

Parallels and Contrasts

Lake	Sunfish	Musselman's*
Area (acres)	28	100
Inlet flow	By infiltration and from small streams.	Run-off from storm culverts.
Outlet flow	Small outflow relative to volume.	Essentially no outflow.
Depth	Varies from a few feet to maximum of 60 ft.	25 ft average.
Population density	1.5 dozen cottages, half-dozen permanent dwellings; all have septic tanks.	Started in 1920's as a collection of cottages; now encircled by permanent dwellings, septic tanks.
Geological form	Kettle lake; stratified water	Kettle lake; stratified water.
Problem	Several algal blooms each year, each lasting about 1 week.	Within the last 4 years, blue-green algae covers much of the lake most of summer; swimming is not possible for much of summer. Two recreational areas are closed.
Result	Some taste and odour associated with algae.	Water is toxic to many users: eye and skin irritations.
Power Boats	No.	Yes, for water-skiing and para-skiing. Power boats stir up sediment that blocks light, preventing growth of water plants that could restore oxygen.
Solutions	Harvesting of chara; seasonal occupancy; many low-cost, low-impact approaches are encouraged.	Unresolved. Several studies done; residents are requesting municipality to divert flow of culverts from lake; central sewage proposed -- all expensive.

* Information from CBC Radio Noon, 1991 09 23