

Little Maschaug Pond

SiteNum: 9100

Town: Westerly

URI WW StationName: WW307

For each parameter listed below, click on the file name to access the PDF data report.

| Parameter | Report File Name (PDF Format) |
|------------------------------|---|
| Bacteria - Enterococci | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Bacteria/Enterococci_9100.PDF |
| Bacteria - Fecal coliform | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Bacteria/Fecal_coliform_9100.PDF |
| Chlorophyll a (digital) | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Chlor_Secchi/Chl_a_9100.PDF |
| Dissolved Oxygen | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Temp_DO_Sal/DO_9100.PDF |
| Nitrate + Nitrite, Dissolved | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Nitrogen/NO3_9100.PDF |
| Nitrogen, Ammonia Dissolved | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Nitrogen/NH4_9100.PDF |
| Nitrogen, Total | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Nitrogen/TN_9100.PDF |
| pH | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/PH_TSS/pH_9100.PDF |
| Phosphorus, Dissolved | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Phosphorus/DP_9100.PDF |
| Phosphorus, Total | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Phosphorus/TP_9100.PDF |
| Salinity | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Temp_DO_Sal/Sal_9100.PDF |
| Temperature | http://www.SaltPondsCoalition.org/Pond_data/SPC_Reports/Temp_DO_Sal/Temp_9100.PDF |

Overall Aquatic Health Indices (AHI): Red background = "Poor" (AHI<35); Yellow background = "Fair -" (AHI 35-50); Green background = "Fair +" (AHI 50-65); White background = "Good" (AHI>65).

| Year | Dissolved Oxygen | Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen | Total Organic Nitrogen | Chlorophyll | Secchi Depth | Overall |
|------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------|
| 2006 | 43.3 | 65.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | | 27.1 |
| 2007 | 97.3 | 80.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | | 44.5 |
| 2008 | 76.5 | 83.3 | 0.0 | 10.0 | | 42.5 |

Maschaug Pond is no longer being monitored. Maschaug is a small, brackish water pond located in the town of Westerly. It is the only one of the monitored ponds that is not connected by a permanent inlet or breachway to the sea. Salt water enters the pond only in spray and overwash, so the salinity is very low (about 9 ppt). Freshwater flows into the pond via groundwater springs, and in the wet season the pond often overflows onto portions of the adjacent golf course.

This pond is representative of many small coastal ponds throughout Rhode Island and New England that are not permanently connected to the sea. Other local examples include Trustom and Cards Ponds, which are part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge in South Kingstown, and Briggs Marsh in Little Compton. Although the land around Maschaug Pond is developed, there is little boating or other human disturbance so the pond is a haven for wildlife and waterfowl. (This text is adapted from Salt Pond Watchers Summary Data Report 1985 – 1987, Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island Technical Report No. 10, October 1990, by P. Kullberg, V. Lee, and M. Platt).



Tuesday, January 19, 2010