



Utah Lake Watch

This summer, Utah Lake Watch volunteers are helping track the health of this lake.

We enjoy our lakes for the ...



good fishing,



boating and swimming,



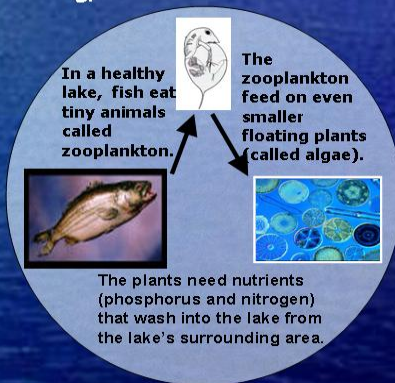
and wonderful views.

But there's also a lot going on underneath the surface of a lake.

This underwater world can be threatened by pollution.

Too many nutrients in a lake, cause too much algae.

When these plants die and decompose, oxygen levels drop, and fish in the lake will die.



Nutrients and other pollutants come from many sources ... over-fertilized lawns, poorly functioning septic systems, wastewater treatment plants, agriculture, logging and construction activities.

This summer, a Utah Lake Watch volunteer is measuring the transparency of this lake.

Lake transparency is measured with a black and white disk.

This weighted "Secchi disk" is lowered into the water until it can no longer be seen.

The disk is then raised slowly until it is just visible and this depth is recorded.

Because lake water gets cloudier as more algae grow, the transparency is a good way to determine the lake's health.



How can you help keep our lakes clean?

You can start by not polluting or littering around a lake or reservoir.

- Follow the campground and park rules: Use designated camping areas and trails, fish washing stations, restrooms and RV dump stations.
- Make sure boat motors don't leak! Just one quart of oil can pollute an area three times the size of Utah Lake!

You can also help at home, by keeping pollutants out of our storm drains and streams

- Never dump household cleaners, oil, grass clippings or other green waste into drains or ditches.
- Don't use more fertilizer and pesticides than your lawn needs.
- Clean up pet waste and dispose of it properly.

And most importantly, be involved and active in your community!

To find out who is involved at a lake near you, or to get involved, contact us!

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