

## Lake Oscaleta Questions and Answers, 2014 CSLAP

**Q1. What is the condition of our lake this year?**

A1. Recreational assessments in 2014 were slightly more favorable than usual, consistent with higher water clarity and despite slightly more weed growth. No shoreline blooms were reported.

**Q2. Is there anything new that showed up in the testing this year?**

A2. The HABs testing includes information about the types of algae found in the water samples. These results showed open water algae dominated by a mix of green and other (non-blue green) algae. Shoreline blooms have not been reported.

**Q3. How does the condition of our lake this year compare with other lakes in the area?**

A3. Lake Oscaleta had slightly higher water clarity, and slightly lower nutrient levels and algae levels, than other nearby lakes. Aquatic plant coverage is comparable to the plant coverage in most of these nearby lakes.

**Q4. Are there any trends in our lake's condition?**

A4. Long-term trends are generally not (yet) apparent due to limited long-term data. None of these indicators has shown a clear long-term trend, although phosphorus readings rose slightly at the surface and lake bottom from 2007 to 2014.

**Q5. Should we be concerned about the condition of our lake? Are we close to a tipping point?**

A5. Water quality conditions already indicated a potential susceptibility to blooms, but these may still occur. The rise in phosphorus may have exacerbated these conditions.

**Q6. Are any actions indicated, based on the trends and this year's results?**

A6. Individual stewardship activities such as pumping your septic system, growing a buffer of native plants next to the water bodies, and reducing erosion from shoreline properties and runoff into the lake will help to improve lake health by reducing nutrient and sediment loading to the lake. Visiting boats should be inspected to reduce the risk of new invasive species, since nearby lakes harbor several invasive plants not presently found in the lake.

<b>Lake Use</b>				
	PWL	Average Year	2014	Primary issue
<b>Potable Water</b>				Not applicable
<b>Swimming</b>				Algae levels
<b>Boating / Fishing</b>				No impacts
<b>Aquatic Life</b>				Bottom Oxygen
<b>Aesthetics</b>				Algae levels
<b>Fish Consumption</b>				Not applicable

	Supported
	Threatened
	Stressed
	Impaired
	Not Known