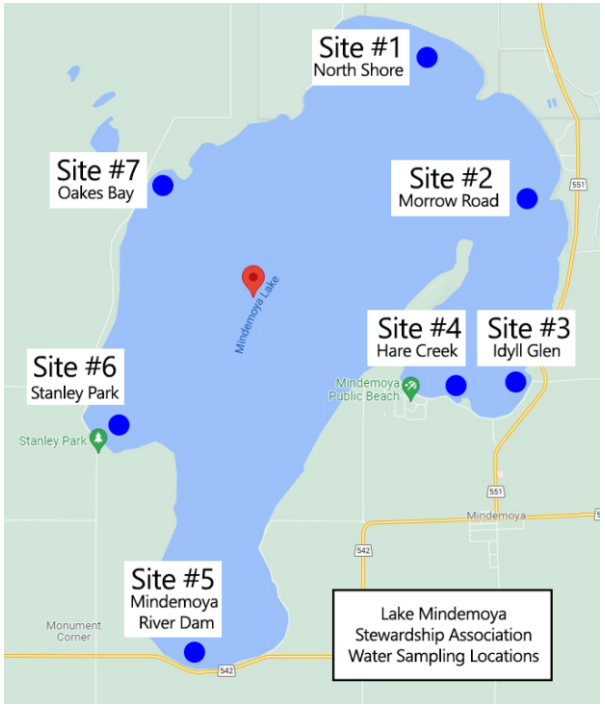
Lake Mindemoya Stewardship Association - Water Sampling Information

	Units	Site #1	Site #2	Site #3	Site #4	Site #5	Site #6	Site #7
Site Name		North Shore	Morrow Road	Idyll Glen	Hare Creek	Mind. R. Dam	Stanley Park	Oakes Bay
Location	GPS	N. 45.47898	N. 45.46031	N. 45.45079	N. 45.45030	N.45.42747	N. 45.44527	N 45.46722
	GPS	W. 082.11434	W. 082.09361	W. 082.09671	W. 082.10468	W. 082.10468	W. 082.14495	W. 082.13667



Nitrate / Nitrite

Can be present in water from natural processes, like plant decay. Present in many fertilizers used on yards, golf courses and crops Other sources include discharge from sewage systems and animal wastes. High levels in water can be from runoff or leakage from fertilized soil, wastewater, landfills, animal feedlots, septic systems, or urban drainage.

Coliform Bacteria

Coliform bacteria are organisms that are present in the environment and in the feces of all warm-blooded animals and humans. Coliform Bacteria will not likely cause illness. However, their presence in drinking water indicates that disease-causing organisms (pathogens) could be in the water system.

pH

pH is a measure of how acidic/basic water is. The range goes from 0 to 14, with 7 being neutral. pHs of less than 7 indicate acidity, whereas a pH of greater than 7indicate acidity, whereas a pH of greater than 7 indicates a base.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus is an important nutrient for plant growth. In lakes and streams, phosphorus can be dissolved in the water, attached to particles floating in the water and found in the bodies of all living organisms. Things like sewage, agricultural runoff and fertilizers can contribute to higher levels of phosphorus in water bodies. Phosphorus can also come from erosion of rocks and soils and from decaying organic material.

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

Four categories: minerals, salts, dissolved metals, and other organic matter. Four categories: minerals, salts, dissolved metals, and other organic matter. Materials may leach into water from sewage, water treatment chemicals, agricultural runoff, or industrial wastewater. Natural sources, like soils rocks, may also contain TDS. Urban runoff, or the flow of rainwater in urban landscapes, can carry TDS, and even the pipes and plumbing materials used to carry water to a home may be a TDS source.

Escherichia coli (E. coli)

Bacteria found in the environment, foods, and intestines of people and animals. E.coli are a large and diverse group of bacteria. Although most strains of E.coli are harmless, others can make you sick. Some kinds of E. coli can cause diarrhea, with others cause urinary tract infections, respiratory illness and pneumonia, and other illnesses

Overgrown Status for Coliform or e.Coli Bacteria

On occasion, the test can be “overgrown” meaning there is a heavy load of bacteria in the sample which can make it difficult to identify or count the bacterial indicators that may be present.
There are two types of overgrown conditions:

NDOGN (No Data: Overgrown with non-target)

Water with a NDOGN test result may be unsafe to drink. In this situation only “non-target” bacteria commonly found in the environment are visible during the test process. They are not usually a health hazard, but can interfere with the detection of Total Coliforms and/or E. coli.

NDOGT (No Data: Overgrown with target)

Water with a NDOGT test result is unsafe to drink. When there is a NDOGT result, the test has a large number of bacteria present and Total Coliforms and/or E. coli are visible to the analyst, but it is difficult to determine exactly how much.