anoxic - lacking oxygen

benthic zone - area of lake bottom

bioenergetic - of or related to the energy flow of a population of organisms

chemocline - chemical gradient separating the two layers of lake water

chlorophytes - the green algae (division Chlorophyta)

coccoid - spherical

consumer - organism that obtains energy and nutrients from biological sources (i.e., eats plants and/or animals)

cyanobacteria - the blue-green algae (division Cyanophyta)

cyst - egg with a resistant outer covering to withstand freezing or drying

diapause - temporary interruption in the growth of invertebrates, usually associated with a dormant period

diatoms - type of algae (class Bacillariophyceae)

detritus - freshly dead or partially decomposed organic matter

dominant - ecologically most important

*epilimnion* - upper layer of lake water (above the *thermocline*), which is well mixed and generally well illuminated by sunlight

*euphotic zone* - layer of lake water receiving sufficient sunlight for photosynthesis (layer with light intensity more than 1% of surface light intensity)

fecundity - reproductive capacity

*food web* - a group of interrelated food chains (a food chain is a sequence of organisms in which each is food for a higher member of the sequence)

holomixis - complete mixing of lake water

hypolimnion - lower layer of lake water (beneath the thermocline)

instar - a development stage of an arthropod between molts

lime gland - alkali fly larvae's special gland for removing carbonate ions from the bloodstream

limnology - study of inland waters

littoral zone - the shallow nearshore region of the lake

meromictic lake - a permanently stratified lake, most commonly as a result of chemical difference between the hypolimnion and epilimnion

meromixis - periods of chemical stratification in lake water

mixolimnion - less saline, upper water layer of lake

monimolimnion - more saline, lower water layer of lake

monomictic lake - a lake with only one period of complete mixing and one period of temperature stratification per year

*monomixis* - lake water circulation pattern with one period of complete mixing and one period of temperature stratification each year

nauplii - type of larvae characteristic of many crustaceans, including brine shrimp

osmotic stress - physiological stress caused by salinity imbalance

oviparous birth - reproduction by eggs or cysts that hatch outside the body

ovoviviparously - live birth by eggs hatched within the body

pelagic zone - area of open water

phytoplankton - free-floating algae that inhabit the pelagic zone

plankton - community of free-floating algae and microscopic or very small animals that inhabit the pelagic zone

*primary producer* - organism that converts nonbiological sources of energy (usually sunlight) and nutrients into living matter (autotrophs)

puparium - the outer shell of a pupa, formed from the larval skin

thermocline - a temperature gradient in lake water separating the epilimnion and hypolimnion

zooplankton - microscopic or very small animals that inhabit the pelagic zone