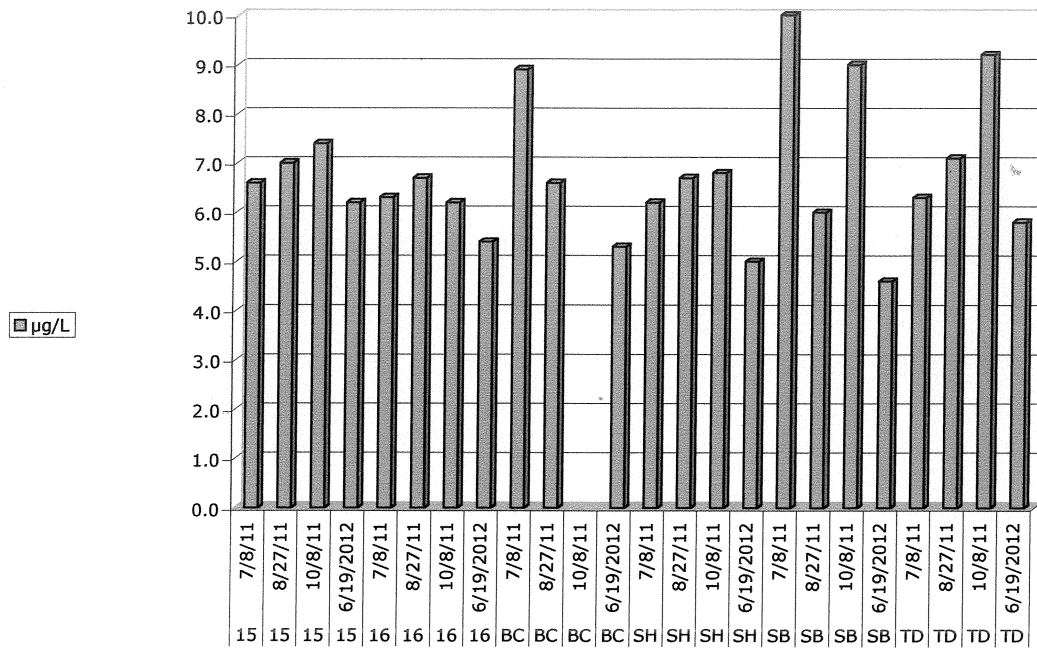


Water Testing Update

Recall that phosphorus is a major limiting nutrient in lakes. Excess phosphorus can lead to a process called eutrophication. Eutrophication is a process whereby water bodies, such as lakes, estuaries, or slow-moving streams receive excess nutrients that stimulate excessive plant growth (algae, periphyton attached algae, and nuisance plants weeds). This enhanced plant growth, often called an algal bloom, reduces dissolved oxygen in the water when dead plant material decomposes and can cause other organisms to die. Nutrients can come from many sources, such as fertilizers applied to agricultural fields, golf courses, and suburban lawns; deposition of nitrogen from the atmosphere; erosion of soil containing nutrients; and sewage treatment plant discharges. Water with a low concentration of dissolved oxygen is called hypoxic.

Our testing protocol requires testing for phosphorus 3 times a year in the spring, summer, and fall. Comprehensive testing is done every 5 years and has included chlorophyll, acid neutralizing capacity, pH, dissolved inorganic and organic carbon, aluminum, calcium, magnesium, potassium, sodium, chloride, nitrate, sulfate, ammonium, silicon, total nitrogen, total phosphorus, conductivity, color, turbidity, and total suspended solids.

Total Phosphorus Readings Meddybemps
2011-12



The data shown above indicates no level beyond the critical threshold of 13 ppb indicating that total P levels in the lake were within the normal range for the most recent testing period from 7/8/11- 6/19/12.