

Water Quality and Dissolved Oxygen

Dave Cabana and I have been busy again this year testing the water in Square Pond. We try to test every two weeks. The tests include a secchi disk test for water quality and a dissolved oxygen test using the dissolved oxygen meter that we purchased last year. The secchi disk test is a special disk attached to a measuring tape that we lower in to the water. We use a tube with glass on one end to eliminate the effects of glare. The disk is lowered until we can't see it anymore and that depth is recorded. This is the depth (in feet) that you will see on the graph.

The dissolved oxygen test is done by lowering a special probe attached to an electronic meter that measures temperature and dissolved oxygen at the surface and every meter (about 3 feet) up to 12 meters (the maximum depth of Square Pond). These values are recorded and are on the graph.

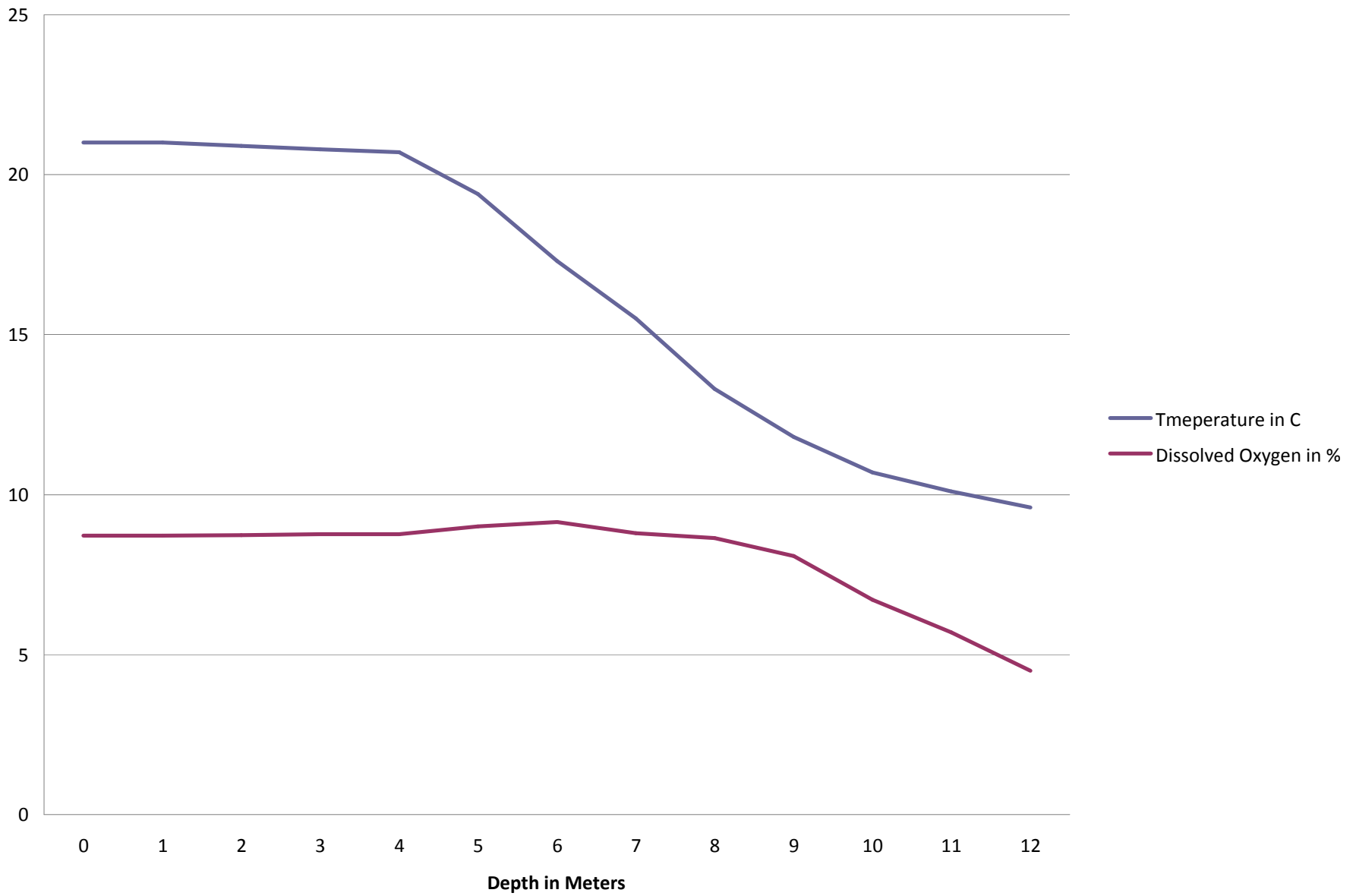
With respect to the secchi disk readings you can see that they were good for the first two tests but dropped slightly last week. This was due to excessive rain over the last two weeks and shows how much an impact the rain causing run-off in tot eh lake has an effect on water clarity.

The dissolved oxygen is harder to read and correlate to the status of the lake. Since we just started taking readings half way through last year, we don't have much historical data to compare to. This is something we will have to monitor over time and will look for any substantial change. What I can say about the readings is that it is normal to have higher readings in the spring when the water is colder and for the readings to decrease as it warms up. Basically a reading of lower than 5 means that fish will not be able to extract enough oxygen out of the water to breath and therefore will not stay at that depth. Again this is a normal occurrence and we are just looking for any drastic change over time.

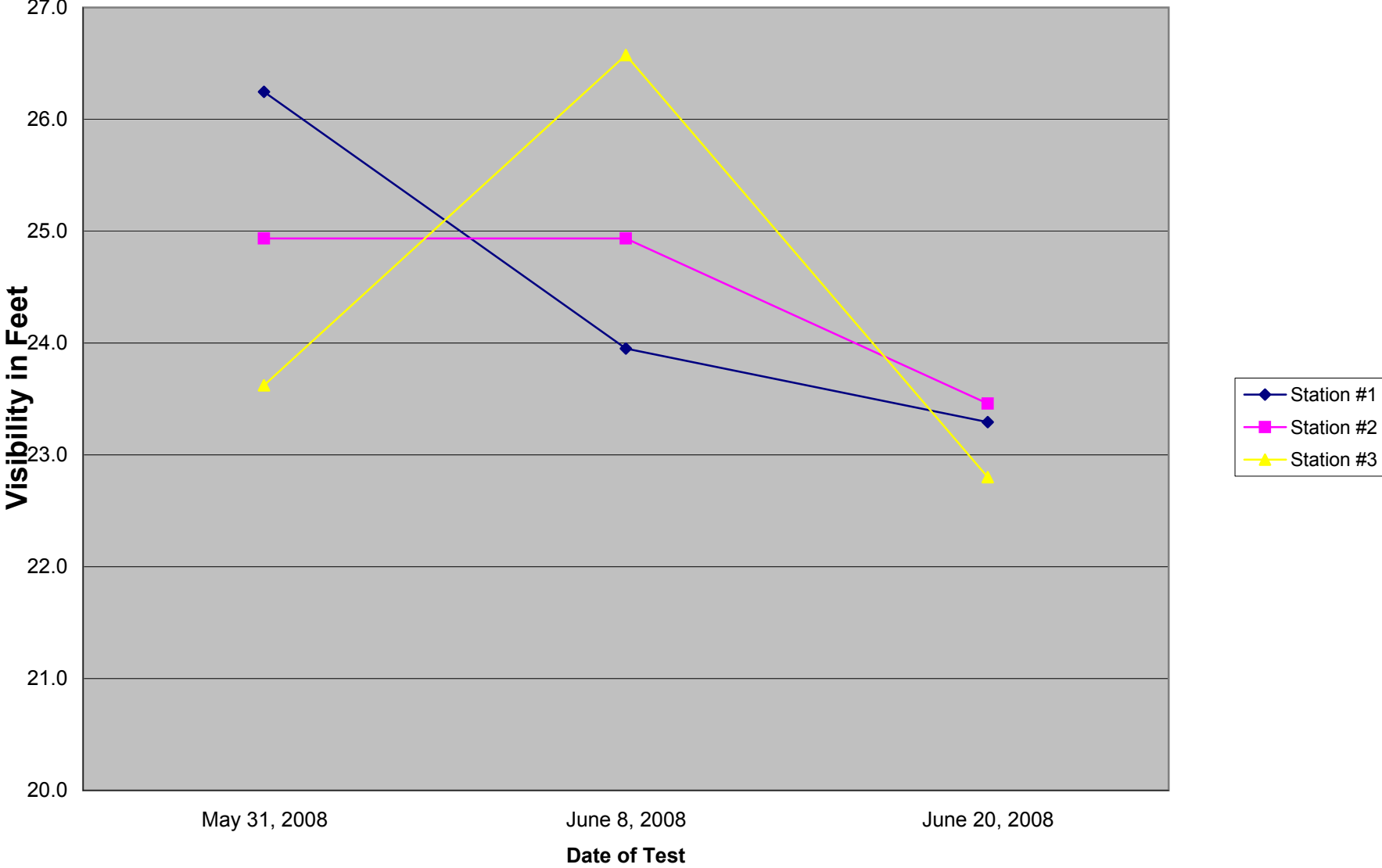
I will be updating the graphs every two weeks so you can get online and see the latest data. If anyone has any questions about the data, I can be contacted at rcaron@caron-eng.com

Rob Caron

June 21st, 2008



Water Clarity for 2008



June 1st, 2008

