

INFORMATION SHEET FOR RESEARCH

Visitor Perceptions of Lake Water Quality*

You are invited to be in a research study about the public's perceptions of lake water quality for comparison to measurable changes in water quality. You were selected as a possible participant because you are visiting a lake involved in this project. We ask that you read this form and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to be in the study.

This study is being conducted by: Bonnie Keeler, PhD, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota.

*Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

Procedures:

If you agree to be in this study, we would ask you to send a text message to the phone number on the sign and respond to the questions sent to you by text. You may stop your participation at any time.

Disclaimer: By submitting any photographs, you agree that the researchers in this study have the perpetual right to modify the Photographs and publish or republish the Photographs or portions of the Photographs, in any medium now known or hereinafter developed.

Confidentiality:

During the project, information from this study will be kept private and will be stored securely. Only the research team, which includes the University of Minnesota, University of St. Thomas, and the University of Washington (the technology provider), will have access to information that identifies you. Your identifying information will not be shared with others outside of this research study. However, organizations that may inspect and copy your information include the Institutional Review Board (IRB), the committee that provides ethical and regulatory oversight of research, and other representatives of this institution, including those that have responsibilities for monitoring or ensuring compliance (such as the Quality Assurance Program of the Human Research Protection Program (HRPP)).

Any personal information that could identify you will be removed or changed before we publish any report or share the results or data from this study. Responses will be anonymized and summarized.

Voluntary Nature of the Study:

Participation in this study is voluntary. Participants must be 18+ years of age. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with the University of Minnesota, University of Washington or University of St. Thomas. If you decide to participate, you are free to not answer any question or withdraw at any time without affecting those relationships. There is no compensation for participating.

Contacts and Questions:

The researchers conducting this study are: Bonnie Keeler (University of Minnesota), Jacques Finlay (University of Minnesota), Chip Small (University of St. Thomas), and Spencer Wood (University of Washington). If you have questions, you are encouraged to contact the project manager, Erin Niehoff (University of Minnesota) at ern@umn.edu.

This research has been reviewed and approved by an IRB within the Human Research Protections Program (HRPP). To share feedback privately with the HRPP about your research experience, call the Research Participants' Advocate Line at 612-625-1650 (Toll Free: 1-888-224-8636) or go to z.umn.edu/participants. You are encouraged to contact the HRPP if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research participant.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.