

2018 Annual Meeting Water Quality Assessment

Since the 2017 annual meeting there have been 6 complete water assessments in three different locations on both East and West lake. Each assessment consists of both chemical and physical testing standards.

Physical test includes air/water temperatures, wind speed and direction, weather conditions, water clarity, water level and odor. Also Biological and Habitat assessments.

Chemical testing includes pH, Nitrite/Nitrate, Dissolved Oxygen, Phosphate, and Chloride levels.

Iowa DNR sets standard levels both nationally and state wide. During this testing cycle between 6/7/17 and 6/5/18 all criteria for Lake Ponderosa have been below State of Iowa standards in every category. Our lake is very healthy, thanks to property owners for choosing no phosphate lawn fertilizers and keeping sewage functions under control. Special thanks for keeping cans, bottles, garbage etc. in your boats and keeping our lake beautiful as well.

Due to our previous Governors budget hatchet wielding most state departments endured severe cuts to their budgets and the DNR was no exception. The IOWATER program which oversaw and funded this water health program was halted and left to die.

Fortunately, the Lake Ponderosa Assoc. board of directors has decide to continue funding this important program by agreeing to purchase testing supplies and I have volunteered to continue testing as long as I have supplies to do it.

**Thank you,
Ed Hartman**