

Lake Networking Group Meeting
Thursday, January 19, 2012. 9:30 a.m.
Burgess Hall, 4171 Narrow Lock Road, Perth.

Attending:

Eileen and Ed Barbeau, Little Silver & Rainbow Lake [eileenb@primus.ca];
Robert Cosh, Otty Lake (robertcosh@hotmail.com);
Karen & Murray Hunt, Otty Lake (mkhunt@ripnet.com);
Kay Rogers, Pike Lake (cameronrogers@xplornet.ca) ;
Gordon Hill, Christie Lake (gordonhill@xplornet.com) ;
Bob Fugler, Loughborough Lake (bob.fugler@gmail.com) ;
Taro Alps, Greater Bobs and Crow (mandtalps@yahoo.ca);
Alyson Symon, MVC (asymon@mvc.on.ca) ;
Dr. Sobha Kunjikutty, MVC (skunjikutty@mvc.on.ca);
Audrey Cook, Pike Lake (dgcook@ca.inter.net);
Mary Lynne and Jim Holton, Canonto Lake (jholton@rogers.com);
Barb King, CSW and O'Brien Lake (king@watersheds.ca);
Mike Yee, RVCA (michael.yee@rvca.ca);
Noelle Reeve, TVT (planner@tayvalleytwp.ca)

Regrets:

Terry & Judy Kennedy, Kennebec Lake;
Eugenia Flett, Farren Lake;
Pete Stothart, Crosby Lake;
Gord Rogers, 14 Mile Island/Mink Lake
Kathleen Sullivan, Patterson Lake
Josette Leduc, Knowlton Lake;

1. **Addition to the previously circulated Agenda:** Follow-up from municipalities regarding request from LNG concerning improved communication between municipalities and lake associations regarding Council and Committee of the Whole agenda items.

Karen reported that the response was generally positive and that lake associations can usually either retrieve sufficient information about upcoming Council or Committee of the Whole agenda items from municipal websites or, in the case of Tay Valley Township, lake association reps are included in the distribution list for Council and CoW agendas.

2. **RVCA- Mike Yee**

Macrophyte Workshop.

RVCA is working with a broad interagency group (eg MNR; F&O; MOE, Parks Canada) as well as researchers regarding this complex problem. There is not one

solution for all situations. Mike pointed out that one “can” release weevils (in one growing season there are 4 generations as it takes 30 days for the eggs to become adults) but the question is “should” that be done? In addition to the concern about the overall impact of this and the long term management of the situation (management is forever), there is the initial cost which is approximately a dollar per bug per acre and 10,000 are often released.

Barb King mentioned that she recently heard that there are two workshops coming up in Toronto (March 21, 22) which are designed for researchers, Agency & Government representatives (not lake representatives); the contact person is Francine McDonald, MNR. It was felt that information regarding best management practices should be conveyed to Lake Stewards when available. Some members present pointed out that blue/green algae were a much greater problem on our local lakes.

Dr. Eric Sager (Trent University) has done considerable research on macrophytes in the Kawarthas and is now interested in doing work in the local area.

A protocol for volunteer monitoring of macrophytes is available from the Stewardship Council if there are lake groups interested in undertaking this..

Tay River Watershed Report

RVCA is continuing the process started in 2011 of transitioning from Watershed Planning to Watershed Reporting. The Middle Rideau and Jock River Reports have already been released. The Tay River Subwatershed Report will be the third one produced. These reports contain information about and highlights of 4 key environmental indicators: forest, riparian, wetland cover and results of RVCA surface water testing and monitoring. A glossy brochure will be produced for general information. It is for this report that a survey was circulated to lake representatives earlier in the week. Contact person is Martin Czarski. The watershed report data will help guide stewardship efforts.

2012 Shoreline Naturalization Program

There is still time for lake associations to participate; Andrea Klymko should be contacted as soon as possible. (andrea.klymko@rvca.ca)

Alyson Symon mentioned that the Mississippi Valley Conservation now has a similar program and will proceed with year 2 of the program in 2012.

3. Mississippi Valley Conservation Climate Change Study Presentation

Dr. Sobha Kunjikutty gave an excellent, informative and very interesting presentation on the climate change study. In response to requests of members for a copy, she offered to send Karen a digital copy. [As it is a large document, 2.11MG, Karen will email it on request. More information on the MVC climate change work and the full report of the NRCan project can be found at <http://www.mvc.on.ca/conservation-education/climate-change/80-current-projects>]

4. Interagency Working Group

Agenda Item 4 - Interagency Working Group

Noelle Reeve, Tay Valley Township Planner, reported that last summer representatives of MNR, RVCA, MVC, TVT and DNE met and established an Interagency Working Group as a result of concerns raised by lake carrying capacity analyses that MOE had done which showed that some of the local lakes (Adam, Farren, Otty and Christie) were above or near capacity for phosphorus.

In Nov. 2011 Tay Valley Township passed a One Year Interim Control By-Law for Adam and Farren Lakes which means that no new lots can be created on these lakes during this period.

The Interagency Working Group met in November and will meet again in March. They are trying to develop criteria to help determine when warm water lakes should be determined to be at capacity for development. MNR has previously established criteria to deal with this question on cold water lakes.

At the meeting in November, MNR suggested the possibility of further differentiating between categories of lakes i.e. warm water, cool water, splake and cold water.

Tay Valley Township is developing a Mandatory Septic System Inspection By-Law to help protect lake water quality from existing development.

Members of the Interagency Group are currently reviewing a list of possible factors to consider in assessing when warm water lakes are at capacity for development and will discuss this further at their meeting at the end of March.

5. Septic Savvy Workshop

Kay Rogers led members through the previously circulated document. There was discussion regarding the location, date, funding sources, and topics to be addressed together with possible speakers. Members felt that Lynn Preston should be asked to facilitate; Mark Green, Leeds Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit, be asked to provide the provincial perspective. Also included should be options for island properties (eg composting toilets); various pump operators could be asked to give a display, possibly for a cost and Eric Kohlsmith be asked to post results of lake property septic system reinspections completed by the Mississippi Rideau Septic Office. There should be handouts. Stewardship Council can be approached for funding and a registration fee considered; ideally facilitator and presenters should have some reimbursement. Finally, a Perth location is preferable as is a Saturday morning in August .

Kay will follow-up. Many thanks were given to Kay, Taro and Alyson for their work on this.

[Subsequently a detailed document was circulated to members. The date and location are confirmed: August 18, 8:30 a.m. –noon, Perth Lions Club.]

6. Lake Partners Program

Karen brought to the attention of the group that at the FOCA Nov. General Meeting a concern was raised that the Lake Partners Program might be in jeopardy due to provincial funding cuts. The Lake Partners Program is a large valuable volunteer-based lake sampling/monitoring program which in 2011 involved 486 lakes across Ontario including many in our local area. The program provides long-term information on the nutrient status of Ontario's inland lakes.

Lake associations wishing to support continued investment by the province in the Lake Partner Program can provide feedback directly to the Minister of the Environment by contacting:

The Honourable Jim Brady, Minister of the Environment
77 Wellesley Street West, 11th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto, ON. M7A 2T5
Email: minister.moe@ontario.ca
Phone: 416 314 -6790 Fax 416 314 -7337

Updates

(Please note: If additional lake groups have updates that they would like attached to these meeting notes, please send to Karen and the meeting notes will be amended to include this additional information)

Little Silver & Rainbow Lakes

The Association has continued to produce a monthly News Sheet , one or two pages in length, which is distributed almost entirely by e-mail to property owners. During this quiet time, they mention items of local interest such as concerts, plays, outdoor activities and relevant information from the municipality and agencies.

Otty Lake

The Otty Lake Association has a new email address:
ola@ottylakeassociation.ca

Loughborough Lake (by email)

Nona Mariotti requests input from other lake associations re the challenge and possible solutions of getting the ice fishermen, summer campers to remove all their debris from the shoreline. Nona has contacted MNR and the Municipality to ask for assistance. Other lake groups can contact Nona (nona@mariotti.ca) to be included as an extra voice.

Canonto Lake – The Canonto Lake Association recently released their Lake Management Plan. One of their major concerns is development pressure. A neighbouring lake (Ardoch) is dealing with a proposal for a development which would see the development of 45 new lots. Members of the Lake Networking Group provided input to the Canonto Lake reps on ways to ensure that future development proceeds in an environmentally appropriate way.

County of Lanark – Noelle Reeve mentioned that the County of Lanark is close to releasing their new OP to the public

Tay Valley Township- Malcolm Morris is TVT's new CAO

Upcoming Meetings

1. OPP/lake associations spring meeting

- Wed. March 21, 2012, Tay Valley Township Municipal Hall
- reps from **all** Lake Networking Group lake associations invited
- format will be OPP presentations on Neighbourhood Watch Programs and the Safe Guard Ontario Program

2. Next Lake Networking Group Meeting – Thursday, May 10th at 9:30 a.m. at the Burgess Hall

3. Septic Savvy Workshop – Sat. August 18, 2012, 8:30 a.m.- noon - Perth Lions Hall

4. Lake Links – Sat. Oct. 20, 2012 – Perth Civitan Hall