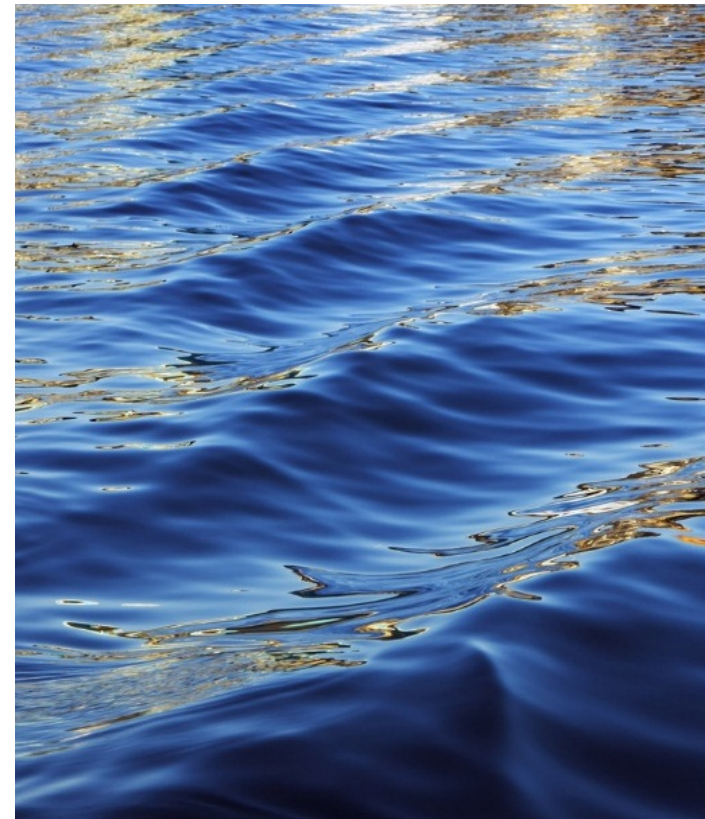


# Mitchell Lake Association

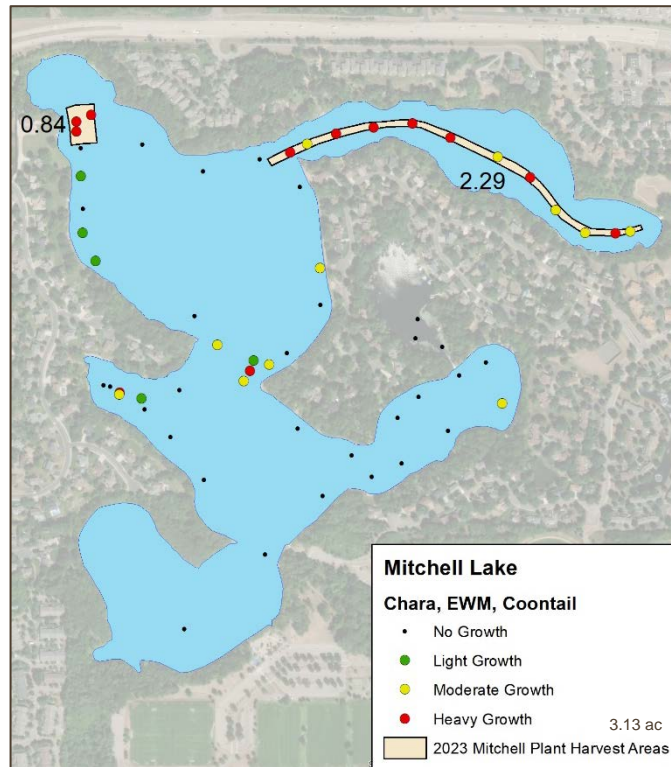
October 5, 2023



Lori Haak, Water Resources Coordinator  
[lhaak@edenprairie.org](mailto:lhaak@edenprairie.org)

# Aquatic Plant Harvesting 2023

## Aquatic Plant Survey



## Harvester Paths



# Floating-Leafed Vegetation



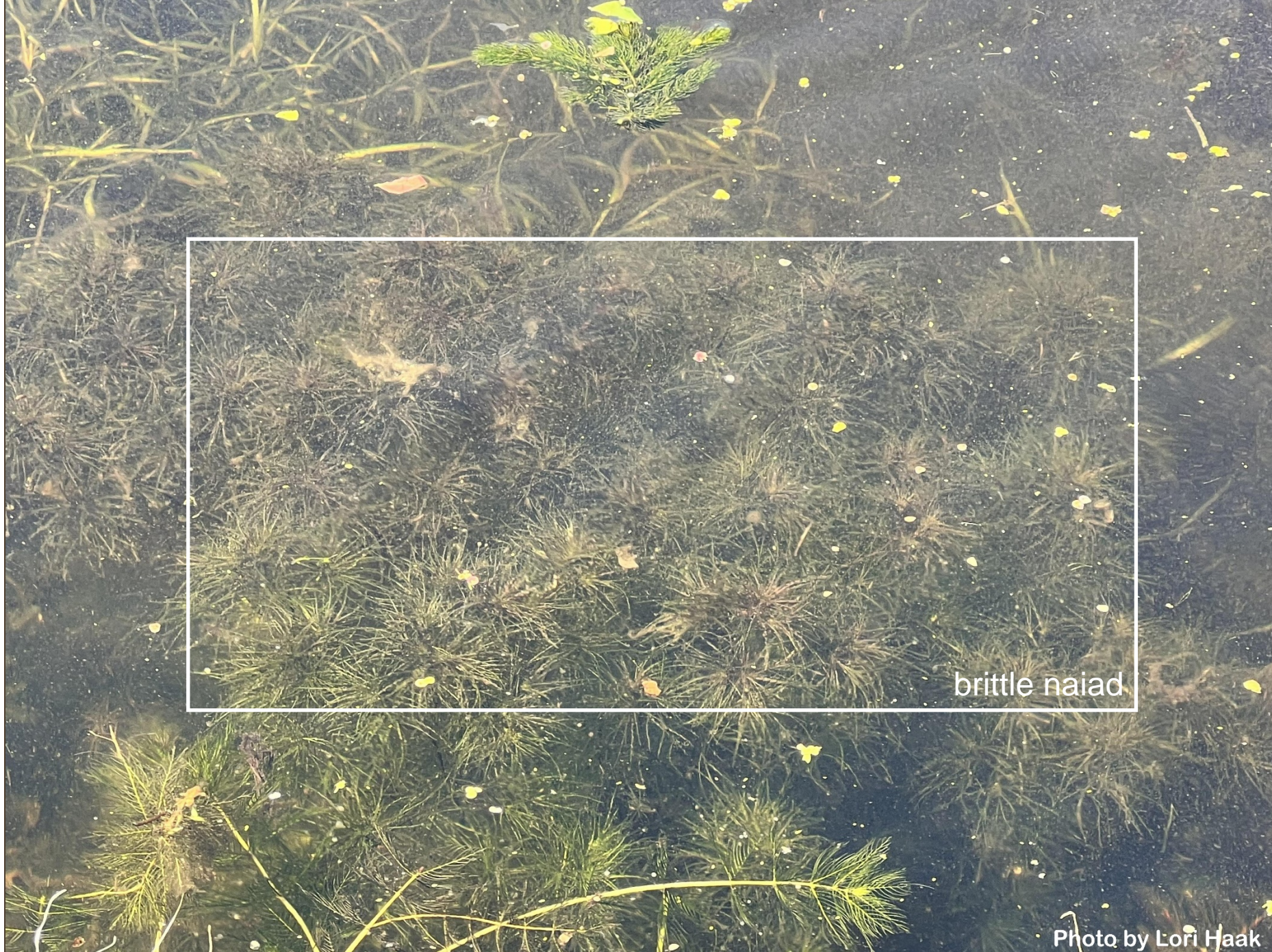
- May remove channel up to 15' wide extending to open water without a permit.
- Any other work requires a DNR permit.
- NOT including *Nelumbo lutea*



## Brittle Naiad Discovery

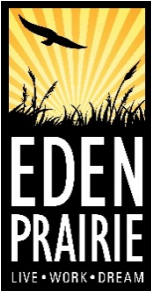
- Late July 2023
- Northeast arm of Mitchell
  - May be in other locations as well
- Spreads easily by fragments and seeds
- NOT widely spread throughout Minnesota
  - Round Lake (2010)
  - Bryant Lake
  - Staring Lake
  - Purgatory Creek Recreation Area (wetland)
  - Lake Ann
  - Lotus Lake

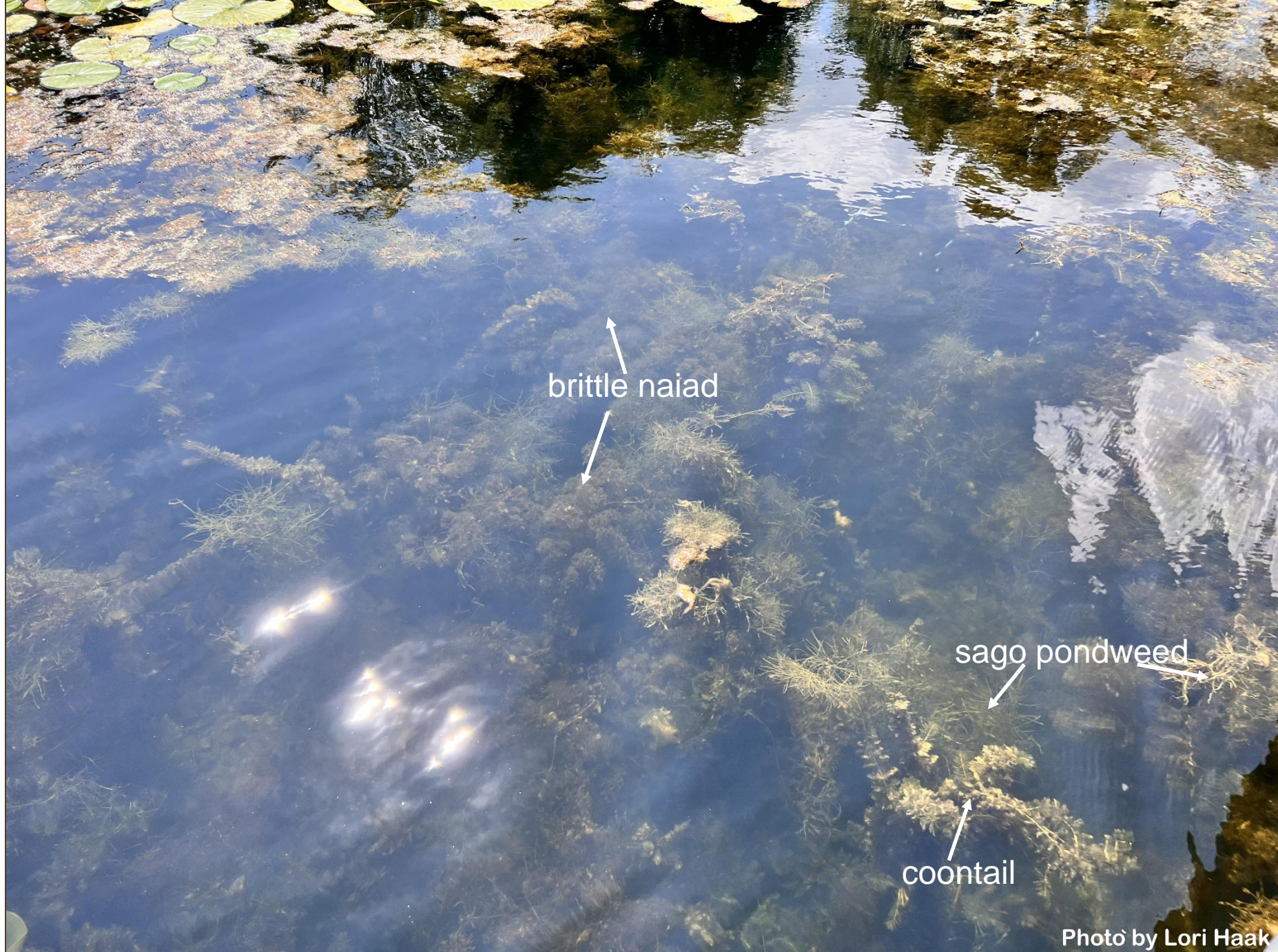




brittle naiad

Photo by Lori Haak



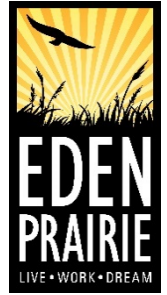


brittle naiad

sago pondweed

coontail

Photo by Lori Haak



# Now what?

## Keep brittle naiad out of other lakes!

- Clean your watercraft, trailer, and equipment. Remove visible plants and animals, as well as mud.
  - Clean kayaks and paddleboards too!
- Drain your boat by pulling the drain plug & leaving it out.
- Drain ballast tanks, live wells, and bait containers.
- Dry your watercraft & trailer on land for **at least 5 days**.
- Put unwanted bait, aquarium fish, & aquatic plants in trash.
- Clean docks, lifts, & swim rafts thoroughly before moving between lakes. Drain, then dry on land for **at least 21 days**.
- Use the CD3 (clean-drain-dry-dispose) station at the public access.





Lake Mitchel

2023 tool use through September

Left Tool

49

Unit Voltage

Center Tool

572

25.08 v

Right Tool

464

Light Uses

124





# AIS Inspections

- Waterfront Restoration
- Several hours per week from May through October
- Also Riley and Red Rock Lakes
- Cost share with RPBCWD
- Could expand inspections, if we thought it would be helpful



This is not on Mitchell Lake.



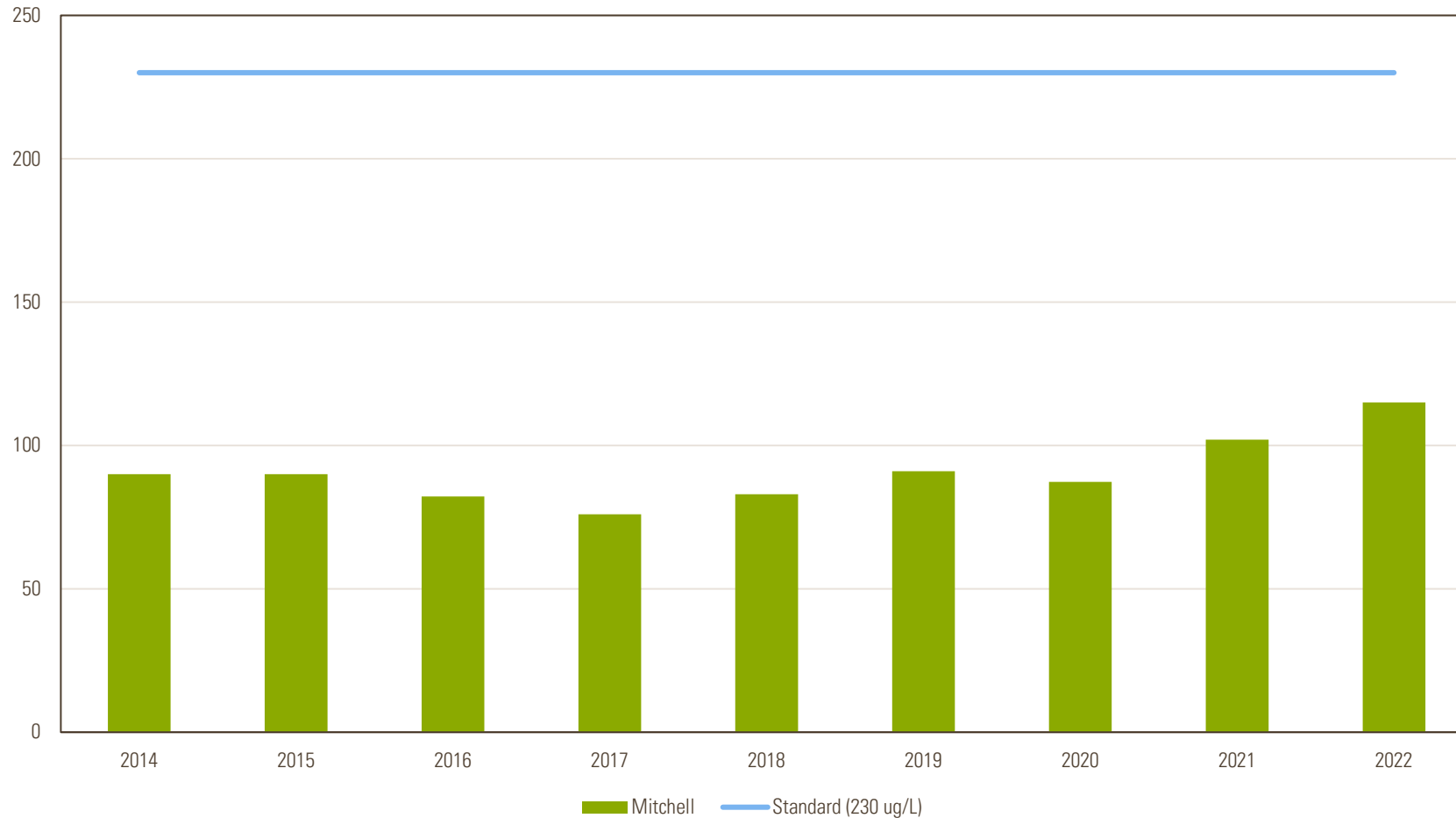
# The Next Big Thing: Chlorides

## Salt is a forever chemical!

- Impacts plants and animals
  - **No “safe” or “environmentally friendly” salt**—no matter what the package says
- Saltwater more dense: no moving, no mixing
- “Freshwater salinization syndrome”



# Average Chloride (mg/L)



# Managing Salt

City staff has been working at this since early 2000s.

## At Home and Work

- Remove snow and ice as they accumulate
- Use salt sparingly and only at temps above 15 degrees
- Sweep up unused salt to reuse
- No need for water softeners in EP!
- If you make decisions for parking lots & sidewalks (businesses, places of worship, HOAs, etc.), give me a call!



3" between salt grains!



# Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

- Blue-green algae (cyanobacteria)
  - Can look like pea soup or green paint
  - No way to tell if it's toxic or not by looking at it
- May make pets and people sick
  - May cause death to pets
- Unsure of causes
- Difficult to track; unpredictable

**When in doubt, stay out!**



# Microcystin (HAB) Test Kit for Recreational Water



EPA Environmental Technology  
Verification

\$150/5 strips

\$480/20 strips (2010)

# Collaboration Opportunities

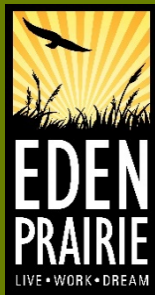
- AIS inspections
- AIS education
- Shoreland buffer establishment
- Adopt A Drain
- Low Salt practices
- K-12 education



This is not on Mitchell Lake.

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# Thank you!

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