

Dear HLPOA Member,

The Higgins Lake Property Owners Association (HLPOA) has been partnering with the Raven Laboratory in Roscommon, Michigan and the instructors and students of the Roscommon Area Public High School (RAPHS) to sample and analyze the near shore waters of Higgins Lake. Sampling and testing occur during the months of May, June, July, and August. To learn more about this program, watch this short video clip that was presented at the HLPOA 2024 Annual Meeting: <http://hlpoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/RCCF-Video-Student-Water-Sampling-Project-Roscommon-High-School.mp4>

The first three testing cycles of 2024 are included in the July 2024 Report. In the last cycle (July testing) the bacteria levels went off scale. This is the first time we have seen bacteria levels this uniformly high in our seven years of testing. The very high levels of generic coliforms should give one some caution.

The generic coliform bacteria plate counts are topped out at the maximum recordable value of 1011 MPN (most probable colony counts). The actual numbers are higher, but unknown. Next cycle procedures will be modified by diluting the samples to raise the limits of detection. Watch for August 2024 Report posted on HLPOA/Environmental Committee website <http://hlpoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Higgins-Lake-report-42-July-2024.pdf>

Please note the Michigan Department of Health carries out a regular program of *E.coli* specific testing at all, or almost all, public beaches around the state. The best source of that information is on our HLPOA/Environmental Committee website. See the link: <https://www.deq.state.mi.us/beach/>

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