

Lake Networking Meeting: Sept 24 2021

MVCA Notes – Kelly Stiles

MVCA continues to be working part time from home, and our front office is still closed to visitors. Response times to phone calls and emails may vary as we continue to receive record numbers of planning, permitting and regulation files.

Water Levels

June was very dry and saw us enter drought status however the amount of rain we received in July pulled us out of drought conditions and sustained us through a very hot and dry August. Current water levels are considered normal and fall draw downs are starting in preparation for winter operating ranges.

Lake Monitoring

Monitoring of this year's six lakes is winding down now that we are in September. Results will be analyzed over the winter and presented to the public in the year end Integrated Monitoring Report, which is to be posted online by spring 2022.

Stream Monitoring

Stream work was minimal this year, however we did get water temperature loggers launched in the spring and I am busy collecting that equipment this month. Results will be included in the Integrated Monitoring Report.

Invasive Species

MVCA hosted a summer student supported through OFAH's Invasive Species Hit Squad. Due to covid reducing the number of in person AGM's and other outreach events Jordan's efforts were mostly focused on helping ID photos or samples submitted to us. He also assisted our steward program with a few terrestrial invasive species removals from park spaces. MVCA encourages all waterfront users to take photos of potential invaders and submit them for ID as well as for tracking of occurrences. There are two ways to submit observations, either through Eddmaps Ontario, or through the Ontario Invasive species project within inaturalist.org.

Stewardship

This spring we hired a dedicated stewardship technician. Her name is Julie Falsetti and she has been very busy since she started with developing a stewardship plan for the CA as well as completing the spring planting sites and arranging a round of fall plantings.

This spring we held another successful round of Lake Association Tree Days. We worked with Sharbot Lake Property Owners Association and the Dalhousie lake Association to distribute 951 plants to 73 properties.

We also had 9 private shoreline planting agreements which resulted in the planting of 315 m of shoreline with 625 plants.

MVCA also partnered with the town of Almonte and received a TD Friends of the Environment Grant to plant 275 trees and shrubs in a community park along the Mississippi River.

Over the winter Julie will be preparing for another round of spring Lake Association events and is able to provide advice if anyone is curious about having their shoreline planted or wants to learn more about using local native species on their property.

Watershed Plan

The Mississippi River Watershed Plan is now complete and can be accessed online. Thank you to all who participated in the process. <https://mvc.on.ca/watershedplan/>