



Area Description:

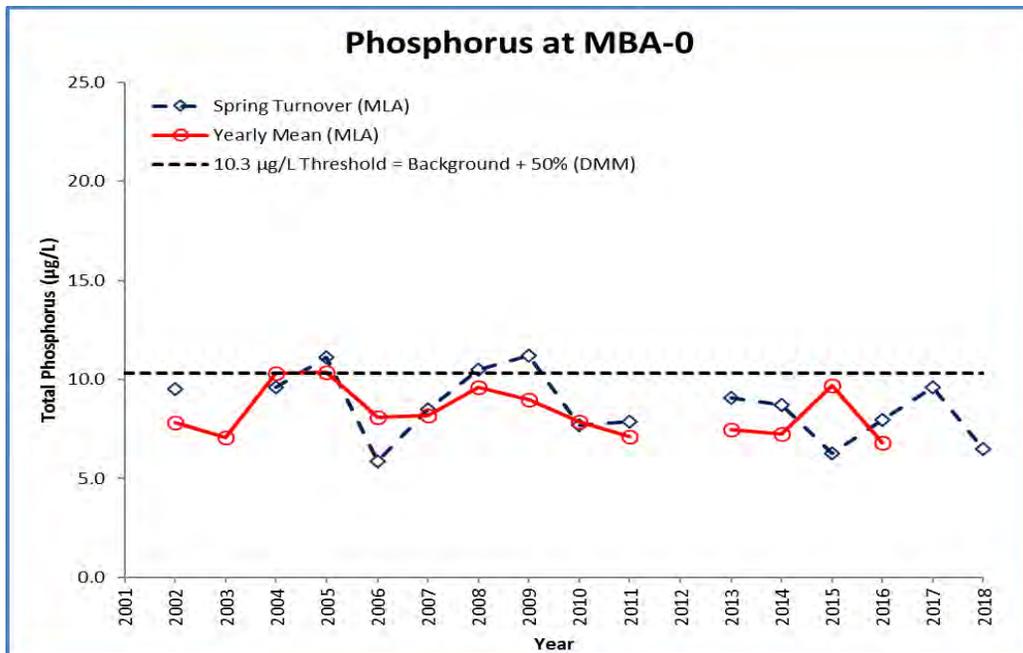
Muskoka Bay is the southernmost bay in Lake Muskoka. The bay has a long history of industrial uses and nutrient issues. While water quality in the bay has improved dramatically since the 1970s, it is still classified as moderately sensitive and over threshold by the DMM. Although the bay has a high intensity of development, 80% of the shoreline is presently in a natural state. The southern end of this bay includes a large commercial development and is the receiver of most of Gravenhurst's urban storm water. Several creeks outlet into the bay and wetlands account for 9.4% of the shoreline. Monitoring started in 2002. All stations shown may not be sampled each year.

Volunteer Recognition: Karen Abells and Alan Goldenberg.

Muskoka Bay (MBA)

2018 Water Quality Results: (Note: Hatched cell signifies not tested for in 2018)

Station	Mean Secchi Disk (m)	Total Phosphorus ($\mu\text{g/L}$)		<i>E. coli</i> Yearly Geometric Mean (cfu/100 ml)	Total Coliform Yearly Geometric Mean (cfu/100 ml)	DOC Yearly Mean
		Spring Turnover	Yearly Mean			
MBA-0	3.5	6.5				
MBA-2		4.0				
MBA-4		8.0				
MBA-11		7.0				



Summary and Recommendations:



Spring turnover phosphorus concentrations continue to remain below or at the historic DMM threshold level (10.3 µg/L) at the deep station (MBA-0) through the most recent 8 sampling years. Using Grubb's Test for outliers, the spring 2003 phosphorus sample was identified as an outlier in 2013 and remains out of the dataset in 2018. The spring phosphorus concentrations at MBA-2, MBA-4 and MBA-11 were the lowest recorded to date. Only one spring phosphorus sample was collected at each site in 2018, therefore no yearly means could be calculated, and no values are reported for 2018. *E. coli* was not sampled for in 2018. Secchi measurements vary somewhat through sampling years, ranging between 2.15 to 5.90. **Beacon recommends that all sampling be continued to monitor long-term trends.**