

Glossary

Algae	<i>noun</i>	Any of various chiefly aquatic, eukaryotic, photosynthetic organisms, ranging in size from single-celled forms to the giant kelp. Algae were once considered to be plants but are now classified separately because they lack true roots, stems, leaves, and embryos.	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/algae
Algal	<i>adjective</i>	Pertaining to Algae.	
Algal Toxins	<i>noun</i>	Toxic chemicals produced by some forms of blue-green algae. These chemical are often present during Harmful Algal Blooms	
Anatoxin-a	<i>noun</i>	A toxin produced by some blue-green algae.	
Anatoxin-a(s)	<i>noun</i>	A toxin produced by some blue-green algae.	
Anthropogenic	<i>adjective</i>	Manmade. Created by people or caused by human activity	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Anthropogenic
Bacteria	<i>noun</i>	a very large group of microorganisms comprising one of the three domains of living organisms. They are prokaryotic, unicellular, and either free-living in soil or water or parasites of plants or animals	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/bacteria
Bacterium	<i>noun</i>	Singular of bacteria	
Benthic	<i>adjective</i>	Relating to the bottom of a sea or lake or to the organisms that live there.	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Benthic
Benthos	<i>noun</i>	The collection of organisms living on or in sea or lake bottoms. The bottom of a sea or lake.	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Benthos
Blue Green Algae	<i>noun</i>		
Conductivity	<i>noun</i>	Formerly called specific conductance it is a measure of the ability of water to conduct electricity. An increase in conductivity in freshwater systems may indicate a pollution source.	
Cyanobacteria	<i>noun</i>	Scientific name for group of organisms commonly known as blue-green algae, group is comprised of photosynthetic bacteria (phylum Cyanobacteria) which contain a blue photosynthetic pigment. Cyanobacteria can produce algal toxins during Harmful Algal Blooms.	
Dissolved Oxygen	<i>noun</i>	Measurement of water quality which determines the amount of oxygen present in water.	
DO	<i>abbreviation</i>	Dissolved Oxygen	

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<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Noun</i>	A species of bacteria normally present in intestinal tract of humans and other animals; sometimes pathogenic; can be a threat to food safety	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/E.coli
Epilimnion	<i>noun</i>	The epilimnion is the top-most layer in a thermally stratified lake, occurring above the deeper hypolimnion. It is warmer and typically has a higher pH and high dissolved oxygen concentration than the hypolimnion. Being exposed at the surface, it typically becomes turbulently mixed as a result of surface wind-mixing. It is also free to exchange dissolved gases such as O ₂ and CO ₂ with the atmosphere. Because this layer receives the most sunlight it contains the most phytoplankton. As they grow and reproduce they absorb nutrients from the water, when they die they sink into the hypolimnion resulting in the epilimnion becoming depleted of nutrients.	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epilimnion
Epiphytic	<i>adjective</i>	A plant that grows on another plant upon which it depends for mechanical support but not for nutrients. Many types of algae can be considered epiphytic in that grow on top of the leaves of larger plants.	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/epiphytic
Eutrophication	<i>noun</i>	A process by which pollution from such sources as sewage effluent or leachate from fertilized fields causes a lake, pond, or fen to become overrich in organic and mineral nutrients, so that algae and cyanobacteria grow rapidly and deplete the oxygen supply.	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Eutrophication
HABs	<i>abbreviation</i>	Harmful Algal Blooms	
Harmful Algal Bloom Surveillance	<i>Noun</i>	Program designed to monitor Harmful Algal Blooms at the state and local level. In Devils Lake the program was formerly known as the Cyano-Watch program.	
Harmful Algal Blooms	<i>Noun</i>		
Hydric Soils		A hydric soil is a soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part. Hydric soils are indicators of the presence of wetlands.	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydric_soil

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Hypereutrophic	<i>adjective</i>	Hypereutrophic lakes are very nutrient-rich lakes characterized by frequent and severe nuisance algal blooms and low transparency. Hypereutrophic lakes are the most biologically productive lakes, and support large amounts of plants, fish and other animals. Hypereutrophic lakes have a visibility depth of less than 3 feet, they have greater than 40 micrograms/liter total chlorophyll and greater than 100 micrograms/liter phosphorus. The excessive algal blooms can also significantly reduce oxygen levels and prevent life from functioning at lower depths creating dead zones beneath the surface. Likewise, large algal blooms can cause biodilution to occur, which is a decrease in the concentration of a pollutant with an increase in trophic level. This is opposed to biomagnification and is due to a decreased concentration from increased	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypereutrophic
Hypolimnion	<i>noun</i>	The hypolimnion is the dense, bottom layer of water in a thermally-stratified lake. It is the layer that lies below the thermocline. Typically the hypolimnion is the coldest layer of a lake in summer, and the warmest layer during winter. Being at depth, it is isolated from surface wind-mixing during summer, and usually receives insufficient irradiance (light) for photosynthesis to occur. In deep, temperate lakes, the bottom-most waters of the hypolimnion are typically close to 4 °C throughout the year. The hypolimnion may be much warmer in lakes at warmer latitudes.	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypolimnion
Limnology	<i>noun</i>	study of inland waters.	http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/Limnology
Littoral Zone	<i>noun</i>	refers to that part of a sea, lake or river that is close to the shore	http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/littoral
Meandered Line	<i>noun</i>		
Mesotrophic	<i>adjective</i>	Mesotrophic lakes are lakes with an intermediate level of productivity, greater than oligotrophic lakes, but less than eutrophic lakes. These lakes are commonly clear water lakes and ponds with beds of submerged aquatic plants and medium levels of nutrients.	http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/Mesotrophic+lake

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Nitrogen Nutrients Oligotrophic	<i>adjective</i>	An oligotrophic lake is a lake with low primary productivity, the result of low nutrient content. These lakes have low algal production, and consequently, often have very clear waters, with high drinking-water quality. The bottom waters of such lakes typically have ample oxygen; thus, such lakes often support many fish species, like trout, which require cold, well-oxygenated waters. The oxygen content is likely to be higher in deep lakes, owing to their larger hypolimnetic volume.	http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/Oligotrophic
Paleolimnetic	<i>noun</i>		
Paleolimnology	<i>noun</i>	Ecologists use the term oligotrophic to distinguish unproductive lakes, characterized by nutrient deficiency, from productive, eutrophic lakes, with an ample or excessive nutrient supply. Oligotrophic lakes are most common in cold regions underlain by resistant igneous rocks (especially granitic bedrock).	
Pelagic	<i>adjective</i>	Relating to or living in or on oceanic waters or the open water of lakes and seas. The pelagic zone of the ocean begins at the low tide mark and includes the entire oceanic water column. For lakes the pelagic zone begins at the edge of the nearshore or littoral zone.	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/pelagic
pH Phosphorus Photic Zone		designating the zone of the sea or lake where photosynthesis takes place.	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Photic
phytoplankton	<i>noun</i>	Plankton consisting of free-floating algae, protists, and cyanobacteria. Phytoplankton form the beginning of the food chain for aquatic animals and fix large amounts of carbon, which would otherwise be released as carbon dioxide.	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/phytoplankton

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Riparian	<i>adjective</i>	Relating to or inhabiting the banks of a natural course of water. Riparian zones are ecologically diverse and contribute to the health of other aquatic ecosystems by filtering out pollutants and preventing erosion. Salmon in the Pacific Northwest feed off riparian insects; trees such as the black walnut, the American sycamore, and the cottonwood thrive in riparian environments	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/riparian
Thermocline	<i>noun</i>	A thermocline (sometimes metalimnion) is a thin but distinct layer in a large body of fluid (e.g. water, such as an ocean or lake, or air, such as an atmosphere), in which temperature changes more rapidly with depth than it does in the layers above or below. In the ocean, the thermocline may be thought of as an invisible blanket which separates the upper mixed layer from the calm deep water below. Depending largely on season, latitude and turbulent mixing by wind, thermoclines may be a semi-permanent feature of the body of water in which they occur, or they may form temporarily in response to phenomena such as the radiative heating/cooling of surface water during the day/night. Factors that affect the depth and thickness of a thermocline include seasonal weather variations, latitude, and local environmental conditions, such as tides and currents.	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermocline
Turbidity	<i>noun</i>	Muddiness created by stirring up sediment or having foreign particles suspended. Turbidity is measured by passing light through a column of water and determining the absorbance of the light by suspended particles. This value is reported as Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTUs).	http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Turbidity
wetland	<i>noun</i>	A wetland is a land area that is saturated with water, either permanently or seasonally, such that it takes on characteristics that distinguish it as a distinct ecosystem. The primary factor that distinguishes wetlands is the characteristic vegetation that is adapted to its unique soil conditions: Wetlands are made up primarily of hydric soil, which supports aquatic plants	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wetland
Wetland Delineation	<i>noun</i>		
Zooplankton	<i>noun</i>		