



Area Description:

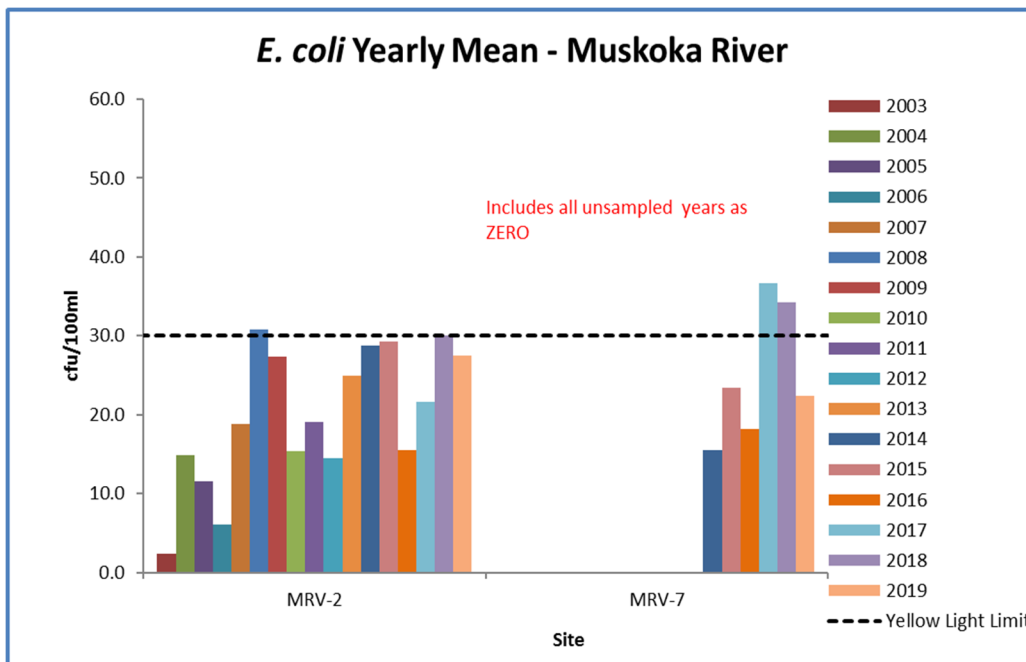
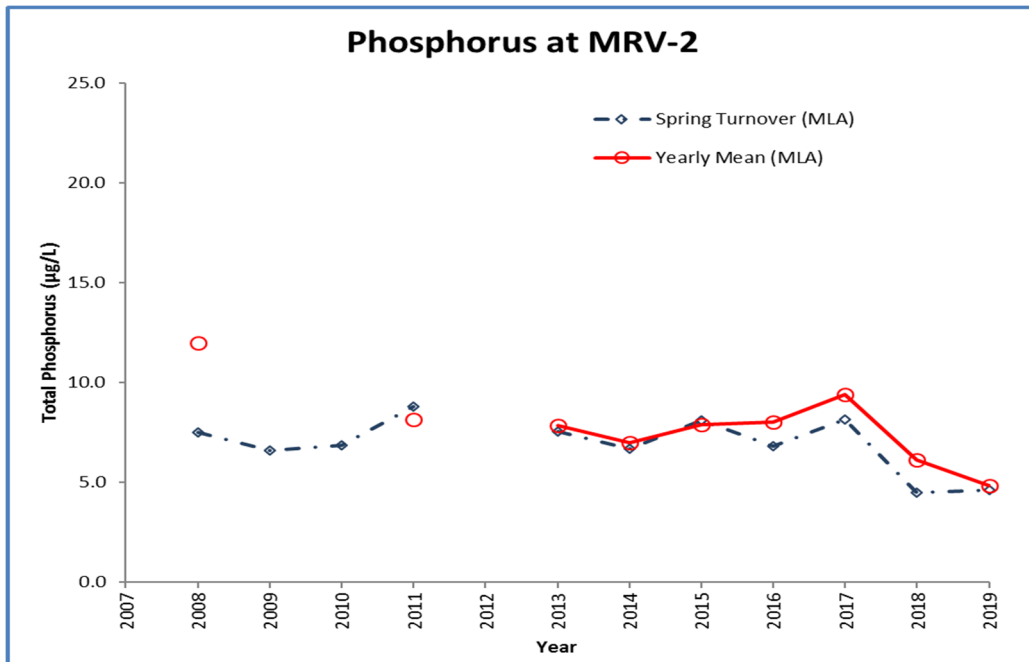
This sample area includes the most downstream reach of the Muskoka River where it flows from the Town of Bracebridge to Alport Bay, Lake Muskoka. This area is highly developed on both banks, and includes the Bracebridge urban area, large agricultural fields, and extensive residential properties along the entire reach of shoreline. Roads are located along both sides of the river for most of the reach length. Several creeks outlet into the river through this reach and there are limited wetland areas adjacent to the river. Monitoring started in 2008. All stations shown may not be sampled each year.

Volunteer Recognition: Bill Gillbert and Cathy Gillbert.

Muskoka River (MRV)

2019 Water Quality Results: (Note: Hatched cell signifies not tested for in 2019)

Station	Mean Secchi Disk (m)	Total Phosphorus (µg/L)		<i>E. coli</i> Yearly Geometric Mean (cfu/100 ml)	Total Coliform Yearly Geometric Mean (cfu/100 ml)
		Spring Turnover	Yearly Mean		
MRV-2	2.4	4.6	4.8	27.5	169.5
MRV-3		4.0			
MRV-4		6.0			
MRV-5		4.6			
MRV-7				22.3	146.3



Summary and Recommendations:



The 2019 spring phosphorus concentration at the deep-water station (MRV-2) was the second lowest recorded to date (2018 was lowest), and the yearly mean phosphorus was lowest to date. The 2019 spring phosphorus concentration at MRV-5 was also the lowest recorded to date. Only one spring phosphorus sample was collected at each of MRV-3, MRV-4, and MRV-5 in 2019, therefore no yearly mean could be calculated, and no values are reported for 2019. *E. coli* levels at MRV-2 and MRV-7 in 2019 were below the MLA yellow stoplight limit (details in report Section 3), The *E. coli* levels at the nearshore stations have subsided, changing the stoplight from yellow to green for the Muskoka River. Secchi measurements vary greatly through sampling years, ranging between 1.22 and 10.25 m (2011). **Beacon recommends that all sampling be continued to monitor long-term trends, with special attention directed to *E. coli* samples in 2019.**