

White Lake Checkup: June 29, 2025

Happy Canada Day!!!! The morning of June 29th on White Lake was mostly overcast but pleasantly warm. We visited our nine sampling sites (using GPS). We measured water temperatures, water clarity and water depth at the Waba Creek dam. We also collected plankton samples for later analysis using an optical microscope.

Water Temperature: The water temperature in the deeper parts of the lake was 22.9°C which was one degree warmer than it was at this time last year. In the shallower parts, the temperature was slightly lower at 21.0°C.

Please note that we measure water temperatures away from shorelines and at a depth corresponding to the Secchi depth which is about 4 metres. Water temperatures at the shoreline can be many degrees higher especially if there is no wind to help mix lake waters.

Water Clarity: Water clarity as expressed as a Secchi depth was 4.1 metres, exactly the same as it was this time last year.

Water Depth: The depth of the lake measured at the gauge at the dam was 151 cm as compared to the target depth of 144 cm. This means that the lake was 7 cm higher than planned. Last year, the lake was 2 cm deeper.

The significant rainfall we received several days before our sampling run was partly responsible for the higher-than-normal water levels.

Cormorant Count: Ten cormorants were observed on the lake. At this time last year there were 8. These numbers are low and are in keeping with observations recorded during previous years. The number of cormorants can change from week to week depending on the number of cormorants using the lake and who may be nesting kilometres away. We have not as yet found any nesting sites on White Lake.

To learn more about current water quality conditions of White Lake, please read our 2023 annual reports, and the State of White Lake Report which can all be accessed from the home page of the White Lake Science website: <https://wlpp.ca>

Contact us at envwlpoa@gmail.com if you have questions or concerns or if you would like to be added to our emailing list and receive all of our reports, bulletins, and checkups.

Conrad Grégoire and David Overholt

Environment Volunteers, White Lake Property Owners Association