

Red Rock Lake

Located in Eden Prairie, Red Rock Lake is a part of the Purgatory Creek chain of lakes. During high water events it outflows through an overflow pipe to Staring Lake.

From June to September every year, District staff visit the lake every two weeks to collect water samples and take readings. Samples are sent to a laboratory to be tested for nutrients and other compounds. Staff also measure water clarity by lowering a Secchi disk into the water and measuring how deep it goes before it is no longer visible. The data indicates the lake's health based on standards set by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

Red Rock Lake is classified as a "Shallow Lake" by the MPCA. To be considered healthy, the lake must have very low average phosphorus and chlorophyll-a levels and average water clarity of 1.0 meter (3.3 feet) or greater. See summary below. Additional details are located on the next page.

P Total Phosphorus: No significant trend. In 2023, the lake met the MPCA shallow lake standard (<0.06 mg/L) with an average total phosphorus level of **0.059 mg/L**.

Chlorophyll-a: Over the last decade, the yearly average chlorophyll-a measurements have improved. In 2023, the lake had an average reading of **30.6 µg/L**, which failed to meet the MPCA shallow lake standard (<20 µg/L).

Water clarity: No significant trend. The lake consistently meets the MPCA shallow lake standard (>1.0 meters). The average reading in 2023 was **1.4 meters**.

Plants: A point-intercept plant survey was conducted in 2023 by the City of Eden Prairie to track aquatic vegetation populations. In 2023, 13 acres were treated with the herbicide Endothall to reduce Curlyleaf Pondweed abundance.

Lake & watershed characteristics

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Size | 121 acres |
| Average depth | 4.7 feet |
| Max depth | 19 feet |
| MPCA lake classification | Shallow lake |
| Watershed size | 1,286 acres |
| Impervious surface | 25% of watershed |
| Impaired Waters listing | Mercury |
| Common fish | Bluegill, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch |
| Invasive species | Curly-leaf Pondweed |

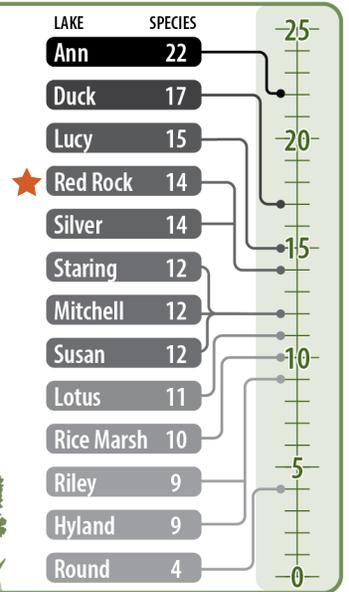


Watershed Boundary



Native Aquatic Plant Diversity

How does **Red Rock Lake** compare to **other lakes** in the District in **number of native plant species?**



Red Rock Lake Water Quality by the Numbers

The graphs below show water quality trends over time with the red line representing the MPCA standard for shallow lakes. For the last few years, the City of Eden Prairie has collected water quality data for Red Rock Lake.

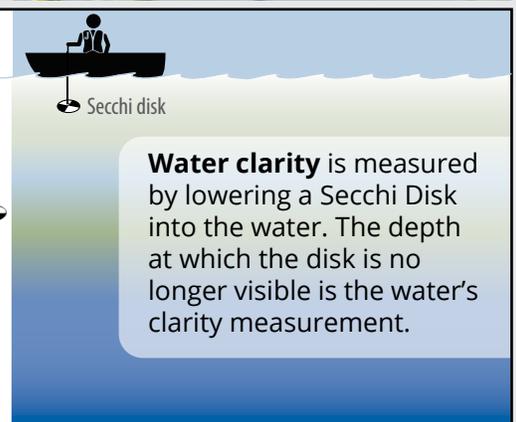
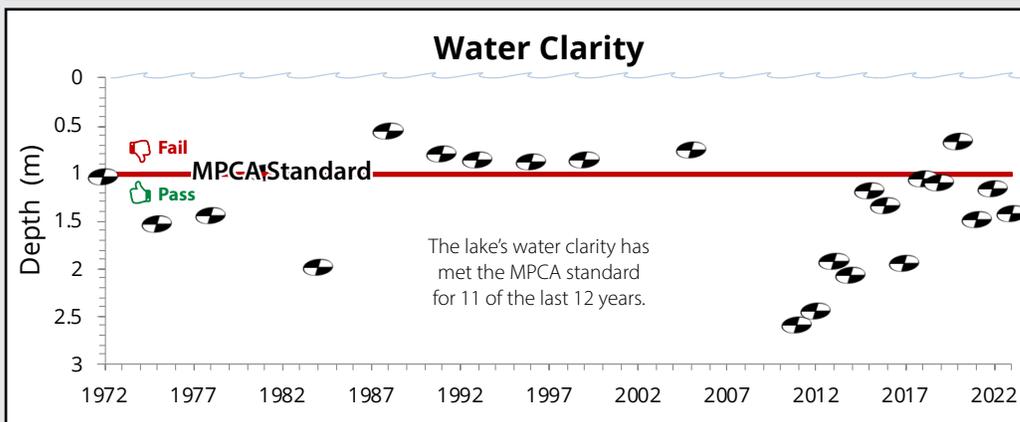
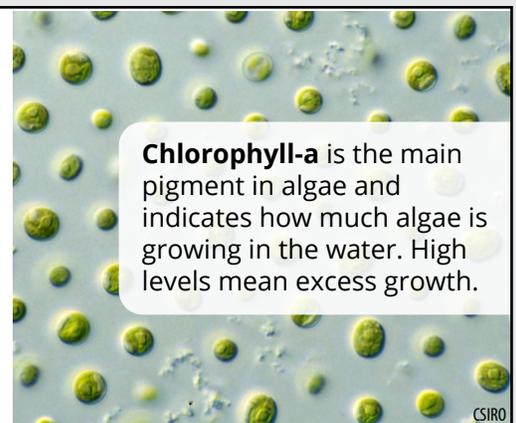
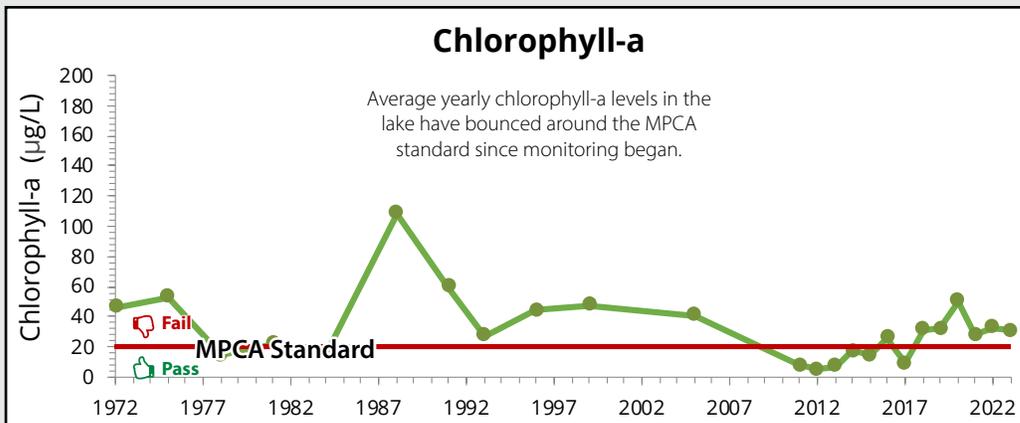
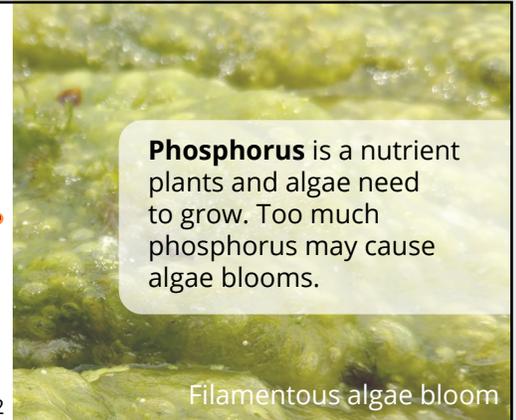
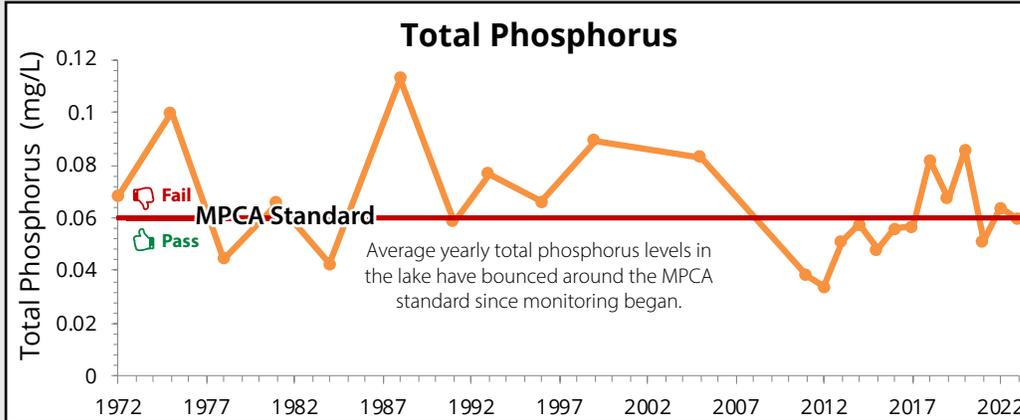


Water Quality Report Card

rpbcwd.org/grades



Trends Over Time: 1972-present



Chloride: A Growing Concern

Chloride permanently pollutes our lakes, ponds, and streams!



What can I use instead of winter de-icers?

All affordable & effective residential de-icing products contain chloride, even those labeled as "eco-friendly" or "pet safe."

Focus instead on reducing build up of ice on your property:

- Shovel early & often
- Prevent ice formation, avoid driving or walking on snow
- Pile snow where it won't melt & refreeze on walkways

ONE TEASPOON of SALT POLLUTES 5 GALLONS of WATER FOREVER

Learn more rpbcwd.org/salt