

Silver Springs Lake
Property Owners Association

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LPC Report – Inlet Stream Testing (November, 2025)

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The LPC has initiated a water testing program to determine whether excessive amounts of Phosphate and Nitrate nutrients are entering our lake through the inlet stream.

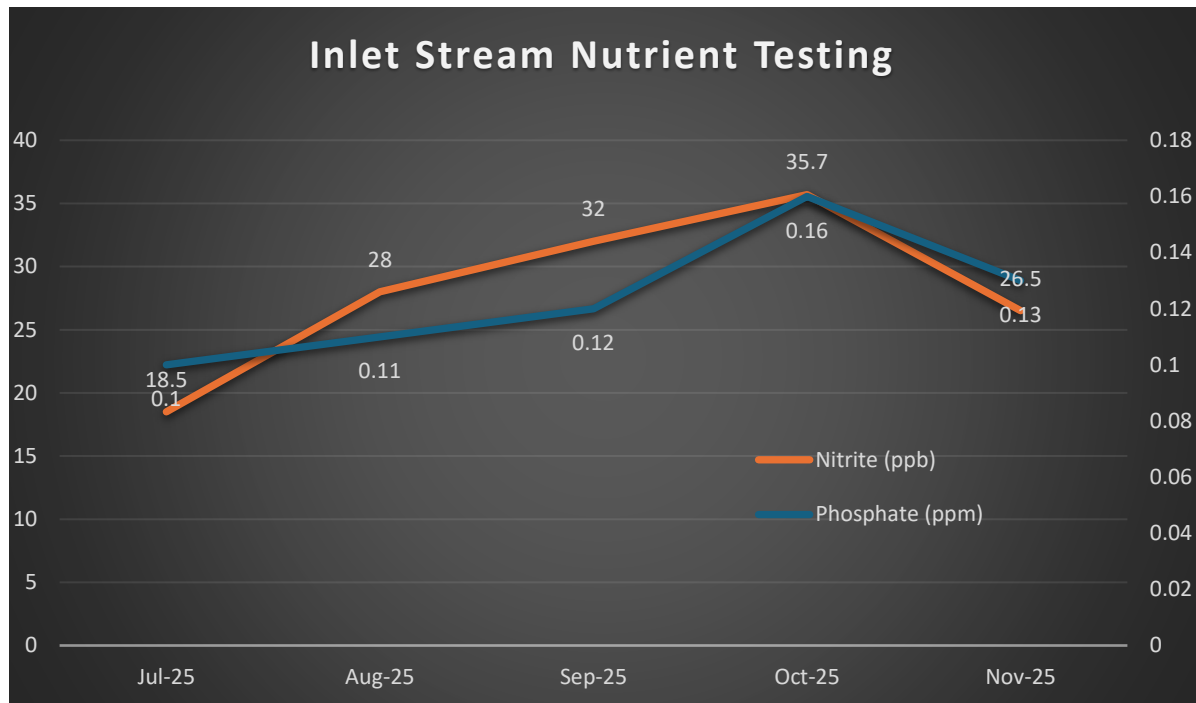
If this is an issue, the LPC will recommend a cost-effective program to reduce the inlet stream nutrient content. This can be done by placing bags of nutrient absorbing material in the inlet stream and replacing them according to a pre-calculated schedule.

Inlet Stream Water Samples were collected on July 17th, August 4th, September 3rd, October 7th, and November 7th, 2025. Test data for the water sample collected to date indicates that we do not have a problem.

Nitrite and Phosphate concentrations increased over the summer months and reversed course for November. We believe this is a seasonal trend, related to elevated water temperatures and related plant or microbial growth. Samples will be collected and tested for at least the next 18 months to verify this.

Our test results show that the average Phosphate level for the SSL Inlet stream (0.13 ppm) is near the mid-point of the normal range for uncontaminated lakes and streams (0.03-0.22 ppm). The average Nitrate level for the SSL inlet stream (0.3 ppm) is in the lower 10% of the normal range for uncontaminated streams (0.12-2.2 ppm).

These observations make sense when we look at the source of the water in our inlet stream. It begins as the overflow from Hidden Springs Lake, another man-made and spring fed lake. After passing under Highway N it meanders through a wetland area before passing under County Highway E and continuing through several hundred yards of crop fields. No livestock or cattle feed-lots, no human waste (septic field) or commercial (lawn) fertilizer sources of nutrient contamination encountered, before passing under W. Silver Spring Drive and into Silver Springs Lake.



The upward trend in nutrient content over the summer months may reflect normal microbial growth linked to higher water temperatures. Water evaporation may also result in an increase in the relative concentration of dissolved nutrients.

The LPC will continue to collect and test water samples and share our findings with our Aquatic Biologist Consultants, Onterra, next spring. If they verify our findings, the Inlet Stream Water Testing Program may be terminated early and the LPC will focus its efforts on other programs. If not, the LPC will continue to test inlet stream water samples for 18-24 months, to prove or disprove our theories seasonal trending in nutrient concentrations.

Decisions regarding the nutrient absorption bag program described above will be based on the facts gathered. To date, we have no justification for it. This report (and updates) will be posted on the Association Website. In the interim, we wish everyone the best for the holidays and look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas Dinner Party!

Sincerely,

The Lake Preservation Committee
Silver Springs Lake Property Owners Association