

Seidls Lake

2022 Water Monitoring Report

Watershed

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 covered by a 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

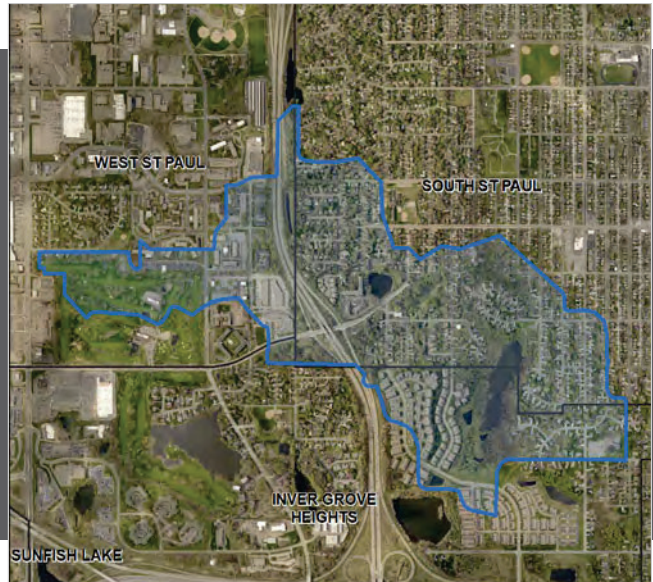
Max Depth: 17 feet

Watershed Size (shown): 420 acres

Major Watershed: Mississippi River

MPCA Lake Classification: Shallow

Met Council 2022 Lake Grade: **C** (2021)



Monitoring

Seidls Lake is monitored as part of the LMRWMO's participation in the Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) volunteer water monitoring program. The lake is surrounded by parkland and is identified as a priority waterbody by the Cities and LMRWMO. Due to the lack of a natural outlet, high lake water levels have been observed in the last 15 years compared to historic levels.

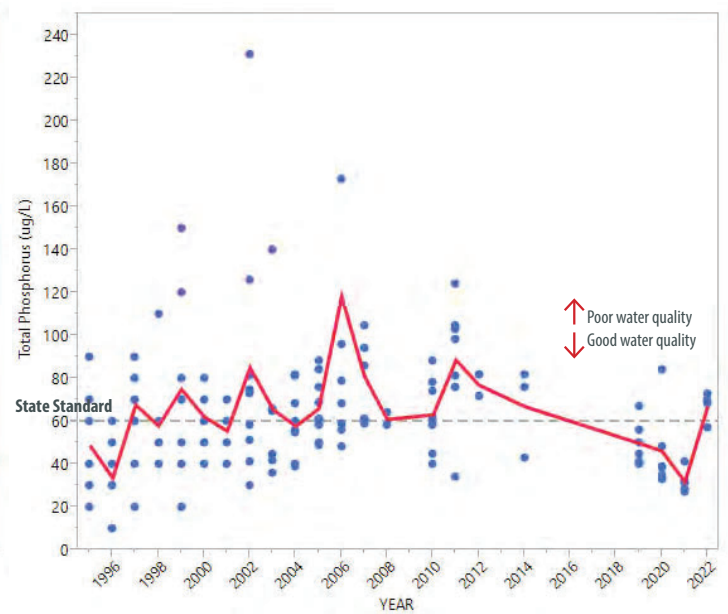
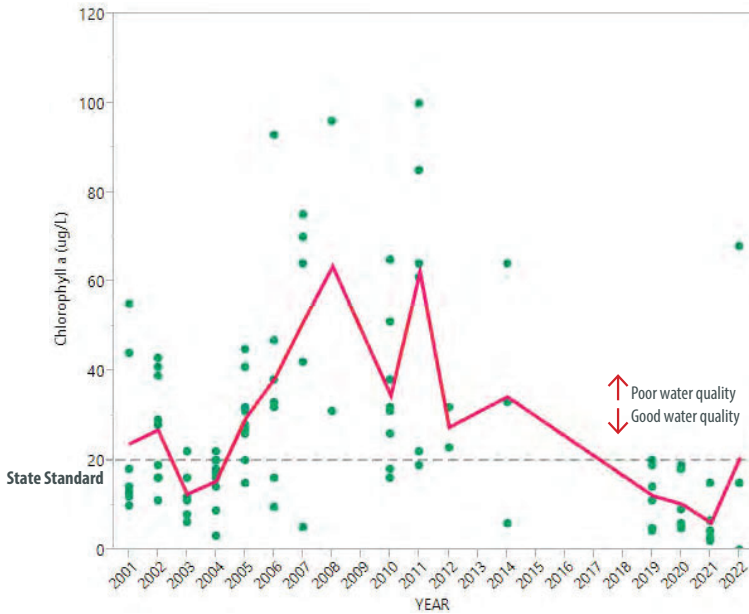
Water Quality

Water quality was drastically reduced in 2022 compared to sampling results from 2021. Due to construction in the near shore area, in-lake water quality may have been impacted as bottom sediment was disturbed or runoff entered the lake. Lake access issues also limited the number of samples collected, reducing the dataset and preventing a holistic picture of Seidl's current water quality. The below table shows the 2022 data.

Water Quality Parameters	MPCA Standard	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Chlorophyll-a (ug/L)	20	15	68	41.5
Total Phosphorus (ug/L)	60	57	73	67
Secchi Depth (m)	1	1.5	1.5	1.5

Water Quality Data 1995-2022

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



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).

Phosphorus*

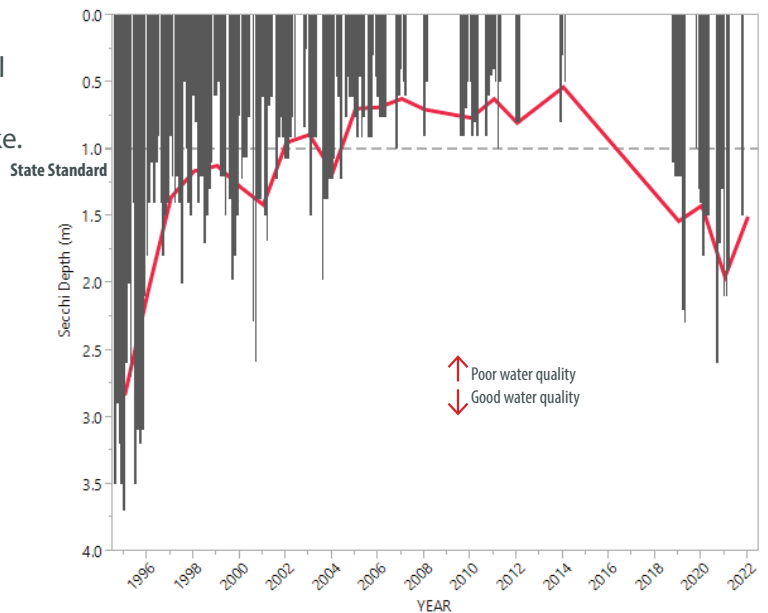
Phosphorus is a nutrient required for plant growth. High phosphorus levels can lead to algae blooms, turning water green. Low phosphorus levels indicate good water quality. State standard is 60 ug/L (dashed line).

Watershed Projects

The LMRWMO partnered with the City of South St. Paul to install large buried pipes (shown below) in 2018 to clean and infiltrate stormwater before entering the Lake.

A lake outlet project to maintain consistent water levels was completed in 2022 and a natural shoreline restoration project is planned for 2023.

The lake will continue to be monitored to track water quality.



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).

How can you get involved?

You don't have to live on a lake to help improve water quality, **anyone can be part of the solution!** Installing a rain garden **increases water infiltration**, decreases lawn maintenance, and reduces pollution runoff that can negatively impact local water quality. The LMRWMO offers grants to residents to install rain gardens or native shoreline plantings as part of the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District's **Landscaping for Clean Water** program.