

30Jan05 Otty Lake Management Planning

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Resident Questionnaire Results

Question – What do you want Otty Lake to be like in 20 years?

- clean
- quiet
- pollution free
- excellent water quality
- not over-developed
- weed problem under control
- home for wildlife
- healthy natural shoreline areas

What current features/characteristics of Otty Lake would you like to retain over the next 20 years?

- outstanding bass fishing
- relatively low volume of boat traffic
- healthy shorelines
- lots of birds and wildlife
- clean water for swimming
- good water quality
- recreational haven
- wilderness characteristics of lake
- beautiful scenery
- shoreline development no greater than today

What new features or characteristics of Otty Lake would you want to see in and around Otty?

- improved water quality
- regular septic system reviews
- restrictions on shoreline development that threaten habitat and water quality
- concerted efforts, strategies and approaches to maintain a safe and healthy eco-system

What is one concrete action that you feel is critical to take immediately?

- mandatory septic performance inspections
- townships and lake residents firmly committed to 30 metre set back for septic systems
- boating limitations – limit on horse power/no wake zones/restrictions on personal water craft
- weed control
- tax assessment review
- ensure water quality
- ensure long term health of bass fishing

2. Focus Group discussions

What issues do you feel should be addressed immediately?

- protecting water quality
- increased weed growth
- high water levels
- zebra mussels
- need for effective regulations re shoreline development and septic re-inspection
- what should be role of OLA?
- road management
- boat motor use regulation

What concrete actions should the OLA take to address the above issues?

- more water testing
- investigate weed growth/weed management
- action on water levels
- build better working relationships with local politicians
- educational role to educate lake residents on all kinds of issues
- shoreline management

What long term issue for Otty Lake and the lake community is most on your mind?

- health of the lake, shoreline and lake community
- cottage conversions
- shoreline development –need to maintain as much of natural shoreline as possible
- need for septic re-inspection program
- increased need/expectation for improved access for emergency vehicles ... resulting impact on the townships and taxation
- mining
- need for ongoing strong effective lake association to continue to respond to situations as they arise

What action would you like the OLA to take or develop with other levels of government or other partners to address your issue?

- testing of lake in an organized manner and effective use of the data collected
- political action
- more focus on septic systems and natural shorelines
- OLA must be relevant and focused on what ALL lake residents think is important
- OLA should establish how they are going to commit the resources to deal with the most important issues