



image courtesy FOCA: a compilation of images about the "Let's Get the Lead Out" initiative to reduce toxic lead fishing tackle from accumulating in the environment where it is responsible for the deaths of birds and other wildlife every year.

Margie Manthey accepted the award from FOCA President Ian Crawford, on behalf of the WLA. Manthey, co-manages the campaign with Donna Garland. *Review Mirror News March 2023*

Wolfe Lake Association recipient of provincial achievement award

During its 60th Annual General Meeting and Spring Seminar on Saturday, March 4, 2023, the Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations (FOCA) presented the Wolfe Lake Association (WLA) with its 2022 Annual Achievement Award in recognition of the "Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program.". Each year, FOCA presents the prestigious award to a cottage or waterfront property owners association that has 'realized significant accomplishments and demonstrated innovation in its work with members and the community.'" FOCA represents 525 lake associations across Ontario with a combined membership of 50,000 families. The WLA was selected from numerous other nominees. Margie Manthey travelled to the Bayview Golf a& Country Club in Toronto to gratefully accept the award from DOCA President, Ian Crawford, on behalf of the WLA. Manthey, Fishing Director with the WLA co-manages the campaign with Dona Garland, Director of Web Services.

The "Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program" works to reduce the accumulation of toxic lead fishing tackle in the environment where it poisons loons, eagles, swans and other aquatic wildlife. In its first year, the program – which received the majority of its funding through South Frontenac's Lake Ecosystem Grant Program – has collected over 170 pounds of lead. The initiative also raises awareness on the dangers of fishing with lead tackle and promotes lead-free fishing within the angling community. Its slogan is "let's Get The Lead Out."

The program continues to build support and rolls into its second year beginning March 31, 2023. Anglers are encouraged to bring their lead to participating retailer collection sights, including Norris's Live Bait & Tackle, Westport Hardware, Big Rideau Tackle, Atkinson Home Hardware Building Centre, Rona Verona Hardware, Bait Casters, Manotick Bait –and later this spring, the Westport Lions Re-use & Recycle Centre – to receive a \$10 voucher (while supplies last) redeemable on lead-free tackle. Visit fishleadfree.ca to learn more and find a comprehensive listing of businesses selling lead-free tackle.



Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

**2022 FOCA
Achievement Award Recipient:**

**Wolfe Lake
Association**

WESTPORT, ONTARIO



for their ongoing commitment to community betterment
and their local environment

The FOCA Achievement Award celebrates
the successes of the FOCA community,
and encourages peer sharing of best practices.

***"FOCA envisions
thriving and sustainable
waterfronts across Ontario,
now and for future generations"***

www.foca.on.ca