Recent Trends for Lake Michigan Lower Trophic Levels













Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory

NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE





Offshore spring total phosphorus has declined substantially since the 1980s and 1990s.

May Offshore Total Phosphorus-Muskegon



Offshore May total phosphorus has declined substantially since the 1980s and 1990s. Values have fallen from over 5.5 to under 3.0 reducing the overall productivity of Lake Michigan







Seasonal Offshore Chlorophyll-Muskegon

Offshore Chlorophyll levels have dropped since 1980s in the spring, showing that this declining level of chlorophyll have led to reduced spring algae blooms a key component for fish production.



Seasonal offshore zooplankton (Muskegon 110-m)

Offshore zooplankton at Muskegon has remained at about the same levels the past decade but remains lower than observed in the 1980s and 1990s