

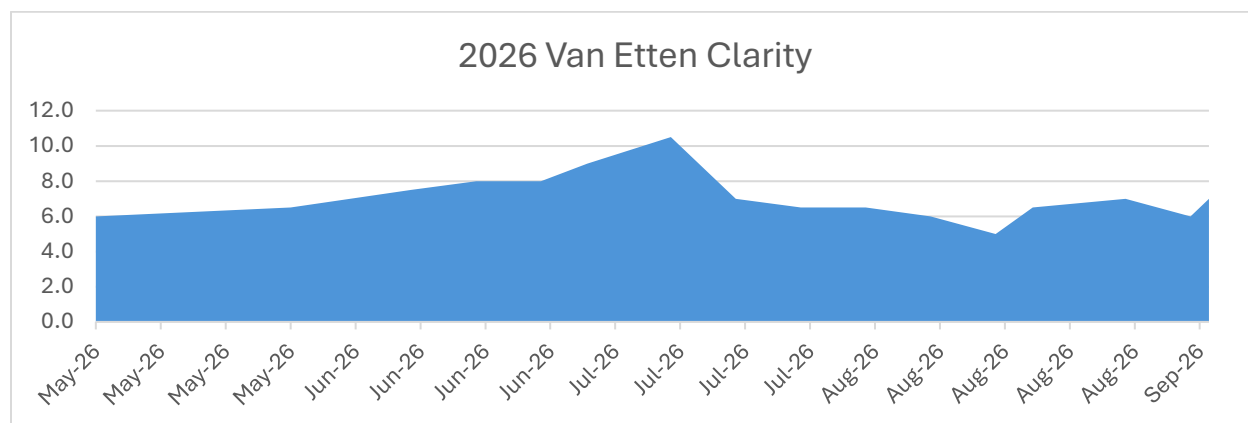
2026 VAN ETTEN CMLP LAKE WATER QUALITY

Adam Romatz, Lead *Lake* Monitor

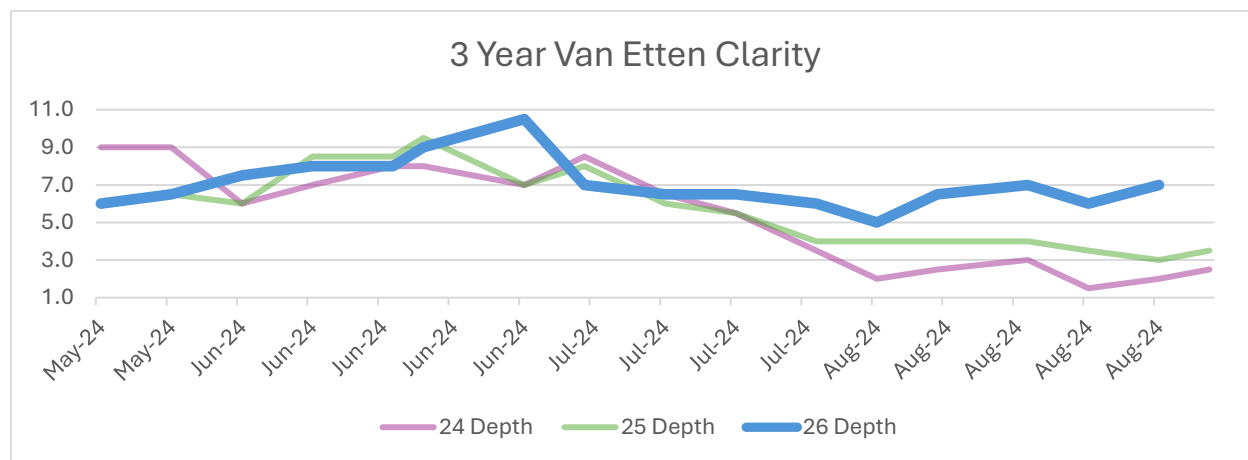
This is my third year as Lead Lake Monitor, and I have been living on Lake Van Etten for six years now. 2026 presented challenges for many of us and early in the season there was significant flooding across northern Michigan leading to many lakes and rivers overflowing. Lake Van Etten was one of these lakes with water levels exceeding the height of the dam and unfortunately into the yards and homes of our neighbors. This event brought with it uncertainty about how this would affect our water quality, and these positive or negative effects may not be fully understood for a few years. Fortunately, I was able to obtain the spring phosphorus sample prior to the flooding of the lake.

SECCHI DISK CLARITY

Weekly clarity sampling started in mid-May and the average of the weekly sampling readings this year is 7.1 ft, which compared to last year's 5.7 feet, and the previous 10-year average of 6.1 feet. The mid-July depth of 10.5 feet is incredible and has only been achieved a handful of times over the years. The clarity trend for the past 3 years demonstrates that 2026 was a very good year for water clarity.

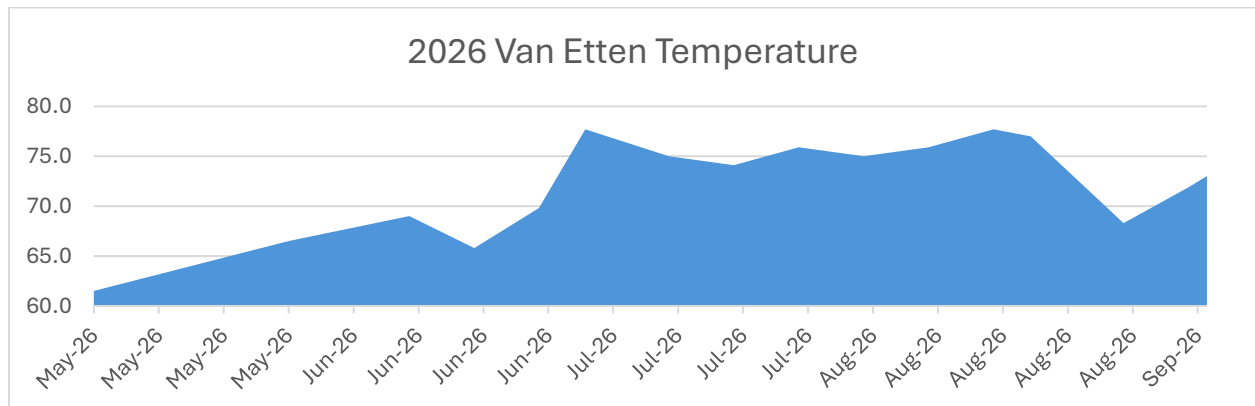


Clarity Trends



Water Temperature

Water temperatures were obtained this year as well with the depth/thermometer working again and the temperature ranged from 61.5 degrees to 77.7 degrees with an average temperature of 72.1



PHOSPHOROUS TESTING

The results of the phosphorus sampling for this year will be available later this fall.

CHLOROPHYLL A TESTING

The results of Chlorophyll sampling for this year will be available later this fall

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR

We will be participating in the CLMP monitoring program again next year. This is our 41st year of participation in the program. The sampling data back to 1986 can be found at www.micorps.net under "Data Exchange-View Data."

I am interested in training other members on collecting water sample data. Obtaining weekly measurements is challenging for me as a part-time resident. If you are interested in contributing to the quality of our lake, please let me know.