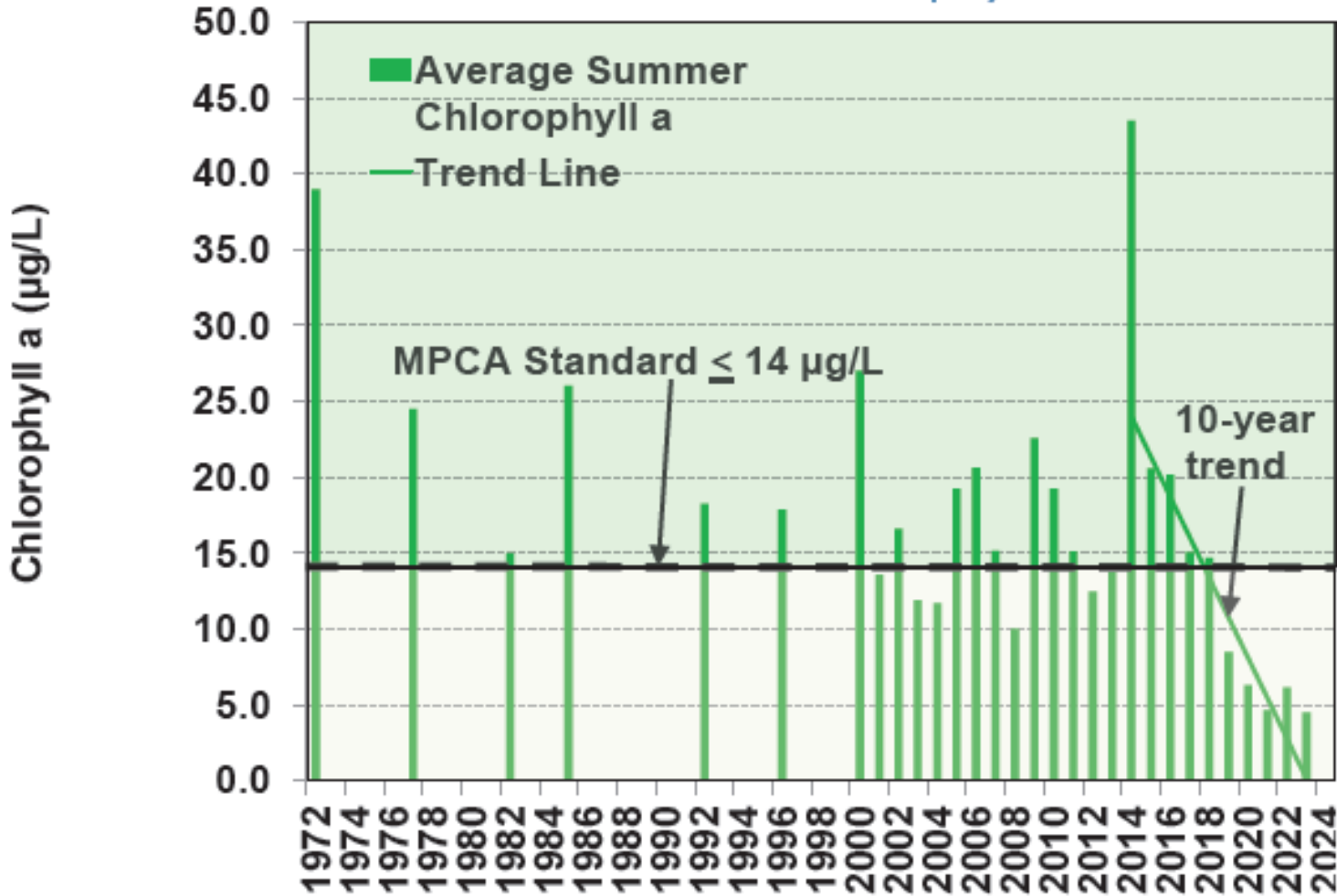
More Good News



2023 Water Quality

More Good News

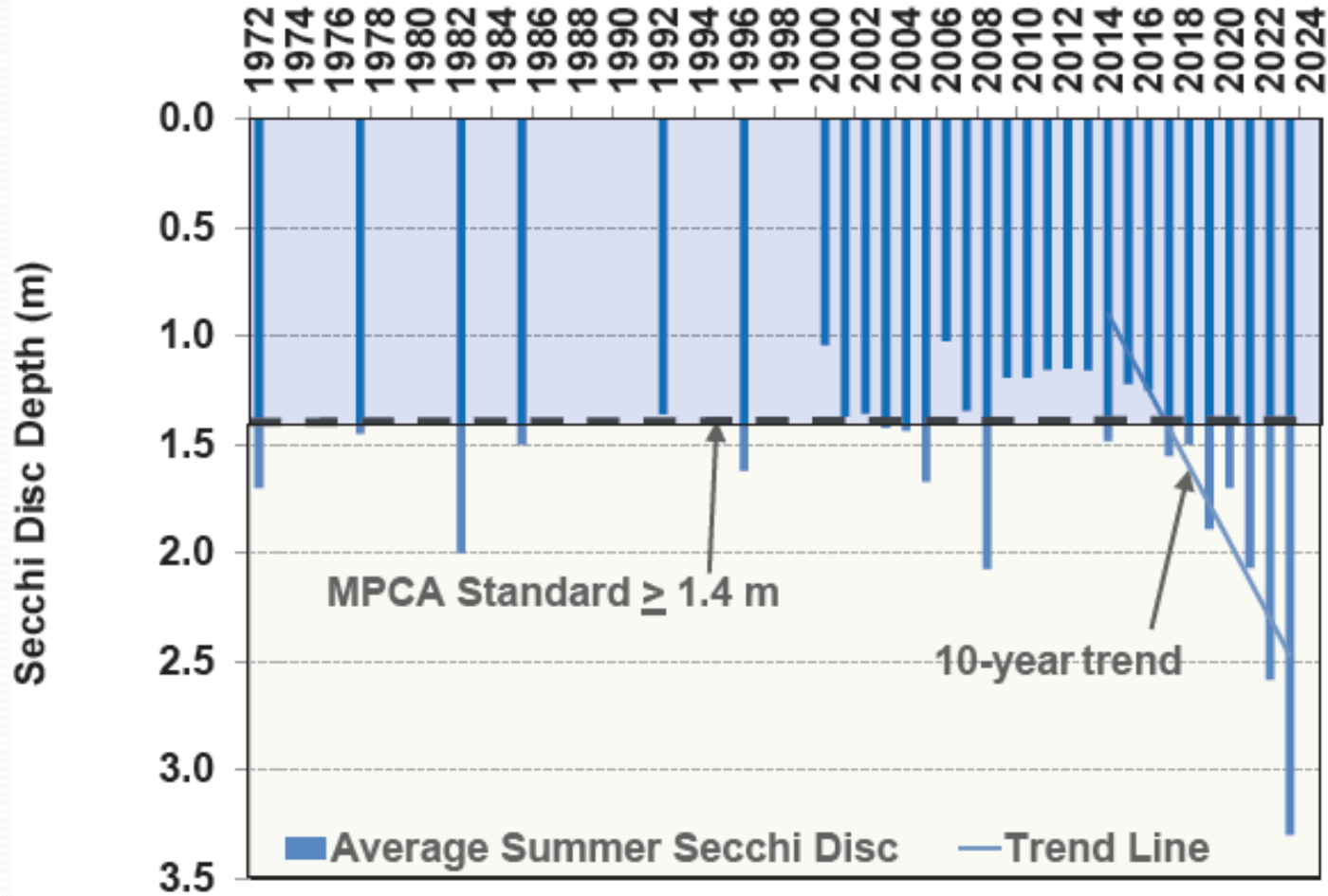
Historical Chlorophyll a



2023 Water Quality

More Good News

Historical Water Clarity



2023 Water Quality

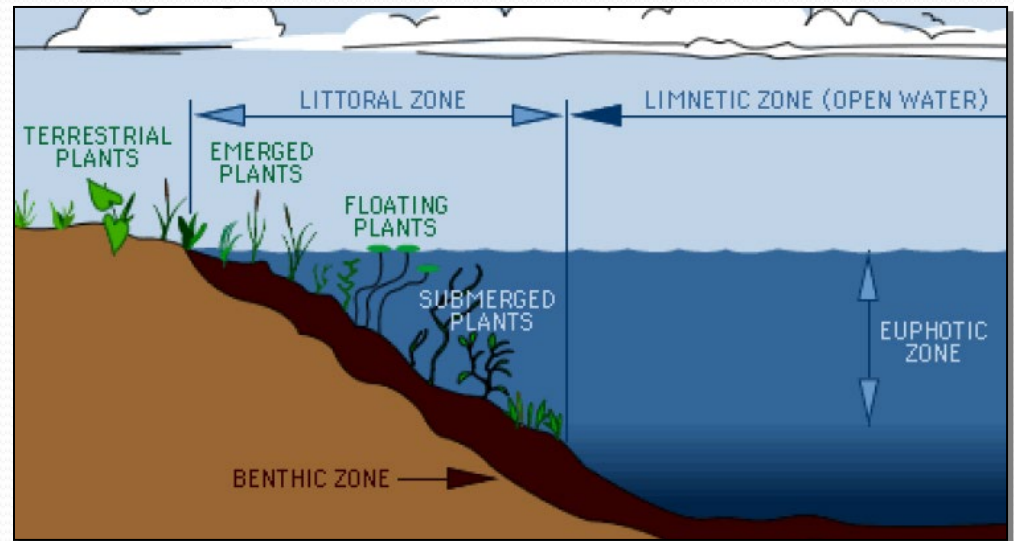
Let's Talk About Plants

Number of plant species in the lake and floristic quality index (FQI) were better than the MNDNR Plant index of biotic integrity threshold

Number of plant species and FQI were highest to date

2024 Plant densities may also be a factor of mild winter and early spring

Happy
Healthy
Lake
Ecosystem!



2023 Water Quality

Not So Good News

Yellow Iris:

Perennial plant that grows along shorelines. Forms dense patches and crowd out native vegetation.

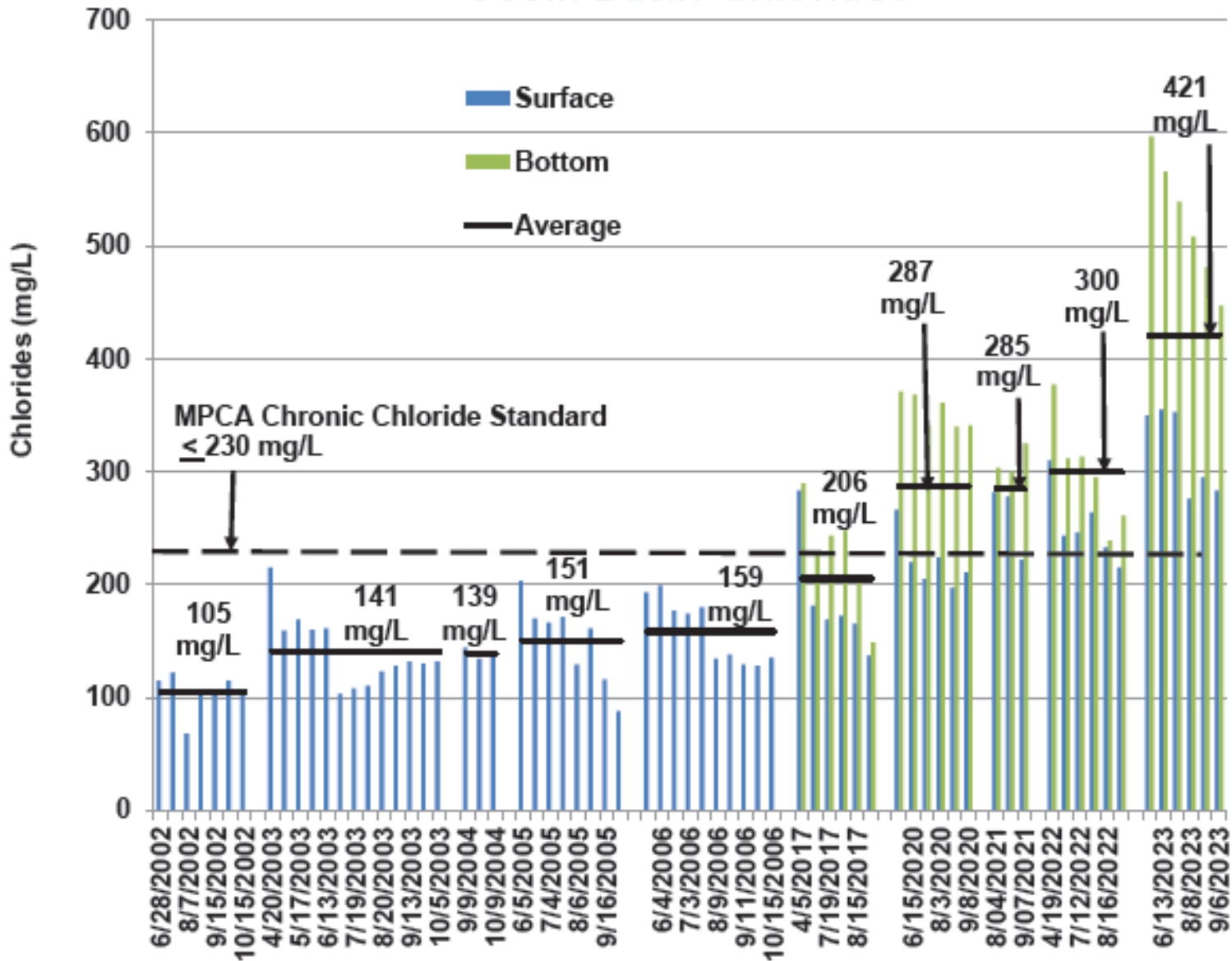


Chlorides from winter deicers:

Chloride levels in the lake have doubled in the last 6 years.



South Basin Chlorides



Carp Removal: 2024

- Used baited box nets to remove carp from Sweeney this fall
 - 191 individual fish
 - 1,473 pounds
 - 42.5% of the estimated carp population
 - Carp biomass density now at 31.3 kg/ha (well below 100 kg/ha threshold)



2020: 452 carp removed from Sweeney + 152 from Schaper Pond

Funded by
BCWMC
Schaper Pond
Diversion
Project CIP
Budget

Lake Shore Opportunities

- Score Your Shore
 - Tool to assess habitat conditions of developed lake lots (MDNR)



We All Have Shoreline Property

- Leaves
- Grass clippings
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides
- Salt/Deicers
- Pet Waste
- Trash
- Oils/Spills
- Soap





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