

Wolfe Lake MAGAZINE

A publication of the Wolfe Lake Association, Westport

Summer, 2024

NEW SIGNS AT BOAT LAUNCHES

WLAW produces informative signs

HISTORY AND FACTS

Why Wolfe Lake is called Wolfe

A look at Lee Road

CUTENESS ON WOLFE

Loon chicks born on
loon nesting platform

BIG FISH!



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Wolfe Lake MAGAZINE

Wolfe Lake
Association
WESTPORT, ONTARIO

ON THE COVER
A special photo moment on Wolfe Lake, taken by Jennifer Wetmore-Bailey. The picture was a Cottage Life Photo Contest winner, and published on the cover of their 2024 calendar.

Summer, 2024

Contents

11 A new look on Wolfe! ATTRACTIVE SIGNS AT 3 BOAT LAUNCHES

Arriving at Wolfe Lake, anglers and other visitors are offered up-to-date and important information before launching their boats. A dedicated WLAW project team worked hard to build these sturdy professional signs.



16

THE DAM AT WOLFE A designated 'reservoir lake'

Wolfe Lake is a feeder lake for the Rideau Canal system. Sometimes we are not happy with the low water levels, but reps from Parks Canada, MNR and the RVCA explain that the dam is a complicated component of our lake life.



30

CUTENESS ON WOLFE LAKE Loon chicks born

Just before going to print, we can report that two loon chicks were born on WLAW's loon nesting platform, and are enjoying rides on the back of their parents, and the excellent waters of Wolfe Lake. Hopefully, they will survive the summer.



53

Clean, drain and dry PREVENT THE SPREAD of aquatic invasive species

Bill Hutchison reminds us how important it is to clean, drain and dry your boat if you take it in a different body of water. It's the law!





8 WHY THE NAME WOLFE LAKE

A ship, an island and our lake all share the name of a British Major-General. Find out why Wolfe is Wolfe.

10 PROJECTS TO PROTECT OUR LAKE

An update on current projects of the Wolfe Lake Association Westport

13 AGM 2023: FESTIVE CELEBRATION

The 35th Annual General Meeting was a well-earned celebration, offering our members a chance to cheer on the WLAW. Speakers addressed the many accomplishments over the years and praised all volunteers.

17 RIDEAU RIVER WATERSHED

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) has found that many parts of the Rideau River Watershed are changing fast, and not always in a positive direction.

19 LEE ROAD HISTORY

Donna Garland dives into the history of the road she and her family use daily, driving between their Great Escape Cottage and Westport Road.

22 ROY CHISAMORE'S BIG FISH

Exciting story of an avid angler. Oh yeah, we do have huge fish in the lake.

23 IN AWE OF OUR WATER

Even when it rains it is inviting and clean. A summary of the water quality report over 2023.

29 WILDLIFE: WHO GOES THERE

Owls are beautiful, mysterious, and incredible hunters.

34 ARE YOU PREPARED?

Do you ever think about possible emergencies? It's time to take action.

37 KEEPING THE FAMILY COTTAGE

Has your cottage appreciated in value? Will your estate be able to cover the tax liability? How do you keep the cottage you love in the family for as long as possible? Questions we asked BMO Nesbitt investment advisor Blair Pelling.

46 OLD BOB NEEDS MORE FRIENDS

To attract more hikers, Randall Goodfellow and other local residents have a vision for the future of the Westport region.

Other news

- 5 Become a volunteer | That was a festive year - 35 years for WLAW
- 6 Wolfe Lake Magazine colophon Disclaimer & WHAT'S INSIDE
- 7 WOLFE LAKE IN BRIEF
- 9 Want to build a tiny house? Thirty-five years and counting!
- 15 AGM 2024 ANNOUNCEMENT
- 20 Share your correct email address
- 21 Checking in with Greg Lyons
- 24 Watermilfoil at Farlain Lake (ON)
- 27 News for anglers
- 28 Tick warning
- 31 WLAW | FINANCIAL REPORT Strategic Plan South Frontenac
- 32 Become a volunteer this summer
- 33 Best Moments with Cyrus & Ernesta PICTURE TIME contest NOT running
- 35 We need NSN volunteer responders
- 36 Capital gains tax changes
- 39 PICTURE TIME winners 2023 contest
- 42 WOLFE LAKE BY THE NUMBERS
- 43 GREETINGS two mayors
- 44 KIDS' PAGES
- 50 Lions Reuse and Recycle Centre
- 52 The cicadas are coming Cover photo by Jennifer Bailey
- 56 Anne Madden's goat products
- 57 North Shore neighbours' clean up
- 58 Lisa's rhubarb custard pie recipe
- 59 KIDS' PUZZLE solutions
- 62 THANK YOU local advertisers

Your Wolfe
Lake Magazine
is a keeper!

Wolfe Lake Association Westport

PROTECT | PRESERVE | PLAY

The Wolfe Lake Association Westport works for you, to ensure good governance and to shape and conduct all our initiatives, keeping the association’s objectives in mind. Our main goals are to maintain and enhance the natural beauty and pristine state of Wolfe Lake and its shoreline and to provide information on the environmental aspects of cottage life, including measures to improve our environment and the quality of our lake water. The Wolfe Lake Association Westport is headed by a volunteer executive, elected at the Annual General Meeting. We inform you about water quality and invasive species, such as Eurasian water milfoil. We encourage our members to prevent and reduce pollution in all its forms, including noise pollution. We offer advice to anglers, with tips and tricks to improve fishing and to maintain a healthy habitat. We keep in touch with our members by publishing our annual Wolfe Lake Magazine and by distributing our email News Flashes with brief updates and news to be shared throughout the year. We frequently update our website and we have two Facebook community pages. Feel free to get in touch with us: treasurerwlca@rideau.net or com-wolfelake@outlook.com.

Our 2024 team

- PRESIDENT | Chris Chisamore
- VICE PRESIDENT | Bill Garland
- PAST PRESIDENT | Brian Manthey
- TREASURER | Larry Arsenault
- SECRETARY | Erin Derbyshire
- COMMUNICATIONS | Anna Rijk
- WEBMASTER | Donna Garland
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- WATER QUALITY | Gordon Moore
- SHOAL MARKING | Roy Chisamore
- MEMBERSHIP | Lisa Arsenault
- WOLFE LAKE REP | Bill Hutchison
- WOLFE LAKE REP | Timothy Richards
- WOLFE LAKE REP | Greg Wetmore



Wolfe Lake Association Westport | wolfelake.org

Our 2024 volunteers

Bill Blaney, Wayne Derbyshire, Sean Garland, Marti Hansell, Betty Jo MacDougall, Bruce Maynard, Tom Myatt, Lorraine Pellerin, Daniel Spitzer, Thamar Spitzer, Cathy Thompson, Paul Thompson, Val Tait, and Helene Wach.

THANK YOU! YOUR NAME could be printed here next year!
Give a helping hand, read page 32 and sign up to become one of our volunteers.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Why not give a helping hand

WOLFE LAKE
 ASSOCIATION
 WESTPORT

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

JOIN US!



Contact Chris today:
chrischisamore@hotmail.com

Wolfe Lake needs more helping hands to get things done! Help us protect and preserve Wolfe Lake this summer, even just for a day. Chris Chisamore, WLAW president, has a long list of volunteering tasks. Contact him today at chrischisamore@hotmail.com, or talk to him at the upcoming AGM (July 27), to find out what you can do to help the WLAW.

That was a festive year



CELEBRATE

Wolfe Lake Association Westport
 PROTECT | PRESERVE | PLAY

wolfelake.org



Last year (2023), we celebrated our 35th anniversary, reminding us how special our pristine lake is, and how to help protect it. Enjoy this summer and stay safe on the lake, everyone!

Wolfe Lake Magazine

EDITOR Anna Rijk

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE wolfelake.org

DISCLAIMER

While the Wolfe Lake Association Westport makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of information in this magazine, it cannot accept responsibility for errors and omissions. Readers are urged to obtain professional advice before acting based on the material contained in this edition of the Wolfe Lake Magazine. Any advice given is intended to provide general information only. The Wolfe Lake Association Westport does not accept liability for damage or injury resulting from reliance on the information.



WHAT'S INSIDE | Our Piece of Paradise

Hi everyone!

There's no denying it, there comes a point in your lake life when you ask yourself, "What the heck was I thinking?" For me, it happened earlier this summer, when I first mowed the grass around our cottage. (Yes, I have to admit, in the almost fifteen years we have been cottaging on Wolfe, I had never done the lawn before! That's Daniel's job.) It was quite an undertaking! And then I had to move on to the other chores inside our vacation home. This was exactly what other folks had warned me against. And it's true - the bottom line is that it is so, so much work to have two properties! But I am convinced that working in and around the cottage is – in fact – a labour of love. Our family feels blessed to be able to escape to our own piece of paradise. Just to be there, enjoying the lake, the scenery, the wildlife, and the small group of people we call family. It's all worth the pain of a slightly aching body, because we can 'Zen' in our own unique piece of paradise.

This winter our contributors started to share their articles with me, and I had already written a few pieces of my own. Then I spent 5 weeks in the Netherlands, thinking I could easily finish up the magazine before the end of June. Well, maybe not easily...! But these hours are also a labour of love, and I happily give back to our awesome lake community. This issue is packed with new stories and smaller news items worth knowing. After last year's festive volume, I was afraid I would have a hard time putting together another attractive magazine. But thanks to much assistance and help from our WLAW team and contributors, once again we have an issue I hope you will want to read from cover to cover.

The Wolfe Lake Association Westport has been busy. You must have noticed those wonderful new signs at the three boat launches. Brian Manthey and a committed team of WLAW board members worked on them. The results are amazing. The WLAW wants anglers and other visitors to be informed before entering the lake, and the information boards on these structures are doing just that. Donna Garland offers two interesting articles with history in mind. She is curious why Wolfe Lake is called 'Wolfe', and she dives into the past of Lee Road. Then there is our secret: yes, we do have big fish in our lake! Roy Chisamore tells us all about it, and he also provides some tips for anglers. We have our many departments with fun stuff to read, and many articles about our waters, our wildlife, and our surroundings.

Looking forward to meeting you all at the upcoming AGM on Saturday, July 27! Happy browsing and reading, and enjoy Wolfe's paradise.

Anna Rijk, on behalf of The Wolfe Lake Association Westport Team



WOLFE LAKE | IN BRIEF

Wolfe Lake's latest quick news snippets, with updates on what's happening around our shores.

ZEBRA MUSSELS ARE STILL A PROBLEM

Remember the explosion of Zebra Mussels in the early 2000s? A freshwater bivalve species native to the Caspian Sea region in southeastern Europe, they were accidentally introduced into the Great Lakes in the late 1980s, probably from contaminated ballast water dumped by international cargo ships, and moved from there into smaller lakes, including Wolfe, throughout Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba.

They look like a very small clam or barnacle, about 2-3 cm long, and can be identified by their triangular shape, flat underside and the white or yellow zigzag markings on their dark and dangerously sharp shells.

Zebra mussels choke out native clams, filter out the nutrients and plankton on which native fish depend, and fuel toxic algal blooms. Zebra mussels clog water intake pipes and coat docks and pilings with thick clusters of shells that can severely lacerate your skin.

Three decades later, zebra and quagga mussels still threaten our lakes. With few natural predators and each female capable

of releasing up to a million eggs per year over a lifespan of three to nine years, they are now almost impossible to eradicate. The best we can do is to help slow their spread. When trailering from lake to lake, please spend five minutes checking and cleaning your boat (clean-drain-dry). If you see debris and scum, just clean it off. Our lake is worth it.

IT'S FIRE SEASON

As you read this, Ontario's Outdoor Burning Regulations are in effect. The Village of Westport and the Townships of both Rideau Lakes and South Frontenac would like to remind you to use caution when performing any outdoor burning. As we saw throughout 2023, fires can spread easily and disastrously, and a wildfire is a real risk to our forested community.

When disposing of yard waste and woody debris, you are advised to compost or use local landfills. If burning is your only option, be sure to follow regulations. You can find the full set of outdoor burning regulations under Ontario's Fire Prevention Act at [ontario.ca/page/how-to-burn-grass-and-](http://ontario.ca/page/how-to-burn-grass-and-woody-debris-safely)

woody-debris-safely. Check your own township's website as well.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

Last summer, as WLAW celebrated its 35th anniversary, the Wolfe Lake Magazine made a point of thanking all its volunteers, past and present. They were and are the backbone of our association and have worked hard in many ways to make Wolfe Lake an even better place. The list of "Our Awesome Volunteers" was long, and we made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the volunteer listings. But after the Wolfe Lake Magazine landed on everybody's doorstep, we discovered that one name had been accidentally omitted: Philip Hammond. Phil joined the WLAW in 2019, and was one of the volunteers who helped with the Scanlan Creek Walleye Spawning Habitat Restoration Program. THANK YOU, PHIL! If you have served as a volunteer, check out the alphabetical list on our website wolfelake.org, or on pages 11 and 12 of the 2023 Wolfe Lake Magazine. If your name is missing, please send a note to Anna at com-wolfelake@outlook.com. The list is also published on our website, wolfelake.org/our-volunteers.



A ship, an island and our lake all share the name of a British Major-General

Why is our lake called Wolfe Lake?

By Donna Garland

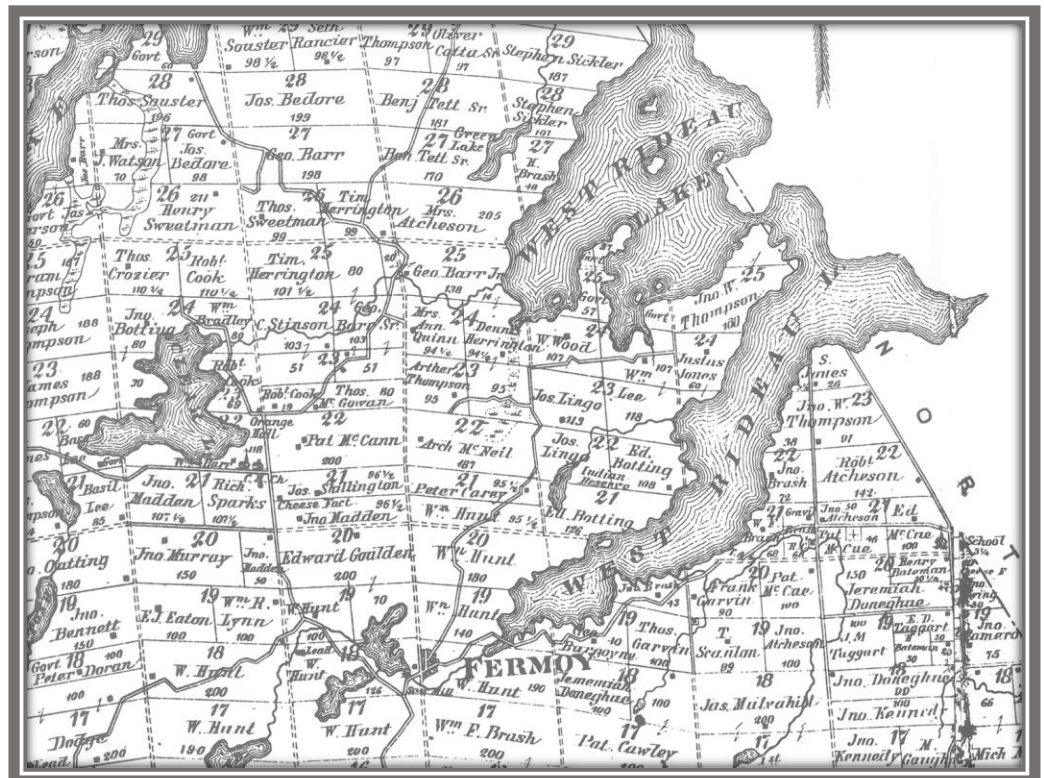
Wolfe Lake is apparently – but not certainly – named for Major-General James Wolfe, Britain's most celebrated military hero of the 18th century and the “dauntless hero” who died in capturing Quebec City in 1759. His victory on the Plains of Abraham over the French Marquis de Montcalm determined the fate of New France and laid the foundation for the eventual creation of Canada.

In 1792, John Graves Simcoe, Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, named the islands at the entrance to the Saint Lawrence River near Kingston for Britain's victorious generals in the Seven Years' War; the largest, located directly opposite the City of Kingston, became Wolfe Island.

Wolfe's name was given as well to a 20-gun sloop-of-war launched at Kingston and harboured at Wolfe Island during the War of 1812. His Majesty's Ship (HMS) Wolfe served briefly as the flagship for the British squadron in the battle with the United States for Lake Ontario.

Our lake now shares the same name, although it is not entirely clear that it was intended to honour the British general.

Over time Wolfe Lake has been known by two names: West Rideau Lake and Wolfe Lake. An 1824 survey and an 1860 Putnam and Walling map show the Lake as Wolfe Lake. On the 1878 Meacham



Atlas map (page 8) and the 1926 Beatty & Beatty map of Bedford Township, however, the lake is identified as West Rideau Lake.

At some point in time thereafter the name West Rideau Lake was crossed out and replaced with Wolfe Lake, with no clear indication as to the reason for the change.

This could possibly suggest that the West Rideau name was identified in error and that Wolfe Lake has always been the correct name.

Long-time Wolfe Lake cottager Betty Jo MacDougall, however, reports having seen an early 19th century map in which the names of nearly all the lakes in the immediate area were misplaced, with one of the nearby lakes listed as Wolf Lake, without the "e".

Could our lake originally have been named for one of its original wild residents rather than a British general? (Some of us hope so...)

THANKS to Dave Pugh for help with the research.

Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

A TINY HOUSE ON YOUR PROPERTY?

Did you know?

Big news! Earlier this year, South Frontenac introduced bylaws governing so-called **Additional Dwelling Units (ADUs)**. An ADU is a self-contained residential unit with its own kitchen, bathroom facilities and bedrooms. The property on which an ADU is to be built must already have a house on it.

Certain restrictions apply to waterfront properties. For example, ADUs are prohibited on lands located in a floodplain or within 90 meters of a lake or river. Property owners who want to build an ADU will still need to meet certain conditions, such as ensuring adequate potable water, sewage, road access, parking, etc. Once the requirements are satisfied, you can apply for a building permit. For more details, visit southfrontenac.net or email planning@southfrontenac.net.

Rideau Lakes is facilitating affordable dwelling units as well. Under their updated Official Plan, Tiny Dwellings still need approval by the township and are subject to several zoning bylaws. It's important to know that Tiny Dwellings do not include mobile homes, park model trailers, recreational vehicles or camping trailers. Tiny Dwellings are traditionally prefabricated structures and must generally be built on a foundation that is affixed to the ground. For more details, download Rideau Lakes' Official Plan at rideaulakes.ca or call Development Services at 1-800-928-2250.



Wolfe Lake Association: PROTECT | PRESERVE | PLAY



Thirty-five years and counting! Wolfe Lake is our special place, our unique piece of paradise, where we relax, swim, fish, boat, sail and so much more. Our lake is our anchor and our greatest asset. It is unspoiled and we want to keep it that way. And that is exactly what the Wolfe Lake Association Westport has been trying to do since it was founded in 1988.

Our mandate is to protect Wolfe Lake's natural areas and enhance the natural beauty and pristine state of its shoreline and water. It is our heartfelt wish that our children, grandchildren, and a multitude of generations to come will be able to enjoy our beloved lake as much we do. We continue to work towards that goal, trying to keep Wolfe Lake and its environs as close to a natural state as possible, through small but meaningful projects, activities and advocacy. Our members – and many of them are volunteers (or have been volunteers) – share a deeply felt appreciation for Wolfe Lake. Some live here full-time, while others come to the cottage for vacations, to relax, enjoy the scenery and escape from the stress of everyday routines. We are all well aware of the fragility of the lake environment that means so much to us all.

Our success as an Association is attributable to the efforts of our loyal membership. JOIN US TODAY!



WLAW PROJECT UPDATES | WHAT WE DO TO PROTECT OUR LAKE

By Margie Manthey

Scanlan Creek Spawning Habitat Restoration Project

As mentioned in this year's fishing report, the winter was mild and Wolfe Lake experienced a record-setting early ice-out. With no snowmelt run-off, hopes for the robust spring freshets needed to facilitate spawning walleye were running low, along with area creeks.

Joffre Côté, Management Biologist with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, advised that the walleye spawn came earlier than usual to most areas. *"I'm not keeping my hopes up for a tremendous spawning season this year, as...not all fish would have necessarily showed up to the party all at once,"* he said. This is because while daytime temperatures were warm, most nights were still cold for an extended period of time, leading to sporadic activity. Joffre reflected that everything – from ice-out to green-up, and even waterfowl migration – *"came several weeks ahead of schedule this spring."*

How did these atypical factors impact the walleye spawn on Scanlan Creek? Bill Blaney, creek property owner and WLAW volunteer, observed a few fish in early April. Then, during a brief site visit on April 19th, Amanda Burke, Aquatic Habitat Monitoring Coordinator with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), counted roughly one dozen walleye in the creek, along with white suckers (historically, both species spawn in Scanlan Creek.) Amanda also reported that the rock beds were in good shape, mostly clear of algae or silt. These observations are encouraging -- especially considering this spring's unfavourable conditions -- and suggest that our spawning habitat restoration project is helping to support Wolfe Lake's walleye. Also, since walleye exhibit strong natal site fidelity, the potential remains for increasingly more fish to return to spawn in Scanlan Creek in future years.

Loon nesting platform

Last year was a good one for loons on Wolfe Lake. For the first time in many years, three loon chicks survived to fledge in the fall. Better still, each chick hatched on a different nest belonging to three separate loon pairs. Considering that the average breeding success rate of common loons is just *a half chick per year per pair*, having all three chicks survive to fledge is very good news.

Last year made for the third consecutive year the raft was adopted by (we surmise) the same pair that has successfully used it since 2021. The other two nests were natural sites, which is encouraging in and of itself. As a result, we opted to forego floating a second raft. Instead, we will observe how the loons do this year, since placing nest rafts indiscriminately can cause more harm than good among loons as they are highly territorial.

Thanks to WLAW volunteers Bruce Maynard and Helene Wach and WLAW directors Bill and Donna Garland, for maintaining, floating, and retrieving the raft each year. Earlier this spring, we were delighted to see the loons nesting on the platform again; and just as this article was being finalized, news arrived from Bruce that two chicks had hatched and were riding piggyback on their parents. We hope they stay safe and thrive, but the reality is that loon chicks face many natural and anthropogenic threats.

It's important to consider how our actions can impact loons, their nests, and fragile chicks. If you notice a nesting loon, quietly leave the area to avoid scaring it off the nest. It helps to recognize loon language – *a nesting loon that flattens itself over the ground by lowering its neck feels threatened* and may abandon the nest. Also, *stressed loons may tremble*

(alarm call) or “penguin walk” around your boat if you are too close to their chicks. Loons need and deserve a safe environment to raise their young where they aren’t threatened by speeding boats, dangerous wakes from repetitively circling watercraft, and loud fireworks exploding over the lake, which are shown to separate chicks from their parents. Conscientious, vigilant recreation helps ensure that future generations can experience the iconic sights and sounds of loons on Wolfe Lake.

Let’s Get the Lead Out

This fast-growing initiative, now in its third year, works to reduce the amount of lead fishing tackle in the environment, where it poisons loons, eagles, swans, ducks, and numerous other wildlife like turtles and fish. Lead tackle also threatens the safety of our natural resources. The Government estimates that **545 metric tonnes of lead sinkers and jigs are lost in Canadian waterbodies every year**. A staggering statistic, yet 90% of tackle sold and used today contains lead.

The WLAW remains committed to addressing this issue and has inspired other lake associations to join our “Let’s Get the Lead Out” team. These groups then promote lead-free fishing within their own communities. They represent lakes across Ontario: Charleston, Christie, Chaffey’s area lakes, Bobs & Crow, Upper Rideau, Otty, Desert, Big Gull, Kasshabog, Jack, Horseshoe, Big Clear, Salerno/Devil, Harp, Kennisis, Haliburton, Kushog, Paudash, Halls & Hawks, Carson/Trout/Lepine/Greenan, and more. It’s exciting to see the initiative grow stronger each year!

Here on the home front, the WLAW continues to raise awareness and encourage anglers to fish lead free. To date, **we have collected over 300**

pounds of lead through participating retailers/supporters including Norris’s Live Bait & Tackle, Westport Home Hardware, the Westport Lions Re-use & Recycle Centre, Atkinson’s Home Hardware, and RONA Verona Hardware, among others. Folks dropping off lead are entered into several draw prize contests held throughout the year. Our grand prize has been generously donated by Cabela’s Ottawa and includes a beautiful spinning rod & reel combo!

Wondering where to begin making the switch to lead-free fishing? *The best place to start is by replacing your lead sinkers, splitshot, assorted weights, and jigs weighing one ounce and under* with safer alternatives made from tungsten, steel, bismuth, tin, etc. Next, continue to swap out other lead tackle, recognizing that *both painted and unpainted lead are deadly to wildlife*. Be sure to ask for lead-free alternatives when you shop.

Want to learn more about our “Let’s Get the Lead Out” initiative and how you can help create positive change?

Just reach out to Margie manthey.margie@gmail.com or Donna donnagarland@rogers.com.

Also, visit fishleadfree.ca for comprehensive information, including additional collection sites and where to purchase lead-free tackle. Thank you for pledging to fish lead-free to protect wildlife and support safe, clean, natural resources!



New project brings new look to Wolfe Lake launches Important information for visiting boaters now displayed on attractive sign structures

By Brian and Margie Manthey



Addressing this concern last year, the WLAW Board of Directors unanimously approved a new project to build new sign structures at the public boat launch sites on Wolfe Lake. Brian Manthey donated his time and architectural talents to design professional plans for three new sign structures, which were then sent to Rideau Lakes and South Frontenac Townships

Anglers and other visitors to Wolfe Lake should be kept apprised of important information before launching their boats or other watercraft, including guidelines to prevent the spread of invasive species, bulletins from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, zone-wide fishing regulations, and key features of the lake. While the Wolfe Lake Association, Westport (WLAW) has always strived to keep visitors up to date on relevant information, our signage at the launch sites had grown haphazard over the years and did not lend a good impression of the lake or our association.

for approval. After on-site meetings with representatives from both townships, approval to proceed with the project was secured, and we were ready to get to work!

At the end of September last year, Larry Arsenault, Bill Garland, Brian Manthey, and Gord Moore spent two days crafting lumber into sign components.

Larry made the braces on the bandsaw, while Gord & Bill picture-framed the metal mesh backdrop to which the individual signs would

be attached. Brian cut half lap joints into the 6x6 legs and cross members. Everybody worked together to finish up the various components needed for three signs, including legs, cross members, braces, and roof frames.

Later that fall, Rideau Lakes Township staff placed a concrete pad foundation at the 10th Concession launch site, while the township of South Frontenac provided culvert pipe foundation at the lake’s south-end site. Our WLA work crew mixed around 30 bags of

concrete (!) to fill the culvert pipes and then set brackets and a post template into the curing concrete. At this late juncture of the season, it was decided to store the signage components over the winter and continue the project in the spring (thanks to Leslie Foster, for providing safe storage space).

This spring, our work crew reconvened in early May and pulled the components out of storage. Stain was applied to the sign components and allowed to dry overnight. Components for two signs were erected and moved to the south-end launch site, where a small army of Wolfe Lake residents gathered to wrestle one of the heavy sign frames off the trailer, onto the foundation, and into the waiting brackets. Next, the braces and roof frame were placed, with the installation of metal roofing and trim pending.



Later that month, Rideau Lakes Roads Department staff placed a pad foundation at the Wolfe Lake Road launch in preparation for that site's structure. In early June, Brian installed the metal roofing and trim onto a roof frame, and met the WLAW core crew at



10th Concession to erect the second sign frame. The roof was secured on top of the frame and metal signage was secured to the mesh backdrop.

Next, the third sign frame was fabricated and delivered to the Wolfe Lake Road site. After a few days of cure time, and under Gord's careful direction, Brian drilled the galvanized steel anchors into the pad and set them in epoxy. Finally, the third sign frame was set at the Wolfe Lake Road launch, and metal signage was affixed.

As of this writing, the 10th Concession site needs only a ridge cap installed, while the south-end and Wolfe Lake Road launch structures await metal roofing. Finishing work should be completed this summer.

The various individual metal signs mounted to each structure include useful information about ways to prevent the spread of invasive species, our "Let's Get the Lead Out" initiative encouraging lead-free fishing, a map of Wolfe Lake, and a neat sign featuring various fish species found in Wolfe Lake with a QR code that takes anglers to updated Ontario fishing regulations.

As well, each of the new structures is topped with a dynamic Wolfe Lake Association banner. Special thanks to Marti Hansell for donating her time and graphic design skills to help create some of these eye-catching signs.

The end result of this latest project? Boat launch signage that looks clean, professional, and attractive, creating a positive first impression for anglers, boaters, and other visitors to Wolfe Lake.

Materials expense for this project was approximately \$4,375 with all labour provided at no cost, thanks to our volunteer team.

"THANK YOU!" to all who helped bring this exciting, time-intensive project to fruition, including Rideau Lakes and South Frontenac Townships, Herlehy Home Building Centre,



Eskerod Signs, and especially to: The WLAW's "Core Four" Work Crew - Brian Manthey, Bill Garland, Larry Arsenault, and Gord Moore;

Metal Sign Coordination & Design - Donna Garland, Marti Hansell, Anna Rijk, Greg Wetmore and Margie Manthey;



Additional Support - Glenn Garland, Tim Richards, Paul Thompson, Bruce Maynard, Tom Myatt, Mike Fay, and Eric Joss.



35th Annual General Meeting offered a festive get-together A WELL-EARNED CELEBRATION FOR ALL OUR MEMBERS

By Anna Rijk

The Wolfe Lake Association Westport held its 35th Annual General Meeting on July 29, 2023. This year's speakers addressed our group's many accomplishments over the years. President Chris Chisamore highlighted the special place Wolfe Lake is, our unique piece of paradise, and praised the many volunteers the association has seen. "We've continued to serve the community throughout the challenging pandemic times of the past and have adapted the format of our AGM meetings to keep our members safe while adapting our activities to meet the evolving needs of our members."

Local politicians addressed the membership with congratulatory speeches. The mayor of Rideau Lakes, **Arie Hoogenboom**, congratulated our association and noted a number of our recent activities, including the Get the Lead Out program, boat launch education and awareness signs, water quality testing, and loon nesting platforms. He was accompanied by Councillor **Bob Pollard**, who not only happens to have a cottage on our lake and is a longtime WLAW member but for many years was an active volunteer as well.

Ron Vandewal, South Frontenac's mayor, applauded our group and the volunteer programs it has initiated to protect and preserve pristine Wolfe Lake to the best of our abilities. Councillor **Steve Pegrum**, another

Wolfe Lake Association member, echoed the mayor's upbeat message.

The in-person celebration recognized how our association has grown since its origin as a protection/prevention-oriented organization which then developed into the Wolfe Lake Association. This all began back in 1988, when a small group of cottagers around Wolfe Lake saw the need for a 'lake voice' to oppose the creation of a proposed subdivision on Fox Point.

"We have come a long way, and we are thrilled to be celebrating our 35th anniversary with so many new faces, with ongoing projects and activities, with a beautiful website and an awesome magazine," said **Bill Garland**, one of our longtime members. "My

father, **Harold Garland**, was one of the founding Board Members of the Association and our family has spent over 40 cottage summers on the shores of Wolfe Lake. I have been a member since 2000 and am currently a board member of the WLAW. I have witnessed the evolution of this organization, along with its current vision and range of volunteer activities. The still-new logo captures the reliable, trusted direction and support the association has been bringing to community members for decades. I believe the association is building a stronger, more resilient community, and that's something to celebrate." **Margie Manthey** expressed a special, heartfelt thank you to **Betty Jo MacDougall** towards the end of the official part of the meeting. Betty Jo and her late husband **Duncan MacDougall** gave us all the

best gift ever, by ensuring that their 500-acre family property is protected from development for generations to come, through a private conservation easement established in 2022. Duncan, who grew up


cottaging on Wolfe Lake, was a Board member and Water Quality Director for many years in the early 2000s. Betty Jo is a longtime WLAW member as well and has been active in a number of roles, from secretary in the past to

proofreader of the Wolfe Lake Magazine today. Margie stressed her ongoing support for the association in general. Betty Jo was then invited to cut both Wolfe Lake Association 35th-anniversary cakes.

AGM WLAW 2023 | 35 YEARS and KICKING

Festive Celebration



Kawartha Dairy generously sponsored the event with large tubs of vanilla ice cream. The ice cream cones added to the festive atmosphere created by the anniversary cakes. 

To celebrate the occasion, **Marti Hansel**, one of our members, designed a special anniversary logo. The logo was used throughout the year in the Wolfe Lake Magazine and on our Facebook page. A social media campaign to celebrate Wolfe Lake, created by Anna Rijk, was published on our Facebook page and in the Wolfe Lake Magazine.

For the AGM specifically, the anniversary logo was printed on attractive small giveaway coasters for all in attendance. The coasters were a special gift from **4Imprint Promotional Products**.

Our thanks to everyone who celebrated WLAW's 35th anniversary with us at the **Lions Club Beach** in Westport.



YOU ARE INVITED! | We are looking forward to seeing you! Saturday July 27 from 10am - noon

The Wolfe Lake Association Westport's AGM will be held on Saturday, July 27, 2024 from 10 am to noon. As in recent years, the meeting will be informal and presented in a market-style format outside on the grounds of the Lions Club Beach. No registration is required.

A few brief speeches can be expected from our very own President, Chris Chisamore, as well as from Mayor Arie Hoogenboom (Rideau Lakes Township), and Councillor Steve Pegrum (South Frontenac Township) at 11:00 am. John Finlayson is returning with some beautiful, hand-crafted songbird houses for sale, and we are offering a limited number of turtle nesting guards to purchase, built by the Upper Rideau Lake Association. Also, there will be some Wolfe Lake Association themed merchandise for sale.

Why not bring along your lead fishing tackle, such as sinkers, splitshot, and jigs to be automatically entered into drawings for prizes awarded both at the AGM and throughout the year. There will be lead-free tackle freebies, too! We look forward to seeing you and reconnecting at this year's AGM!

SAVE	AGM WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION WESTPORT
JULY 27 2024 10 am - noon	THE
DATE	 County Road 36 Lions Club Beach

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WOLFE LAKE: A DESIGNATED ‘RESERVOIR LAKE’

The dam is a *complicated* component of our lake life

By Chris Chisamore

Recently the Wolfe Lake Association Executive facilitated an online meeting with representatives of Parks Canada, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Rideau Valley Conservation Authority to understand how our dam is managed. We asked Chris Chisamore, our WLAW president, to guide us through the information shared.

It was an extremely thorough and detailed overview of our lake, the region, the Rideau Canal system, and the Trent-Severn waterway.

Wolfe Lake is described as a ‘spring-fed’ lake. We are so very fortunate to have such a variety of creeks, streams, and groundwater that make their way into the lake.

We do not rely on any one source of water for the quantity and quality of the water that we all enjoy so much.

In order to exit our lake, water travels through the Wolfe Lake dam, located at the farthest eastern extremity. It passes through the dam, under a bridge, and makes its way to Mary Jane’s Bridge, out into Sand Lake, through the Sand Lake dam, on into the former Fish Hatchery in Westport, over the spillway, into the Westport Pond, and finally through the



dam under Main Street and into the Upper Rideau Lake/Rideau Canal waterway system. The Wolfe Lake dam has been monitored by a variety of governmental organizations over the years, with the help of several local residents. Currently, a water management team at Parks Canada is responsible for deciding when boards in the dam are added or removed.

Since the creation of the Rideau Canal in the 1830s, Wolfe Lake has been designated as a ‘Reservoir Lake’ within the region. The cut at Newboro is the highest point of the Rideau Canal, where water runs either down to Kingston or down to Ottawa. Wolfe Lake is slightly higher than even this point. And so, when water is required downstream, adjustments are made to the Wolfe Lake dam by Parks Canada throughout the season. Monitoring of these water levels has evolved over the years. From basic ‘eyes-on’ checking of the water level at the dam, today’s technology has added a permanent water-level monitor, satellite tracking, rainfall collection, computer modeling, and hourly data reports on water information to the management team.

Certainly, there are also many external factors (some local, some regional) that impact our lake water level. Some of these include: fish



spawning, risk of flooding or drought, hydro-electric power needs, commercial shipping in the St. Lawrence, boating tourism, and/or the

ongoing effects of global warming. Wolfe Lake is a small but important cog in the larger wheel of a water system that stretches from Kingston to Ottawa, and from Kemptville to Perth.

All of this to say, the dam is a very complicated component of our lake life. Last summer, certain board members received reports that one or more individuals had, in fact, removed boards from the dam so that they could pass through with some type of watercraft.

This was reported to the dam authorities, who proceeded to send out an inspection crew. Parks Canada stressed how dangerous it is to

approach the dam by water at any time of the year, let alone to alter the water level of the lake by removing a board or boards.

Future measures may be necessary in order to better secure the dam.

If anyone should see such activity, please reach out to the Wolfe Lake Association via our website wolfelake.org or email com-wolfelake@outlook.com.

Let's work together to keep everyone safe and our lake water beautiful. Thank you.

2023 RVCA WATERSHED REPORT

Rideau River watershed is changing fast

A new detailed analysis from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) has found many parts of the Rideau River Watershed are changing fast, and not always in a positive direction. This groundbreaking report highlights environmental concerns and shifts across the Rideau Watershed.



The RVCA's 193-page Watershed Conditions Report is the first of its kind in more than 50 years. It uses recent and historical monitoring data to assess trends regarding surface and groundwater quality, aquatic ecosystem health, hydrological function, natural hazard risks, and the status of critical green infrastructure such as wetlands, forests, and natural shorelines.

The Rideau Valley is commonly subdivided into three geographic sections: the Upper, Middle, and Lower Watersheds. Each has its own distinctive geography, hydrology, and physiography – and each faces its own unique sets of pressures. Wolfe Lake is part of the Upper Watershed.

RVCA General Manager Sommer Casgrain-Robertson says: "This document will provide invaluable insight for the RVCA and its partners as well as continue to strive for a balance between conserving our natural resources and helping build safe and thriving communities.

"The Rideau River watershed is a complex region with environmental conditions ranging from excellent to very poor. While broad trends clearly show that developed areas generally have poorer environmental

health overall, even in the most intensely built-up areas we can find pockets of excellent natural health. And in the most remote corners of the watershed, we can still find the irrevocable impacts of human activity.

"Regardless of location, notable issues often come down to a particular lake, one concerning catchment, or even a specific section of a creek. Compared to other regions of the province, the Rideau River Watershed boasts fairly high-water quality overall, adequate natural land cover and good ecological health and biodiversity. But as this report has repeatedly shown, there are many areas of concern. The issues identified here do not come as a surprise, but now we have data and analysis that will allow us to take targeted action and make measurable improvements for the benefit of all."

The complete Watershed Conditions Report can be accessed online at www.rvca.ca/conditions-report. To learn more about the Conditions Report or to receive notifications about upcoming public consultation proceedings, contact info@rvca.ca.



Completion of the Conditions Report is the first step in the development of a Watershed Management Strategy, which aims to identify areas of concern and then create a strategy to address them. This process will include public consultation later in 2024.



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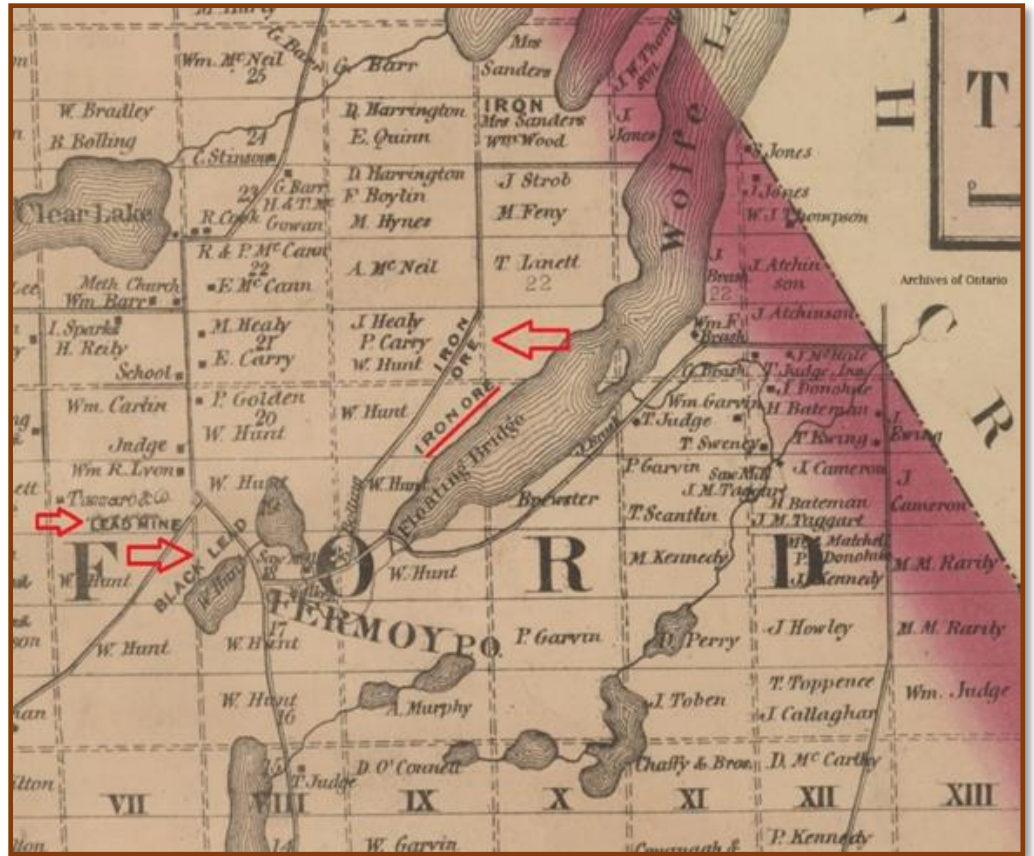
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Lee Road | More than just a name

By Donna Garland

Community oral history passed down through generations, family records and historical documents tell the story of the early days of Lee Road. Since the last half of the 19th century, Lee Road has served settlers, businesses (including the Fermoy Hotel, store and post office), residents and cottagers traveling to and from their properties on the southeast side of Wolfe Lake. Donna Garland dives into the history of the road she and her family use daily, driving between their Great Escape Cottage and Westport Road. Here is what her research uncovered.



Back in the 1870s, mining was one of the few forms of paid employment in this area and a major impetus for the establishment of the K&P (Kingston and Pembroke) Railroad – perhaps less affectionately remembered as the Kick & Push Railway. Lee Road was originally a mining road built to serve in the development of a lead mine near Fermoy. Other mining centres in the area include Glendower, which produced 12,000 tonnes of iron ore between 1873-1880, and Godfrey, which was known as Iron Ore Junction.

Iron Ore

The 1860 Putnam & Walling map, which is generally accepted as being one of the earliest maps for what was then Bedford Township, shows the road, bearing the name Iron Ore, just north of Fermoy and adjacent to the iron ore deposit for which it was presumably named.

By 1878, however, the Meacham Atlas map of Bedford shows Iron Ore Road as North Road. Perhaps the iron ore mine was already played out or, more likely, as increasing numbers of settlers arrived, the directional name seemed preferable.

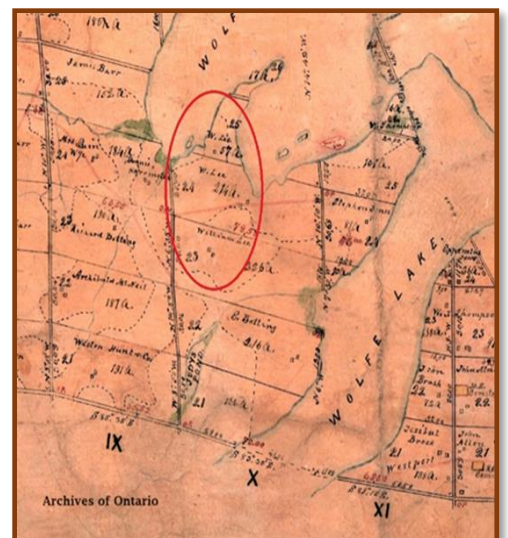
Many of the settlers who attempted to make a life in Bedford Township arrived in the mid to late 1800's. What greeted them was homesteading hardship on the rocky terrain of the Canadian Shield. The Lee family was

one of those hardworking pioneer families who (figuratively and literally) made it work.

Lee Family homestead on Lee Road

Sandra Palmer Myers, the great-great-great granddaughter of William and Eliza Lee, tells the following story of the Lee family.

According to the census of 1861, William Lee was born in Ireland in 1812. By 1861, he and his wife Eliza, also born in Ireland, were living in a one-story log house with their twelve children, all born in Burridge, Bedford Township. Their property is shown on the map on the right, which was produced by Samuel Owen



McGuin, the Provincial Land Surveyor who documented the northern part of Bedford Township in 1876.

Their eldest son, William Daniel Lee (1841-1930), married Margaret (Maggie) Sanders and remained on the farm for life. According to the 1881 census, they owned 118 acres (Lot 23); the 1878 Meacham map indicates that they also owned another 107 acres (Lot 24). They had one daughter, Margaret Jane (Jenny), who married Wright Bresee. At the time of the 1881 census, they were all living together or on adjoining properties.

A big man

William was a farmer and a big man, over 6 feet tall and known for his huge hands and long stride. His size made him a target for strength competitions with other men. One day, at the blacksmith shop in Westport, where the men tended to gather, two fellows challenged him to an anvil tossing



contest. William accepted the challenge and tossed it farther than either of them – holding it by one finger in the hole of the anvil.

A strong back

At local barn raisings, it normally took four men to carry one of the huge timbers. William sped things up by carrying timbers by himself. He would also walk to Bedford Mills, a one-way distance of approximately 13 miles, to buy 100-pound bags of sugar and flour. He would carry one bag for a while, then set it down and rest by walking back to get the other bag. Eventually, he got both bags home – all in a day’s work.

William was also a talented carpenter and made all the furniture and many of the utensils for his home. He tanned animal hides and fashioned moccasins and mitts for his family. He loved to hunt, sometimes even from the rocking chair in his living room, where he shot groundhogs through the open window. His wife Margaret was responsible for milking the cows. On April 30, 1925, William came home to find her still sitting on her milking stool, dead.

Bedford Township Council

William Daniel Lee played a leadership role in the establishment of the area as a member of Bedford Township Council. He is shown standing on the left in this photo, dated 1900.

The life of the Lee family was not easy. The name Lee Road is a meaningful way to honour the Lee family’s contribution to the settlement of the area.

Donna finishes with this thought: “As we drive down Lee Road in our cars, take a moment to think what their lives were like, compared to the blessing and gifts that we enjoy today. “

Maps: © Archives of Ontario

**Does our news flash land in your inbox?
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All Association members receive our News Flashes, unless we do not have your email address or you have chosen to unsubscribe. In other words, if you haven’t received any News Flash

updates recently, we no longer have your correct email address. We are currently seeing an increasing number of emails bounce back after we hit the send button.

The Wolfe Lake Association Westport has been emailing occasional News Flashes to all our members since 2017.

It’s one of our tools for staying connected and sharing essential lake news and updates.

Although this spring we were a bit less active (Anna was away.)

Stay connected and ensure we have your updated email address, so that we can keep you informed of announcements, news, and other important information as the need arises.

Your voice

And, if you have anything to share with our membership, please feel free to do so. You can get in touch with us anytime! Just



send Anna an email, and she will discuss with you what the options are. She is looking forward to hearing from you. (See e-mail address below.)

You can also share your updated information at the upcoming AGM on Saturday, July 27.

Please send your current email address to com-wolfelake@outlook.com



FOUR QUESTIONS | Checking in with **Greg Lyons**

Greg Lyons, co-owner (with his father Dale) of Lyons-Goodfellow Furniture Store and Lyons Funeral Home on Concession Street, comes from a family with long-standing ties to Westport and a deep commitment to church and community service. Both his mother Lois and his wife Deanne help run the store, which has been a major commercial draw for Westport for half a century, while Deanne also operates the New Life Thrift Shop and Holiday House on Main Street. In addition, father Dale owns the Carriage House and Museum on Rideau Street, where he stores and refurbishes his extensive collection of antique sleighs, buggies and other vehicles. Greg’s personal passion is music; he has a collection of guitars, which he is reported to play beautifully. Friends describe him as “a bit shy, with the most genuine laugh and the biggest heart”.

1 HOW IS YOUR WORK RELATED TO OUR REGION?

Having grown up in Westport, I have always had a deep respect and love for this area and the people inhabiting it. Rideau Lakes is where I was raised, planted my roots and brought up my children and along with that, it is also where I learned the value of service and connection. The opportunities presented to my team and myself through owning a business here are endless, enabling us to get to know our neighbours both near and far, seasonal and permanent, as we hear about their lives, the journeys that brought them here and then partner with them to help them to curate their ideal house to call a home.

2 HOW DO YOU CHILL OUT AT OUR LAKES?

Time on the lake has always been one of my happiest places! There’s a special

atmosphere that the water creates where you are no longer in your normal busy day-to-day routine. I love water skiing, boating around, swimming races with the kids and

FOUR QUESTIONS

Highlight friendly folks who are making a difference in the wider Westport community.

introducing the new granddaughters to the joy of the beach. Though work can keep me busy, I certainly have enjoyed the early

morning dip to kick off the day surrounded by nature. It's really one of the best places I can think to be!

3 WHERE ARE YOUR FAVOURITE PLACES IN OUR REGION?

My favourite places in our region are less location oriented and more dictated by community. One of my favourite places to be is certainly with my church family. Whether it's our usual Sunday morning gatherings, baptisms at our local lakes or post-service get-togethers at the beach, this region has provided, in my opinion, the best environment to fellowship with those in our own and surrounding communities. An extension and close second to this would be evening barbeques with friends in the beautiful backyards afforded to us in this wonderful area. There’s little that I love more than being surrounded by family and friends, old and new.



4 WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR YOU WHEN THINKING OF THE FUTURE OF OUR LAKES?

When thinking about the future of our lakes, my main conviction is honouring the stewardship we have been given over them and creation. The lakes have been a beautiful

resource to behold and enjoy for generations and it is our duty to keep them that way.

As communities, we have always built our lives near water and the towns of this area are no different, even with the ever-changing technology and toys available to us.

I believe we should always strive to keep our bodies of water: accessible, clean and full of natural life.

Greg Lyons

THE ONE THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY

Roy Chisamore's Big Fish



One of my favourite pastimes in summer is fishing for walleye in Wolfe Lake (I've been on the lake over 70 years). My fishing produces walleye, pike, bass, perch, sunfish and rock bass, but I only keep a few walleyes. The 2023 season opened on May 13 (not for bass), and the fishing was very good in May/June and into July. I had good luck trolling for walleyes after dark over the weeds or jigging with a plastic tail, casting along the outside edge of weed beds in the daylight. The results produced several 4 to 5 lb walleyes, a 7 lb walleye (27") and a 7 lb pike. Once the season moved into mid-August, however, the fishing really slowed down. At times I could not even mark fish on the depth finder, and it became very difficult to catch much of anything. This continued into September and mid-October, when I finished fishing for the season. All of my fishing was done in my end of the lake (the southern end) because friends fishing in the 'North Branch' were having the same problems.

My highlight of the year, however, came on Sunday, July 16th. I was fishing alone and drifting with a light west wind down in the centre of the lake, casting a jig with a 4" plastic tail in 18' to 25' depth, when at 7:45 pm something smashed the jig.

On setting the hook I realized I had a big fish on my line. The fish ran and ran, peeling off line. When it slowed, I would start to reel it in until it took off again.

After 15 minutes I had still not seen the fish. When it finally came to the surface it was 10 feet away (it was a big pike), then it took off again. The third time it came into view it was 6 feet away, so I slipped the large net into the water and guided it into the net. The fish was 35" in length and weighed 11 ½ pounds. I gave it to a friend who likes pike and asked him to let me know what was in the stomach when

he cleaned it. He told me that it was completely empty (but still weighed 11 ½ pounds). As an aside, seven years ago, I caught my first 35" pike (weighed 12 pounds), trolling in 23'-25' depth. Three years ago, I hooked a 10-pound pike, which I also gave to another friend.

One final note which might be of interest: have you ever heard of 'bleeding a walleye'? Five years ago, I found an online video about bleeding a fish and I didn't know what they were talking about. I watched the video and it has completely changed my cleaning of a walleye. If you try it, you will never do it the old way again. Put the walleye in the live well of your boat and turn on the pump.

As you head home, take out the post in the live well and let the water drain out. When you hear the fish flopping in the live well, take your fish knife, grab the fish, and turn it over so the belly is facing up. Where the white 'V' is between the gills, take the knife and push down to cut the throat.

Put the fish back in the live well and turn the water back on (without the post). When you



get home, all the blood will have been flushed out of the live well. When you clean the fish, there will be no blood and both fillets will be as white as can be. Plus, the cooked fish will taste even better because there is no blood in the meat.

Good fishing, and try bleeding your next walleye, or whatever fish you catch.

Roy Chisamore



IN AWE OF OUR WATER

Even when it rains, it's inviting and clean

By Gord Moore

WATER
QUALITY

Welcome back to another year of enjoying family activities on our beautiful Wolfe Lake! As I write this report, I reflect on how mild this winter has been. As a city dweller who only moved to the country full-time in 2010, I would have appreciated a warmer winter during my working years. But, as I have now retired and have lived on the lake for 14 years, I have come to appreciate the winters and the snow, if only for our lake levels. Time will tell how this mild winter will affect our lake's water levels this year. Last year's monitoring results are looking good.

I thought I would start this article with a history of how water quality testing actually started on the lake. To do so, I ventured back to a previous Wolfe and Green Lake Vision and Overview Report from 2013 put together by multiple contributors from the Wolfe Lake Association.

The report detailed how regular testing by the Wolfe Lake Association tested only Water Clarity using a Secchi disc during the summer of 1990. A few years later, in the summer of 1996, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment began testing for Total Phosphorus (TP), using deep water samples collected by Lake Association volunteers. This was the start of the Lake Partner Program. At that time, the samples were taken at three different sites and at three different times. Then, beginning in 2001, shallow water testing was undertaken at nine different shoreline sites. These were chosen based on cottage density and sites that might be an issue after rainfall. The samples were sent to a private laboratory in Kingston or the Centre for Sustainable Watersheds, then located in Portland. This system continued up to 2004. In 2002, however, the Centre for Sustainable Watersheds began performing a more detailed analysis of water quality in Wolfe Lake, including tests for Dissolved Oxygen, E. Coli, and Total Phosphorus.

In 2004, in addition to working with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, we began a program of water testing in conjunction with

the Watershed Watch Program of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA). As a result of this collaboration, samples are now taken at deep and shallow water sites several times during the season. We supply the boat and guide while RVCA supplies the biologists and covers all laboratory costs. Additional tests for Calcium, Dissolved Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, and Nitrogen (TKN) have been added over the years. There are also occasions when RVCA will come in and do special surveys, such as sampling benthic invertebrate numbers and diversity as indirect markers of the water quality in Wolfe Lake.

Overall, the relationships we have with the Lake Partner Program and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority have been invaluable to the monitoring of our lake for any issues that could be of concern or require action.

So now let's look at how we fared during the 2023 season:

Total Phosphorus (TP) levels (measured in mg/litre)

In 2023, TP levels in our lake ranged from .002 mg/l to .036 mg/l. Provincial guidelines like to see these levels below .02mg/l. Of the 16 TP samples taken last season, 2 were slightly above that figure, while the other 14 were well below. I have looked at the timing of the 2 higher readings and found that both were taken at the 2 deep water points on the lake on May 15th last year. Although they are unsure, RVCA has

expressed concern that there may have been a rare laboratory error when these samples were analyzed. They have now indicated that they will continue to monitor the situation this year. All other values over the year at both deep points came in well below the guidelines. As I have mentioned in past reports, Phosphorus is an essential nutrient for our lake. Testing for it helps track the health of the lake, as too much Phosphorus can cause an increase in plant and algae growth, which can decrease water clarity and oxygenation and increase the chances of blue-green algae blooms.

Calcium (measured in mg/l)

Calcium levels increased slightly in 2023 but RVCA has indicated that there have been no significant changes in trends in calcium concentrations in Wolfe Lake during the years that we have been testing. These trends are highlighted in the 2024 Watershed Conditions Report.



Dissolved Organic Carbon (measured in mg/l)

RVCA notes that the results are fairly consistent with previous years, although site location DP3 (Woods Island) had a higher reading than DP1 (a third of the way across from Wolfe Springs to the big rock on the other side). In 2022 these readings were fairly similar at both locations. As

noted in the 2024 Watershed Conditions Report, there is no currently detected trend in D.O.C. concentrations on Wolfe Lake.

E. Coli (measured in cfu/100ml)

Once again, E. Coli levels in our lake are extremely low. As indicated in last year's report, the testing for E. Coli tends to be done in shallow areas. Fortunately, we have no issues with E. Coli.



Total Nitrogen or TKN (measured in mg/l):

TKN levels in 2023 were all well within the guidelines.

Secchi Depth (measure of water clarity and/or turbidity in the lake): Secchi readings increased from 2022 to 2023, indicating increased water clarity. RVCA focuses more on long-term results, so we will continue to monitor the readings to see if a long-term trend develops.

Dissolved Oxygen

As part of the monitoring process, RVCA takes Dissolved Oxygen and temperature readings at 1-meter intervals from surface to lake bottom at both deep points. Results from these readings can provide information on oxygen content at depth throughout the ice-free season. Oxygen contents are fairly consistent throughout the season. There is some oxygen depletion at depth (i.e., low oxygen near lake bottom), however, generally speaking, the majority of the lake profile presents sufficient oxygen content to reduce internal nutrient loading (nutrient release from sediment) and support fish habitat for most species.

Again this year, **I would like to thank Haley Matschke** from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority for her invaluable contributions to this article. If you have any questions for Haley or would like information on shoreline rehabilitation, she can be reached at haley.matschke@rvca.ca.

ERADICATION OF EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL AT FARLAIN LAKE

A (costly) success story

By Daniel Spitzer



The aggressive proliferation of invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) plagues many North American lakes (including Wolfe Lake). The Farlain Lake Community Association (FLCA) has been battling this problem for over a decade. Different methods to halt the proliferation were investigated, and led to the development of an EWM Integrated Management Plan as the basis for annual control efforts. That plan consists essentially of three components: 1) application of a herbicide, 2) installation of benthic mats in infested areas (bottom barriers), and 3) manual harvesting using DASH (Diver Assisted Harvesting). All of these components require authorization from various government agencies, including Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and Ministry of the Environment,

Conservation and Parks. In 2018, the FLCA received a grant of almost \$200,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the government of Ontario, to help in their efforts to control the spread of Eurasian Watermilfoil in Farlain Lake.

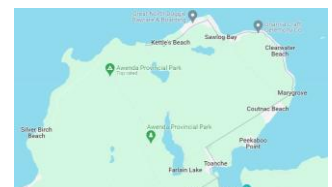
The new aquatic herbicide ProcellaCOR must be applied by a licensed applicator specifically trained for this herbicide. Canada currently has no trained and licensed applicators for this product, since it has only recently been approved for use in this country by Health Canada. Application also requires special equipment. As a result, the job was awarded to SOLitude, a lake management company based in the United States and currently the only firm licensed to use ProcellaCOR in Canada. In 2023, milfoil was successfully eradicated from Farlain Lake. It is hoped that the experience gained in this project will help other communities dealing with EWM.

For further details, go to farlainlake.ca/our-lake/eurasian-watermilfoil and check out the video clip on Facebook.com, and search there for 'The Stewards of Water.'

Farlain Lake is a vibrant community of over 300 households tucked away on the Penetanguishene Peninsula in Ontario.

Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

Did you know?



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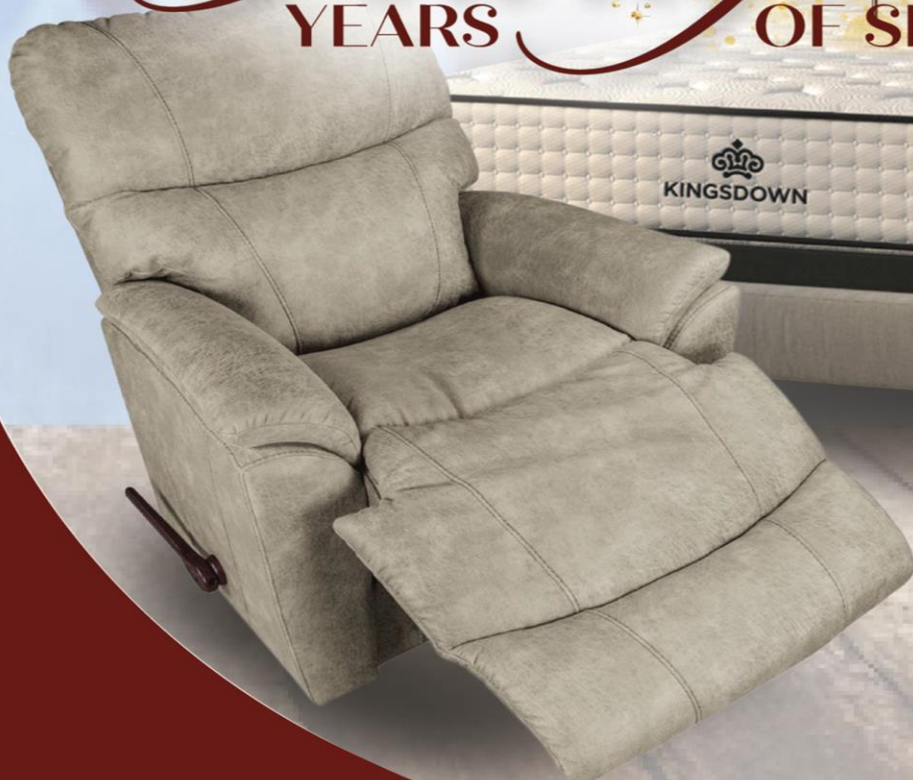


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News from your Fishing Director

By Margie Manthey

FISHING
UPDATES

Greetings to all! Isn't it just the best feeling to be enjoying the lake after a long, dreary winter? Speaking of which, it sure was a strange winter. The lake was late to freeze over, and mercurial temperatures produced sketchy ice throughout much of the season.

Early season reports gauged maximum ice thickness between just 9-12 inches, with the top third being "snow ice," which is opaque and weaker than clear ice. There were a few drownings on area waterbodies due to unsafe ice, and some anglers decided not to risk heading out this year. Not surprisingly, the Westport Area Outdoor Association's Wolf Howl was a no-go again this winter. Then, on March 15th, the ice disappeared on the main basin, setting a new record for the earliest ice-out to date on Wolfe Lake, based on Roy Chisamore's records that reach back nearly half a century.

Nevertheless, I rounded up a few ice reports from local folks that know Wolfe Lake very well. Their combined observations suggest that walleye and perch catches were down overall. On some outings, fish could not be marked on the flashers, especially as the season wound down.

The consensus was that between poor ice, an abbreviated window of time to fish, and a tough bite, it was "the worst season ever."

Walleye were represented under, within, and over the slot size (40-50 cm / 15.7-19.7 inches), but most were larger fish, measuring between 19-21 inches.

As for the 2023 soft water season, some of my favourite outings included my sons, Tyler and Shane, and their respective girlfriends, Jess and Alex. One evening, a little before dusk, Jess handily "out-bassed" us by faithfully pitching a Senko in favour of changing up baits. On another outing, Alex caught her first pike and her first walleye, both on a lead-free finesse spinnerbait. Now that's what I call Flower Power!

And what about those lazy summer afternoons, catching chunky bluegills and feisty sunfish while ospreys wheeled overhead... or peaceful paddles, casting from my kayak at dusk while the loons called across the lake?

These were just some of the wonderful experiences on the water last year where catching fish was simply icing on the cake.



Although some quality fish tugged our lines well into October, there were no real "lunkers" to boast of this year (unless you count slab-sized rock bass *wink*). I fish predominantly for bass, and most of my catches came on chatterbaits, jigs, and swimbaits fished around structure and creature baits dragged in weedy shallows. Along with other anglers, I found catch numbers down overall. My cottage neighbour, who often trolls for walleye, reflected, "It was

a year that was hard to figure out...spring and early summer were good...but late summer and fall fishing was a wipeout...and it appeared they went into deeper water." He, too, reported most walleye caught were above the slot size.

Roy Chisamore landed two big pike (one around 7 pounds and the other a whopping 11 pounder measuring 35 inches, caught on July 16th), and a pair of hefty 20-inch smallmouth

bass to boot. Roy thoroughly covered the water column by trolling, casting, and drop shooting.

Talking numbers, he agrees the year was a tough one that started out well but fizzled out by late summer into fall. Sometimes, that's just the way it goes. As they say, "It's called fishing, not catching!"

Wishing all Wolfe Lake anglers a safe and enjoyable fishing season. I encourage you to use lead-free tackle* (especially jigs, bullet weights, and sinkers weighing one ounce and under) to protect loons and other wildlife from deadly lead poisoning.

Also, please practice good ethics: leave no trace, respect all wildlife, and help support our

fishery by following current regulations and handling fish properly. Feel free to share your fishing questions, comments, or photos with me at manthey.margie@gmail.com.

*A list of sellers offering lead-free tackle can be found online at fishleadfree.ca.

WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION WESTPORT

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

JOIN US!

Contact Chris today:
chrischisamore@hotmail.com



WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION WESTPORT

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

JOIN US!

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chrischisamore@hotmail.com



TINY, NASTY, and MEAN | TICK NUMBERS ARE INCREASING

Lyme disease common in woodlands and along woody or grassy waterfronts 

How likely are you to be bitten by a black-legged tick that is a carrier of Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases? We all know that we are living and enjoying recreational activities in zones where chances are high. Please be careful in the woods around Wolfe Lake! Adriana Gambarotta, who lives on the northwestern shore of Wolfe Lake, shares her own experiences after being bitten.

Lyme disease is caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is a potentially serious infection that you can get if you're bitten by an infected black-legged tick (also called a deer tick or *Ixodes scapularis*).

Last year, Ontario's Ministry of Health made the tick-borne diseases **Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, and Powassan Virus** reportable as Diseases of Public Health Significance (DOPHS). These are additional tick-borne diseases that can be transmitted through the bite of an infected tick.

Some of our members know all too well what that has meant for their health. Adriana Gambarotta is one of them, and eager to warn us that the same tick bite can transmit several different infections at once to us and our pets.

"I got a tick bite in 2021, and I did not even recall I was bitten. These insidious cousins of spiders and mites can actively infect us even at the nymphal stage, with a body size smaller than a poppy seed."

Adriana certainly did not feel well. "Initially my GP thought it was a seasonal flu. But the fever, chill, muscle- and headaches and severe fatigue persisted." She adds: "Once I was hospitalized, it took the medical staff over two weeks to link my condition to a tick bite, and all kinds of antibiotics were failing. In the meantime, my condition worsened. It appeared I was infected by *Anaplasma phagocytophilum*. So I am glad the list of tick-borne diseases has been updated by the Ministry of Public Health."

Ticks are most active in spring and summer but can be found at any time of the year when the temperature is above freezing. They cannot jump or fly – instead, they rest on the ground or in tall grass, shrubs, and tree branches and wait for a host to pass by. They are happy to land on rodents, deer, and humans. Ticks will climb up clothing, looking for a warm, moist spot where they can burrow their head into the skin, while the rest of the body remains visible, although it may be very tiny. Dress appropriately and use tick-repellent before you head out, and do a full body check on yourself, your kids, and pets upon your return. It's also a good idea to toss the clothes you were wearing immediately into the dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill any hitchhiking ticks. **STAY SAFE!**



FOCUS ON WILDLIFE AROUND OUR LAKE

WHO goes there?

By Margie Manthey

They're beautiful, mysterious, and incredible hunters. For these reasons and more, owls have long-captured the imagination of people around the world. (Owls also capture a lot of rodents, making them highly vulnerable to rodenticide poisoning; so please, never use poison to control mice or rats.) Read along to discover some neat facts about two very different types of owls. What you learn may help answer the question: "Who goes there?"

Despite its confusing name, the Northern Hawk Owl (above) is not a hawk, but it does exhibit some hawk-like characteristics. This medium-sized owl has a long, banded tail and heavily barred breast plumage reminiscent of some hawks. Classically owl-like are its yellow eyes and round face framed by black "parentheses" which make the owl look irate.

The Northern Hawk Owl exhibits some hawkish behaviours, too, such as its tendency to perch alone on tree tops to watch for prey, sitting less erect than other owls do. Also hawk-like is its habit of hunting mostly by day and roosting at night. Furthermore, the vocalizations of this unique owl don't sound especially owlish. Rather, its song is a long lasting, rolling whistle, similar to that of a Kestrel, which is – you guessed it – a type of hawk!

WILDLIFE AROUND WOLFE

For most of the year, the Northern Hawk Owl occupies the mixed forests, bogs, and muskeg typical of boreal forest regions including those found in northern Canada and Newfoundland. Voles, other small mammals, and birds make up most of its diet. Over the winter, it also hunts grouse and ptarmigans. While it doesn't adhere to regular migrations, in times of food shortages, some birds will drift down into southern Canada over the winter where they might linger for weeks - so winter is the time to keep an eye out for this interesting owl around Wolfe Lake.

Since the Northern Hawk Owl hunts mostly by sight during daylight hours, it likely has inferior hearing as compared to other types of owls (supporting this theory, its ear openings are symmetrically placed, in

contrast to the asymmetrical ear openings of nocturnal owls). Regardless, it is still able to hear tiny rodents moving under deep snow. When it detects prey, the owl plunges down from its lofty perch, secures its catch with sharp talons, and flies off to a different perch. When rodents are especially abundant, this owl will cache food in tree cavities and crevices and among densely-needled spruce boughs.

Northern Hawk Owl pairs will aggressively defend their nest, attacking anything that wanders too close, including people. Juveniles remain with their parents for several months. After their parenting duties are accomplished, the pair separates, once again returning to a solitary, hawk-like lifestyle.

The Barred Owl is a year-round neighbour on Wolfe Lake, where its familiar, deep hooting vocalization, “Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you-all?” carries through the woods and across the water. It also makes barking calls, cackles, and screams. In fact, the Barred Owl is our most vocal eastern owl species! It’s fairly large and stocky, with a rounded, tuft-less head, dark eyes, and a yellow beak. While its topside plumage is cryptically mottled in brown and white, a Barred Owl can be better identified by brown vertical streaks on the belly and brown horizontal barring on the upper breast.

The Barred Owl is a permanent resident throughout its range, but may wander from its nesting habitat in winter. It prefers dense, mature forests with minimal clearings and low-lying swampy areas or freshwater wetlands. Like most owls, it roosts quietly by day and hunts at night, although it’s not uncommon to hear a Barred Owl calling in the afternoon.

Mice, shrews, chipmunks, tree and flying squirrels, rabbits, and other small mammals make up most of its diet, but it also eats birds, frogs, snakes, and insects. Sometimes, this owl might even wade into water to catch fish and crayfish!



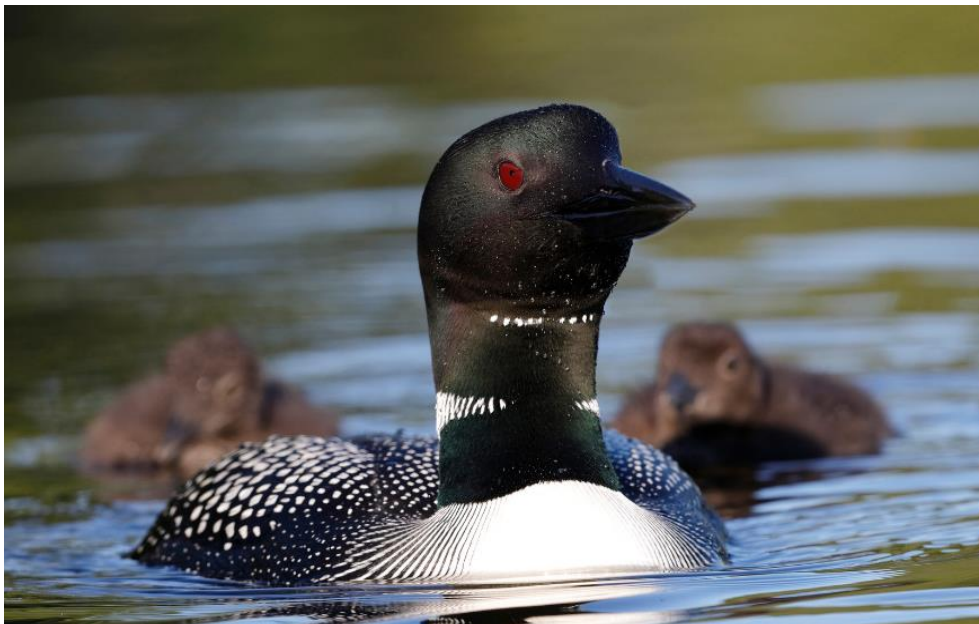
Barred Owl pairs are believed to mate for life. They perform elaborate courtship rituals including clamorous hooting duets and head bobbing displays. Pairs aggressively defend their territory, where they’ll use a large, natural tree cavity or an abandoned platform nest – often one abandoned by Red-shouldered hawks -- to raise their offspring. Juvenile Barred Owls are gray and fluffy with dark brown markings and large, dark eyes. And *whooo* doesn’t find that oh, so cute?

Credit photos:

Hawk Owl: Paul Simard

Barred Owl: Ryan Appleton

LOON UPDATE 2024 | CUTENESS ON WOLFE



For a fourth year in a row, Bruce Maynard & Helene Wach and Donna & Bill Garland have been the driving forces behind a homemade loon nesting platform in Wolfe Lake each spring. Just before going to print, they reported that two loon chicks had been born on the platform, and were enjoying rides on the backs of their parents, and the excellent waters of Wolfe Lake.

Hopefully, they will survive the summer.

WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT | 2023

Where our money comes from and how we spend it

By Larry Arsenault

“The association’s finances remain in a healthy state. Overall, expenses were slightly higher than revenue, primarily due to the purchase of materials to build 3 boat launch signs, the first of which went up this Spring. Once again, I would like to thank all our members who continue to support our activities through their annual membership fees.” Larry Arsenault, as Treasurer of the Wolfe Lake Association Westport, has put together the 2023 financial report.



Wolfe Lake Magazine and advertising

Local businesses came through once again last year by supporting our magazine through the purchase of advertisements. Revenue from ads exceeded printing costs, creating a net positive cash flow.

Membership

Our main source of net income continues to come from membership dues and your continuing support is thus both necessary and appreciated. Together we can work to ensure the ongoing health and vitality of our beautiful Wolfe Lake. Membership revenue was generally consistent with past years.

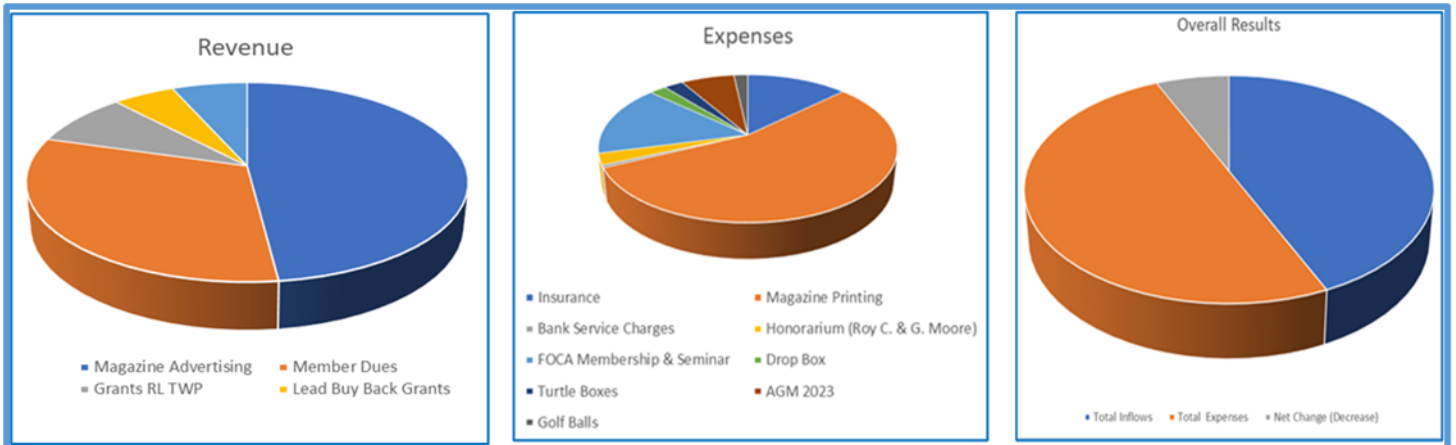
In addition to these revenue sources, we also received our annual grant from Rideau Lakes Township.

Lead Buy Back program

We received the remainder of our Lead Buy Back program grant from the Township of South Frontenac. Expenses for the program related primarily to the purchase of metal signs for our new boat launch sign structures.

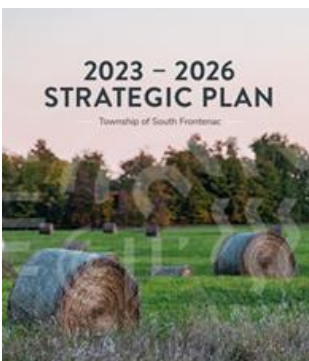
All other expenses remained consistent with previous years, with the exception of travel and attendance costs associated with the FOCA presentation ceremony for the award we received last year in recognition of our Lead Buy Back Program.

Finally, the cost of materials for building our three new boat launch signs represented a one-time extraordinary expense.



SOUTH FRONTENAC’S NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

WOLFE LAKE MAGAZINE FUN FACTS



The Township of South Frontenac has a new Strategic Plan. This document is designed to define what matters to the Township most and to outline its vision and priorities for the next four years.

The Township is rapidly growing and changing. This plan will be our guide for all decisions and actions we take for the next four or five years. The plan serves as a guide for everything the Township does, from the priorities it

sets to the decisions it makes and the actions it takes. You can download the 24-page document from the Township’s website: southfrontenac.net.

The Strategic Plan for the Township of RIDEAU LAKES

is older and has been in effect since 2015. You can find it on the Township’s website: rideaulakes.ca.

The Township of Rideau Lakes is currently undergoing an overhaul on its strategic plan, and public input is needed. A (first) Community Workshop was held in June (2024).

Did you know?

WOLFE LAKE
ASSOCIATION
WESTPORT

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



JOIN US!

Contact Chris today:
chrischisamore@hotmail.com

SIGN UP THIS SUMMER | Become a volunteer Did we mention *already* that we need helping hands?

There is so much you can do to help the Wolfe Lake Association Westport. Think of helping with our admin, building a turtle nesting guard or loon nesting platform, or monitoring bald eagles, ospreys, ducks and loons. Or you can check the lake for floating trees and logs that could be dangerous for boating and tow them to shore.

Watch the logs at the dam and report your findings, or organize a Eurasian Milfoil Pull Party, maybe followed by a small get-together. Keep our environment clean by picking up litter whenever you're out for a walk or organize your own crew for a clean-up day. The Wolfe Lake Association is also considering creating a Pay it Forward crew for jobs that a cottager or permanent resident may need unexpected help with - cutting a tree, lifting a dock, cleaning up a yard - cool and kind emergency-type situations.

Chris Chisamore, W LAW president, has a long list of volunteering tasks. Contact him today, or talk to him at the AGM on July 27th, and find out what you can do to help keep Wolfe Lake pristine.

Volunteering connects you to others!



BEST MOMENTS

AT WOLFE LAKE | Meet Cyrus and Ernesta

We love Wolfe Lake for its serenity and wildlife, but the real draw is its residents, cottagers and visitors - Wolfe Lakers have proven to be kind nature lovers who take pride in the Lake and community. And we're grateful for the Association's conservation efforts. When we were looking for a cottage (a.k.a. future retirement home), we reached out to respective lake associations for information about their lake, and the response from the Wolfe Lake Association was the most detailed!

BEST SPOT ON THE LAKE

A favorite pastime is kayaking from our cottage to the large rock outcrop across from us on the west side of the lake. Green Bay, the bay between the two points of Zimmerman's, is also fun to experience by kayak - peaceful and full of life above and below the water.

BEST SUMMERTIME-PASSER

...has got to be BBQing on our deck and enjoying glorious sunsets. (Cottage time is s-s-s-l-o-w time, so we often find ourselves dining later than usual).

BEST WATER TOOL

From morning coffee to happy hour, the dock is the best place to chill and enjoy every aspect of the lake.

BEST TIME TO BE AT THE LAKE

Our favourite time to be at the lake? Well, July and August are perfect for sun, fun and great temperatures. Then there's autumn with colourful leaf shows. Winter is so peaceful with snow blanketing everything (love discovering cozy family deer beds in the forest). And spring is nature's grand encore when everything comes back into full bloom. Wait, what was the question again? Wolfe Lake is gorgeous year-round!

BEST LAKE CONVERSATION STARTER

Do you know the difference between a small mouth and a big mouth...bass?

Ernesta and Cyrus Mavalwala have been WLAW members since 2018.

WOLFE LAKE MAGAZINE'S PHOTO CONTEST NOT RUNNING THIS SEASON

Our own PICTURE TIME photo contest has been running for almost as long as the Magazine itself, and for a couple of years it was a highlight; we'd get many, many entries. It was always a blast to see all your awesome pictures of interesting, funny and gorgeous lake moments.

It meant a lot of work for us, finding a cool theme, promoting it via an e-mailed News Flash and in the magazine, finding sponsors, keeping track of the submissions, and then ... the judging, which was not always so easy. Our judging process has a clear set of parameters and a trusted system that looks at "content and originality", "visual impact" and

"technical qualities". We'd set up official rules and regulations, and publish them on our website. Board members were not allowed to participate, to ensure a fair process. Trying to narrow the entries down to a winner was always a challenge, but always fun. Lately, however, we haven't been receiving a lot of submissions. As a result, we have decided to

skip the PICTURE TIME photo contest for now. It's too bad, because we do our best to come up with a fabulous prize each year, usually a \$75 gift card generously donated by one of the Westport businesses. Maybe another year!

Meanwhile, enjoy the winning photos from 2023.

2. Make a plan

During an emergency, it can be difficult to think clearly. Having an emergency plan will help you remain calm and focused. It is important to ensure that the entire family is prepared and informed in the event of a disaster or emergency. You may not always be together when these events take place and should have plans to ensure you are able to contact and find one another. Your plan should include:

- 🌀 an emergency meeting place, such as a relative's or friend's home elsewhere in the area;
- 🌀 a list of emergency contacts;
- 🌀 any additional health needs (such as a list of prescriptions);
- 🌀 options for your pets.

Look online for home planning templates to help you identify the best way to evacuate your cottage or home in case of an emergency such as a home fire. Make sure adults and older children know where fire extinguishers, water, electric and gas utilities are located. Everyone in the house should know the location of the emergency kit. Work together with your neighbours to identify people who may need extra help during an emergency, or who you can turn to for help.

3. Prepare an emergency kit

All Emergency Plans recommend keeping a disaster preparedness kit in your home with enough supplies to meet your family's needs for at least three days. By taking the time now to store food, water and supplies, you can provide for yourself and your family in an emergency. Preparing a kit might seem expensive, but it doesn't need to be, and it's worth the effort! Just search for emergency checklists online.

-A **basic grab-and-go kit** should contain water (at least two liters per person per day), lighter forms of non-perishable foods such as energy bars, a flashlight, masks and hand sanitizer, special needs such as medication, baby needs, extra glasses etc., a small portable powerpack charger, small amounts of cash, and identification and copies of other family documents.

-A **shelter-in-place/evacuation kit**, basically a larger grab-and-go kit. It should contain two additional liters of water per person per day, enough non-perishable food for several days, a first-aid kit, bedding, clothing, and additional portable chargers or even a portable generator.

-A **vehicle kit** that can be kept in your vehicle. It should contain items such as a blanket, a first-aid kit, flashlights, non-perishable foods, a few tealight candles, a lighter and water.

Kits of this kind can be purchased from the Red Cross, Amazon, Walmart or Costco.



Help others. Make sure to practice your plan, and please consider people in your neighbourhood who may need help.

Frontenac Neighbours Saving Neighbours cardiac arrest response | Wolfe Lake needs more volunteer responders

The Neighbours Saving Neighbours (NSN) volunteer responder program for cardiac arrest aims to increase survival rates for individuals who suffer a cardiac arrest in our communities. "It's an awesome pilot project working with volunteers who will try to save a life when a cardiac arrest occurs, and who are likely to respond sooner than a paramedic team". Last year, Anna Rijk was trained by the Frontenac Paramedics to perform quality CPR.



Anna is now a certified volunteer and knows how to use an automatic external defibrillator, or AED. She has the AED at the cottage and is prepared to go out and use it. As a volunteer, she will only be called to incidents close to her cottage, no more than 10 or 15 kilometers away. "I am on the

eastern shore, so ideally it would be great to have more volunteers around the lake, covering the western and northern parts as well. The Frontenac Neighbours Saving Neighbours (NSN) volunteer responder program for cardiac arrest went live in Frontenac on September 1, 2023. All volunteers need to be recertified every year. So it's a bit of a time investment, but certainly not much. You just have to go to Kingston to take the half-day course. And every year you go in for maintenance training and recertification."

About 35,000 people across the country experience out-of-hospital cardiac arrest every year. Paramedics responded to 276 cases across Frontenac County and Kingston in 2020. The probability of survival for these patients decreases by as much as 10 percent per minute before emergency treatment begins. Fewer than 12 percent survive. Research shows that a patient who is treated by a properly trained and equipped bystander in the crucial minutes before paramedics arrive may be as much as three times as likely to survive cardiac arrest.

Anna: "That's where you come in. We're seeking volunteer responders around our lake and even across Frontenac to participate in a pilot program and research study about the best ways to increase survival rates for victims of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest."

As a volunteer, you will be assigned to a team of other volunteers based on geographic location. You'll be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the safe and proper use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED).



Once trained, you will be equipped with an AED and may be called upon by 911 communications professionals to attend possible cardiac arrest emergencies. Your role will be to assess the scene,

administer CPR, using an AED if necessary, and to assist paramedics when they arrive on scene. This is all about learning new and better ways to save lives when seconds count.

The pilot program is conducted under the leadership of Dr. Steven Brooks and his research team at Queen's University (Kingston). Interested program volunteers will be asked to participate in the research component, in which Dr. Brooks and his team will study the feasibility and effectiveness of programs of this kind in rural communities like ours.

QUICK FACTS

- Volunteers are vetted, trained, and supervised by Frontenac Paramedics
- Alerts are issued only for sudden cardiac arrest patients within Frontenac County (no trauma or patients requiring rescue).
- Volunteers must live or spend significant time, even if only seasonally, within Frontenac County.
- Onboarding/training consists of an initial online session (4 hrs), completion of administrative requirements (Vulnerable Sector Check, Health & Safety training, N95 fit testing, etc.), and an in-person training day (8 hrs). Following completion, you will be issued Personal Protective Equipment and an AED (while available).
- Annual requirements to remain on the team include attendance at two 1.5-hour maintenance sessions per year, as well as annual CPR recertification (4 hrs).

To apply, visit: engagefrontenac.ca/neighbours-saving-neighbours.

Questions? Contact Jason Kervin, NSN Coordinator Frontenac Paramedics: jkervin@frontenaccounty.ca or ask Anna Rijk: com-wolfelake@outlook.com

CANADIAN CAPITAL GAINS TAX CHANGES

The Price of Paradise

Our lake community was shocked to learn about the recent changes to the Canadian capital gains tax, increasing the inclusion rate – the amount of capital gains that are taxable – from one-half to two-thirds of all capital gains above \$250,000. This change affects the ability of families to pass their cherished cottages on to future generations, and thus could have profound cultural implications for our Canadian heritage and way of life.

Our community is not alone in its deep concern about the impact this tax change will have on the approximately 150,000 seasonal cottage owners in Ontario alone; the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) has written to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland, stressing the enormous burden it places on cottage owners hoping to pass the cottage on to their children.

“Contrary to the government's characterization, these individuals are not among the wealthiest 0.13% of Canadians, but rather hard-working middle-class families who have cherished these properties as part of their heritage and family legacy for generations. For example, a couple who inherited their waterfront property from their parents in the early 1980s, when the average cost of a home was around \$75,000, could now have a property with a fair market value exceeding \$1,000,000 (according to Royal LePage's 2024 Spring Recreational Property Report). This represents a potential capital gain of \$925,000 upon disposition through sale or gifting to their children, of which \$425,000 would be subject to the new higher tax rate.”

Alas, the new measures will be in place by the time the Wolfe Lake Magazine arrives on your doorstep. This editorial cartoon, “The Price of Paradise”, by Michael de Adder, which appeared in the Halifax Herald on June 11, sums up our feeling quite nicely.





SECURING SERENITY | Navigating estate planning for the family cottage

By Blair Pelling

How do you keep the cottage you love in the family for as long as possible? We bumped into Blair Pelling and his family in Westport, which they frequently visit. Blair happens to be an Investment advisor at BMO Nesbitt Burns; no wonder the conversation veered into estate cottage planning. Here he shares some of his professional knowledge to help our readers navigate the world of estate planning.

Has your cottage appreciated in value? Will your estate be able to cover the tax liability? And what about your heirs – do they have any interest in keeping the property, can they afford it, and will they share it amicably? Blair Pelling knows that many cottage owners grapple with these questions.

It's one of those perfect days at the cottage – the summertime retreat has been in your family for years. You are sitting on the dock in your favourite deck chair with a cool refreshing drink and a bestseller to read.

The sky is clear, and the gentle breeze keeps the heat from the sun at bay. It doesn't get any better than this. You love the cottage and hope it will stay in your family for generations to come.

How to keep the cottage in the family

But will it? Has your cottage appreciated in value? Will your estate be able to cover the tax liability? And what about your heirs – do they have any interest in keeping the property, can they afford it, and will they share it amicably? Many cottage owners grapple with these questions.

The primary concern about transferring the cottage to the next generation is the capital gains tax incurred when the cottage is sold or inherited. All too often, families are discovering that the tax owing is so high that they end up having to sell the cottage to pay the tax.

A couple I've known for years, but who were very private, recently shared with me a real concern they had about their family cottage they purchased in the 1990s. This cottage was the bulk of their wealth. Unfortunately, with new expensive long-term care for the husband, their retirement savings would eventually fall short of the taxes owed in the estate. Either the family cottage must be sold, or their kids would have to help cover the large tax bill themselves.

The couple always pictured the cottage being handed down to the next generation, and currently enjoyed watching their grandkids have a turn at making memories. But the reality was that their (now adult) children would have to either take out second mortgages, or deplete their own retirement savings, just to keep the family cottage in the family. This kept them up at night.



they will not get along. A short-term trust, one for five years or less, can be used as an alternative to give children time to recover from their grief, and examine their own financial situation in light of their inheritance. During this period the children can sort out whether they are interested in continuing to use, or perhaps own, the property.

Postponing the decision can be a good way to avoid conflicts that may arise in the year after

Happily, there are other ways to fund such a tax bill.

Pay the tax now

You can choose to trigger the capital gain by transferring the cottage to your children now and paying the tax on any gain accrued to-date. Your family will have to pay the tax on any future gains in value when they decide to sell, or transfer ownership again.

Set aside the funds to pay the tax later

Estimate the potential gain in value and establish a fund where you and/or your heirs deposit money to cover the future tax liability.

Use a life insurance policy

The tax-free death benefit proceeds can be used to pay off the estimated capital gains taxes due.

Taxes aside, parents often agonize over a complex succession plan for the family cottage, only to learn later that some, or all, of their children have no interest in its eventual ownership. That’s why it’s important to keep the lines of communication open between all parties when developing your plan, and that it’s regularly reviewed to ensure it remains relevant for everyone concerned. This is especially important in situations where children are unsure, their lives are unsettled, or the family dynamics are complex.

Consider a “cooling off” trust

A long-term trust may not be practical if children will not cooperate, cannot afford the long-term expenses, or if you know in advance that

death when emotions may be running high, and children are not yet sure of what they want or whether they can afford to be cottage owners themselves.

Seek professional advice

While every family situation is unique, tax and estate planning professionals are experienced in helping you explore all the options available for your family cottage, and estate in general, before selecting a solution that produces the right results for your circumstances. Obtaining good advice is important, particularly where succession of the family cottage is involved.

For more information, please reach out to Blair Pelling at 613-449-1726 or blair.pelling@nbpcd.com.

Also, **FOCA** has some interesting information on their website. Have a look at foca.on.ca/cottage-succession.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT AN ADVERTORIAL.

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PICTURE TIME CONTEST | Eye-catching Wolfe Lake vistas

Winner 2023

JoAnne Lussier

JoAnne Lussier is an avid photographer. She regularly submits pictures to our contest or shares her images with our editorial team. Once again she has captured a beautiful moment: the stunning 'Spring Break Up' of the ice sheet covering Wolfe Lake, with the ice beginning to melt and the lake covered by a patchwork quilt of random shapes.

When we asked JoAnne to say a few words about this picture, she replied: "As a full-time resident, ice breakup on the lake represents an important milestone, a hopeful indicator of spring. This year's event formed sheets of ice that were pushed against the shore in abstract patterns. Nature's stained glass!"

What makes it a winner?

Clouds rolling across the blue sky; stark white ice floes against blue water; sunlight flooding the lake and land. The sharp detail of the high-resolution photograph creates a striking image of our beloved lake. JoAnne will receive a \$75 gift card from The Pinecone in Westport, the generous sponsor of this year's contest.

Congratulations, JoAnne!



Second Place:
 ‘Field of Happiness’ | by Linda Hanna

Why we love it

This photo of two little girls wandering through a field of wild clover brings back childhood memories and puts us all in a cheerful mood. The girls are exploring what nature has to offer on one of those perfect summer days, with Wolfe Lake in the background. While the resolution of the photo is not particularly high, the composition, with the children strolling through the sunlit grass, is marked by a beautifully warm light that softens the vista.

Congratulations, Linda!

Third Place: ‘Cute raccoons’ | by Linda Salvatore

Why we love it

Linda Salvatore has been coming to Westport since she was about 4 years old. “My dad taught me to fish and water ski on Wolfe Lake - memories I will always cherish.” Asked about this photo, she says: “During a late morning walk, we spotted these guys still out after their bedtime.”

Linda loves Wolfe Lake: “I have been coming to Westport and Wolfe Lake for almost 60 years, since my parents first brought me here as a toddler, staying at Green Shingles, then Saunders’, and eventually Mrs. Brash’s camps until she passed. We’ve been staying at Roy Chisamore’s now for almost twenty years. We live primarily in a suburb of Syracuse, New York, with a second home in Florida, but we break away from both for about three weeks each year to come to this beautiful area with all its memories and hospitality.”

These two sweet raccoons are captured in a great pose, perfectly positioned between the branches of the tree. There is a certain beauty in any connection between man and nature. The little kits seem to be fascinated by the camera, and the late morning light accentuates the intricate pattern on the bark of the tree. “I’m glad I could snap this moment with these two curious raccoons. It was as if they posed for me, and I thought, this is, sort of, my vista of that moment.”



Congratulations, Linda!



Honourable Mention:
 ‘Fabulous Fall on Wolfe’ | by Thamar Spitzer

Why we love it

A beautiful fall view of Wolfe Lake. “I hope that my picture will encourage people to understand that the beauty of nature can be found everywhere around us, and we can be pleasantly surprised by the many landscapes so close to the cottage,” says Thamar Spitzer. “The canoe ride with my mom on that perfect fall day was picture perfect. I know that relatives of WLAW board members cannot be winners, but I still wanted to submit this picture.”

Congratulations, Thamar!



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Wolfe Lake by the Numbers



15 fish species

Walleye; Smallmouth Bass; Largemouth Bass; Northern Pike; Yellow Perch; Rock Bass; Black Crappie; Pumpkinseed; Bluegill; Brown Bullhead; Whitefish; Burbot (Ling); White Sucker; Emerald Shiner and Central Mudminnow



44° 44'
LATITUDE

76° 30'
LONGITUDE

10.1 km² SURFACE AREA

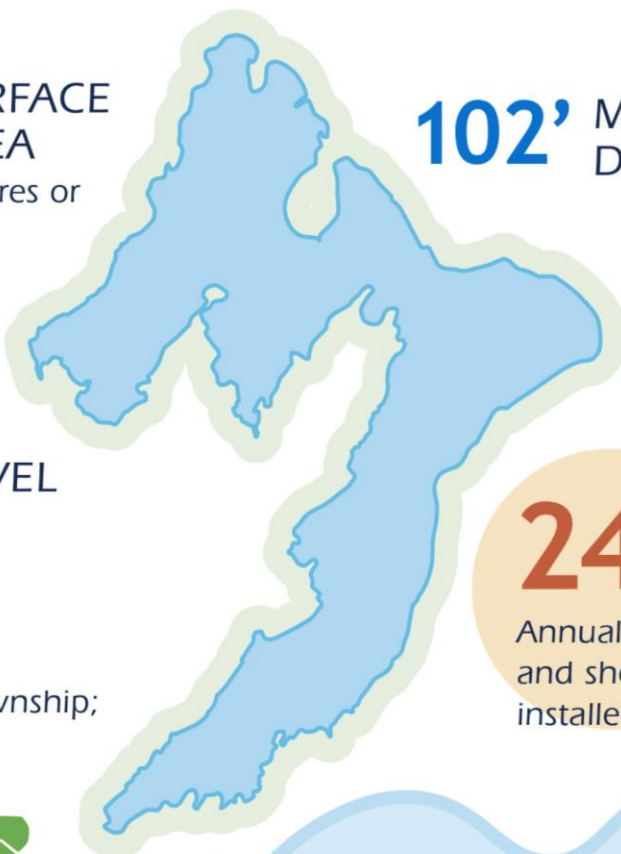
Equivalent to 2507 acres or 1014.5 hectares

102' MAXIMUM DEPTH

34' AVERAGE DEPTH

30 km PERIMETER

447' ABOVE SEA LEVEL



24 buoys and markers

Annually a total of 24 buoys and shoal markers are installed to guide boaters.

3 public boat launches

Two in Rideau Lakes township; one in South Frontenac township.



4 beautiful bends in the winding road on the south end of Wolfe Lake—picturesque and a great spot for villagers to jump in after a workday.

#237 Fox Point

A parcel of land identified in the negotiations of the Algonquin Land Claim. The completion of negotiations is expected in 2024. One of the identified parcels in the agreement is #237, a beautiful piece of land at Fox Point on Wolfe Lake.

2 significant tornados



crossed over Wolfe Lake, one biggie in August 2003, and another one in 2021. Both tornados caused damage to many cottages around the lake and uprooted numerous trees.



MAYOR ARIE HOOGENBOOM | GREETINGS

Township of Rideau Lakes



On behalf of the community of Rideau Lakes, I gratefully acknowledge the Wolfe Lake Association for its efforts to save our legendary loons and other wildlife through the initiative to buy back lead tackle. Because Rideau Lakes Township is home to 37 lakes and 868.8 kilometers of shoreline, the preservation and conservation of our waterways are incredibly important for our future. We can all contribute by going through our tackle boxes and “Getting the Lead Out”. I have done this and encourage you to take part!

In 2024, residents and visitors to Wolfe Lake can enjoy the upgrades made last year to the boat launch at the end of Tenth Concession Road, representing an investment of \$80,000.

Recently, we have seen ongoing changes in property values, which continues to cause some concern among residents with regard to annual property tax rates, which are set based on market values. With this in mind, Council delivered on a comprehensive 2024 budget, which demonstrates a commitment to targeted investments in a wide range of community assets. Considering the inflationary pressures in play to

maintain key resources, Council successfully limited the local overall tax rate increase to 4 percent in 2024.

Council continues to support lakefront property owners with private road grants, a Township grant to the Wolfe Lake Association and guaranteed access to services by renewing the Recreation Agreement and the Fire Services Agreement with the Village of Westport.

The Rideau Lakes Lake Association Committee (RLLAC) continues to meet quarterly and provide input to Council on issues of relevance to waterfront property owners. Two examples include updates to the Official Plan and the Sustainable Drainage Project for the enhancement of environmentally sustainable development along the water. Special thanks to Margie Manthey and Greg Wetmore for volunteering as representatives for the Committee.

In closing, have a safe and enjoyable summer on the water. If you have questions at any time, feel free to contact your Mayor and/or Ward Councillors.

Arie Hoogenboom

mayor@rideaulakes.ca | 613-323 0901 (M) | rideaulakes.ca

MAYOR RON VANDEWAL and Team | GREETINGS

Township of South Frontenac



For many of us, summer invokes images of bright sunny days and sparkling waters. But last July,

wildfire smoke from fires in Quebec and Northern Ontario cast a shadow and served as an important reminder we must be prepared for any emergency.

As a municipality, we’ve been updating our emergency management plan, and we are urging residents to do the same. Take time this summer to make an emergency plan and access resources on our website to learn how to protect your property and home from wildfires and other emergencies so you can be prepared.

With summer comes construction season. Watch for crews on Bedford Road and Devil Lake Road as we work to improve roads. Engineering pre-studies will also be completed on Westport Road and Highway 38 with work scheduled for 2025. You can find details on all these projects on our Road Construction page on our website.

This summer, construction will begin on the expansion of our Town Hall offices in Sydenham. If you need to reach us in person, our Finance and

main reception area will be relocating to the Sydenham Library, 4412 Wheatley Street, and our Building and Planning departments will move into temporary office space at the Storrington Centre, 3910 Battersea Road. Council and committee meetings will move to the Storrington Centre starting in September. You can always reach us by phone at 613-376-3027 or by email. Watch our website for updates on the expansion as we grow to better meet our residents’ needs.

In addition to making progress on our Verona Master Housing Plan and Official Plan, we are working on a Climate Change Action Plan. The focus of the plan will be on municipal operations and assets to get our own house in order first, but we know to be successful in addressing climate change, we must harness the ideas and passion of our community. Watch for a survey this summer to share your ideas and input into the plan and future phases.

We encourage you to keep up-to-date on Township news by subscribing to our new monthly newsletter and following us on social media.

We hope you have a fun and safe summer on our roads and waterways.

Ron Vandewal

And councillors Steve Pegrum & Adam Turcotte

rvandewal@southfrontenac.net | 613 376 3027 ext. 2236
southfrontenac.net

KIDS' PAGES | Come and play



Hey, Wolfe Lake kids, we have put together puzzles and much more. Enjoy!

Do you have suggestions for next year's KIDS' PAGES? We are looking forward to hearing your suggestions. BTW, the answers for this page can be found on page 59.

Did you know | Fascinating facts about animals

Learning about animals can be fun, especially those that live around Wolfe Lake. Let's take a closer look at four such wild creatures and discover some fascinating facts about each. Later, you can share what you learned, and ask your friends, "Did you know...?"

Did you know that flying squirrels glow a bright pink colour under ultraviolet light, such as a blacklight? It's true! This natural phenomenon is known as "biofluorescence." Scientists aren't sure why flying squirrels glow in UV light, but think it might help them to attract mates, avoid being caught by owls, or better navigate in snowy conditions.

Did you know that ospreys don't have to drink water? That's because the fish they eat usually supply all the hydration they need. In fact, fish make up more than 99 percent of their diet!

When an osprey catches a fish, it holds it head-first to reduce wind resistance while it flies. No wonder ospreys are nicknamed "fish hawks!"

Did you know that black bears don't hibernate because it's cold? Rather, they do so because of a food shortage in winter. To conserve precious fat stores during hibernation, their body temperature and breathing rate drop, and their heart rate slows to just 10 beats per minute. Also, bears don't eat, drink, pee, or poop during hibernation!

Despite these conservative measures, black bears still lose at least half of their body fat over the winter.

Did you know that most white-tailed deer fawns have around 300 spots? The spots act as camouflage in the sun-dappled forest where their mothers leave them alone between feedings, sometimes for

several hours. This helps avoid attracting predators to the vulnerable newborns. So if you see a fawn curled up by itself, don't worry, Mama deer is usually somewhere close by. Help keep her baby safe by moving along quietly and resisting the temptation to get closer or touch it. Remember: "If you care, leave them there."



Critter riddles 'n giggles

- A. Why don't owls study for tests?
- B. What do you call an eagle on top of a church?
- C. What do you call a wolf that's gone missing?
- D. Why do hummingbirds hum?
- E. What did the deer dress up as on Halloween?
- F. Why was Detective Duck happy?



Fishing Funnies?

1-When I asked my fishing buddy why he wasn't worried during the latest Flu outbreak, he replied,

2-What do you call a bait that doesn't work?

There once was a fish named Chet

Who bragged, "I've not been caught yet!"

Then along came young Chase,

A skilled fishing ace,

And Chet found himself in a net.



Wolfe Lake Kids | Let's *make* nature faces!



This forest-inspired craft is easy and super simple, especially since most of the materials needed are found in nature! It's a fun and creative activity for kids of all ages -- even grownups.



HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED

to get started to make a Nature Face.

- Kid-safe scissors
- Non-toxic craft glue or glue stick
- Cardboard or stiff, heavy poster paper cut into different shapes: oval, round, square, etc.
- A small pail, basket, or bag to carry your nature discoveries in



THIS IS WHAT YOU DO

Now it's time to head out on a nature walk with a grown-up or older sibling. Don't forget your pail or bag! As you stroll along, look for things Mother Nature provides that might make good eyes, noses, mouths, hair, and other fun additions to your Nature Face.

Some suggestions:

- Twigs
- Leaves
- Small stones and pebbles
- Pinecones
- Acorns
- Grass
- Flowers (*but not too many, as some types of wildlife rely on them for food*)



When you get back from your walk, it's **time to design your Nature Face!**

1. Spread out your forest findings around the space where you'll be working.
2. Next, arrange some onto a cardboard cut-out shape to create a face. You might use acorns for eyes, a stone for a nose, etc. *Tip: don't use the glue yet; experiment first, trying out different items for facial features.*
3. Once you're happy with the face you designed, use the glue to firmly secure the parts to the cardboard.
4. Allow your Nature Face to dry before displaying it somewhere special!

We hope you have lots of fun making a bunch of Nature Faces. Will they be happy, sad, scary, or silly? Will they have names? It's all up to you! Just use your imagination!



SOURCE: happyhooligans.ca/nature-faces



Just before we went to press, I hiked up 'Old Bob's' Lookout with my daughter. This beautiful sign was gone.

Good news for hikers (and eco-tourism) in our area

OLD BOB NEEDS MORE FRIENDS



By Anna Rijk

I don't know who Old Bob was, but he has a fine viewpoint above Westport Sand Lake named in his honour. Although this trail is not around Wolfe Lake, it is certainly close by and well worth a hike. Randal Goodfellow, who is a big fan of Old Bob's, lives in Westport and has a maple syrup farm close to Wolfe Lake on Lee Road, knows this trail will become an additional asset to tourism in our area. To attract more hikers, he and other local residents have a vision for the future, aimed at attracting more hikers. It's an absolute delight to meet and chat with this enthusiastic trailblazer.

A while ago, an enthusiastic hiker blogged: "Unfortunately, on my last hike up, I noticed that someone had, once again, taken down the sign at the lookout point. Every time I stop here, I try to reattach it. Needless to say, I never have the proper tools and materials with me. Not that you need to be told there's a view here. It stares you in the face – a magnificent rocky outcrop from which you can enjoy a bird's-eye panorama of the lake and, off to the left, the spires of Westport village. I tried to reattach the sign to the tree with some loose duct tape already hanging there, hoping someone else might attempt a more permanent fix." That someone could very well be Randal Goodfellow. So, why not meet him to have a chat?

"The Rideau Trail already exists, but Old Bob's which is on a side trail to the Rideau Trail is not known to many local people, which is sort of sad. The trailhead is located at the Lions Beach. It has a stunning 180-degree view of Sand Lake. It should be as well-known as Spy Rock at Foley Mountain. But it isn't, and I and others would like to change that."

Randal Goodfellow has been an avid hiker for at least 15 years. He has experience as a long-distance trail walker in Europe and has used the support services that are offered for these trails. What he saw across the pond inspired him to do more here. "In Europe you have trail services. Instead of carrying your own backpack all the way, someone picks up your luggage at the last place you stayed and transport it to your next overnight stop. Walkers only need to carry a day pack, which is wonderful. There is no reason we can't do something like this in our area, and by doing so we will be attracting more hikers and potentially increase tourism."

When Randal Goodfellow and his wife Sharon bought an abandoned farm near Fermoy around a decade ago with a view to producing maple syrup, he became interested in local trails. And, since selling their home in Ottawa last year, he has put in even more time and effort in developing and marketing trails in the Westport area. He is championing Old Bob's because it is such a spectacular lookout just off the Rideau Trail west of Westport. "I truly believe it has potential. Old



Bob's is a large rock surface lookout high up on Sand Lake. It is not a long walk from Westport to Old Bob's and back for those who are not multi-day long-distance trail walkers or even for mountain bike riders."

Goodfellow noted that there are very few long-distance trails in Ontario with support services. "Other than the Bruce Peninsula Trail which has some infrastructure in place to support walkers, there isn't enough out there yet. I see a potential development of a number of service hubs as linked to economic opportunities. Walkers can extend the tourism season. They are active from spring through fall. And there is the possibility of extending the use of the trails for cross-country skiing."

"**The A2A Trail** (Algonquin to Adirondacks Trail) shares part of the Rideau Trail between the Narrows Lock and the 9th Concession. It is the only place where the two trails overlap and Westport is at the heart of this overlap making Westport an ideal trail hub, and of course Old Bob's is located next to this overlap. I feel we need to improve the trails and increase awareness."

It is important to note that Randal is not working alone. Together with four other tourism enthusiasts, he founded the Westport Tourism Group (WTG) last year. WTG has recently been incorporated as a not-for-profit organisation. He clarifies that WTG is not an initiative of the Village of Westport or any other government; it is simply a group of dedicated citizens wanting to do more. The main objective is to help coordinate, facilitate, and market tourism initiatives and activities in the Westport area. "We held a facilitated workshop in late January and another in mid-April to advance things with stakeholders. A report was sent to workshop participants. Anyone who would like to be involved can contact me to get a copy of the report. And, obviously, we do need more volunteers."



"It's important to spread the word about Old Bob's and other hiking possibilities around Westport."

Asked why Old Bob's has been one of WTG's early initiatives, Randal is quick to answer: "Because it is a great local asset that few know about. It can certainly be an early win for Westport, demonstrating how local people and organizations can work together."

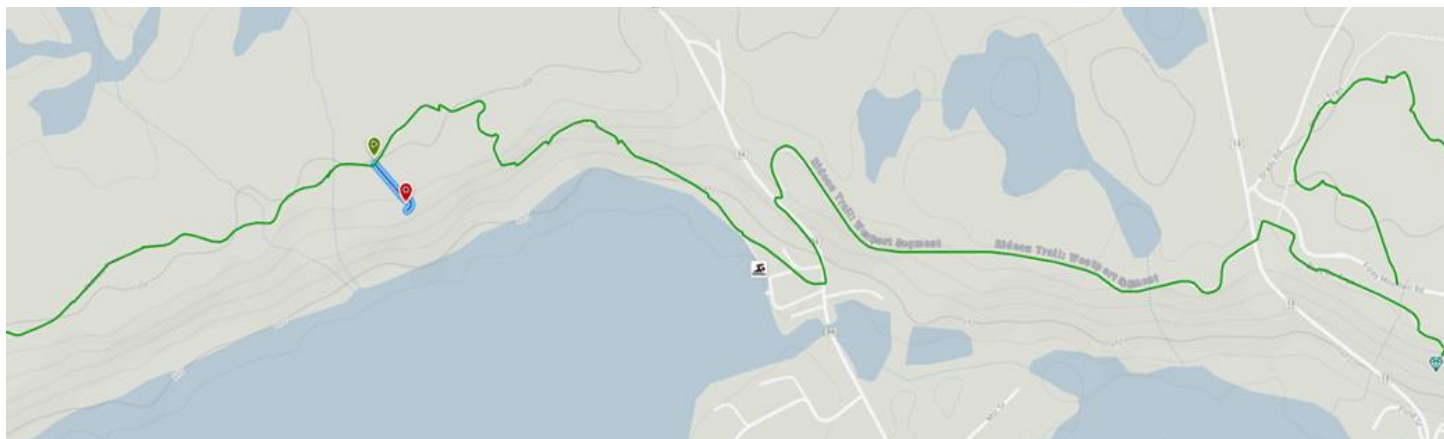
The Village of Westport will be supporting the WTG plans wherever it can. Westport's Official Plan references future nature trails around the Westport Pond to connect Sand Lake and Upper Rideau Lake and identifies other opportunities.

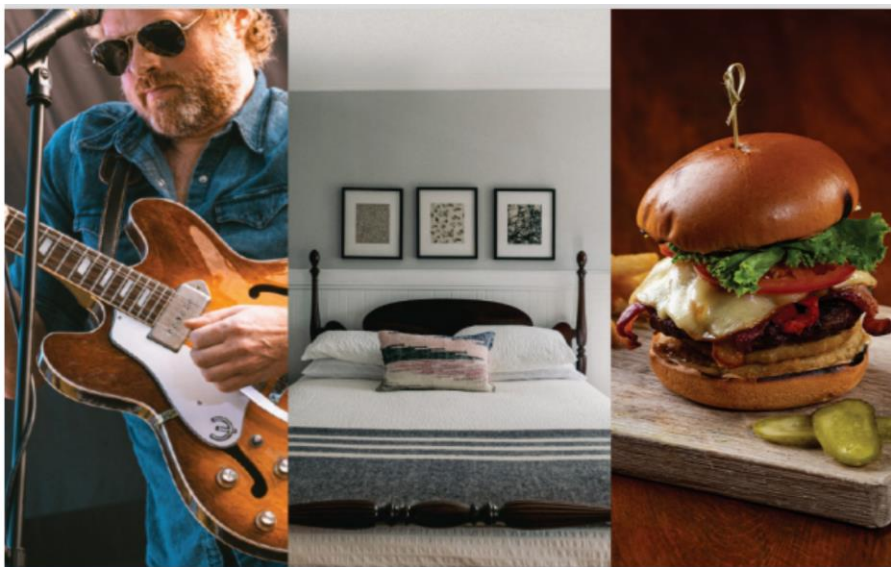
The Village is keen on seeing the development of recreational trail systems to boost tourism in the near future. Currently, Goodfellow and the WTG group are reaching out to partners with a stake in the vision. The Rideau Trail Association and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), the A2A Collaboration, and Friends of Foley Mountain are already on board.

Hikers and bikers can expect WTG activities in the close vicinity of Wolfe Lake. Randal has also set his sights on other potential trails in the area. "The A2A trail goes up Lee Road and then onto McNeil Side Road to Burrigde. Yup, even passing through my own East Slope maple syrup farm."



Stay tuned!"





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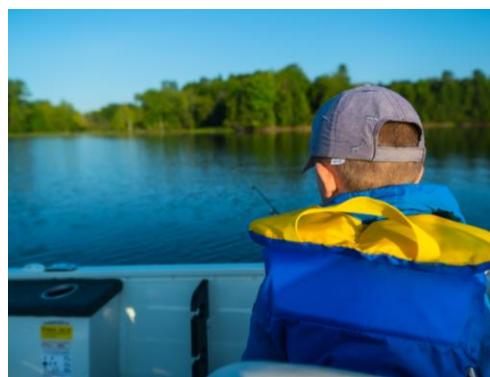
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MANY THANKS to Roy Chisamore, Bill Blaney and Dwight Whitaker for setting out, monitoring and retrieving the orange shoal markers on Wolfe Lake.

Every season we all feel safer on Wolfe Lake thanks to the boat safety services provided by these awesome gentlemen.



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Questions? Email

com-wolfelake@outlook.com.

HEY YOU. YES, YOU! WHY NOT HELP YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION?

We know you love our Wolfe Lake Magazine. But why not do some more than just get up to speed with Wolfe Lake news, and ask how you can help us keep our lake pristine for generations to come. Step up to the plate, become a volunteer and contact us by emailing chrischisamore@hotmail.com.

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LOWERING IMPACT ON OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Westport Lions' Reuse & Recycle sales centre makes a difference

The Westport Lions Club Reuse and Recycle Centre is a shining example of what can be achieved when a community comes together to make a difference. The R&R Sales Centre on Salem Road, just outside Westport, is now in its fourth summer. Bruce Maynard, a Westport Lions Club member, and volunteer Jeanette Harper co-manage the R&R Centre on behalf of the Westport Lions Club. Understanding the need to share local success stories motivated the following article. Great information for Wolfe Lake cottagers, inspiring us to lower our impact on the local environment.

WESTPORT LIONS CLUB WORKING FOR YOU



In the heart of Westport, a small town with a big heart, the Westport Lions Club had a vision to make a difference. They saw the growing problem of landfill waste and the impact it had on their community's environment.

They decided to take action and create a reuse and recycling centre, where locals could bring their unwanted items and materials to be repurposed or recycled.

The centre has quickly become a hub of activity, with volunteers from the Lions Club and the community coming together to sort, clean, and prepare items for resale or recycling. The centre's shelves are

constantly filled and refilled with everything from gently used furniture and lighting to tools and decor items, all waiting to find a new home.

As the centre has grown, so has its impact. The profits from the sales are used to support local needs, such as funding for community programs, scholarships, and even disaster relief efforts. The centre has become a symbol of the community's commitment to sustainability and service.

But the impact doesn't stop there. The reuse and recycling centre also provides a sense of purpose for its volunteers, and brings the community together. It shows that even small actions make a big difference when people work together towards a common goal.

The Westport Lions Club's reuse and recycling centre is a shining example of what can be achieved when a community comes together to make a difference. By supporting this centre, we can all play a role in reducing landfill waste, promoting sustainability, and building a stronger, more compassionate community. Let's work together to make a positive impact, one reusable item at a time!

The Reuse & Recycle Sales Centre is located at 5295 Salem Road, and is open Friday and Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm, April to September, for customers to drop off donations or to purchase or pick up items. Metal and electronic recycling is also available.

Information on what is for sale as well as what is accepted can be found on the Westport Lions Reuse & Recycle Facebook page, where you can also view and

purchase online items.

Call 613-273-5789 for more information or if you are uncertain whether your item can be accepted, or send a private message from their Facebook page. You can count on a fast response.

The R&R Centre accepts metal and electronic recycling items and also offers a great Medical Equipment Loaning Program.

The R&R is an official drop-off location for lead fishing tackle in support of the Wolfe Lake Association's "Let's Get the Lead Out" Program | fishleadfree.ca.



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THE SOUND OF SUMMER: THE HIGH-PITCHED SONG OF THE CICADA

This summer the cicadas are coming

Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

Did you know?

Our American neighbours are expecting massive numbers of periodical cicadas this year, as two different groups – a 13-year brood and a 17-year brood – emerge from their underground burrows at the same time throughout the same part of the eastern U.S. Because insects don’t recognize borders, some of these broods may well appear in our parts of Ontario.

While most periodical cicadas are found south of the border, Canada is home to other species of the flying insect. In our area, the dog-day cicadas – with a life cycle of two to four years – emerge every year on a staggered cycle through the late summer to fall. And you’ll know it when they do!

One of the loudest insects on earth, cicadas emit a loud high-pitched whine, rather like a power saw, that can reach up to 100 decibels – roughly equivalent to a motorcycle or jackhammer. Some people are driven to distraction by the constant buzz; others love the sound.

The cicada’s calls are often called the “song of summer,” as the screeching rarely goes unnoticed. It is technically a mating call. Males have special structures, called tymbals, on the underside of the abdomen. The distinctive sound is created by repeated contraction and relaxation of the tymbals. Each species has its own song. This is how females can identify the correct species of male to mate with.

In any event, there’s no need to be alarmed, as cicadas are harmless.



Jennifer Bailey’s prize-winning Cottage Life picture featured on our cover



Jennifer Bailey (Wetmore) won last year’s Cottage Life Magazine photo contest, and was featured prominently on the 2024 Cottage Life calendar.

Jennifer and her family have a cottage on Wolfe Lake and are members of WLAW. (Her husband Greg Wetmore is a board member as well.) The same photo appears on the cover of this year’s Wolfe Lake Magazine. Jennifer is a skilled photographer. In fact, one of her stunning pictures won first prize in our own PICTURE TIME photo contest way back in 2017. At that time, she won a gift card worth \$70 for a dinner at the Tangled Garden in Westport.

Want to know more about her photography? Visit jenniferbaileyphotography.com or [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/jenniferbaileyphotography). Search for: Jennifer Bailey Photography.



HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES AND DISEASES | *Clean, drain and dry your gear*

By Anna Rijk

Are you planning to take your boat out for a few trips to lakes other than Wolfe? Exploring the region? Don't forget Ontario's 'Clean, Drain and Dry' regulations! all. So important, says Bill Hutchison, one of our long-time WLAW board members, who gladly shares why.

If you're thinking of using your boat in a different body of water in Ontario, it's essential to comply with the law and CLEAN, DRAIN, AND DRY it before switching to a new waterbody.

This practice is crucial in preventing the spread of invasive hitchhikers such as zebra mussels, spiny water fleas, and fragments of aquatic plants. It's also important to check your boat trailer and gear for anything that might be hiding.

Bill Hutchison, one of our longtime Wolfe Lake Association Westport members, brought this topic to our attention. Living in the USA and summering at Wolfe Lake, he recognizes that not everyone is aware of these preventive measures. "I feel that these simple precautions will

help prevent further invasive species from prospering in Wolfe Lake. While not all that common in the United States, the new Ontario regulations (effective since 2022) on boat and bait hygiene are essential to a solid layer of protection for our water system and ecology."

Bill says that "our milfoil issues no doubt came from a dirty boat or bait container. The process of making visitors to our lake aware is a bit challenging, but if each of us does our part then we can help protect what we all enjoy so much."

"Proactivity is essential as we can't rely on governmental enforcement, given the volume of folks who visit our lake to take advantage of our beautiful water and superb fishing."



Ontario boat owners are now required to employ what the province is calling “clean, drain, dry” measures to stem the spread between bodies of water of more than a dozen newly classified aquatic invasive species in the province. The new regulations will impact boaters and

anglers who trail their boats to waterways for recreational activities, including popular annual fishing derbies. “It might be a bit tedious to do, but it is important to do it,” says Bill Hutchison. “And of course, you don’t want to be fined.”

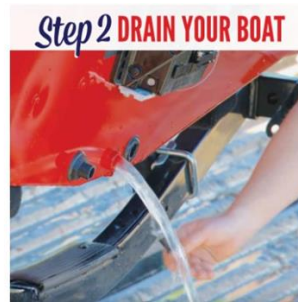
The rules imposed by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry as part of the 2022 revisions of the Invasive Species Act now classify boats, fishing boats, canoes and kayaks as potential carriers of harmful aquatic plants, algae and animals. Want to know more?

Visit: ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-3465, Invasive Species Act, 2015, S.O. 2015, c. 22 - Bill 37 or: invadingspecies.com/invasive-species-act

Picture credits: Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters and Ontario’s Invading Species Awareness Program | Danielle Tassie, and greatlakesscuttlebutt.com.

CLEAN DRAIN DRY | It’s the law

Aquatic invasive species, such as zebra or quagga mussels, can be spread from one waterbody to another on boats or gear that have not been properly cleaned, drained and dried between outings. The adult invasive mussels attach to hard surfaces and can be hard to spot on a watercraft. The microscopic larval forms of these mussels, known as veligers, can survive in standing water in a watercraft for many days. If this standing water is moved into a new waterbody, that waterbody may become infested.



Invasive plants can spread through small fragments attached to gear or to watercraft. Fish diseases, such as whirling disease, can also be spread through mud and water. To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and diseases, always clean, drain and dry all watercraft and gear that touches the water when moving between water bodies.

Prevention

Follow these steps to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and diseases:

Clean

Inspect and clean all watercraft, trailer and gear after every outing. Remove all mud, sand, water and plant traces before leaving the shoreline.

Rinse, scrub or pressure wash your boat, kayak or canoe and gear on dry land away from stormwater drains, ditches or waterways.

Do not use a local carwash - if invasive species are present, you could inadvertently introduce them into the

environment with the water from the carwash.

Drain

On land, before leaving the waterbody, drain all water from:

- 🌀 internal compartments (for example: ballasts, bilges and live wells)
- 🌀 bait buckets
- 🌀 coolers
- 🌀 life jackets and other gear

Raise and lower outboard engines several times to ensure all water has drained out. Drain non-motorized watercraft by inverting or tilting the watercraft, opening compartments and removing seats if necessary.

Pull the plug! It's the law

In Ontario, it is illegal to transport your watercraft with the drain plug still in place. Watercraft users must demonstrate upon inspection that their watercraft has been drained of standing water. Those who fail to comply may be subject to fines ranging from \$100 up to \$2400, depending on the jurisdiction and offence.

Seem like too much trouble?

Well, think about this: by following the ‘CLEAN, DRAIN and DRY’ rules, you are making sure Wolfe Lake stays clean for our grandkids to enjoy when they are grown up.

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Anne Madden's successful goat soap business

MAKING GREAT STUFF OUT OF GOAT MILK

By Anna Rijk



Taking a craft that you're passionate about and turning it into a small business. Now imagine doing that with the help of your spouse and eleven children to back you up. Pretty amazing, right? Well, Anne Madden, who became a member of the Wolfe Lake Association earlier this year, has done exactly that. She started making goat milk soap in 2022, on their farm near Wolfe Lake, and hasn't looked back since.

When Anne is not at her cottage at Wolfe Lake, she is working on her Northern Cross Farm in Burridge. She specializes in a variety of

The addition of other oils, natural colourants and essential oils creates a beautiful, artesian bar of soap that is full of vitamin and minerals.



"I make all my products in my kitchen. The scent from the soaps and essential oils is subtle and lovely."

After working as a Registered Nurse for 45 years, specializing in emergency care at the Kingston Health Sciences Centre hospitals, Anne was forced to abandon her career in healthcare when a trip and fall

Markets. "My husband helps to promote our products and shows the goat so that anyone who wishes can hold, feed, pet and get photos with the goat - a very popular part of our outdoor market experience!"

Northern Cross Farms sells its products locally and internationally throughout Canada and the United States, online (northerncrossfarms.ca), and at a variety of markets. Both Anne and Jim invite you to visit their booth at several spring, fall and Christmas markets in our area. They can be found regularly at the Frontenac Farmers' Market in Harrowsmith on Fridays from May 10th-October 19th between 3-7, and at the Westport Market on Saturdays from Victoria Day weekend to Labour Day weekend, May 18th-August 31st, 9-2.

Anne smiles and says that, while her goat farm isn't anywhere near a real agritourism business yet, their goal is to open the farm to visitors to see their business and meet all their farm animals.

handmade goat milk skincare items and other products, including goat milk and grass-fed beef tallow soaps, shampoo bars, shaving bars, facial bars, foaming liquid soaps, lotions, grass-fed tallow body butters, lip balms and lotion bars.

Anne also offers apothecary items: tick repellent, magnesium cream and sprays, room sprays, herbal salves and balms.

Anne explains the basic process of making goat soaps: "Soapmaking starts with milking the goats, then freezing the milk and blending it with lye.



That mixture is then added to melted grass-fed tallow that I render here on the farm. It is sourced from our cows or local farms here in Eastern Ontario.

resulted in a fractured tibia with torn ligaments. Her desire to succeed in the workplace shifted to a dream of focusing on something completely different. Anne called on her entrepreneurial mindset: "I researched what else I could do, and since we live on a farm, I thought that milking goats and making soaps would be a perfect new venture."

To determine what she would need to start up, Anne turned to books and online research. "We purchased two dairy goats in the spring of 2021 to provide healthy milk. The following spring, we purchased equipment, such as moulds, blenders, whisks, essential oils, a printer and a rack for curing the soaps."

At the time, she had no idea how far her entrepreneurial journey would take her. By the end of the global COVID-19 pandemic, their small business had grown large enough to take a leap of faith and begin attending Farmers'



"You are most welcome to check us out this summer and meet our four-legged family of goats and other farm animals. You can find us in Burridge, at 292 Burridge Road, Godfrey, ON K0H 1T0. Please call ahead of your visit: 613-484-3677."

Anne and Jim's decision has proven to be the right one, and their Northern Cross Farm has grown into a well-run modest venture, one we're delighted to feature in the Wolfe Lake Magazine.

North Shore neighbours working together



Several of Wolfe Lake’s north shore neighbours convened on the morning of June 15th to work on the area’s cottage roadways by trimming branches, weed-eating, smoothing potholes, picking up litter, and more.

Road work was followed by the North Shore Road Association’s (NSRA) annual general meeting and pot-luck picnic — a mix of business, socializing, and delicious food. The exceptional condition of the north shore roadways is largely due to the efforts of the NSRA’s Chairperson, Treasurer, and Road Work Coordinators who devote much time and energy to keeping the cottage roads safe and smooth for travelers.

When property owners collectively rely on an access road to enjoy their properties, it is common for the owners to come together and form a road association. Acting on a voluntary basis, the road association’s elected representatives monitor road conditions during the cottage season. They coordinate necessary, appropriate maintenance (such as gravel delivery and grading) and also communicate with association members. Visit the FOCA website to learn more about the value and formation of road associations.



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LET’S MEET UP IN WESTPORT



For Wolfe Lake cottagers and residents Westport is the ‘go to’ village for just everything. It’s packed with tons of charm and shop after shop of unique finds, a well-stocked grocery store, lots of great restaurants, coffee shops, craft beer bars and ice creameries.

The local shop owners and businesses not only make this town a gem but are also graciously supporting the Wolfe Lake Association Westport. Want to know what is going on this summer?

Find out on www.whatsonwestport.ca. It’s all about community and local business coming together to share, promote and support the events that will be happening this summer.



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On the **hunt** for a **wonderfully** refreshing **dessert**? From Lisa's kitchen | **RHUBARB CUSTARD PIE**

By Lisa Arsenault

You gotta love rhubarb, but, in all honesty, who doesn't? Lisa Arsenault shares another tasty pie recipe: "So yummy, with the perfect balance between tart and sweet. When in season, feel free to add fresh strawberries along with the rhubarb or to use the strawberries as a tasty, pretty garnish when serving." She adds: "Fresh cherries are also an excellent accompaniment to the rhubarb."

WHAT YOU NEED

Custard crust	1 10" unbaked pie
¾ cup sugar	
3 tbsp flour	Streusel Topping
½ tsp orange zest	½ cup quick oats
3 eggs, slightly beaten	¼ cup sugar
½ cup sour cream	¼ cup flour
3½ cup rhubarb	2 tbsp batter

WHAT YOU DO

1. Preheat oven to 375 F.
2. Rub orange zest into sugar, then add in the flour.
3. Blend the eggs and sour cream together, and add the sugar mixture. Blend well. Reserve 2 tbsp.
4. Prepare the streusel topping. Mix together the dry ingredients and then, with a fork, stir in the 2 tbsp of reserved batter until crumbly. Set aside.
5. Stir the rhubarb into the custard batter and pour into the unbaked pie shell.
6. Sprinkle with streusel topping.
7. Bake for 60 minutes.
8. Slice with a knife to serve.

TIPS

- 🌀 9" frozen pie shell from the store: the ingredients will just fit. Put the pie plate on a pan or baking sheet to catch the little bit of dripping that will likely occur.
- 🌀 Frozen rhubarb: bake an extra 15 minutes.



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Please contact Anna Rijk at com-wolfelake@outlook.com for more information on advertising in next year’s edition.

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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS | Kids' pages

Hey guys, did you get stuck on this year’s puzzles at all? If so, here you’ll find the solutions to Critters Riddles and Fishing Funnies. Just turn the magazine around to find them.

CRITTERS RIDDLES AND GIGLES: A. They prefer to wing it! B. A bird of pray. C. A where wolf! D. Because they forgot the words. E. A cart-boo! F. He finally quaked the case. **FISHING FUNNIES:** 1. Because I never catch anything! 2. A fall-lure!



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