

Library Reference 2.2

Summary of metrics: measuring progress towards improvement in Onondaga Lake

Desired Use	Metrics	Measured By
Water contact recreation	Indicator bacteria	Fecal coliform bacteria abundance within the lake's Class B segment
	Water clarity	Secchi disk transparency (nearshore)
Aesthetics	Water clarity	Secchi disk transparency (open waters)
	Bloom frequency, magnitude and duration	Percent of chlorophyll- <i>a</i> measurements greater than 15 µg/l
		Percent of chlorophyll- <i>a</i> measurements greater than 30 µg/l
	Algal community structure	Percent of algal community represented by cyanobacteria (blue-green taxa)
Macroalgae proliferation	Percent cover of littoral zone, measured at nearshore stations	
Aquatic life protection	Ammonia N	Percent of measurements in compliance with standards.
	Nitrite N	Percent of measurements in compliance with standards.
	Dissolved oxygen	DO at fall mixing.
		Duration of DO concentrations < 4 mg/l
	Integrated metrics	"Fish space" metrics, volume-days with suitable conditions of DO and temperature for cold water and cool water fish communities
Species assemblage	Percent intolerant or moderately intolerant of pollution	
Sustainable recreational fishery	Fish species successfully reproducing	Nesting surveys, larval sampling, young-of-year sampling (littoral and pelagic) adult surveys
	Habitat quality	Percent cover of macrophytes