

The LMVP was created in 1992 and began with four lakes in the Kansas City area. We are now a statewide endeavor, empowering citizens to monitor lakes and generate high quality data.

The LMVP gauges lake water quality by measuring the amount of algae present. Algae are small plants in the water that are responsible for the green color of many lakes. We also measure the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus in the lake. These elements are nutrients that increase the amount of lake algae. The brown color seen in some Missouri lakes is due to suspended sediment particles. The LMVP measures these particles where this problem occurs.

Data generated by LMVP volunteers are used to satisfy the state of Missouri's obligations to the Clean Water Act.

Our Goals:

1. To determine the current water quality of Missouri's lakes
2. To monitor for changes in water quality over time
3. To educate the public about lake ecology and water quality issues



A lake's watershed is the land area from which it receives its water. Storm water runoff may pick up pollutants from the watershed and concentrate them in your lake. These pollutants are typically associated with human activities and may include sediments, fertilizers, lawn chemicals and motor oils. This type of pollution is called **Non-Point Source Pollution** because you can't identify the single point where the pollution occurs.

It is truly a watershed issue.

The Lakes of Missouri Volunteer Program

You can help protect Missouri's Lakes!

All it takes is:

A couple of hours a month

Access to a boat

Visiting a public lake every 3 weeks in the summer

Attending a training session at your lake

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, or want to receive our newsletter, please contact us by mail, phone or email.

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Visit our website: www.lmvp.org

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A Lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is earth's eye; looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.

Henry David Thoreau



www.lmvp.org

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