



Chara Bed in Clearwater Lake, Wright County, MN, August 2024

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# Clearwater Lake, Wright County: 2024 Aquatic Point Intercept Survey

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Point Intercept Survey: August 15, 27, 28, and September 5, 2024

**Prepared for:**  
Clearwater Lake Property  
Owners Association



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# Clearwater Lake, Wright County: 2024 Aquatic Point Intercept Survey

## Summary

On August 15, 27, 28, and September 5, 2024, a summer point intercept survey was conducted on the 3,187 acre Clearwater Lake, Wright County. Plant growth was found to a depth of 20 feet and aquatic plants were estimated to cover 1,445 acres or 45% of Clearwater Lake. The most common submerged aquatic plant was chara. Chara was observed at 462 sites (1,141 ac of chara). The aquatic plant community in 2024 had 27 species of submerged aquatic plants. This is a good plant diversity condition for a lake in the North Central Hardwood Forest ecoregion setting. The number of individual plant species observed at sample points ranged from 1 to 8 with an average of 1.9 species/point (Figure 1).

Zebra mussels which were first confirmed in 2015, were found attached to aquatic plants at 463 survey sites. Zebra mussel distribution in Clearwater Lake was estimated at 1,144 acres (36% of the lake area)(Figure 1).

Eurasian watermilfoil was found at 1 site (Table 1). Starry stonewort was found in a protected bay during the point intercept survey but not on any point intercept sites.

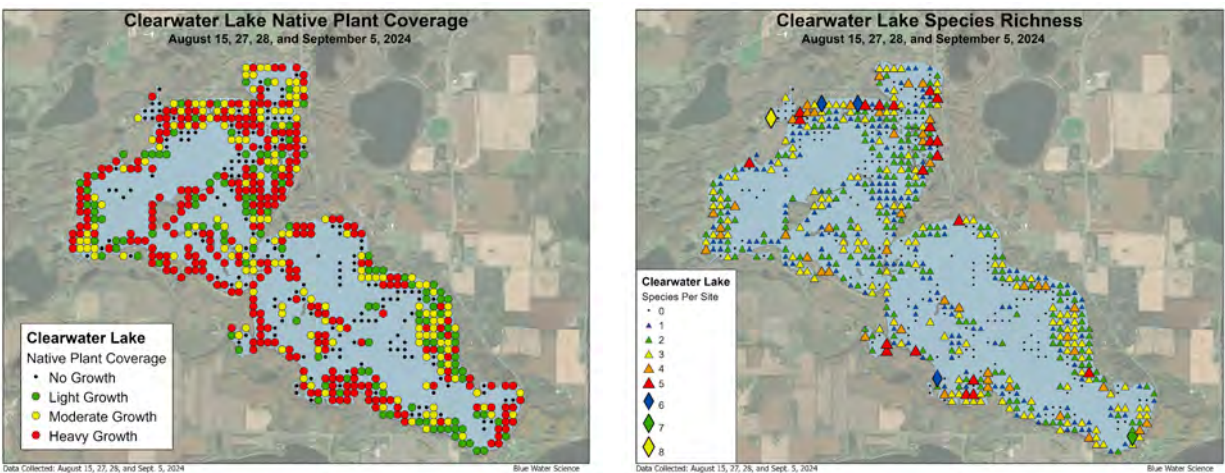


Figure 1. [left] Native plant coverage for each sample site for Clearwater Lake in late summer 2024. [right] Aquatic plant species richness for each sample site for Clearwater Lake in 2024

Table 1. Clearwater Lake aquatic plant occurrences and densities for the August 15, 27, 28, and September 5, 2024 survey. Density ratings are 1-3 with 1 being low and 3 being most dense. Statistics are based on the sites that were within the 20 feet of depth based on MnDNR lake contour map.

|   | All Sites<br>(n=713) |         |         |
|---|----------------------|---------|---------|
|   | Occur                | % Occur | Density |
| <b>Emergents</b>                            |                      |         |         |
| Bulrush<br>( <i>Scirpus sp</i> )            | 63                   | 10      | 1.8     |
| Cattails<br>( <i>Typha sp</i> )             | 12                   | 2       | 1.7     |
| Wild rice<br>( <i>Zizania palustris</i> )   | 9                    | 1       | 1.6     |
| <b>Floatingleaf</b>                         |                      |         |         |
| Duckweed<br>( <i>Lemna sp</i> )             | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Spatterdock<br>( <i>Nuphar variegatum</i> ) | 16                   | 3       | 1.5     |
| White waterlily<br>( <i>Nymphaea sp</i> )   | 82                   | 14      | 2.1     |

|  | All Sites<br>(n=713) |         |         |
|--|----------------------|---------|---------|
|  | Occur                | % Occur | Density |
| <b>Submerged</b>   |                      |         |         |
| Marsh marigold<br>( <i>Bidens beckii</i> )                 | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Coontail<br>( <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> )              | 181                  | 30      | 1.4     |
| Brauns stonewort<br>( <i>Chara braunii</i> )               | 2                    | 1       | 1.5     |
| Chara<br>( <i>Chara spp</i> )                              | 462                  | 77      | 2.2     |
| Moss<br>( <i>Drepanocladus spp</i> )                       | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Elodea<br>( <i>Elodea canadensis</i> )                     | 11                   | 2       | 1.1     |
| Water stargrass<br>( <i>Heteranthera dubia</i> )           | 19                   | 3       | 1.1     |
| Marestail<br>( <i>Hippuris vulgaris</i> )                  | 1                    | 1       | 3.0     |
| Star duckweed<br>( <i>Lemna trisulca</i> )                 | 4                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Northern watermilfoil<br>( <i>Myriophyllum sibiricum</i> ) | 17                   | 3       | 1.0     |
| Eurasian watermilfoil<br>( <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> )  | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Naiads<br>( <i>Najas flexilis</i> )                        | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Nitella<br>( <i>Nitella sp</i> )                           | 2                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Starry stonewort<br>( <i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i> )          | 3                    | 1       | 2.3     |
| Curlyleaf pondweed<br>( <i>Potamogeton crispus</i> )       | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Fries pondweed<br>( <i>P. friesii</i> )                    | 4                    | 1       | 1.3     |
| Illinois pondweed<br>( <i>P. illinoensis</i> )             | 120                  | 20      | 1.1     |
| Floatingleaf pondweed<br>( <i>P. natans</i> )              | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Rivers pondweed<br>( <i>P. nodosus</i> )                   | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Whitestem pondweed<br>( <i>P. praelongus</i> )             | 15                   | 2       | 1.1     |
| Claspingleaf pondweed<br>( <i>P. Richardsonii</i> )        | 14                   | 2       | 1.1     |
| Stringy pondweed<br>( <i>P. sp</i> )                       | 3                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Flatstem pondweed<br>( <i>P. zosteriformis</i> )           | 23                   | 4       | 1.1     |
| Buttercup<br>( <i>Ranunculus sp</i> )                      | 8                    | 1       | 1.1     |
| Sago pondweed<br>( <i>Stuckenia pectinata</i> )            | 26                   | 4       | 1.0     |
| Bladderwort<br>( <i>Utricularia sp</i> )                   | 111                  | 18      | 1.2     |
| Water celery<br>( <i>Vallisneria americana</i> )           | 105                  | 17      | 1.5     |

**Table 2. Statistical data for point intercept surveys conducted in 2017, 2020, 2023, and 2024. Density ratings are 1-3 with 1 being low and 3 being most dense. Statistics are based on the sites that were within the 20 feet of depth based on MnDNR lake contour map. P=present.**

|  | 2017<br>(n=839) |         |         | 2020<br>(n=854) |         |         | 2023<br>(n=711) |         |         | 2024<br>(n=713) |         |         |
|--|-----------------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------|---------|
|  | Occur           | % Occur | Density | Occur           | % Occur | Density | Occur           | % Occur | Density | Occur           | % Occur | Density |
| Bulrush<br>( <i>Scirpus sp</i> )                           |                 | P       |         |                 | P       |         | 65              | 9       | 2.0     | 63              | 10      | 1.8     |
| Sagittaria<br>( <i>Sagittaria sp</i> )                     |                 |         |         | 0.2             |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |
| Cattails<br>( <i>Typha sp</i> )                            |                 | P       |         | P               |         |         | 21              | 3       | 1.2     | 12              | 2       | 1.7     |
| Wild rice<br>( <i>Zizania palustris</i> )                  |                 | 0.5     |         | 2.0             |         |         | 15              | 2       | 1.4     | 9               | 1       | 1.6     |
| Duckweed<br>( <i>Lemna sp</i> )                            |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Spatterdock<br>( <i>Nuphar variegata</i> )                 |                 | 0.5     |         | 1.1             |         |         | 26              | 4       | 1.3     | 16              | 3       | 1.5     |
| White waterlily<br>( <i>Nymphaea sp</i> )                  |                 | 0.5     |         | 4.3             |         |         | 88              | 12      | 2.0     | 82              | 14      | 2.1     |
| Marsh marigold<br>( <i>Bidens beckii</i> )                 |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Coontail<br>( <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> )              |                 | 8.5     |         | 16.8            |         |         | 179             | 25      | 1.4     | 181             | 30      | 1.4     |
| Brauns stonewort<br>( <i>Chara braunii</i> )               |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 2               | 1       | 1.5     |
| Chara<br>( <i>Chara sp</i> )                               |                 | 69.1    |         | 72.3            |         |         | 382             | 54      | 1.8     | 462             | 77      | 2.2     |
| Moss<br>( <i>Drepanocladus spp</i> )                       |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Elodea<br>( <i>Elodea canadensis</i> )                     |                 | 0.7     |         | 0.2             |         |         | 7               | 1       | 1.1     | 11              | 2       | 1.1     |
| Water stargrass<br>( <i>Heteranthera dubia</i> )           |                 | 0.4     |         | 0.9             |         |         | 12              | 2       | 1.2     | 19              | 3       | 1.1     |
| Marestail<br>( <i>Hippuris vulgaris</i> )                  |                 | P       |         | 0.2             |         |         |                 |         |         | 1               | 1       | 3.0     |
| Star duckweed<br>( <i>Lemna trisulca</i> )                 |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 4               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Northern watermilfoil<br>( <i>Myriophyllum sibiricum</i> ) |                 | 1.1     |         | 14.0            |         |         | 85              | 12      | 1.1     | 17              | 3       | 1.0     |
| Eurasian watermilfoil<br>( <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> )  |                 | 1.1     |         | 0.4             |         |         | 2               | 1       | 1.0     | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Naiads<br>( <i>Najas flexilis</i> )                        |                 | 0.2     |         | 0.5             |         |         | 65              | 9       | 1.1     | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Nitella<br>( <i>Nitella sp</i> )                           |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 1               | 1       | 1.0     | 2               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Starry stonewort<br>( <i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i> )          |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 3               | 1       | 2.3     |
| Cabbage<br>( <i>Potamogeton amplifolius</i> )              |                 |         |         | 0.2             |         |         | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |                 |         |         |
| Curlyleaf pondweed<br>( <i>P. crispus</i> )                |                 | 9.8     |         | 3.4             |         |         | 3               | 1       | 1.0     | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Fries pondweed<br>( <i>P. friesii</i> )                    |                 | 7.8     |         | 13.5            |         |         | 40              | 6       | 1.0     | 4               | 1       | 1.3     |
| Variable pondweed<br>( <i>P. gramineus</i> )               |                 | 2.2     |         | 2.5             |         |         | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |                 |         |         |
| Illinois pondweed<br>( <i>P. illinoensis</i> )             |                 | 3.1     |         | 3.9             |         |         | 101             | 14      | 1.1     | 120             | 20      | 1.1     |
| Floatingleaf pondweed<br>( <i>P. natans</i> )              |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |
| River pondweed<br>( <i>p. nodosus</i> )                    |                 |         |         |                 |         |         |                 |         |         | 1               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Whitstem pondweed<br>( <i>P. praelongus</i> )              |                 | 0.2     |         | 2.7             |         |         | 24              | 3       | 1.0     | 15              | 2       | 1.1     |
| Claspingleaf pondweed<br>( <i>P. Richardsonii</i> )        |                 | 2.0     |         | 3.2             |         |         | 25              | 4       | 1.1     | 14              | 2       | 1.1     |
| Stringy/Narrowleaf pondweed<br>( <i>P. sp</i> )            |                 | 1.4     |         | 3.9             |         |         | 10              | 1       | 1.0     | 3               | 1       | 1.0     |
| Flatstem pondweed<br>( <i>P. zosteriformis</i> )           |                 | 6.0     |         | 4.6             |         |         | 17              | 2       | 1.0     | 23              | 4       | 1.1     |
| Buttercup<br>( <i>Ranunculus sp</i> )                      |                 | 2.4     |         | 4.3             |         |         | 3               | 1       | 1.0     | 8               | 1       | 1.1     |
| Sago pondweed<br>( <i>Stuckenia pectinata</i> )            |                 | 5.2     |         | 5.3             |         |         | 83              | 12      | 1.2     | 26              | 4       | 1.0     |
| Bladderwort<br>( <i>Utricularia sp</i> )                   |                 | 5.1     |         | 10.8            |         |         | 36              | 5       | 1.0     | 111             | 18      | 1.2     |
| Water celery<br>( <i>Vallisneria americana</i> )           |                 | 4.3     |         | 5.7             |         |         | 86              | 12      | 1.5     | 105             | 17      | 1.5     |

# Clearwater Lake, Wright County: 2024 Aquatic Point Intercept Survey

Lake ID: 86-025200

Size: 3,187 acres

Littoral area: 1,596 acres

Maximum depth: 73 feet

Mean depth: 19.2 feet

## Introduction

Clearwater Lake is located within Wright County. Aquatic plant surveys help characterize the distribution of aquatic plants, assesses changes in the plant community overtime, and helps to track aquatic invasive species. As a general rule, if plant coverage is 40% or greater of the lake area, good water clarity is likely present. That was one parameter of many to be determined with the plant survey effort.

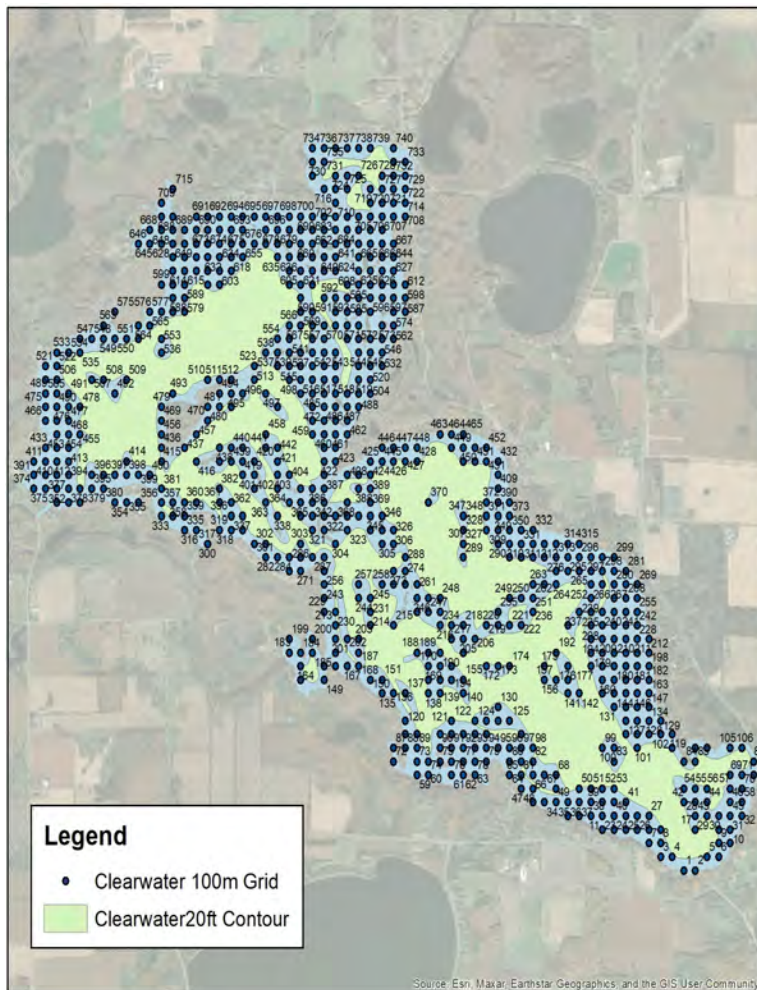
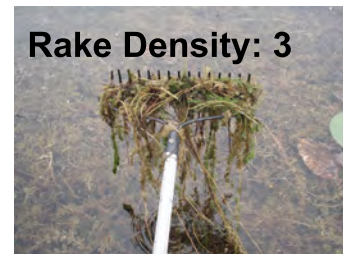


Figure 2. Sample locations for the point intercept aquatic plant survey based on 100 meter spacing. The 20 foot contour is shown in blue and the open water is shown in green.

## Methods - Aquatic Plant Surveys

**Point Intercept Survey:** An aquatic plant survey of Clearwater Lake using a point intercept sampling method was conducted by Blue Water Science using 2 boats per day on August 15, 27, 28, and September 5, 2024. A map and sampling grid were prepared by Blue Water Science and consisted of a total of 740 points that were distributed throughout the lake. Points were spaced 100 meters apart. Each point represented about 2.47 acres. At each sample point, plants were sampled with a rake sampler. In water less than 15 feet, a fixed-head rake sampler on a telescoping pole was used (Figure 3). In water deeper than 15 feet, a double-ended rake sampler on a rope was tossed into the lake to sample plants. Plants were sampled to depth of 20 feet. A plant density rating was assigned to each plant species on a scale from 1 to 3. A density of a “1” indicated sparse growth and a “3” rating indicated heavy plant growth.



Aquatic plant density ratings from 1 to 3.



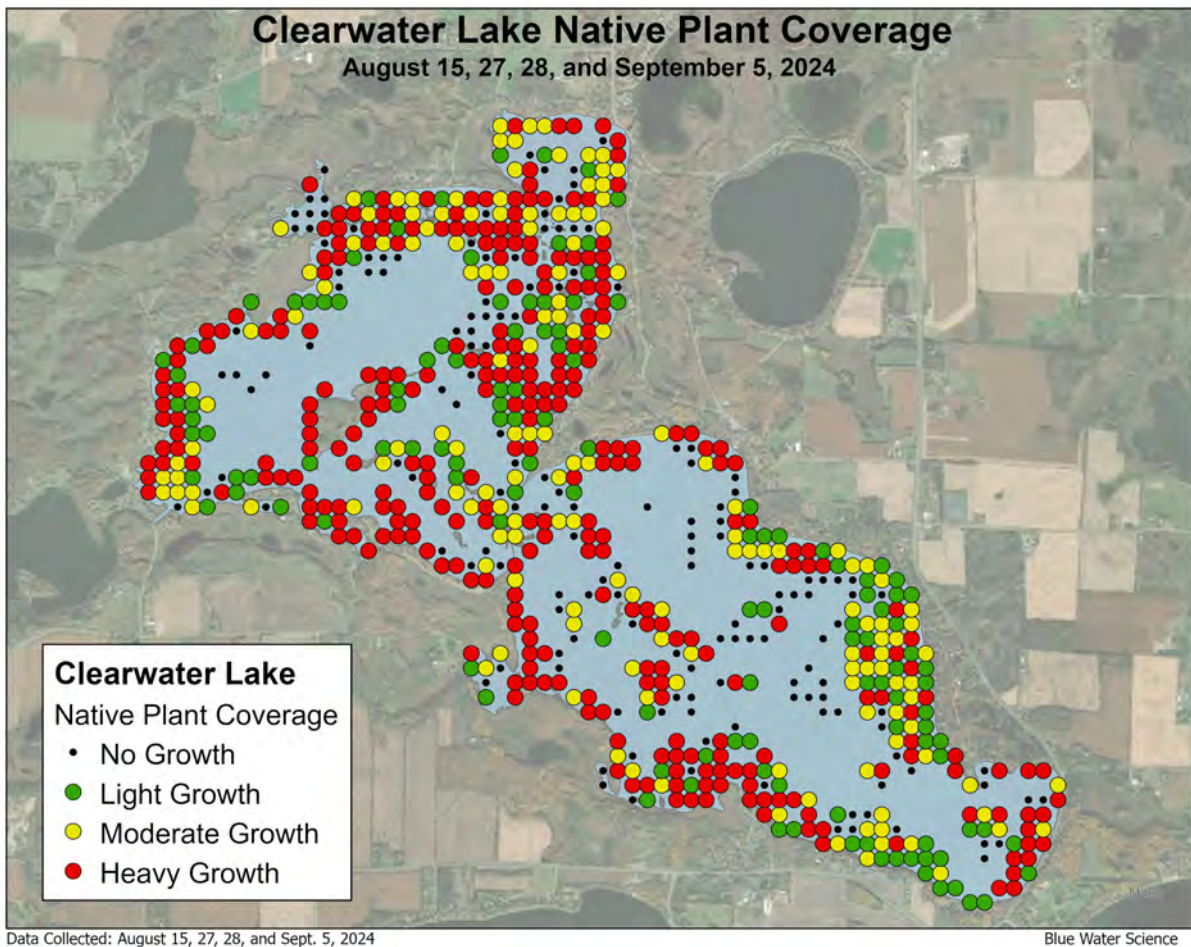
Figure 3. Two different rake samplers used during the Clearwater Lake surveys. [left] Fixed head sampler. [right] Double headed throw rake.

## Point Intercept Survey - August 15, 27, 28, and September 5, 2024

The submerged aquatic plants were common in Clearwater Lake for the 2024 point intercept plant survey. Chara was the dominant plant in Clearwater Lake. Coontail and illinois pondweed were also common. A total of 27 submerged aquatic plants, 3 floatingleaf aquatic plants, and 3 emergent plant were found (Table 3). Non-native Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed were observed in Clearwater Lake at 1 site each.

The non-native starry stonewort was observed in a secluded bay in Clearwater Lake at 3 sample sites.

A summary of plant density and occurrence for individual species is shown in Table 3.



**Figure 4.** Native plant coverage at each sample site on Clearwater Lake during the 2024 point intercept survey.

**Table 3. Clearwater Lake aquatic plant occurrences and densities for the August 15, 27, 28, and September 5, 2024 survey. Density ratings are 1-3 with 1 being low and 3 being most dense. Statistics are based on the sites that were within the 20 feet of depth based on MnDNR lake contour map.**

|   | All Sites<br>(n=713) |         |         |
|---|----------------------|---------|---------|
|   | Occur                | % Occur | Density |
| <b>Emergents</b>                            |                      |         |         |
| Bulrush<br>( <i>Scirpus sp</i> )            | 63                   | 10      | 1.8     |
| Cattails<br>( <i>Typha sp</i> )             | 12                   | 2       | 1.7     |
| Wild rice<br>( <i>Zizania palustris</i> )   | 9                    | 1       | 1.6     |
| <b>Floatingleaf</b>                         |                      |         |         |
| Duckweed<br>( <i>Lemna sp</i> )             | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Spatterdock<br>( <i>Nuphar variegatum</i> ) | 16                   | 3       | 1.5     |
| White waterlily<br>( <i>Nymphaea sp</i> )   | 82                   | 14      | 2.1     |

|  | All Sites<br>(n=713) |         |         |
|--|----------------------|---------|---------|
|  | Occur                | % Occur | Density |
| <b>Submerged</b>   |                      |         |         |
| Marsh marigold<br>( <i>Bidens beckii</i> )                 | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Coontail<br>( <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> )              | 181                  | 30      | 1.4     |
| Brauns stonewort<br>( <i>Chara braunii</i> )               | 2                    | 1       | 1.5     |
| Chara<br>( <i>Chara spp</i> )                              | 462                  | 77      | 2.2     |
| Moss<br>( <i>Drepanocladus spp</i> )                       | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Elodea<br>( <i>Elodea canadensis</i> )                     | 11                   | 2       | 1.1     |
| Water stargrass<br>( <i>Heteranthera dubia</i> )           | 19                   | 3       | 1.1     |
| Marestail<br>( <i>Hippuris vulgaris</i> )                  | 1                    | 1       | 3.0     |
| Star duckweed<br>( <i>Lemna trisulca</i> )                 | 4                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Northern watermilfoil<br>( <i>Myriophyllum sibiricum</i> ) | 17                   | 3       | 1.0     |
| Eurasian watermilfoil<br>( <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> )  | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Naiads<br>( <i>Najas flexilis</i> )                        | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Nitella<br>( <i>Nitella sp</i> )                           | 2                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Starry stonewort<br>( <i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i> )          | 3                    | 1       | 2.3     |
| Curlyleaf pondweed<br>( <i>Potamogeton crispus</i> )       | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Fries pondweed<br>( <i>P. friesii</i> )                    | 4                    | 1       | 1.3     |
| Illinois pondweed<br>( <i>P. illinoensis</i> )             | 120                  | 20      | 1.1     |
| Floatingleaf pondweed<br>( <i>P. natans</i> )              | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Rivers pondweed<br>( <i>P. nodosus</i> )                   | 1                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Whitestem pondweed<br>( <i>P. praelongus</i> )             | 15                   | 2       | 1.1     |
| Claspingleaf pondweed<br>( <i>P. Richardsonii</i> )        | 14                   | 2       | 1.1     |
| Stringy pondweed<br>( <i>P. sp</i> )                       | 3                    | 1       | 1.0     |
| Flatstem pondweed<br>( <i>P. zosteriformis</i> )           | 23                   | 4       | 1.1     |
| Buttercup<br>( <i>Ranunculus sp</i> )                      | 8                    | 1       | 1.1     |
| Sago pondweed<br>( <i>Stuckenia pectinata</i> )            | 26                   | 4       | 1.0     |
| Bladderwort<br>( <i>Utricularia sp</i> )                   | 111                  | 18      | 1.2     |
| Water celery<br>( <i>Vallisneria americana</i> )           | 105                  | 17      | 1.5     |



# Aquatic Plant Maps for Clearwater Lake

The number of aquatic plant species found at a sample point is referred to as species richness. The species richness in Clearwater Lake for each sample site is shown in Figure 5. The number of plant species at a sample point ranged from 0 to 8 with an average of 1.9 species per sample point. This is a good species richness. Additional native aquatic plant maps for individual plant species are shown on the page. Overall, aquatic plant growth in Clearwater Lake is mostly moderate.

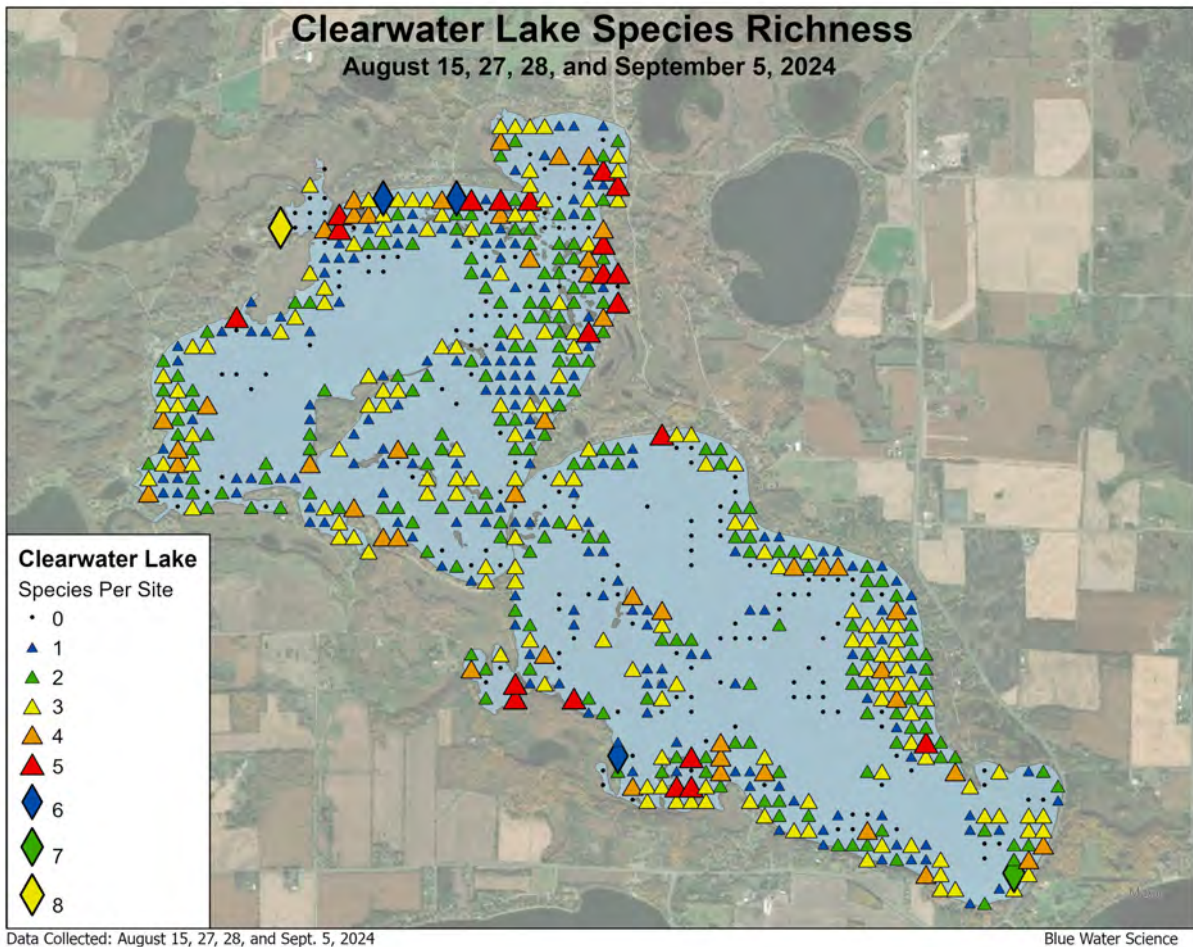
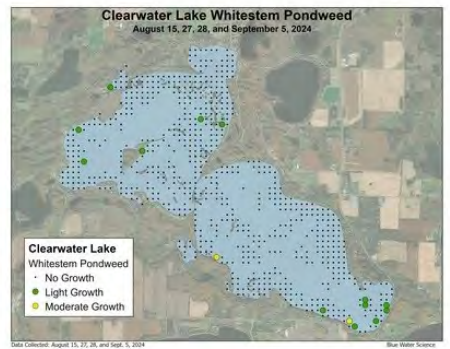
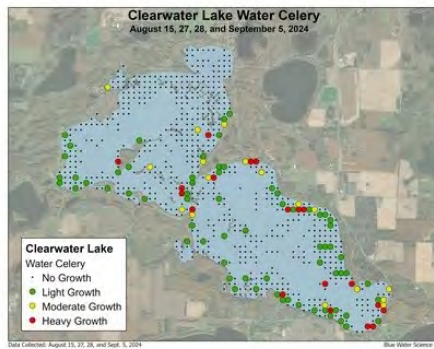
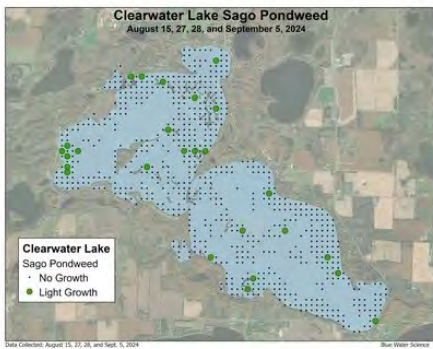
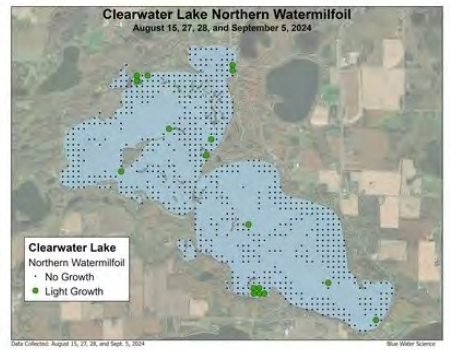
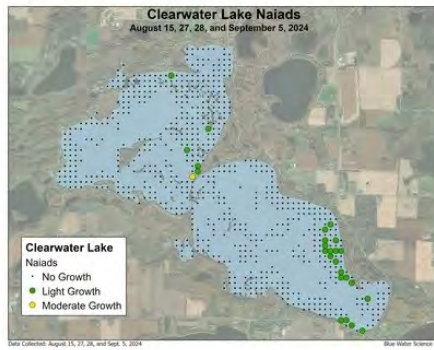
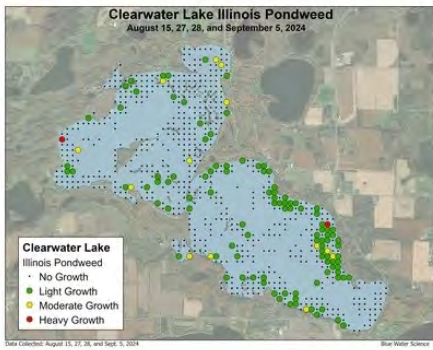
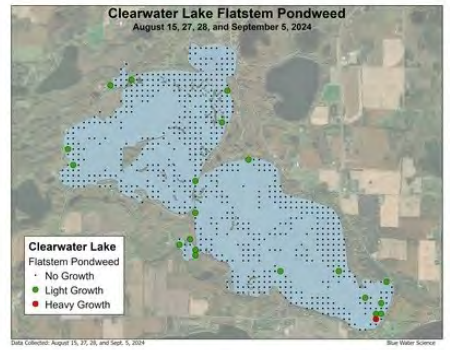
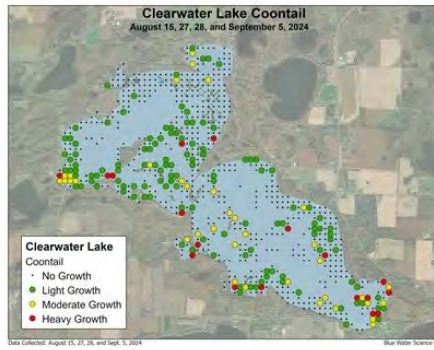
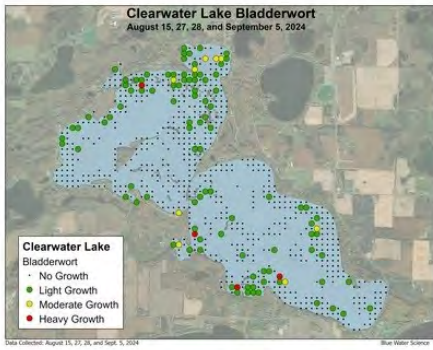


Figure 5. The number of aquatic plant species found at a sample point.

# Aquatic Plant Abundance and Distribution



# Clearwater Lake Point Intercept Survey MnDNR Statistics

A summary of plant statistics from the point intercept survey is shown in Tables 4 and 5 and Figure 6. Plants were observed in depths up to 20 feet and a total of 621 points were sampled from 0 to 20 feet of depth. However, 95% of plant occurrences were recorded from 1 to 12 feet representing 569 points (Table 4).

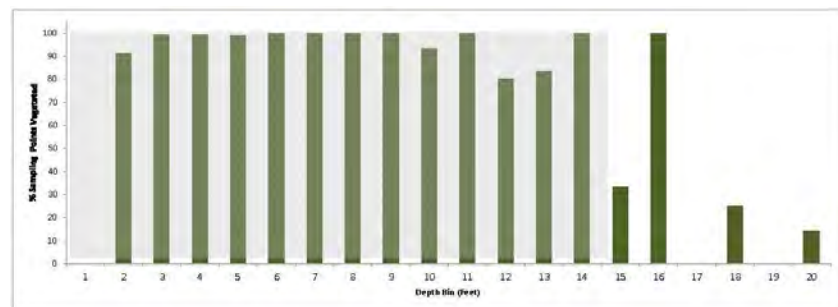
The aquatic plant coverage of Clearwater Lake was estimated at 1,445 acres or 45% of the lake area. Since plant coverage exceeds the 40% coverage criterium for good water clarity, Clearwater is predicted to good water clarity in most years.

**Table 4. Clearwater Lake aquatic plant statistics (using MnDNR format).**

|                                       |           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total # Points Sampled                | 706       |
| Depth Range of Rooted Veg             | 0-20 feet |
| Maximum Depth of Growth (95%) in feet | 11        |
| # Points in Max Depth Range           | 573       |
| # Points in Littoral Zone (0-15 feet) | 595       |
| % Points w/ Submersed Native Taxa     | 97        |
| Mean Submersed Native Taxa/Point      | 1.9       |
| # Submersed Native Taxa               | 23        |
| # Submersed Invasive Taxa             | 3         |
| Max Depth of SSW in feet              | 4         |
| % Frequency of SSW                    | 1         |
| Mode Rake Abundance of SSW            | 3         |
| Max Depth of EWM in feet              | 5         |
| % Frequency of EWM                    | 0         |
| Mode Rake Abundance of EWM            | NA        |
| Max Depth of CLP in feet              | 3         |
| % Frequency of CLP                    | 0         |
| Mode Rake Abundance of CLP            | NA        |

**Table 5. Aquatic plants sampled by depth.**

| Depth (feet) | Number of Sites Sampled at that Depth | Percent Occurrence of Plants at that Depth |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 0            | 3                                     | 0%   |
| 1            | 4                                     | 0%   |
| 2            | 23                                    | 91%  |
| 3            | 114                                   | 99%  |
| 4            | 143                                   | 99%  |
| 5            | 102                                   | 99%  |
| 6            | 69                                    | 100%                                       |
| 7            | 44                                    | 100%                                       |
| 8            | 29                                    | 100%                                       |
| 9            | 14                                    | 100%                                       |
| 10           | 15                                    | 93%  |
| 11           | 13                                    | 100%                                       |
| 12           | 5                                     | 80%  |
| 13           | 6                                     | 83%  |
| 14           | 8                                     | 100%                                       |
| 15           | 3                                     | 33%  |
| 16           | 3                                     | 100%                                       |
| 17           | 2                                     | 0%   |
| 18           | 4                                     | 25%  |
| 19           | 5                                     | 0%   |
| 20           | 7                                     | 14%  |
| All sites    | 616                                   |  |



**Figure 6. Growth depth of plant colonization out to 20 feet.**

## Representative Aquatic Plants in Clearwater Lake

A total of 27 submerged aquatic plant species were observed in the Clearwater Lake aquatic plant surveys. Representative aquatic plant conditions and species are in Figure 7.

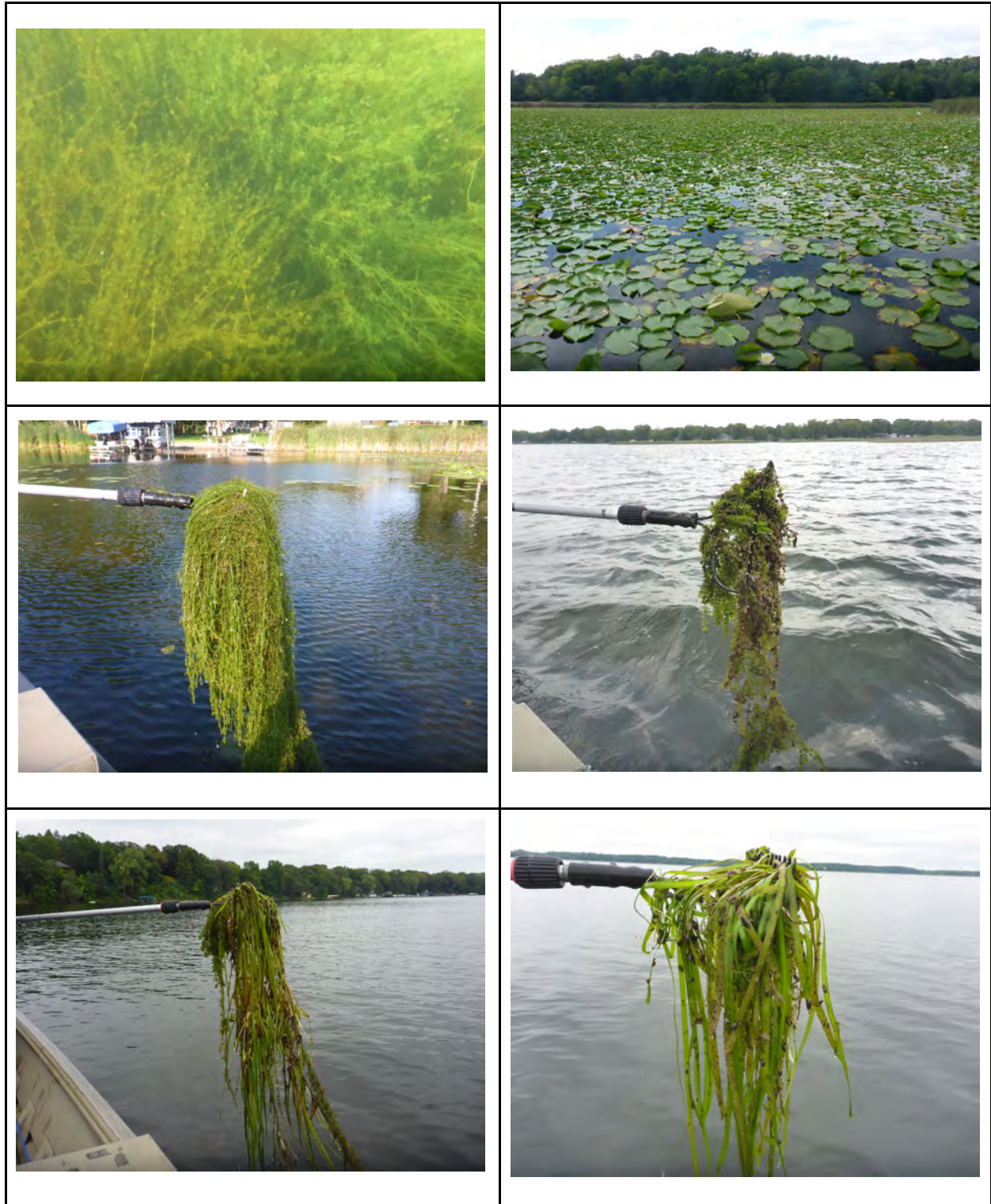
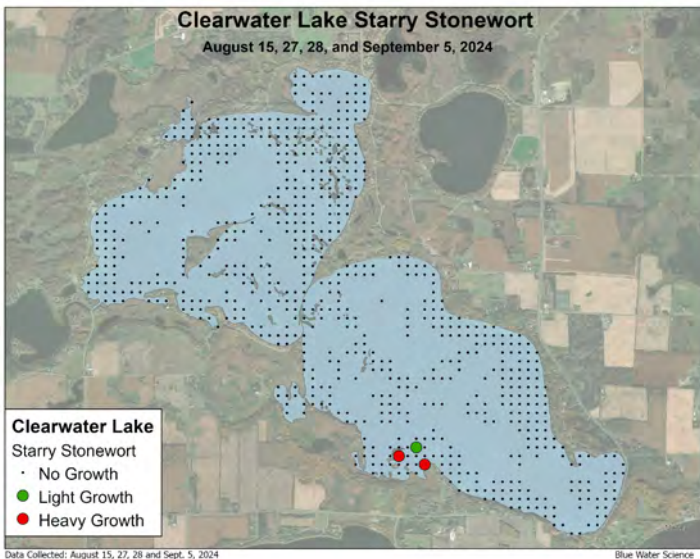
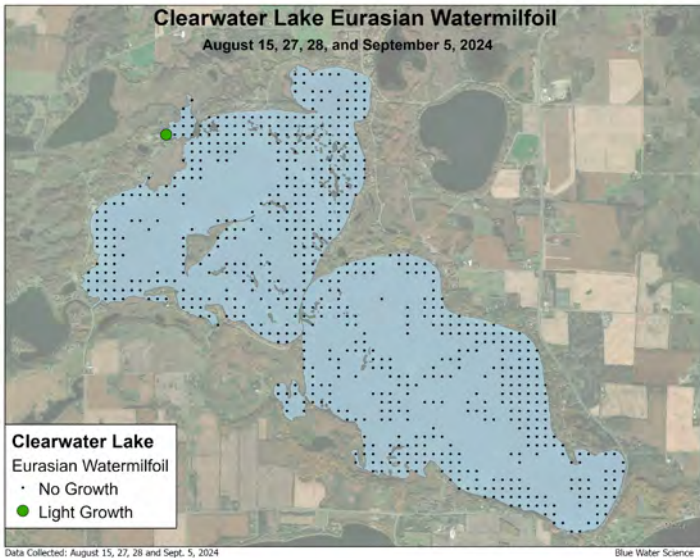
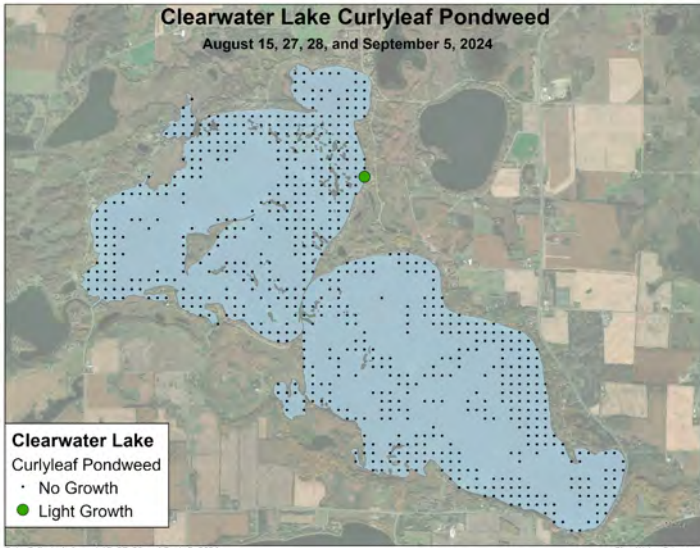


Figure 7. Representative aquatic plants and conditions in Clearwater Lake in 2024.

# Aquatic Invasive Species Found in the Point Intercept Survey

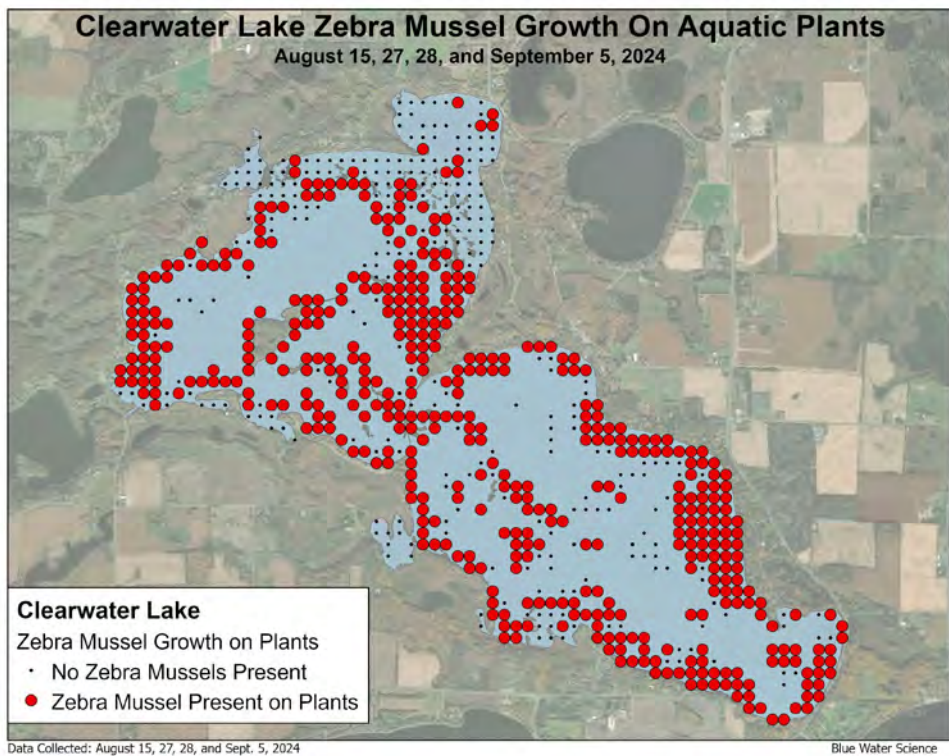
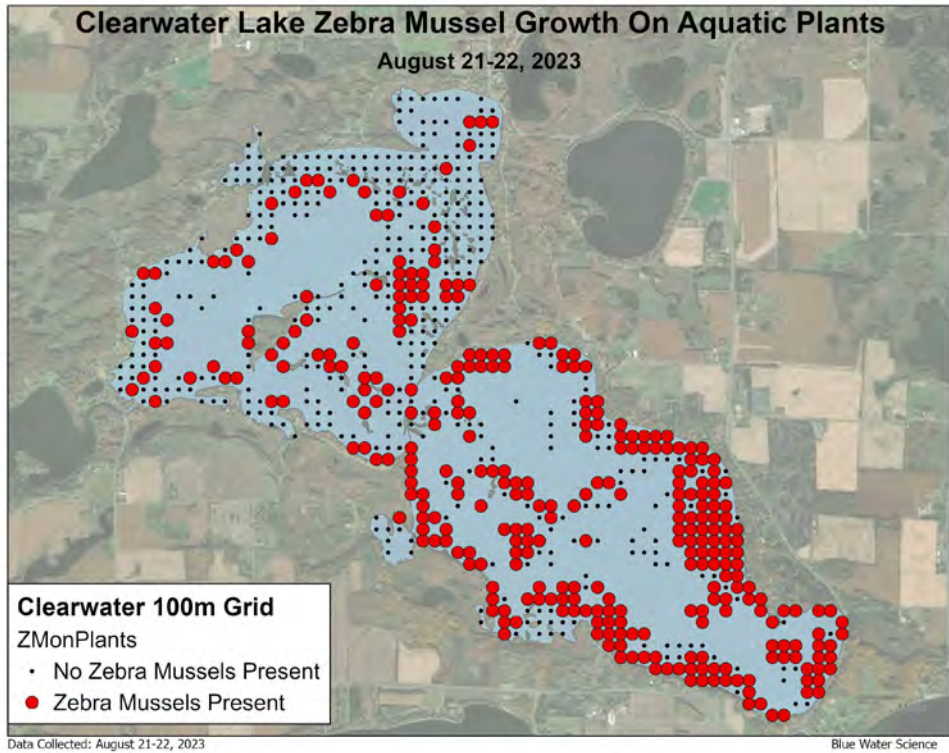


**Figure 8. Three AIS plants were found in Clearwater Lake in the point intercept survey in 2024.**

# Zebra Mussel Distribution in Clearwater Lake

During the aquatic plant point intercept survey, the presence of zebra mussels (an AIS) attached to plants was noted. A map of zebra mussel distribution was prepared and is shown in Figure 9. In 2023, zebra mussels were found at 323 survey sites and are estimated to cover 798 acres or 25% of the lake area. In 2024, zebra mussels were found at 463 survey sites and are estimated to

cover 1,144 ac or 36% of the lake area of Clearwater Lake. Zebra mussels were found to a depth of 20 feet.



**Figure 9. Zebra mussel distribution for August 2023 and August/September 2024 were based on observations of zebra mussels attached to aquatic plants collected during the point intercept survey.**

# Water Quality Summary and Transparency for Clearwater Lake

SUMMARY

WATER QUALITY

BIOLOGY

HYDROLOGY

STEWARDSHIP

Lake Health Score (▲): 50

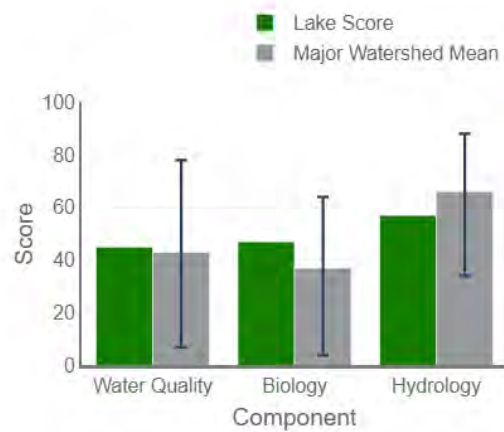
Lake Health Grade: C

Lake Health Score Major Watershed Mean (●): 50

Lake Health Score Major Watershed Min/Max: 20/75



## Lake Health Component Scores



Water Quality Score: 45

Water Quality Score Major Watershed Mean: 43; Min/Max: 7/78

Biology Score: 47

Biology Score Major Watershed Mean: 37; Min/Max: 4/64

Hydrology Score: 57

Hydrology Score Major Watershed Mean: 66; Min/Max: 34/88

## Clearwater (86025200) Basics

Excel

CSV

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Area (acres)           | 3,187                                    |
| Lakeshed Area (acres)  | 101,708                                  |
| Maximum Depth (feet)   | 73                                       |
| Maximum Depth (meters) | 22.3                                     |
| Mean Depth (feet)      | 19                                       |
| Mean Depth (meters)    | 5.9                                      |
| Littoral Area (acres)  | Not Evaluated                            |
| Shoreline (miles)      | 22.3                                     |
| Water Body Class       | Lake or Pond                             |
| Managed Fisheries Lake | Yes                                      |
| Lake Finder            | <a href="#">Open Lake Finder to Lake</a> |
| Basin                  | Mississippi Headwaters (0701)            |
| Major                  | Mississippi River - St. Cloud (17)       |
| Catchment ID           | 1700600                                  |
| County (Majority)      | Wright                                   |
| County (Percent)       | Wright: 80%                              |
| County (Percent)       | Stearns: 20%                             |

### Component Input Status

Each component score is created by combining data inputs. Some of these data inputs have a target value labeled a 'goal' or 'threshold'. If an input value is:

- **"Below (Goal or Threshold)"**, the condition for the lake has degraded to the point that it may not support one or more desired outcomes (e.g., water clarity quality, natural diversity of plants and animals).
- **"At or Above (Goal or Threshold)"**, the condition for the lake currently meets or exceeds the minimum criteria to support these desired outcomes.

### Water Quality

**Phosphorus:** Below Goal

**Water Clarity:** At or Above Goal

### Biology

**Fish Community Quality:** At or Above Threshold

**Lake Plant Community Quality:** At or Above Threshold

## Lake Basics

[About Lake Basics](#)

[Learn More](#)

## Conclusions

Clearwater Lake has average water quality. Although zebra mussel filtering activity has increased water clarity in the last few years, the abundance of a diverse native aquatic plant population will help sustain good water quality in the long term.















Individual Site Data for the Point Intercept Survey for Clearwater Lake for August 15, 27, 28, and September 5, 2024.

| Site                                     | Depth (ft) | Bulrush | Cattails | Wild rice | Duckweed | Spartan-dock | White lilies | Bladderwort | Buttercup | Chara | Clasping-leaf | Coontail | CLP | Elo-dea | EWM | Flat-stem | Float-ing-leaf | Fries | Illinois | Mares tail | Marsh mari-gold | Moss | Naiad | Nitella | NWM | River | Sago | Stone wort - Braun-s | Star-duck-weed | SSW | String | Water celery | Water star-grass | White stem | ZM on plants |  |   |
|--|------------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|-------|---------------|----------|-----|---------|-----|-----------|----------------|-------|----------|------------|-----------------|------|-------|---------|-----|-------|------|----------------------|----------------|-----|--------|--------------|------------------|------------|--------------|--|---|
| 712                                      | 6          |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           | 2     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 713                                      | 4          |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           | 2     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 714                                      | 3          | 1       |          |           |          |              | 3            |             |           |       | 1             |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         | 1   | 1     |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 716                                      | 16         |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           |       |               | 2        |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         | 1   |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 717                                      | 4          | 2       |          |           |          |              |              | 1           |           | 3     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 718                                      | 28         |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           |       |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 719                                      | 22         |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           |       |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 720                                      | 15         |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           |       |               | 1        |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 721                                      | 4          | 1       |          |           |          |              | 2            | 1           |           | 1     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       | 2        |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 722                                      | 3          | 1       |          |           |          |              | 2            |             |           |       |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         | 1   |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 723                                      | 8          |         |          |           |          |              |              | 1           |           | 1     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     | 1     |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 724                                      | 19         |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           |       |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 725                                      | 16         |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           |       |               | 1        |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 726                                      | 10         |         |          |           |          |              |              | 2           |           | 2     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       | 1        |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 727                                      | 7          |         |          |           |          |              |              | 2           |           |       | 1             | 1        |     |         |     |           |                |       | 2        |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       | 1    |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 728                                      | 7          |         |          |           |          |              |              | 2           |           | 2     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  | 1 |
| 729                                      | 3          | 1       |          |           |          |              |              | 1           |           | 3     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  | 1 |
| 730                                      | 5          |         |          |           |          | 2            | 2            | 1           |           |       |               |          |     |         |     |           | 1              |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  | 1 |
| 731                                      | 10         |         |          |           |          |              |              | 1           |           |       |               | 2        |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 732                                      | 20         |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           |       |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 733                                      | 5          |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           | 3     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  | 1 |
| 734                                      | 7          |         |          |           |          |              | 1            | 1           |           | 2     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 735                                      | 4          |         |          |           |          |              | 3            |             |           | 2     |               | 1        |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 736                                      | 3          | 1       |          |           |          |              | 1            |             |           | 2     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 737                                      | 3          |         |          |           |          |              | 1            | 1           |           | 2     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 738                                      | 4          |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           | 3     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 739                                      | 5          |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           | 3     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  |   |
| 740                                      | 3          |         |          |           |          |              |              |             |           | 3     |               |          |     |         |     |           |                |       |          |            |                 |      |       |         |     |       |      |                      |                |     |        |              |                  |            |              |  | 1 |
| Average Occur (out to 20 ft) (616 sites) |            | 1.8     | 1.7      | 1.6       | 1.0      | 1.5          | 2.1          | 1.2         | 1.1       | 2.2   | 1.1           | 1.4      | 1.0 | 1.1     | 1.0 | 1.1       | 1.0            | 1.3   | 1.1      | 3.0        | 1.0             | 1.0  | 1.0   | 1.0     | 1.0 | 1.0   | 1.0  | 1.5                  | 1.0            | 2.3 | 1.0    | 1.5          | 1.1              | 1.1        |              |  |   |
| % occur                                  |            | 10      | 2        | 1         | 0        | 3            | 13           | 18          | 1         | 77    | 2             | 29       | 0   | 2       | 0   | 4         | 0              | 1     | 19       | 0          | 0               | 0    | 4     | 0       | 3   | 0     | 4    | 0                    | 1              | 0   | 0      | 17           | 3                | 2          |              |  |   |