

# LAKE KNOWLES

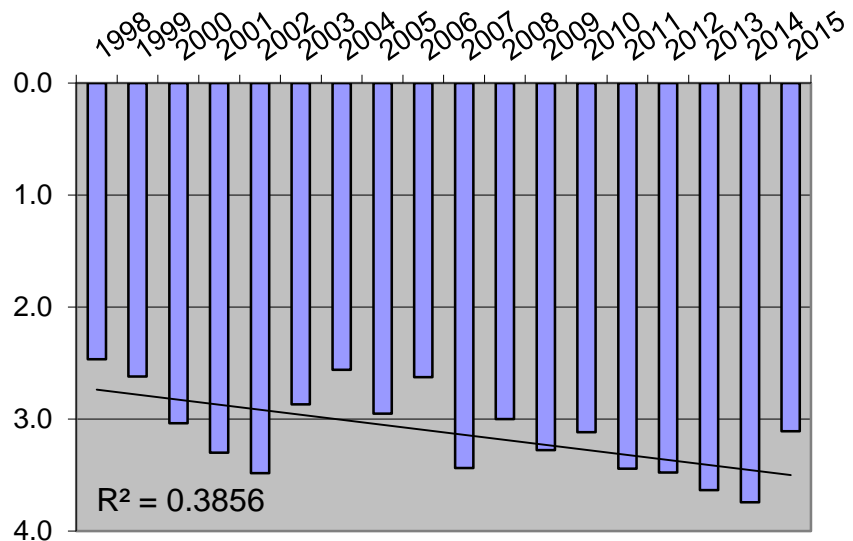
**Size:**  
7.7 acres

**Drainage Basin:**  
51 acres

**Average Depth:**  
12 feet (approx.)

**OHW Elevation:**  
76.7 feet NGVD

**Lake Knowles water clarity 1998 through 2015 (in meters)**



**General Information:** Lake Knowles is a small deep lake with consistently clear water. The nearly round shape, and deep water of the lake indicate that it was most likely formed by a sinkhole. The fact that the water is generally very clear indicates that it is probably younger (in geological terms) than other sinkhole lakes in the area. Lake Knowles is a water table lake. Water levels in the lake are dependent on groundwater levels, which are ultimately dependent on rainfall. Drought can result in extreme drops in the level of water in Lake Knowles. While the low water conditions are inconvenient, and sometimes unsightly, drought does help the lake cleanse itself of organic material. The wide water level fluctuations in Lake Knowles help to maintain the lake's exceptional water quality.

**Water Quality:** Water quality in Lake Knowles is primarily affected by stormwater runoff. Annual average Secchi disk transparency data from 1998 through 2015 show a consistent condition of good water quality over the period and a weak trend toward increasing clarity.

**Management Efforts:** The city maintains leaf traps on all eight outfalls to help slow the amount of organic material entering the lake. Because none of the outfalls are very large, and the slopes around the lake are not steep, the leaf traps on this lake work relatively well. The traps may eventually be replaced, but it currently not a high priority.

The land between Lake Knowles and the surrounding streets is a city park, providing tranquil recreational opportunities to the surrounding areas. Lakes division crews maintain extensive stands of native aquatic plants around the lake. These plants add the natural beauty of the park, and attract wildlife, particularly birds, to the park. Periodic, fluctuations in water levels can significantly change the plant stands and affect wildlife viewing opportunities.