

CLEMONS POND WATER QUALITY REPORT

May 30, 2021

For the water quality 2020 testing season we had eight sets of water clarity and dissolved oxygen/temperature profile data for the period May 24 thru October 19. Except for the last data set and total phosphorus testing this was all reported in my Sept. 5th report at our end of summer meeting. Data collected during the season did not vary dramatically from previous summers except for a marked decline in water clarity to 4.05 meters on the last dataset. This was latest I had tested in my history of testing.

Our average water clarity (SECCHI depth) for the testing season was 5.77 meters, with a range of 4.05 to 6.47 meters. In spite of the low October clarity reading our average water clarity was still above our historical average of 5.6 meters. Oxygen levels in the pond followed their usual pattern over the course of the season with late summer desaturation noted which was typical. Maximum surface temperature in the pond of 83 degrees F occurred in late July. Surface temperature as of October 19 was 71.6 degrees F. Phosphorus testing done on August 15, 2020 revealed a Total Phosphorus level of 6 parts per billion, around what we have been averaging over the last dozen years. The average for all Maine lakes is 10 ppb.

Maine DEP, still short staffed, has not tabulated testing results for the second year in a row. Lake Stewards of Maine is not certain of when that will happen.

I am hoping to get out on the pond to do my first testing of the season this afternoon.

For those who are interested, our testing results and those of other monitored ponds and lakes can be viewed on the Lake Stewards of Maine (formerly Maine

VLMP) website at <https://www.mainevlmp.org/> Check out these tabs on the right side of their home page for more information:

- **“Search for Your Lake”**
- **“Lakes of Maine”**
- **“View Current Conditions for Maine Lakes”**

All in all a good water quality season on the pond!! Victor Lerish