

# Seidls Lake

Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP)

## 2020 Water Monitoring Report



### Lake Summary

Seidls Lake is located in the Cities of Inver Grove Heights and South Saint Paul, within the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization (LMRWMO). Land use within the watershed is primarily residential with a portion of the west watershed in institutional land use (golf course) and a portion of Highway 52. The lake is not currently listed on Minnesota's 303(d) List of Impaired Waters.

### Lake Details

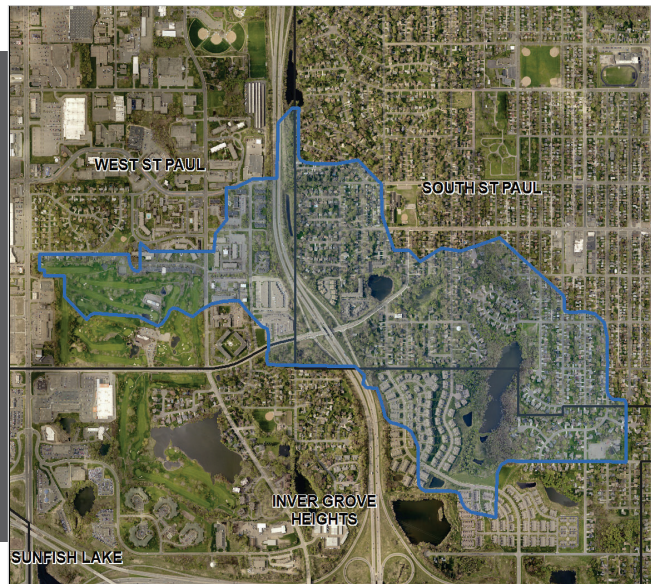
**Max Depth:** 17 feet

**Watershed Size (shown):** 420 acres

**Major Watershed:** Mississippi River

**MPCA Lake Classification:** Shallow

**Met Council 2020 Lake Grade:** C



### Water Quality Monitoring Need

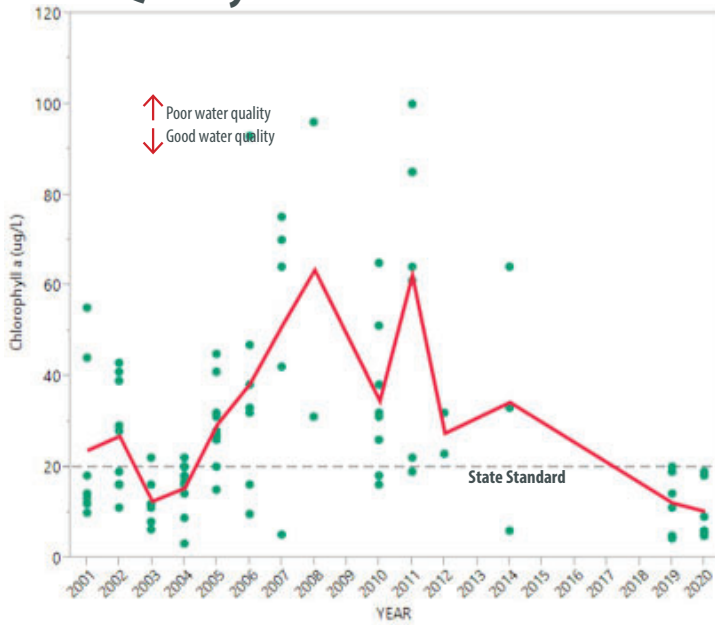
Seidls Lake is monitored as part of the LMRWMO's participation in the Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) volunteer lake water monitoring program. The lake is surrounded by City parkland and is identified as a priority waterbody by the Cities and LMRWMO. High lake water levels compared to historic levels have been observed in the last 15 years; likely due in part to the lack of a natural lake outlet. A water quality improvement project to intercept and infiltrate stormwater prior to entering the lake was implemented in 2018.

### 2020 Monitoring Summary

Following the 2018 water quality project, there are marked improvements for all three eutrophication parameters (aging process by which lakes are fertilized with nutrients) when comparing 2020 data to 2010-2014 data. The below table shows the 2020 data.

Eutrophication Parameters	MPCA Standard	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Chlorophyll-a (ug/L)	20	4.7	19	10.3
Total Phosphorus (ug/L)	60	33	84	46.17
Secchi Depth (m)	1	1	1.8	1.42

# Water Quality Data 1995-2020



## Chlorophyll-a\*

Chlorophyll-a is the pigment that gives plants their green color. High levels indicate excessive algae from high nutrient levels in the lake. Low chlorophyll-a levels indicate good water quality. State standard is 20 ug/L (dashed line).

## Watershed Projects

The LMRWMO partnered with the City of South St. Paul to install large underground pipe chambers to infiltrate stormwater before it enters Seidls Lake. The project was implemented with a street reconstruction project.

The lake will continue to be monitored to track further water quality improvements. A feasibility study is in progress to determine whether constructing a lake outlet can maintain a stable lake level and reduce erosion.



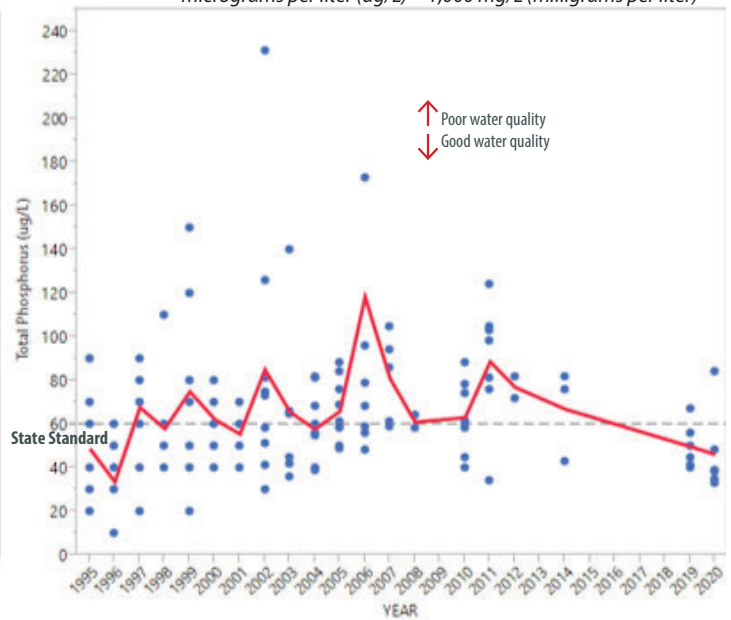
## How can you get involved?

You don't have to live on a lake to help protect water quality, **anyone can be part of the solution!** Landscaping with native plants or installing a raingarden **increases water infiltration**, decreases lawn maintenance, and reduces pollution runoff that can negatively impact local water quality. The LMRWMO has partnered with the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District to offer grants to residents who install a native planting, raingarden, or shoreline planting or stabilization as part of their **Landscaping for Clean Water** program.

Additional Information:

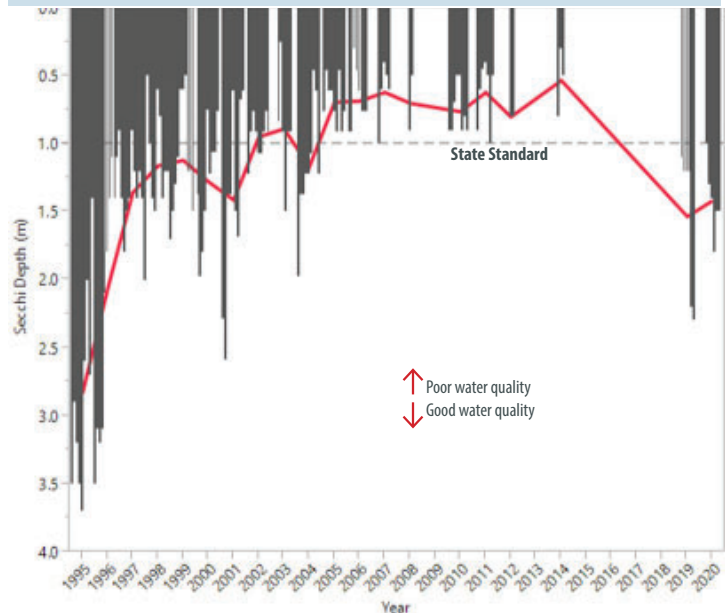
DNR Lake Finder: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html>  
 Landscaping for Clean Water: <https://dakotaswcd.org/services/landscaping-for-clean-water/>  
 LMRWMO Website: [www.lmrwmo.org](http://www.lmrwmo.org)  
 LMRWMO Contact: Joe Barten - [joe.barten@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:joe.barten@co.dakota.mn.us) 651-480-7784

\*micrograms per liter (ug/L) = 1,000 mg/L (milligrams per liter)



## Phosphorus\*

Phosphorus is a nutrient required for plant growth. High phosphorus levels can lead to algae blooms, turning water green. Low phosphorus levels indicate good water quality. State standard is 60 ug/L (dashed line).



## Secchi Depth

A black and white secchi disc is lowered into the water until no longer visible and measures water clarity. High secchi disc depths indicate good water quality. State standard is 1 m (dashed line).