

[Next Lake Networking Group meeting: Nov 3/17, 9:30 a.m. -12:30 . Location to be confirmed](#)

## **Lake Networking Group Meeting**

**Friday, April 28th, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.**

**Burgess Hall, 4174 Narrows Lock Road, Tay Valley Township**

### **Participating:**

#### Lake Associations:

Adrienne Fowlie- Larocque (Pike Lake), Eric Boysen, Donna Doelman (Bennett/Fagan), Terry and Judy Kennedy (Kennebec Lake), Philippa and Bob Fugler (Loughborough Lake ), Reid and Christine Kilburn, Murray Hunt (Otty Lake), Ruth Buckwell, Kris McDonald (Farren Lake), Mary Lynne and Jim Holton (Canonto Lake), Rob and Lynn Bell (Mississippi Lakes), Christine Skirth (Upper Rideau Lake), Pat Jones, Judy Hall (Dalhousie Lake), Doug Kirkland (Big Rideau Lake Association), Larry Bowen, Donna Walsh (Christie Lake), Gay Henniger, Joan Delaney, Ruth Deavy and Heather Arnold (Chaffey's Area Lake Associations), Larry Arpaia (Greater Bobs and Crow), Anita Payne (Black Lake), Claire Martel, Andre Paquet, Dave Overholt ( White Lake), Lynne Jeffries Lower Beverley), Karen Hunt (Lake Networking Group).

#### Agencies and Organizations:

Elizabeth Holmes (MNRF), Sarah McLeod –Neilson (RVCA), Alyson Symon, Kelly Stiles (MVCA), Melissa Dakers (Watersheds Canada) (MLA), Holly Evans (CRCA)

### **Regrets:**

David Taylor (FoTW), Brian Devlin (Eagle Lake), Judy McIntyre (Kashwakamack), Kevin Browne (Sharbot Lake)

1. Karen welcomed to the meeting a large group of representatives from Eastern Ontario lake associations along with representatives from several community partners who work with local lake associations.

### **2. Updates from Conservation Authorities**

**Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority : Alyson Symon & Kelly Stiles**

( [asymon@mvc.on.ca](mailto:asymon@mvc.on.ca) )

( [kstiles@mvc.on.ca](mailto:kstiles@mvc.on.ca) )

### **Monitoring**

## 2016 wrap up

- Launched the Integrated Monitoring Report for 2016
  - Combines Watershed Watch data, with snow, rain and flow data as well as fish sampling efforts into one report
  - Mazinaw Lake, Crotch lake, Dalhousie Lake, Palmerston Lake, Canonto Lake, Flower Round Lake, Joe's Lake, Kerr Lake, Roberston Lake, Sunday Lake, White Lake, Ardoch Lake

## Plans for 2017

- Mazinaw Subwatershed and Fall River Subwatershed's will be our primary focus with additional sites represented in other parts of the watershed
- Watershed Watch program on: Mazinaw Lake, Crotch Lake, Dalhousie Lake, Sharbot Lake, Bennett Lake, Silver Lake, Buckshot lake, Macavoy lake, Kiskebus Lake, Marble Lake, Shabomeka lake
- Temperature Loggers
  - Lakes: Sharbot Lake (East and West), Dalhousie Lake, Canonto Lake, Kashwakamak Lake, Mississippi Lake, Bennett Lake
  - Streams: Black Creek, Paul's Creek, Long Sault Creek, Easton's Creek, Bolton Creek, Peterson's Creek, Fall River, and Buckshot Creek
  - Water Management maintains temperature loggers year round at the following gauge stations: Mazinaw Lake, Kaswakamak Lake, Mississaggagon Lake, Farm Lake, Big Gull Lake, Palmerston Lake and the Lanark Dam.
- OFAH Invading Species Program will occur again this year focusing on the Watershed Watch Lakes and then adding to the list as resources permit.
- Stewardship
  - Plant delivery to Mazinaw Lake – 28 properties and 359 plants
  - 150 for Canada's 150 – Sharbot Lake Property Owners Association, re: Kevin Browne
- Lake Association AGM's, let us know what day it will be and we'd love to come out.

## **Mississippi River Watershed Plan**

- In the process of developing the background report and have identified Natural Heritage features and mapping as a significant gap in our understanding of the watershed as a whole
- Includes significant wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitat, ANSI's etc.
- A NHS maps these features more whole system, connecting the features and green spaces through linkages ('corridors')
- Linking different landscapes provides better support for ecological functions and enables movement of species.
- Systems approach helps to build resiliency against pressures of climate change, development pressures, invasive species etc,
- A number of NHS Projects already undertaken that cover parts of the watershed.

- The purpose of this project is to identify the Natural Heritage Systems throughout the entire Mississippi River Watershed, producing comprehensive, watershed wide mapping that builds upon and complements those existing projects.

### **Queens University Collaborative Research**

- A collaborative between Dr. Geof Hall (Queens University - Water Research Centre) and MVCA in undertaking research in nutrients and water quality in Mississippi Lake.
- Will involve a two year postdoctoral research project to carry out ecological modelling of the lake.
- A sophisticated 3D hydrodynamic and ecological model to provide simulations of concentration and movement of nutrients (and other elements) throughout the lake under varying conditions.
- Relate those to conditions that are favorable to specific types of algae growth
- Once model calibrated can run different scenarios altering the upstream changes in land use, flow, temperature, and inputs of various nutrients to predict how that will influence nutrient levels and algae growth in the lake.
- The project is being funded jointly by MVCA and Queens (through Mitac funding program).
- As the last lake on the Mississippi River system, Mississippi Lake is the “canary in the coal mine”. The finding of this research will help in broader understanding of impacts of changes in climate, land use, etc. on lakes throughout the watershed

### **Enhanced water quality monitoring on Mississippi Lake**

- Monitoring nutrient input from the various major tributaries entering the lake,
- Collecting water samples every two week (Total and dissolved Phosphorus, Chl\_a, possibly other parameters)
- MVCA installing flow gauges at 2 or 3 of the streams to monitoring flow in conjunction with WQ sampling.
- In addition to supporting the Queens Project this project will give Mississippi Lake more information about what is coming into the lake.
- May help other lakes who are considering enhances water quality monitoring

### **Carleton University Core Sample Research**

- Through Jesse Vermaire (Carleton University) - a Masters Student will be doing his Masters Research project on Mississippi Lake and White Lake. The project will start in the fall and will involve a diatom analysis of sediment cores to look at historic changes in water quality and represented by the presence of algae.
- They may also look at Chlorophyll.
- The assessment will include a try to associate the indicators in the sediment with changes in land use.

**Rideau Valley Conservation Authority: Sarah McLeod-Neilson**  
[sarah.macleod-neilson@rvca.ca](mailto:sarah.macleod-neilson@rvca.ca).

- 2017 Tay Valley Subwatershed Report is to be released by the RVCA in May 2018. We will be asking for public input this summer. For more information please contact [martin.czarski@rvca.ca](mailto:martin.czarski@rvca.ca)
- In the near future, RVCA may be looking for volunteers to host permanent monitoring stations to monitor lake levels. The sites ideally would have cell service and somewhere accessible for the installation and the maintenance of the station. We would be looking for two lakes, one with a control dam and one without. Anyone interested in being a potential volunteer can send an email to [andrea.larsen@rvca.ca](mailto:andrea.larsen@rvca.ca).

List of lakes where 1:100 year flood elevations have been established (to come). Meaghan McDonald will provide more information to Karen Hunt once available.

- Shoreline Naturalization Program continues to provide free site visits and planting plans for shoreline planting projects. Projects completed through the program are subsidized 70 to 100 percent for plant material and labour. Please contact [Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca](mailto:Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca) for more info.
- We are continuing to promote small scale LID (low impact development) projects on properties including buffers, rain barrels, rain gardens, soak away pits and natural terracing. Funding may be available for demonstration sites. Please contact [Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca](mailto:Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca) for more info.
- Ferguson Forest Centre in Kemptville is working with local conservation groups to see if there is a need for potted native wildflowers in the area. If any lake groups are interested in future projects such as plant sales, pollinator gardens, etc. please get in touch with Meaghan McDonald ( [Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca](mailto:Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca) )
- Watershed Watch will continue to sample local lakes this year. If you are interested in volunteering and can provide on the water transport or lake access please contact Sarah MacLeod-Neilson ([sarah.macleod-neilson@rvca.ca](mailto:sarah.macleod-neilson@rvca.ca)).

**Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority : Holly Evans ( [hevans@crca.ca](mailto:hevans@crca.ca) )**

- Publishing a Cataraqui Region Lake Assessment Report including 45 lake-specific fact sheets (i.e. where data are available) and a new lakes webpage
- Collecting information (May and August) on five lakes where there is little to no data (Collins Lake, Upper Rock Lake, Lower Rock Lake, Singleton Lake)
- Testing the Water Ranger sample kit / promoting its use in the Region
- Holding a Lake Monitoring Event on May 28 at the Outdoor Centre in the Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area
- Exploring the feasibility of a lake model that works well on the Great Lakes on a small inland lake (i.e. Loughborough Lake)

### 3. **Beyond collecting water quality monitoring data ... next step**

- Opportunity for August 2017 workshop with RVCA, MVCA and CRCA and possibly the Lake Partners Program

#### Focus

- Interpreting and understanding what the water quality monitoring data collected for your lake actually means in terms of the health of your lake.

#### Background

- Related workshop held in 2009

#### Details

- Location and exact date to be confirmed

#### Discussion

- majority of meeting participants agreed that a repeat workshop would be beneficial
- Karen to continue working out details with partners. Specific date & time to be announced
- In response to questions about water quality monitoring data .... Sarah (RVCA) reported that Watershed Watch uses Lake Partners Program data. As well, Sarah explained that during the Watershed Watch data collection the conservation authority collects the Lake Partners Program samples on lakes for which there are no volunteers collecting Lake Partners Program samples
- Sarah indicated that Lake Partners samples are collected at one Secchi depth. The RVCA collects from the surface down to two Secchi depths
- It was mentioned that although the Lake Partners data is collected by many different volunteers and agencies there is a clear protocol to ensure accuracy of data (and two samples taken, average reported)

#### 4. **Field Trip to see demonstration septic system displays at Baxter Conservation Centre**

- Workshop outline - Eric Kohlsmith, Mississippi Rideau Septic Office, will provide an opportunity for interested Lake Networking Group participants to tour the septic system displays at the demonstration site at Baxter Conservation Area, near Kars, ON. There will also be opportunities for questions and answers about septic systems during the visit.
- Field trip date – Friday, June 16 at 10 a.m
- Registration deadline Friday, June 9, 2017
- Registration contact – Philippa Fugler [philippa.fugler@gmail.com](mailto:philippa.fugler@gmail.com)

Eric Kohlsmith will provide an agenda and a map to locate the Baxter Conservation Area and the septic system demonstration site

#### 5. **MNRF Partnership Specialist - Elizabeth Holmes** ([Elizabeth.Holmes@ontario.ca](mailto:Elizabeth.Holmes@ontario.ca))

Elizabeth reviewed her position as a Partner Specialist to link Lake Associations with Ministry and other pertinent resources.

(It was mentioned that the RVCA Landowner Resources Centre (Manotick) and FOCA are also useful sources of resource information)

Elizabeth has also provided the information below (note - information also distributed in a separate email) regarding the Zone 18 Fisheries Management Plan and some thoughts about potential funding possibilities

- For any Lake Networking Group members who may be interested in having a read, the approved *Zone 18 Fisheries Management Plan* is posted on the Environmental Registry here: <http://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTI0NDg4&statusId=MTk4NzQy>. Most importantly, though, I wanted to re-iterate that we'd welcome ideas about partnership opportunities for implementing some of the priority actions that I touched on in brief at Friday's meeting. And, they truly were just a smattering! If you would find it helpful to have a chat about possibilities specific to your lake(s), Joff, Martin and I would happily entertain that kind of exchange as well. Feel free to follow up with me as your first

point of contact ([Elizabeth.Holmes@ontario.ca](mailto:Elizabeth.Holmes@ontario.ca) or 613-258-8210).

Adrienne raised an excellent question in asking about funding possibilities. My momentary 'pause' on Friday was a result of me synthesizing in my mind – in that brief moment! – the diverse funding avenues that might be pursued depending on the nature and scope of the project in question (and that could vary enormously). As I mentioned, there isn't a specific funding pot tied to the Fisheries Management Plan, but there are certainly other funding avenues that could be pursued (e.g., MNRF's Land Stewardship and Habitat Restoration Program, MOECC's Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund, DFO's Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program, private foundations that support environmental conservation objectives, and so on). While certain projects might require an infusion of actual dollars and cents, I'm imagining that others might benefit as much from a loan of equipment or some good, old-fashioned sweat equity! Perhaps a project might even be tackled as a collective Lake Networking Group effort (e.g., I'm thinking here of communications materials that might benefit each and every association). Whatever the case, it would be my job to help you in scoping some of those things out.

In any event, please don't hesitate to touch base with me at any time!

([Elizabeth.Holmes@ontario.ca](mailto:Elizabeth.Holmes@ontario.ca) or 613-258-8210).

## 6. FOCA: Terry Kennedy

- In early 2017 there were two successful and busy events for FOCA Staff
  - The Cottage Life Show and the FOCA AGM and Spring Seminar
- Terry provided copies of **Managing Your Property in a Changing Climate**
- Anticipated publications soon to be released
  - Lake Steward's Guide to Citizen Science
  - Invasive Species
  - Volunteer Retention - Best Practices
- The Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations (FOCA) continue to work on a number of "hot-button" issues i.e.

Electricity Pricing

Dock Permitting and MNRF Role

Capital Gains Tax

Septic System Issues

Cottagers and recognition/inclusion by municipal governments

- On the Horizon  
Canada's Anti- Spam Law (CASL) and issue of 'expressed consent'  
2018 will see both provincial and municipal elections

Discussion was initiated by Larry Arpaia - Bob's & Crow Lakes about concerns regarding developers who are disregarding municipal planning regulations and just paying the hefty fines later. There was a feeling that some municipalities were aware of these actions. Larry reported that their Lake Association was aware of four specific properties where this had occurred

Terry will take this concern back to FOCA

**Watersheds Canada – Melissa Dakers ([dakers@watersheds.ca](mailto:dakers@watersheds.ca) )**

### **Watersheds Canada's 150 Celebration**

- In celebration of #Canada150 we would love for you to join us in supporting our 2017 campaign.
- Our fundraising goal, in keeping with this year's celebrations, is to have 150 people commit to becoming regular donors of just \$15.00 per month. Please join our community today. Canada's freshwater depends on your generosity.
- Where your donation will go when you give the gift of clean water:
  - A \$25 donation will help us purchase native plants for our shoreline restoration program, the Natural Edge.
  - A \$100 donation will help us give a home to wildlife.
  - A \$150 donation will help us share our stewardship programs nationwide.
  - A \$250 donation will help us create fish habitat, such as spawning bed restorations and installations.
  - A \$500 donation will help us restore a shoreline with native plants to protect water quality and provide wildlife habitat.

[www.watersheds.ca](http://www.watersheds.ca)

### **Love Your Lake Program**

- Shoreline Assessment program available to Lakes
- Individualized Property and Lake Level reports generated
- 22,229 properties assessed on 101 lakes surveyed across Canada to date
- Partnered with 10 regional organizations across Ontario, Saskatchewan & Alberta
- Contact Heather Murphy 613-264-1244 or [murphy@watersheds.ca](mailto:murphy@watersheds.ca)

### **Natural Edge Program**



- Shoreline naturalization program for waterfront property owners to help them restore their shorelines by planting native trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses along water's edge.
- Program covers 75% of cost, funding received from Fisheries & Oceans Canada, and Great Lakes Guardian Fund
- Sites available for the 2017 Fall plant and 2018 Spring & Fall
- Contact Chloe Lajoie 613-264-1244 or [lajoie@watersheds.ca](mailto:lajoie@watersheds.ca)

### **Fish Habitat Program**

- Enhancing 2 walleye spawning beds on Sharbot Lake and 1 on Ardoch Lake in partnership with Lake Associations
- Will be conducting a cold water creek enhancement in Lanark County this year in partnership with the Lanark County Stewardship Council
- Looking for a Lake Association to partner on a 2017 Brush Bundle Project
  - Adding woody debris to multiple sites on lake in water depths of over 12feet to enhance fish habitat
  - Provides safe areas for fish to grow, feed and rest
- Link to more information on Brush Bundle fish enhancement <http://watersheds.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/CSW0027-Stewardship-Report-Brush-WEB-READY.pdf>
- Contact Melissa Dakers 613-264-1244 or [dakers@watersheds.ca](mailto:dakers@watersheds.ca)

### **Watershed Canada's Stewardship Information**

- Looking for more information on Stewardship Initiatives visit: <http://watersheds.ca/our-work/resources/publications/>

Melissa Dakers -Lake Stewardship Coordinator

O: 613-264-1244 C: 613-257-9405 [dakers@watersheds.ca](mailto:dakers@watersheds.ca)

## **7. Lake Associations Updates**

### **Pike Lake Association- Adrienne Fowlie - Laroque**

- Constitution review and renewal with the help of Lake Associations' survey and member survey.
- "150"- August long weekend bbq, promoting Legacy Cottage with individual cottage features in Lake Association newsletter
- Spawning bed review: looking at the success of the work that has been done – monitoring on Pike Lake has indicated that about half of their beds were not productive

- Marker buoy program: will share information that was gathered with other Lake Associations.

### **Dalhousie Lake Association – Judy Hall**

We plan to have a banner made for our bulletin board to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> and to work with the community to expand Canada Day activities to include lake activities i.e. pontoon boat rides, eco canoe trips of river etc. We will plan our community yard sale depending on interest.

We have two meetings a year, July and Aug. This year at the July meeting we will follow up on issues that came up last year around water testing, fire bands and the Love You Lake program. The AGM is in Aug. and we will focus on the new wetlands regulation plus news from the township.

Our newsletter and membership drive are sent out in June.

We will be discussing how to engage new property owners with a Welcome to the Lake Basket and lake fact sheet at the directors meeting in May.

### **Otty Lake Association – Reid Kilburn**

The Otty Lake Association continues to be active in a number of areas again this year. Our AGM is planned for July 9, 2017 at the Perth Legion commencing with displays at 1:00 PM. This year we are pleased to have Dr. Shelley Ball as our guest speaker. Shelley will be speaking on the subject of climate change, our environmental footprint, how to reduce them and therefore how to reduce our impact on our lake.

Following are highlights of some of our current projects:

#### **Shoreline Planting**

To celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary and continue the OLA's successful shoreline planting efforts, the OLA in conjunction with the RVCA is offering 150 potted maple trees for planting on lake property this year.

#### **Build Smart**

We have added a new document to our website which has been created by the OLA Board with assistance from the Townships. The purpose of the document is to provide residents with a summary of who to contact for guidance and approval for various types of construction projects, environmental reasons for some of the building codes and where to go for more information.

### Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Projects

Based on the work completed since the inception of formal habitat enhancement initiatives on Otty, in 2017, there may or may not be further work required on the fish population. This will be determined through monitoring activity in May. Each of the 250+ smallmouth and largemouth bass spawning nests will be observed for either occupancy or usage. (Occupancy is self-explanatory. Usage can be determined if the nest has been swept clean and a spawn has likely occurred. Not all bass spawn at exactly the same time.) We will also look at both natural nesting locations and ones we built to see if degradation due to silt build-up is an issue. This work will tell us if we need to do more to preserve and enhance spawning habitat.

Similarly we will monitor the 20 wood duck boxes, 25 bat boxes and 15 swallow boxes installed around the lake for activity before deciding to enhance these nesting habitats.

This year we are planning a census of gray rat snakes and plan to distribute native wildflower seeds which attract pollinators.

### Black Lake Property Owners Association – Anita Payne

The Black Lake Property Owners Association is concerned that Tay Valley Township is moving to curbside garbage pickup and removing access to the "Recycling Centres". One problem with this is that the majority of properties on Black Lake are on private lanes and another is that pickup dates may not coincide with times that cottagers are leaving. Garbage containers will have to be animal proof: there has been a bear in the area recently. Ticks are very prevalent this year and we will be reminding people to be vigilant. After a winter thaw and rain the lake levels rose so high that the ice broke structures on the shore that have been there for decades.

We are encouraging property owner to "adopt" a buoy to mark shoals near their properties. New anchors need to be made for some of the buoys.

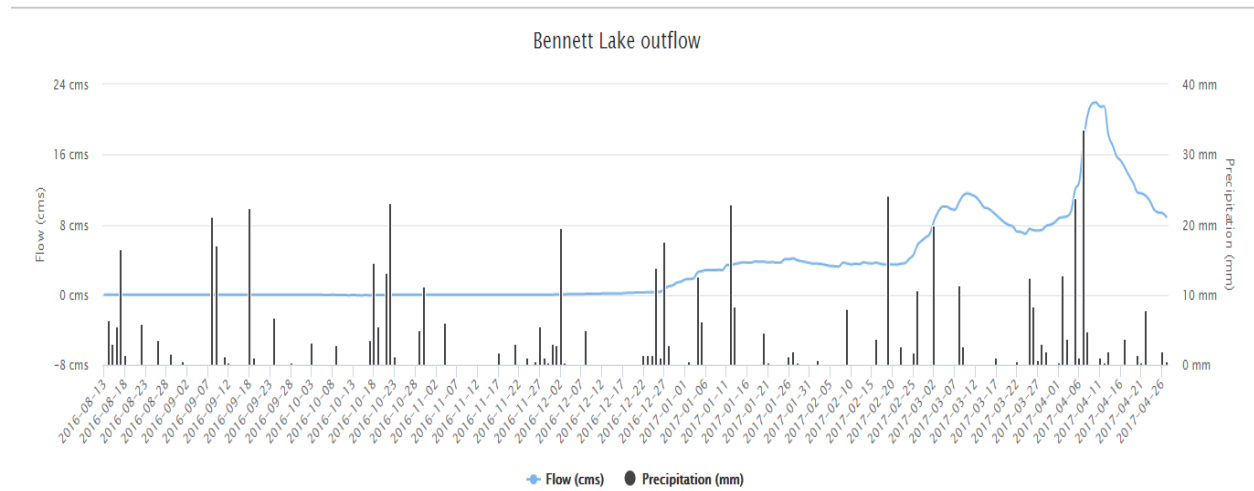
Wild parsnip spraying is a concern, be aware that even though Tay Valley Township is not spraying that there are county roads being sprayed without warning or schedules provided.

### Bennett and Fagan Lake Association – Eric Boysen

#### **Water Levels**

The drought of 2016 was severe. The Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority initially declared the watershed to be in Level III – severe drought, during most of the summer and fall months. Rainfall in June and July was very low, with some recovery in August and September. The rains helped to avoid severe drought stress in the area’s forests, but there could still be lasting impacts that may only be noticeable over the course of the next few years. Certainly, if the summer of 2017 is similar to 2016, this could result in tree mortality. The impacts of low water on fish, fish habitat and wildlife are likewise hard to measure. The impacts of low water level on drinking, recreational purposes and agriculture are certainly well-known by area residents

The following graph shows the water levels at the outflow of Bennett Lake for the period from August 2016 to the end of April 2017. The current level is at 153.30 MASL, and the historical average is 153.25 MASL.



Levels are provided in Meters Above Sea Level (MASL). All flows are provided in cubic meters per second (cms). Precipitation is recorded in millimeters (mm).

In January, the MVCA issued the following statement announcing that water levels had returned to normal:

**WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – Low Water Update # 12 – January 23, 2017**

**CONDITIONS RETURN TO NORMAL – WATERSHED NO LONGER IN DROUGHT STATUS**

**January 23, 2017 MISSISSIPPI VALLEY WATERSHED—** The Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) is advising residents that flows and levels across the watershed have returned to normal. This has removed the drought condition status across the watershed. MVCA continues to advise residents venturing out on rivers and lakes to use extreme caution. Please note that MVCA does not monitor ice conditions. We would like to thank watershed residents who took the time to help document this drought event. We are continuing our efforts to track the impacts and define the severity of the drought conditions within the

watershed. MVCA requests that any individuals or businesses within the Mississippi Valley watershed that are experiencing difficulties with their wells please contact the Conservation Authority by calling 613-253-0006 ext. 233 or 243. ***There is an interactive map on our website where residents can select the general area they are in if they are experiencing well issues.*** There is an opportunity to comment, however no personal information is required. Daily water levels and flows are available on the MVCA website at <http://mvc.on.ca/water-levels/>. Contact: Gord Mountenay, C.E.T. Water Management Supervisor, 613-253-0006 ext. 233, [info@mvc.on.ca](mailto:info@mvc.on.ca) [www.mvc.on.ca](http://www.mvc.on.ca)

### **Water Quality Sampling**

Each year, the BFLA samples approximately 8 to 10 sites around the lakes each year, usually in Mid-May to early June. Parameters such as water clarity, temperature and dissolved oxygen at various depths, and phosphorus are measured and reported on. We work cooperatively with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change to have the samples analysed. We have shared our historical data set with the Water Rangers. Water Rangers is a free platform for Citizen Scientists to record observations about water. <https://app.waterrangers.ca/>

The Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority also samples lakes around the basin on a 5 year cycle. Bennett Lake was last surveyed in 2011 (see <http://www.mvc.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Bennett-Lake-2011-online.pdf> ) and is scheduled to be sampled again in 2017.

### **Forest Tent Caterpillar infestation**

There were a number of forested areas in western and northern Lanark County which were severely defoliated by the Forest Tent Caterpillar (also known as the army worm). This is a native pest that can cause severe defoliation of most hardwoods on an approximate 10 year cycle. The population of this pest has been building over the past few years, and is likely to expand it's impact in 2017. A number of area Maple Syrup producers are planning to have their forests sprayed with a biological control compound in order to preserve the foliage, which is the "sugar factory" in maple stands. Peak defoliation lasts between mid-May and mid-June. Trees will try to re-foliate, albeit with much smaller leaves. If this is combined with a drought, it can cause stress, and even mortality in certain trees. For more information, see <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/fire-insects-disturbances/top-insects/13379>



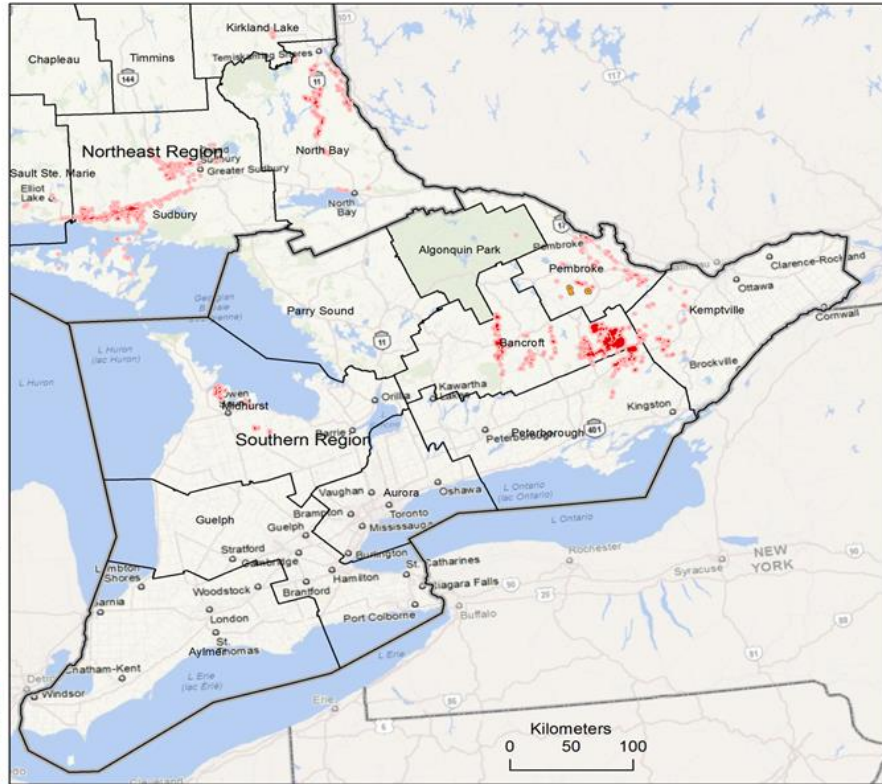
### Forest tent caterpillar 2016

Southern Region  
Areas within which forest tent caterpillar caused defoliation.

**Moderate-to-severe = 50,906 ha**

**Light = 202 ha**

- Area of Moderate-to-Severe Defoliation
- Area of Light Defoliation



### Canada 150 celebrations

The BFLA is purchasing 100 seedlings of White pine, Red Pine, Red Oak and White Oak from the Ferguson Tree Nursery in Kemptville. These seedlings will be distributed to the first 100 members who renew their membership with the BFLA. It is hoped that these tree seedlings will be planted along the shorelines of the lakes to supplement the natural forest, or to help restore it where it is lacking. Each of these tree species are native to the area, and can live for 150 or more years. Hopefully, they will be around when Canada celebrates its tri-centennial.

- Tay Valley Township will be changing the way it manages household waste. Garbage will be picked up at curbside in the future. There has been little public information about this, although council has directed staff to procure two new garbage trucks (see [https://icreate5.esolutionsgroup.ca/231100\\_TayValley/en/municipal-government/resources/2017-PW-001---Waste-Recycling-Collection-Truck---Tender.pdf](https://icreate5.esolutionsgroup.ca/231100_TayValley/en/municipal-government/resources/2017-PW-001---Waste-Recycling-Collection-Truck---Tender.pdf)). See also minutes of the March 7 Committee of the Whole where options were discussed (<http://www.tayvalleytwp.ca/en/calendar/council/Default.aspx?StartDate=03/07/2017&EndDate=03/07/2017&Limit=25>)

### **Loughborough Lake – Bob Fugler**

- **increased water monitoring for 2017**
- stocking Loughborough Lake with 15,000 lake trout...boat volunteers to assist.

### **Big Rideau Lake – Doug Kirkland**

- 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cow Island fireworks for Canada 150
- Tracking bass through system using microchip technology
- Parks Canada requirement to obtain a license for fishing derbies
- Lake Association is distributing a 10 part bulletin on various topics to membership
- Large number of common mergansers noted, also large loon groups in the fall before migration
- “Le Boat” canal tours will be starting this year

### **Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes – Larry Arpaia**

Bolingbroke Dam- Parks Canada has announced that the construction of a new Dam at Bolingbroke will begin in July 2018. This delay is due because of several factors according to PC: which include challenges in access to the lands around the dam, finding suitable stabilized rock foundation for the dam, not disrupting fisheries in the area and getting appropriate building and environmental permits.

Parks Canada's Water Management Plan - Parks Canada will be consulting with watershed lakes concerning their review of their lake management plan on May 17th 10 to 12 at their Smith Falls office. In the past few years PC has made attempts to be more visible and transparent in their planning and actions to be taken.

South Frontenac "Housekeeping Amendment"- in March 2016 The Township of South Frontenac attempted to pass an amendment that could create a problem for property rights and individuals rights. persons who own property on a lake with a building that was "grandfathered " in the 1970's and is less than 100 ft from a lake would have been subject to these amendments. After a public outcry the TSF the Council passed a watered down version of their amendment. Lake Associations asked to meet with the Township to better understand their position but TSF refused. Lake Associations in SF put forward a legal challenge that is to be heard but the Municipal Board in late May 2017. On April 15 the TSF agreed to meet with Lake

Association prior to this hearing to see if a compromise could be put forward that protected environmental rights, property rights and individual rights.

Developers on our lakes - Developers have been bullying Townships and Municipal Boards across Ontario with much success in getting their structures built without proper permits. Often Townships succumb to the developers because their only choice is to collect more tax or spend legal fees ( often not budgeted by the Township) to challenge at the Municipal Board. Often the Developers just paying a fine to the Township after they are "caught". Active citizens around Bobs and Crow have approached the Queens University Law School to explore possibilities to challenge these developers.

Algonquin Land Claims - the Algonquin Land Claims have been approved by local First Nations communities and will now be rolled out to fruition over the next 5 to 10 years.

GBCLA has developed a introduction to our lakes for persons just purchasing a cottage on Bobs and Crow or are new to cottaging. The GBCLA Guide to Bobs and Crow Lakes may be seen electronically on our web site [bobsandcrowlakes.ca](http://bobsandcrowlakes.ca) .

#### **Farren Lake Property Owners Association – Kris McDonald**

- The main lake issue during the winter of 2016-17 was ongoing discussion about property development on a specific lot. Variance modifications offered by Tay Valley Township were not deemed acceptable by the lot developers. The developers requested a hearing in front of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) which took place on Feb 8-10, 2017 in the Tay Valley Township offices. The Farren Lake Property Owners Association was strongly supported by other Lake Associations, aquatic specialists and Farren Lake residents. A stack of printed email letters at least one inch thick were provided offering visible support for our cause. Our Lake Association thanks each and every contributor in support of our position to fight for forward thinking decisions which will affect overall lake health now and in the future.

The timeframe for an OMB decision is 6-8 months which means that we may be waiting until October 2017 for the final outcome.



### **White Lake Preservation Project – Dave Overholt**

- not a Lake Association, but would appreciate info to help create one
- started 3-4 yrs ago to investigate algae blooms by monitoring 8 sites 2x/month.

### **Mississippi Lakes Association – Rob Bell**

- New pamphlet published to give to new cottagers on lake
- Love Your Lake project completed in 2016
- marker buoy program continues with specific instructions
- successful loon census in 2016
- upcoming 3D modeling (lake samples) in conjunction with Queen's University
- online magazine replaces paper handout
- 2017 will focus more on social events to promote membership & increase volunteer base

### **Chaffey's Area Lakes Association: Gay Henniger**

- increased in interest from numerous lakes, wish to be inclusive as an organization.
- newsletter distributed 4-5x/year
- a table was manned at the Opinicon Resort craft fair which increased profile/interest.
- "150" event is pancake breakfast for AGM with Watershed Canada presenting.
- Significant development of a campground (250 more campsites) on Opinicon Lake is a concern.

### **Christie Lake Association Inc – Larry Bowen**

#### **Fish Bundles/Fishsticks Program (initiatives and plans for summer 2017)**

- We have about 12 or so fish bundles left to deploy. Will work with biologist to pick some suitable locations, mostly toward the eastern portion of the lake.
- We will also be working with RVCA to do some underwater video of existing bundles in place. This provides an indication of whether previous placed bundles are providing a good habitat.

#### **Loon Survey**

- Will continue the loon survey this year. Need to get others around the lake to join in so we can assign sectors to watch.
- Plan on constructing a few loon nesting platforms this spring and deploying around the lake.

### **Tay Valley Township 'LANDFILL MASTER PLAN – TRANSPORTATION AND CURBSIDE PICKUP'**

-The proposal implies a decision by May 2017 for a RFP (tender) for a two stream or one stream recycling process.

- Implementation target date Fall 2018 but hear rumours from staff that it may be as early as January 2018.

- Some of the stated "Advantages to Curbside Pickup" seem far-fetched such as "decrease the carbon footprint associated with the landfill by replacing the numerous cars with only 2 trucks" and "there are still hundreds, perhaps thousands, of cars driving to the waste sites each week". One could argue that most residents plan their trips to waste sites and link other activities such as grocery shopping et al thereby making the carbon footprint argument irrelevant.
- Christie Lake is interested in thoughts of other associations in Tay Valley Township who may be affected by this Waste and Recycling Plan (please contact slbowen67@gmail.com)

### **Bobs Lake/Bolingbroke Dam reconstruction status**

- The construction window is now scheduled for summer 2018.
- In-water work timing restriction March 15- June 30 to protect warm and cool water spawners (i.e. Walleye)
  - Downstream flow will be maintained throughout project.
  - Some fish habitat loss as the approximate 40m section between the old dam and new dam will switch from lake habitat to river habitat; however, new channel designed to allow for Walleye spawning and includes riparian planting of trees, shrubs and grasses
  - Environmental Assessment has progressed.
  - More detailed Fish Habitat Assessment and Species at Risk Study completed.
  - Enhanced environmental investigation and design work for stream channel rehabilitation between old and new dam with intent of creating Walleye spawning zone.
  - Archaeology undertaken on provincial property and marine areas. Federal property disturbed by previous projects.
  - Engagement with Algonquin First Nation of Ontario underway.

### **Kennebec Lake Association – Terry Kennedy**

Winter Fun Day

Held on the Family Day weekend in February.

75 people participated on the ice for various activities including skating, ice fishing

Ongoing food and drinks through the day

Fireworks at dusk

Canada Day/Independence Day Celebration  
Planned for July 1st weekend  
'Flotilla' of watercraft  
To beach for barbecue  
Typically attracts >30 boats and approximately 70-80 people

Love Your Lake Program - Watersheds Canada  
Had been anticipated for this summer - Funding fell short  
Now planned for summer of 2018

Septic System Re-Inspection  
Worked to initiate Township 'Committee of Council'  
Part of the Township Cte  
Program and Bylaw proposed  
Now assisting with public consultations and follow up toward adoption/implementation

Lake Capacity  
Seeking to develop 'plan' to recognize capacity of lake for further development  
Working with Quinte Conservation  
Will be involving Township/County planning staff  
Ultimately hope to see factors beyond simple measures of phosphorus

### **Canonto Lake Property Owners Association – Mary Lynne and Jim Holton**

#### 1. Official Plan

Primary focus for last year has been on the new Official Plan for North Frontenac Township

Executive Committee members attended Council and public meetings, wrote letters to other Lake Associations, the Mayor, Council and Township Planning Staff re the OP

We think that the draft OP is in general alignment with the goals of the Canonto Lake Stewardship Plan and are pleased with Councils willingness to listen to our ideas.

#### 2. Water Quality

Lake Partners Program - May 17, 2016, water quality sampling

MVCA - 3 visits in 2016 to collect data for study of Clyde sub-watershed of the Mississippi, studied again in 2019

Invasive Species Watch Sampling - July 11, 2016

OMOECC formal phosphorus based lake capacity study - results to inform township and cottagers of any limits to development

### 3. Canonto Trails

During 2015 teams of volunteers from Canonto, Palmerston Lakes and wider Ompah area spent hours restoring trails in the Conservation area

Preparing for a 2017 spring clean up of trails

### 4. CLPOA Projects

One of our lake executive members is heading up a Palmerston Beach restoration project. A 3 year plan has been developed and they are looking for support from Council.

**Next Lake Networking Group meeting: Nov 3/17, 9:30 a.m. -12:30 . Location to be confirmed**

#### **Other dates:**

2017 Lake Links: Civitan Hall, Perth, Sat. October 21, 2017 . 2017 theme – to be confirmed

Fall OPP/ Lake Associations Meeting - Friday, Sept. 22, 2017 at 9:30 a. m. in the Tay Valley Township Council Chambers, Harper Road

May 31, 2017 –deadline for submission of applications for FoTW Water Guardian Bursary (The Friends of the Tay Watershed are offering a \$1,000 bursary open to students who live in the Tay Watershed and who are planning to study or are currently enrolled in a Canadian university or college, in a full-time, post-secondary degree or diploma program in the Environmental Sciences or a related discipline.)