

CLEMONS POND WATER QUALITY REPORT

Spring 2024

Total Phosphorus from 8/31/23: 7 ug/ml (ppb) This value is around our average and reassuring given events of last summer and concerns re. possible nutrient additions (due to erosion from heavy rains and backflow of the Ten Mile into the outlet Cove). High water levels from last summer may have also played a positive role in diluting nutrients and increasing flushing of the pond water volume.

Water clarity: 9/22/23: 4.85 meters

5/26/24: 6.22 meters excellent for the start of the season!!!

Dissolved oxygen readings, also obtained on 5/26/24 were excellent for this time of year.

Bottom line...pond water quality has rebounded in the way we had hoped it would from conditions we experienced last summer.

Victor Lerish

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9/1/2024

What a difference a year makes! After a pretty discouraging season of water quality testing last summer, Clemons Pond has rebounded.

We've had 7 sets of water quality data collected this summer and I'm pleased to report that water clarity in the pond has been above average for most of the summer. The historic average water clarity in the pond is 5.6 meters (or 18 feet 4 inches). This year water clarity in May started at 6.22 meters, dipped into the 5 meter range over midsummer and reached a maximum of 7.31 meters (24 feet) on August 30th. That compares to summer low in 2023 of 2.82 meters after the very heavy rains and a high of 5.10 around this time last summer.

So when your eyes have been telling you that the water is much clearer this summer they have not been lying to you.

Late summer oxygen levels in the pond have easily surpassed last years numbers.

Why are things better? We can only make educated guesses, but possibilities include lower rainfall amounts and fewer heavy rains (we haven't witnessed reversal of flow in the Ten mile this summer), the result of last summer's increased flushing reducing nutrient loads or the relatively stable water levels over the course of the summer to name a few.

I'm also pleased to announce that we have two new certified water quality monitors on the pond, Margo and Steve Feeney.

As always thanks to Nancy Serrell for assisting in our water quality testing.

Victor Lerish

9/1/2024