Eagle Lake Questions and Answers, 2014 CSLAP

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

A1. Water quality conditions in Eagle Lake were again highly favorable in 2014; water clarity was very high, and no blue green algae blooms were apparent. The lake has suffered from some invasive weed issues, although this was no as apparent as usual in 2014.

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 very low levels of total and blue green algae in 2014, with the algae community of a mix of algae species.

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

A3. Eagle Lake has much higher water clarity, and much lower algae and nutrient levels, than most lakes in the area, and shoreline blooms are not regularly reported in the lake. The lake occasionally exhibits high weed levels (Eurasian watermilfoil), but this problem is common to some other lakes in the areas.

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

A4. Water clarity has been higher than normal in the last few years, after a slight drop in clarity (and slight increase in nutrient levels) from about 2000 to 2010. Aquatic plant coverage is variable from year to year.

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

A5. Eagle Lake does not appear to be susceptible to algae blooms or other water quality problems. The primary issues in the lake relate to nuisance (invasive) weed growth, which is more significant in some years than in others.

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 should be continued to maintain water quality 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.

