**QUICK FACTS**

**LOCATION:** Black Lake is located in the City of North Oaks near the center of the VLAWMO watershed. It’s surrounded by 27 acres of cattail marsh, forest, residential lots. The lake receives water from Gilfillan Lake and a network of ponds to the south, and outlets to Wilkinson Lake to the north.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subwatershed Size</th>
<th>664 acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface Area</td>
<td>11 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Depth</td>
<td>12.5 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Depth</td>
<td>6 ft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Common Fish**

Unknown

**Predominant Vegetation**

Wild Rice, Coontail, White Water Lily, Chara, Sago Pondweed

**Invasive Species**

Hybrid Cattail, Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canary Grass

**LAKE SUMMARY:** Black Lake is the cleanest lake in the VLAWMO watershed. All potential contaminants and nutrient levels are well below state standards. The lake is isolated and has no public access. Thick vegetation surrounds the open water. This bog buffer is difficult for staff to access the lake for monitoring, but also provides protection and helps to filter pollutants that may enter the lake. It is the only lake in VLAWMO that has wild rice, most of which gets consumed by migrating waterfowl.
NUTRIENT SUMMARY:
Nutrient levels are well below State standards. For a shallow lake, the phosphorus standard is .06 mg/L (60 µg/L) and 20 ug/L for Chlorophyll-A. VLAWMO’s current goal is to maintain the trophic status. Improving the impaired Gilfillan Lake to the south is one strategy to protect Black Lake.

BLACK LAKE STUDIES:
An aquatic plant survey and a biovolume depth analysis were completed in 2014 for a baseline understanding of Black Lake.

A follow-up vegetation survey was conducted in 2015 to take a closer look at the lake’s wild rice. Results found that 40% of the lake has wild rice present during its growing season. VLAWMO is working with State agencies to determine if a special status should be applied to this lake.

A shoreline plant inventory was conducted between VLAWMO and the Ramsey Soil and Water Conservation Division in 2015. This survey focused on the wetland surrounding Black Lake. 30 different plant species were documented in this area, including native and invasive plants. Staff will use these data to track changes and assess future needs for Black Lake. Maintaining a diverse native plant community will serve to protect Black Lake’s water quality and wild rice.

2014 AQUATIC PLANT SURVEY:

Visit VLAWMO’s online project map for a complete list of project and lake reports.
Visit vlawmo.org and find the “Project Map” link on the bottom of the homepage.

Updated 1/2/2019 -NV