



WATER & WETLAND
LAKE, POND & WETLAND MANAGEMENT

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Call/Email with any questions!



FIELD NOTES SUMMARY

Customer: Far Hills Association
Pond Name: Sunset Lake
Site Location: Ashburnham, MA
Date: 5/26/26
Biologist/s on Site: Aquatic Field Biologist, Brian Sweeney

Field Conditions

Field conditions during the visit included clear skies, no precipitation conditions, calm winds, temperatures in the 60-69°F range. Water conditions showed a glassy water surface, water levels that were normal, and water appearing tea-stained.

Observations/Data Collected

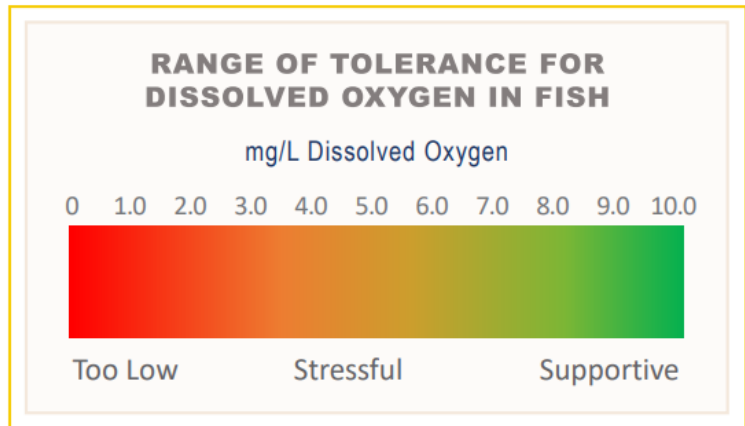
The following data was collected during the visit:

Upon arrival to the site, a survey was conducted using visual observation paired with a standard throw-rake and handheld GPS/ArcGIS Field Maps, as applicable. Plants documented during the survey are documented in the table below. (*) denotes an invasive species. Invasive species are non-native to the ecosystem and are likely to cause economic harm, environmental harm, or harm to human health.

Species Identified		
Common Name	Latin Name	Density
Low-water milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum humile</i>	Moderate
Bladderwort	<i>Utricularia</i>	Sparse
Ribbon-leaf Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton epihydrus</i>	Sparse
Thin-leaf Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton pusillus</i>	Moderate
Snailseed Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton bicupulatus</i>	Moderate
Waterlilies	<i>Nymphaeaceae</i>	Trace
Cattails	<i>Typha</i>	Sparse
Muskgrass	<i>Chara vulgaris</i>	Sparse

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While on-site, dissolved oxygen (DO) and temperature readings were collected using a calibrated YSI meter with optical sensor. Dissolved oxygen is the amount of oxygen in water that is available to aquatic organisms. DO is necessary to support fish spawning, growth, and activity. Tolerance varies by species, but the figure below provides a general range of fish tolerance (Source: epa.gov). Dissolved oxygen can be affected by many outside factors, such as: temperature, time of day, and pollution. Dissolved oxygen levels are typically lowest early in the morning. Healthy water should generally have concentrations of about 6.5-8+ mg/L.



Results from the visit are included in the table below:

Temperature & Dissolved Oxygen	
Surface Temp (°C)	Surface DO (mg/L)
17.7	8.45

Secchi Disk Clarity		
Sunset Lake	Secchi Disk Depth (Feet)	6 feet 11 inches

A Secchi disk is a disk with alternating black and white quadrants. It is lowered into the water of a lake until it can no longer be seen by the observer. This depth of disappearance, called the Secchi depth, is a measure of the transparency of the water.

Photos

Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



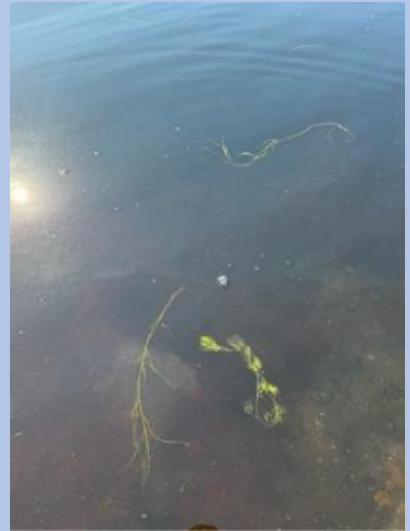
Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



Legend

- Waterlilies
- Scattered Thinleaf Pondweed, Ribbon Leaf Pondweed, Snailseed Pondweed, Low-water Milfoil
- Scattered to Moderate Low-water Milfoil, Bladderwort
- Sparse Scattered Snailseed Pondweed, Ribbon Leaf Pondweed, Thinleaf Pondweed
- Sparse Bladderwort, Low-water Milfoil, Ribbon Leaf Pondweed

