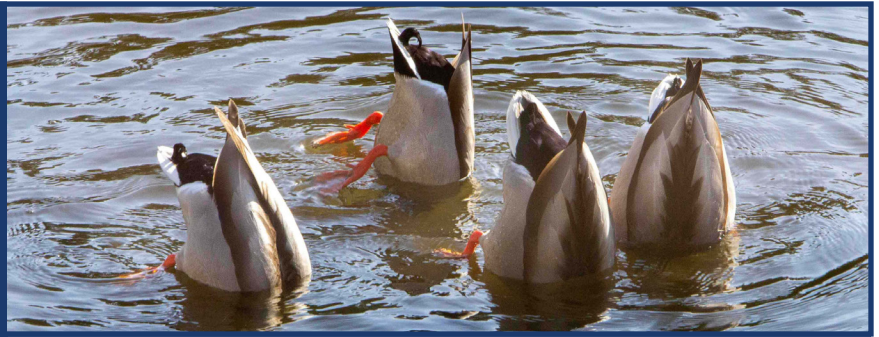


MITCHELL LAKE ASSOCIATION 2024 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



Board Members

Erik Hansen, President
Brian Haugen, Vice President
Michelle Rothwell, Treasurer
Cheri Nehl, Secretary
Breann Bundgaard
Zach Fetzer
Cheryl Harjes
Dave Jackett
John Tyler

Contact the MLA Board by email:
MitchellLakeAssociation@gmail.com

2024 MLA Event Schedule

JAN 1	2024 Membership Renewal Begins
APR 20	Spring Clean-up Day
MAY 30	EP Goose Complaints Due
JULY 11	MLA Summer Picnic
JULY	Weed Harvest Rebate Program
SEPT 15	Photo Contest Entries Due
OCT 3	MLA Annual Meeting
FALL	Mitchell Lake Buckthorn Removal/ Restoration

Find event details in this newsletter. For updates on events throughout the year, get on our MLA Email List. (contact us at: MitchellLakeAssociation@gmail.com)

MitchellLake.org

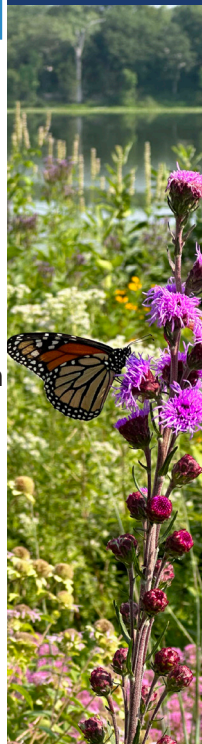
An Introduction to the New MLA President, Erik Hansen

I moved on to Mitchell Lake in 2015 with my wife and three children. My favorite activities on the lake are hiking around it in summer and snowshoeing across it in winter. I am also an avid fisherman. Finally, I got a trail cam for Father's Day a few years ago, and I love seeing all of the wildlife that shares the lake with us.

My first involvement with the MLA was when we completed a shoreline restoration project. The MLA was a great resource and helped us with the applications with the watershed district and the city.

My goal for the MLA is to continue to get more people involved in the association and working together to care for and improve our lake. A particular focus of mine is to encourage more people to consider native plantings, especially along shorelines. ~Erik

LANDSCAPE FOR WATER QUALITY REBATE



The Mitchell Lake Association in partnership with the City of Eden Prairie and the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District (RPBCWD) can help with both the financing and planning of a shoreline restoration project or rain garden. The City of Eden Prairie and RPBCWD both offer rebates for approved restoration and planting projects. The MLA offers a supplement **rebate of \$250** to any MLA members who complete a project approved by the city or watershed district.

For more information on the Mitchell Lake Landscape for Quality Rebate visit <https://mitchelllake.org/blog-2/> or contact the MLA for help with your project.



JOIN LAKE PLEDGE TO LEARN HOW TO STOP AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES:

Your Participation Will Help Us Qualify for a Grant This Year

Your Mitchell Lake Association (MLA) board is excited to announce that MLA can earn incentive money from Hennepin County by achieving Lake Pledge participation milestones.

- MLA can earn \$1,000 for each 10% participation gain (over a 10% starting point), maxing out at \$5,000 if we reach 60%.
- Grant money will go directly towards lake improvements.

Hennepin County launched the Lake Pledge program to provide engaging videos with steps to protect our lake from Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

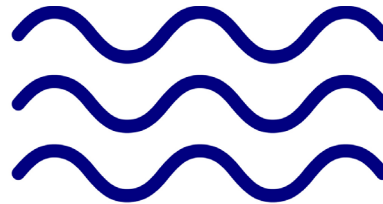
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) can cause irreparable damage, but together, we can prevent it. Take action today and ensure a healthy, vibrant future for Mitchell Lake!

LakePledge.com

To participate in this grant, go to LakePledge.com or scan the QR below and set up an account.

Select your lake activities and watch the video for each topic. The videos last 1-2 minutes each.

Click the **Accept Pledge** button for each video. Upon completing your lake activity videos, you will have helped the MLA reach our grant goal of 60% participation.



2024 MLA Membership Form

CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS AND PAY ONLINE AT www.mitchelllake.org

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone: _____
 E-Mail: _____
 Date Paid: _____



QR CODE FOR ONLINE PAYMENT
**ANNUAL AUTOPAY RENEWAL
 NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE**

Options	I am including:
One-Year Membership - \$50 for the calendar year	\$
Add'l Contribution for Fish Stocking	\$
Add'l Contributions (for key MLA objectives such as for weed management and shoreline restoration)	\$
Total	\$

Please send your tax-deductible donation to:
 Mitchell Lake Association
 C/O Michelle Rothwell
 8002 Island Road
 Eden Prairie, MN 55347

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 18TH ANNUAL MITCHELL LAKE CLEAN-UP DAY ON SATURDAY APRIL 20, 2024



CLEAN-UP AT 10:00 AM MEET AT THE MILLER PARK WARMING HOUSE (NEAR THE HOCKEY RINK)

Join the MLA members to clean the shoreline around Miller Park as well as the North shore along Highway 5.

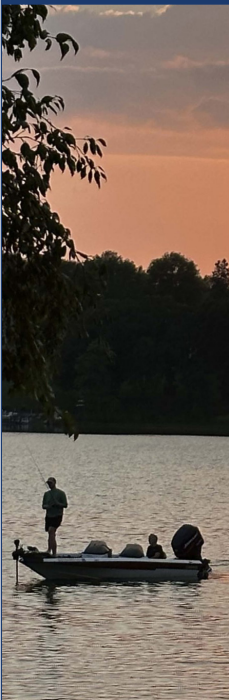
What to bring:

- Gloves and Rakes
- Waders if you have them
- We'll provide trash bags

LUNCH AT NOON

Lunch will be provided by the MLA. Bring a side or dish to share (optional).

Fish Stocking Update



The stocking of Mitchell Lake began the Spring of 2019. MLA provided the initial \$1,000 in funding, and the rest has come from voluntary donations.

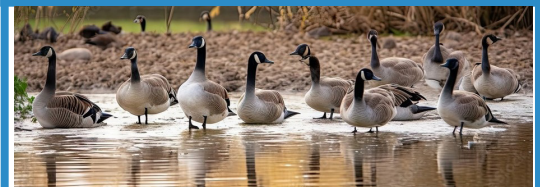
Since that time over 3,200 game fish have been planted in regular Spring and Fall deposits—often coinciding with the Spring shoreline clean-up. An additional 1,050 fingerling walleye were planted in the Fall of 2019, and the rest have been adult fish. For survivability adult largemouth bass up to 16", walleye up to 22", and black crappie up to 11" have been regularly contributed to the lake. Hopefully natural spawning will take over in all species.

Given the size of Mitchell Lake, I think we have done an outstanding job of restoring our lake to fishing. The fish program is now in a maintenance phase in which stocking will be scheduled as needed with the designated funds that are available.

Thank you to all that have contributed!

John Tyler, MLA Board member

GOOSE MANAGEMENT



Are geese a nuisance in your part of the lake? To have geese removed from your property, file a goose complaint with the City of Eden Prairie. Go to EdenPrairie.org and search for "goose management" or scan the QR below.

Goose complaints must be filed by individual homeowners, and the time to file is between May 15th and the 30th.



Mitchell Lake Weed Harvesting Rebate

The City of Eden Prairie has confirmed that it will contract a weed harvesting company again this July. MLA offers a **\$100 rebate** to its members for private shoreline harvesting and will work with the city to get notifications out to those on our email list. To find the rebate form, visit: <https://mitchelllake.org/blog-2/>

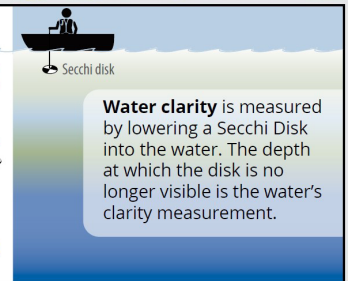
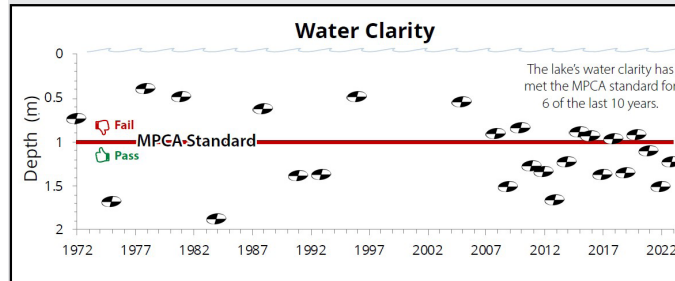
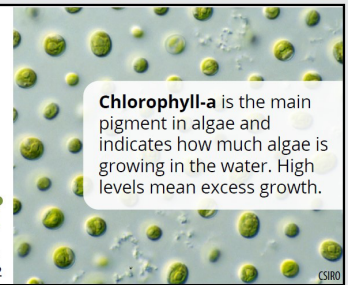
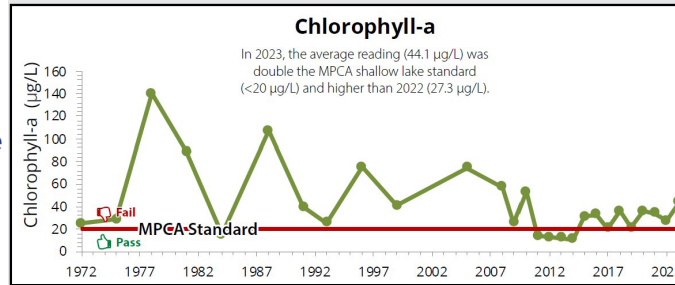
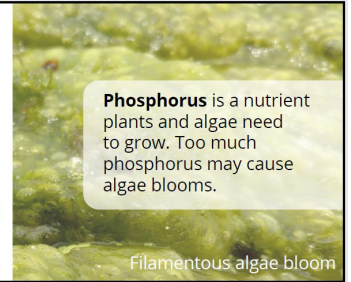
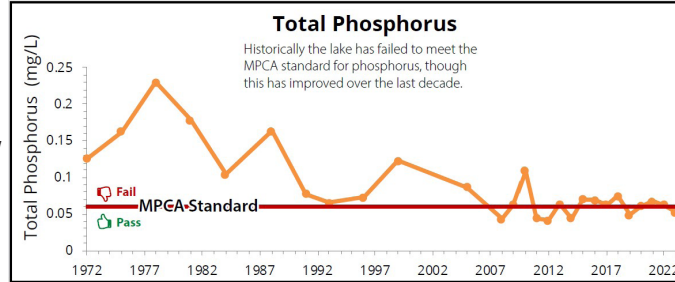


MITCHELL LAKE 2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT

This report is a graph of the water quality trends from 1972 to 2023 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 Mitchell Lake.

For further analysis of this data, see the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District 2023 Mitchell Lake Fact Sheet:

<https://rpbcwd.org/mitchell-lake>



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 MLA PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



"Ducks Feeding or Bottoms Up"
2023 Photo Contest 1st Place
Lorinda Fraboni Schlauderaff

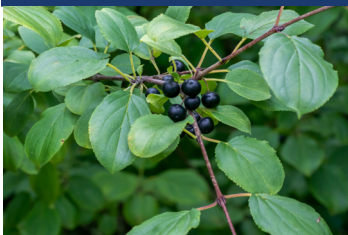


"The Loud Neighbor"
2023 2nd Place
Jessica Thompson

To Enter the MLA 2024 Photo Contest:

- 1) Capture photos portraying Mitchell Lake scenery, wildlife, or lake life activities.
- 2) Email photos to mitchelllakeassociation@gmail.com by **Sept. 15, 2024** with Subject Line: "Photo Contest Submission"
- 3) Include your name with your submission and a title or description if relevant
- 4) Entries will be judged by the MLA Board and winners will be announced at the 2023 Annual Meeting.
- 5) Prizes will be awarded as follows: 1st Prize: \$50 Gift Card, 2nd Prize: \$25 Gift Card.

Down with Buckthorn—Volunteers Needed!



Have you noticed the large swaths of buckthorn along the shores of Mitchell Lake? Buckthorn is an unwelcome and invasive plant that can negatively impact water quality. Buckthorn outcompetes the native groundcover plants needed to stabilize soil and prevent runoff. MLA is partnering with the City of Eden Prairie and the Friends of Eden Prairie Parks to hold buckthorn removal events in Miller Park this fall. Volunteers will learn how to identify buckthorn and effectively remove it. Area restoration activities may also be included. Details will be available later this summer.



MLA Website:
Contact us by email:
Find us on Facebook:

MitchellLake.org
MitchellLakeAssociation@gmail.com
Mitchell Lake Association