

Water Quality Data Summary

Silver Lake

Who conducted the tests?

The WCHD began surface water sampling 3/13/17 to monitor flood waters. Over 80 samples have been collected in White, Silver and Swan Lakes.

What was tested?

Surface water samples were collected from each of the lakes and tested for *E. coli*. *E. coli* is a naturally occurring bacteria that is also used as an indicator organism that may indicate fecal contamination of water. Some *E. coli* is always present in surface water due to natural decomposition and animal use.

What were the levels of *E. coli* in the water?

Samples were taken from 18 locations around Silver Lake. The data is grouped into 3 areas – see map on back of this sheet.

Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
High: 16	High: <1	High: 8
Low: <1	Low: <1	Low: <1

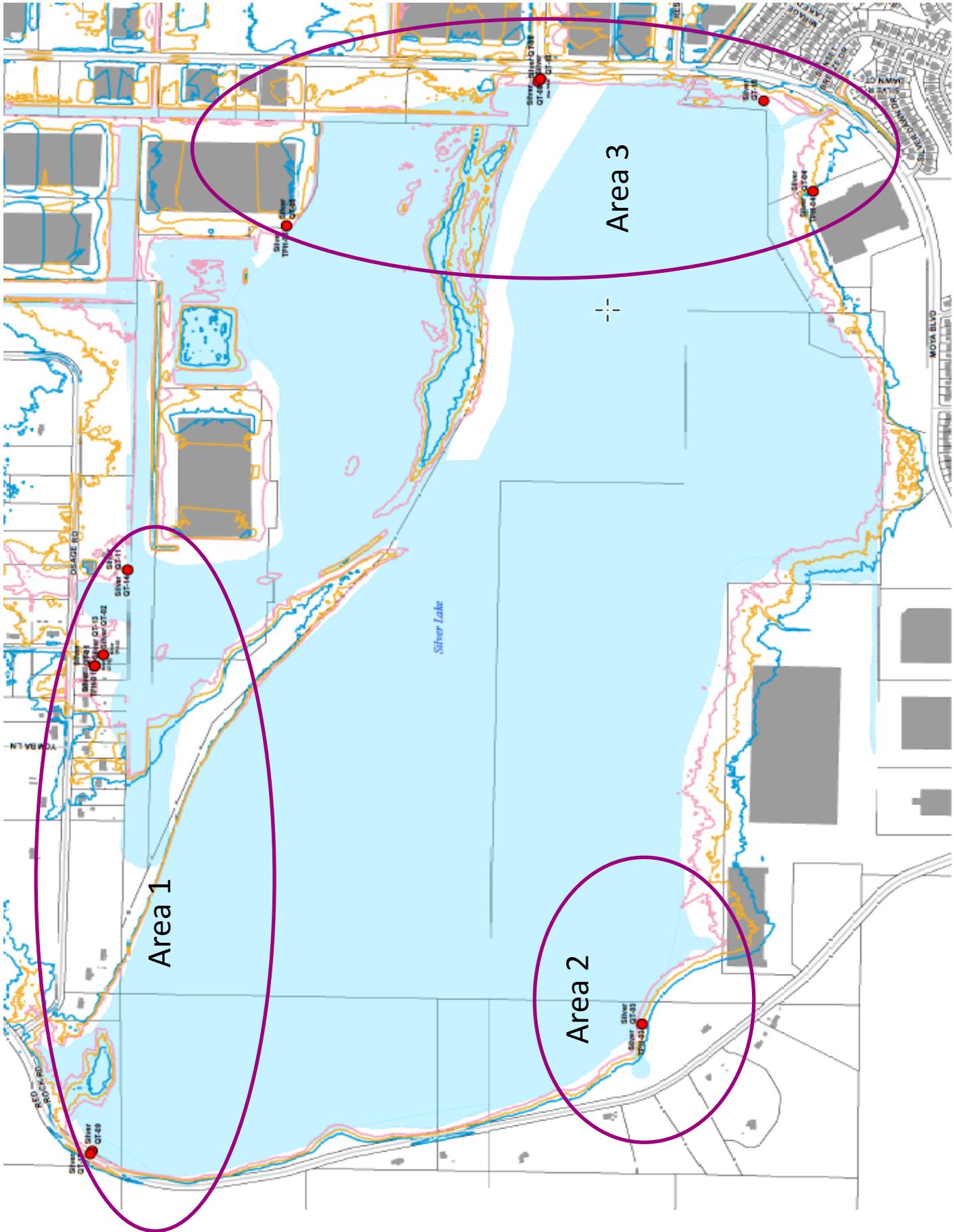
What does the data mean?

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes Recreational Water Quality Criteria that indicate levels of *E. coli* that are acceptable in recreational waters, used for swimming, boating, and other water activities. This criteria states that *E. coli* in surface waters should not exceed 410 *E. coli* per 100mL sample. **All samples taken in Silver Lake are well below the recreational water quality levels and do not pose a risk greater than any other body of water.**

Recommendations

The WCHD recommends people stay out of all flood waters. There are areas where individual septic tanks may have failed and may pose localized increased risks of exposure to bacteria that could pose a risk to public health.

If you have any questions, contact the WCHD at 775-328-2434 or healthes@washoecounty.us.



Water Quality Data Summary

Swan Lake

Who conducted the tests?

The WCHD began surface water sampling 3/13/17 to monitor flood waters. Over 80 samples have been collected in White, Silver and Swan Lakes.

What was tested?

Surface water samples were collected from each of the lakes and tested for *E. coli*. *E. coli* is a naturally occurring bacteria that is also used as an indicator organism that may indicate fecal contamination of water. Some *E. coli* is always present in surface water due to natural decomposition and animal use.

What were the levels of *E. coli* in the water?

Samples were taken from 37 places around Swan Lake. The data is grouped into 4 areas – see map on back of this sheet.

Area A1	Area A2	Area Z1	Area Z2
High: 272	High: 24	High: 22	High: 192
Low: 2	Low: <1	Low: <1	Low: 2

What does the data mean?

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes Recreational Water Quality Criteria that indicate levels of *E. coli* that are acceptable in recreational waters, used for swimming, boating, and other water activities. This criteria states that *E. coli* in surface waters should not exceed 410 *E. coli* per 100mL sample. **All samples taken in Swan Lake are well below the recreational water quality levels and do not pose a risk greater than any other body of water.**

Recommendations

The WCHD recommends people stay out of all flood waters. There are areas where individual septic tanks may have failed and may pose localized increased risks of exposure to bacteria that could pose a risk to public health.

If you have any questions, contact the WCHD at 775-328-2434 or healthes@washoecounty.us.

