

## Black Pond Questions and Answers, 2015 CSLAP

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

A1. Water quality conditions in Black Pond were slightly less favorable than usual in 2015. Although no shoreline algae blooms were reported, overall algae levels were again higher than usual in 2015, due to higher phosphorus readings. However, recreational assessments remain favorable.

**Q2. Is there anything new that showed up in the testing this year?**

A2. Chloride sampling results were typical of lakes with low to moderate impacts from road salt runoff, and no biological impacts have been reported or measured.

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

A3. Black Pond has much lower water clarity, and much higher algae and nutrient levels, than a typical Long Island lake, although no shoreline blooms were reported.

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

A4. Algae levels have increased significantly in recent years, perhaps consistent with a recent rise in phosphorus and nitrogen. NOx readings have decreased over this period.

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

A5. Black Pond appears to be susceptible to algae blooms, but these have not been reported or measured. An additional threat to the lake is invasive species, particularly since invasive plants and animals are found in nearby lakes.

**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 will help to maintain highly favorable water quality conditions by reducing nutrient and sediment loading to the lake. Visiting boats (if any are used on the lake) should be inspected to reduce the risk of new invasive species, since nearby lakes harbor several invasive plants not found in the lake

