

WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION

Magazine

Summer, 2019

LOW WATER LEVELS

What is next?

SCANLAN CREEK | WALLEYE:

Spawning bed restoration project

TACKLING EURASIAN MILFOIL

Makers' Corner:

HOOKED ON THE LAKE

NEWS & UPDATES

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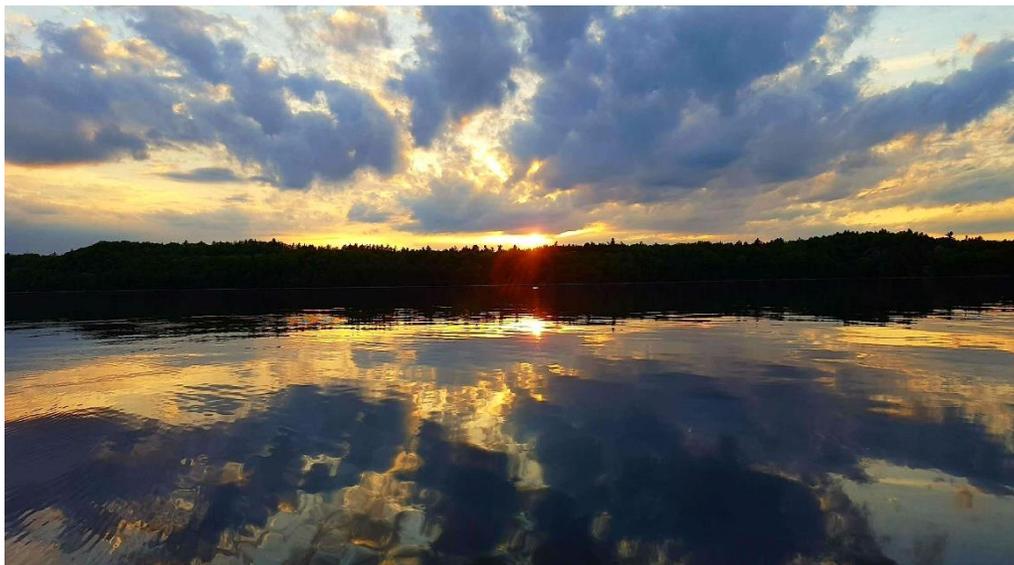
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WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION Magazine

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SPRING 2019

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Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association

Who we are and what we do!

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association is run by a volunteer executive, voted in at the Annual General Meeting. Our executive team works for you to ensure good governance, to shape and run all our initiatives, while 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, to provide information on the environmental aspects of cottage life and how we could improve our environment and the quality of our lake water. We inform you about water quality, and invasive species, such as the growth of Eurasian water milfoil. We encourage our members to reduce (noise-) pollution and to introduce possible measures to prevent and reduce (noise-) pollution. We strive to 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 e-mail News Flash, with brief updates and news to be shared throughout the year. Feel free to get in touch with our 2019 executive team:

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**WOLFE LAKE
(WESTPORT)
ASSOCIATION
Magazine**

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WHAT'S INSIDE

Prepped for cottage season 2019?

Of course, you are! Just in case, if not yet, with this edition of Wolfe Lake Magazine, you will be totally ready for a new summer, fall and even the winter season (although we understand that winter is not yet on your mind). Congratulations to the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association team, who have been inspiring us throughout the year by volunteering. The content of the Wolfe Lake Magazine reflects all the work that we keep ourselves busy with for the greater good of the lake and its environment. We are ready to start another enjoyable, safe and long cottage season. Together with you!

Whether you are at the lake for a few weeks, or driving up on the weekends, or enjoying a long summer as a permanent resident at the lake, we've made sure this issue is chock-full of relevant information. It's all stuff you want to read about, because it will help you to get to know your community, it'll help you to recognize the things that are important to all of us, and things the association is working for. We report on our activities and events; from AGM news to a story of our annual Fall Walk, it's all in here.

The lake is our passion and is what binds us together. We all want to preserve the beauty of Wolfe Lake, take care of its environment, the shores and the water. And we all want to know what is going on. That is why we are offering more content than last year! To start off, the Bresee family, farming on the Eastern shores of the lake, give us a glimpse of their lives, past and present. John and Cynthia Pringle, owners of Jake by the Lake and the Country Coffee House, are answering the FOUR QUESTIONS. Members Betty-Jo McDougall and Charlie Wiseman share their favourite moments at the lake.

We have an update on the hunting proposal for cormorants and a short piece on the emergency preparedness of the town of Westport. We also think it would be useful to remind you on the changes of towing bill of rights.

Peter Neve has put together an overview of the Eurasian water milfoil eradication, as well as an update on this invasive species, which continues to concern us. Daniel Spitzer, the water quality guy, weighs in on possible problems Eurasian water milfoil, in both the article dedicated to this water plant as well as in his water quality report. Anna Rijk created a new department called MAKER'S CORNER, that informs you how creative people in our area are inspired by the nature around us. Loretta Moore is the first one to be featured with her artistic rug hooking.

Again, we dedicate two pages for our children and grandchildren, and we organized our photo contest PICTURE TIME! Lastly, and perhaps most exciting of all, you'll read all about the new Scanlan Creek project. The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association is partnering with the Westport Area Outdoor Association, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Camp IAWAH to improve spawning areas for walleye. Margie Manthey, who is the project lead, worked hard to make this all happen. She presents background information and informs you about the most recent developments in keeping a healthy walleye habitat.

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association's team hope you will be reminded of what you love about the lake and be inspired by what you'll read and see in this edition of Wolfe Lake Magazine We do need your support going forward. Any time, with anything!

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association's Team (you can find all of us on page 4)

PS We'd love to hear your thoughts on what you like (or don't like) about our Magazine. Email us at com-wolfelake@outlook.com



AGM 2019 You're invited

We will hold our Annual General Meeting at the Lions Club Beach House on Saturday July 20, 2019 at the Lion's Beach Clubhouse (Sand Lake). We hope that you'll join us from 9:30 am – 12:00 noon and share your thoughts and concerns. We will inform you of new and existing projects. And you can re-new your membership at the registration table.

This meeting is for the purpose of receiving the main topics of 2018, the financial statements for the period of 2018, communications updates, and electing a new president, a water quality director, a membership director and possibly appointing volunteers for various smaller projects.

The meeting is also a great way to meet new and old friends around the lake and for friendly conversation.

Why not bring your neighbours, or other cottagers and full-time residents who haven't (yet) been involved in the work of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association?

We'll welcome you all and are looking forward to seeing you there. If you have questions before attending, please feel free to contact us any time at:



WOLFE LAKE | IN BRIEF



WOLFE LAKE ROAD BOAT LAUNCH GETS MUCH NEEDED FACELIFT

The Township of Rideau Lakes will be making much needed improvements to the boat launch at the end of Wolfe Lake Road (Concession 10). Over the last number of years, the boat launch has deteriorated. This issue was brought up at the most recent AGM of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association, where Ron Holman, the former mayor of the Rideau Lakes Township was present. Both Bill Garland (vice-president) and Peter Neve (treasurer) followed up with the municipality. A budget of \$5000 was approved at a township meeting earlier this year.

RIDEAU LAKES TOWNSHIP SUPPORTS ACTIVITIES OF LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

The Township of Rideau Lakes recently established a Lake Association Program that grants some lake association activities supporting the improvement and protection of lake eco-systems to maximize the enjoyment and use, by residents, of lakes in the Rideau Lakes Township. This is good news for our association! It is important to stress that grants will be based on membership count of lake associations; meaning more members results in a larger grant. Each association is allocated a base of \$300 plus \$10 per association member. So now it is more important than ever that all Wolfe Lake cottage property owners are members of our association. Make sure that your neighbours are members also. More details to come at the upcoming AGM on July 20 at the Lion's Beach Clubhouse on Sand Lake. See also Mayor Arie Hoogenboom 'Greetings' on page 17.

NEW COUNCILS OF OUR TWO TOWNSHIPS

New councils were introduced after the municipal elections were held on October 22, 2018. They're installed for the period 2018 – 2020. In South Frontenac, at the Inaugural Meeting of Council - December 4, 2018, Ron Vandewal is Mayor, with councilors Norm Roberts, Ray Leonard, Alan Revill, Randy Ruttan, Ross Sutherland, Doug Morey, Pat Barr and Ron Sleeth. In Rideau Lakes we have been introduced to mayor Arie Hoogenboom and councilors Carolyn Bresee, Cathy Livingston, Jeff Banks, Marcia Maxwell, Joan Delaney, Claire Gunnewiek, Bob Lavoie and Ron Pollard. You can find their contact info on the websites of South Frontenac and Rideau Lakes (websites can be found on pages 17 & 18 below the greetings of both mayors.)

VIA RAIL STATION PERTH STILL A POSSIBILITY?

How about picking up your guests at a Perth Railways Station? A new, electric VIA Rail corridor starting in Peterborough could connect Perth and Smiths Falls. That would be great news for our community. How feasible things are at this point? Perth Mayor John Fenik feels the Perth station is still on the radar, but subject to funding from the federal government. On the other hand, Paul Langan, president of High-Speed Rail Canada, seems to be less convinced. Just before Wolfe Lake Magazine went to print, we asked reporter Desmond Devoy of the Perth Courier who is following the story closely for updates. Desmond: "Although the mayor is very much in favour of having a station back in town, preliminary maps presented by VIA RAIL do not show Perth having its own station on the proposed new line". For us, there's the VIA RAIL station in Smith Falls to use.



EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL | A NASTY INVADER

By Anna Rijk & Peter Neve

“Eurasian water milfoil is a huge problem in Ontario lakes. The spread and density of the invasive bottom vegetation species seem to increase each year. Wolfe Lake is no exception,” said Daniel Spitzer, our water quality director. “It was first observed in Ontario in 2007, according sources. Soon after the first sighting of the invader, it was also detected in Wolfe Lake.” Daniel shares a few facts about this invasive water plant which has seriously started to bother our lake community. Nobody likes Eurasian water milfoil; it hinders swimmers and boaters, and it can even be dangerous.

Daniel, “as I frequently paddle, windsurf and sail along our shores and across the lake, I’ve noticed all kinds of water plants in many locations and not only in the bays. I am using the underwater camera, WLA purchased two years ago, kindly funded by FOCA, for the purpose of taking pictures in and above the water to record the milfoil spread.”

Zombie plant

The Eurasian water milfoil has been nicknamed the ‘zombie plant’ because parts of it can detach from the root system, be transported to a new site and come back to life as a new plant.

Understanding the threat

In the ‘2019 Spring Reports of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development to the Parliament of Canada regarding Aquatic Invasive Species’, the independent auditor’s report mentions that ‘Eurasian water milfoil is an aquatic invasive plant of concern. It is already established in many provinces and is at risk of spreading to other parts of Canada. It can compete aggressively with native plants

and reduce biological diversity and water quality. As it decomposes, it can lower oxygen levels in the water, killing fish.’ Those words should warn us of the harm of Eurasian water milfoil.

Daniel tells us that the species can grow in water from one to 10 meters deep and spreads easily, especially when it’s been cut into small pieces. “And that is exactly what can happen (and may have already happened) in our lake. If people cut milfoil and let it freely float, instead of harvesting and bringing it to shore and compost. As Wolfe Lake attracts many boaters and fishermen from other areas, Eurasian water milfoil may have been introduced in our lake by motorboats with ‘polluted’ propellers.” Daniel emphasizes that it is important to clean boats, propellers, fishing equipment and boat trailers, specifically when boating in multiple lakes.

Currents help to prevent milfoil contamination

Eurasian water milfoil doesn’t easily root in streaming water. Currents help prevention of milfoil contamination of the shores. That’s why it’s important that cottage owners, who are blessed with having currents along their waterfronts, keep the water streaming and remove any objects (dead trees, branches) that could disturb the free flow. “Referring to the Commissioner’s Report, once the milfoil is rooted and spread in a lake, it is virtually impossible to eradicate the alien plant over larger areas such as bays. The invasive vegetation chokes the native vegetation and yes, it can have an enormous impact on aquatic conditions, fish habitat and on recreational use of the lake shores.”

SEE ALSO DANIEL’S REPORT ON WATER QUALITY ON PAGE 29 & 30



EURASIAN MILFOIL | METHODS OF ERADICATION

What are the possibilities?

At Wolfe Lake, the presence and spread of Eurasian water milfoil are on the top of our minds. Basically, there are four ways that deal with - some level - of eradication of the invasive species, as described below by Peter Neve, our treasurer. Peter is referring to a relevant study performed at the University of Vermont. Daniel Spitzer, water quality director, has been monitoring the plant growth for several years now and has collected satellite imagery that show overall growth. In the recent past, the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association ran two pilot water milfoil eradication projects initiated by Paul Thompson. One project dealt with eradication of the bottom vegetation by hungry weevils. The other method used underwater blowers that aerate the infested water area, which claims to be unfavourable for milfoil growth. The weevil method seemed to have worked, but the company where we bought the weevils, doesn't sell these critters anymore.

① One way to eradicate milfoil is by natural predators of the Eurasian milfoil can be introduced into contaminated areas. These species thrive on destroying the weed, but don't affect the ecological environment of the native species. The weevil is a herbivore insect that eats milfoil and appeared to be extremely effective in ridding ponds and lakes in Vermont, New England (USA) as well as in other states. It has been found most effective in cold weather climates. In our lake, the pilot was successful as well, but the project was small in scale.

② The second way of ridding our water systems from Eurasian water milfoil is through chemical control. Herbicides control and kill the milfoil, however their application is not only expensive but can also be extremely harmful to the native species with two small test areas located on the western side of Wolfe Lake.

③ Swimming and dock surround areas can be controlled using **water blankets** that are laid along the bottom of the lake (usually 100-200 sq. m.) and will kill that area of milfoil. This process takes about 4 weeks and the 'blanket' can be relocated to an adjacent area and the process repeated. More info at www.lakebottomblankets.com. Also, the **use of a biodegradable jute material** to eradicate invasive aquatic macrophytes has been proven. The use of burlap for larger areas was tested on an invasive aquatic plant in lake Ridley de Lough Corrib (Caffrey et al., 2010). The study found that burlap, unlike a geotextile fabric, is biodegradable and allows native plants to grow through: www.block-aid.ca. This method has been tested in Canada as well. Find out more: www.chga.fm/resultats-de-letude-au-lac-pemichangan and www.lacquenouille.ca/documents/MAE-EWM/MAE-enchiffre-English-2015-11.pdf.

④ Finally, the fourth way of alleviating the problem is through manual removal of the plant, and we have seen this at Wolfe Lake as well. The Eurasian milfoil can be either pulled out or cut with a machine and removed from water; however, this solution will not last very long because milfoil grows very rapidly, and it is virtually impossible to remove all the plants in this manner. For this to be effective it must be repeated all summer long. It is very important than any such effort undertaken be accompanied by a plan to carefully remove all harvested plants from the water and not allow the plants to float away to become someone else's problem. Such an action will result in more plant growth and increased infestation. Eurasian milfoil prefers shallow water one to three meters deep but can root in up to 10 meters of water. A fast-growing perennial, it forms dense underwater mats that shade other aquatic plants. When large stands begin to die off in the fall, the decaying plants can reduce oxygen levels in the water. The plant can interbreed with native milfoils, creating a more aggressive form of the invasive species. Because tiny plant pieces can develop into new plants, Eurasian water-milfoil is easily spread when water currents, boat propellers, trailers or fishing gear carry plant fragments to new areas



EURASIAN MILFOIL IS MUCH MORE THAN AN AQUATIC NUISANCE
It's difficult to get rid of

Eurasian Milfoil is an aquatic nuisance that first entered the United States over fifty years ago (Phillips 1997). Today, the dense growth of Eurasian milfoil makes it difficult for native species to survive. It is considered the worst aquatic weed in the United States and Canada and has been accounted for in lakes in over 40 states and provinces. While getting rid of the pest is nearly impossible, controlling it is the goal.

STEPS TO HELP PROTECT WOLFE LAKE

- AVOID INFESTED AREAS OR REDUCE YOUR SPEED WHEN BOATING NEAR EURASIAN WATER-MILFOIL INFESTATIONS. YOUR PROPELLER CAN BREAK OFF FRAGMENTS AND SPREAD THE PIECES TO NEW AREAS. NEW PLANTS CAN GROW FROM SMALL PIECES OF THE PLANT.
- IF YOU HARVEST, REMOVE ALL DISPLACED VEGETATION FROM THE LAKEBED.
- IF YOU TRAVEL BETWEEN LAKES TO FISH, BE SURE TO CLEAN YOUR WATERCRAFT BEFORE RE-LAUNCHING AND SUGGEST SAME TO VISITING BOATERS



THE WEBSITE OF ONTARIO'S INVADING SPECIES AWARENESS PROGRAM is another great source on milfoil:
www.invadingspecies.com/eurasian-water-milfoil

Our lake association is working for you

To introduce the directors of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association, we present both familiar names as well as the new members of our team. The full listing of our board can be found on page 4 and on our website www.wolfelakeassociation.org



LES KOM

VOLUNTEERS AS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR SINCE 2016, WHILE ALSO ASSISTING WITH

MAGAZINE ADVERTISING SALES. HE GREW UP IN MONTREAL AND WHEN HIS PARENTS RENTED A COTTAGE ONE WINTER, IT BECAME A DREAM TO HAVE A COTTAGE ONE DAY. WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY CAME TO PURCHASE LAND ON BEAUTIFUL WOLFE LAKE, HIS AGENT PRAISED THE LAKE ASSOCIATION. LES AND HIS FAMILY LOVE THE PRISTINE ENVIRONMENT, WATER SPORTS, READING ON THE DOCK, GARDENING, AND WINTER QUIET IN FRONT OF A CRACKLING FIRE. IT'S ALL ABOUT A YEAR-LONG PEACEFUL EXPERIENCE.

Member since 2012



DANIEL SPITZER

STARTED TO VOLUNTEER AS A WATER QUALITY DIRECTOR IN 2014. HE LIVES IN OTTAWA WITH

HIS WIFE ANNA. DANIEL SPENT A LARGE PART OF HIS CAREER AS AQUATIC SCIENTIST. HE HAS THEORETICAL AS WELL AS HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IN LIMNOLOGY (LAKE SCIENCE). HE LOVES WINDSURFING AND CANOEING. YOU CAN FREQUENTLY SPOT DANIEL AND ANNA MONITORING THE SHORE LINES, THE WATER AND MILFOIL GROWTH FROM THEIR GOOD OLD CANOE. THEIR 5 KIDS AND 7 GRANDKIDS ENJOY COMING TO THE COTTAGE AND SPENDING PRECIOUS FAMILY TIME AT THE LAKE.

Member since 2010



GORD MOORE

HAS BEEN VOLUNTEERING AS A DIRECTOR SINCE HE MOVED HERE FULL

TIME FROM MONTREAL AFTER RETIRING IN 2010. GORD SERVED THREE YEARS AS TREASURER AND MOST RECENTLY AS DIRECTOR AT LARGE, ASSISTING WITH MANY ASSOCIATION'S TASKS. HE ENJOYS GOLFING AND BOATING WITH LORETTA, HIS WIFE, ON WONDERFUL WOLFE LAKE. IN THE WINTERTIME GORDS CURLS AT THE PERTH RINK. HE IS ALSO CONSTANTLY BUSY HELPING LORETTA WITH HER CREATIVE RUG HOOKING BUSINESS (SEE ALSO MAKERS'S CORNER ON PAGE 41). ALL IN ALL: NEVER A DULL MOMENT!

Member since 2005

WOLFE LAKE VISION: A VALUABLE DOCUMENT, SOME TLC IS NEEDED

New membership survey can be expected | Last one held in 2009



The Lake Vision document describes the current state of Wolfe and Green Lakes, presents an overview of the activities of the association and shares a vision of our lake community and environment: what they are and what they can be. It's a resourceful document, carefully drafted the association's team but some updating will be needed to tackle potential, (near) future issues, in our lake community.

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association is a volunteer organization initially formed in **1988** "for the protection of Wolfe Lake." As most people are aware, the mandate of our association is to maintain and enhance the natural beauty and pristine state of Wolfe and Green Lakes, to protect their natural areas, fish and wildlife and to promote their welfare. The association provides information on environmental issues, working to prevent pollution, improve fishing and ensure responsible development, and assisting in the conservation and protection of the lake waters, shoreline, vegetation and wildlife.

The membership survey, in 2009, and ongoing discussions revealed a general consensus about the need to preserve the natural beauty of our lakes as a refuge from the sometimes-hectic pace of our urban environment. This brings us to two high-level objectives of the association: **1)** Foster a strong lake community, and **2)** Monitor and act on issues that threaten the sustainable enjoyment and health of our lakes and surroundings. The hope and expectation are that these objectives stand the test of time in the coming and going of volunteers in the association. The plan of the present team is to organize a new membership survey and – as a result – update the Lake Vision document. You can read the current report on www.wolfelakeassociation.org/2013/07/02/lake-vision-document-published

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have (some) experience with designing surveys and interested in helping us to shape up a new membership survey and reporting the results? Contact **Anna** at com-wolfelake@outlook.com



LOTS OF PUSHING AND PULLING NEEDED TO GET THE BOAT AFLOAT

CONCERNS OF LOW WATER LEVELS CONTINUE **AGM**

By Anna Rijk

All of us are weary of the low water levels in our lake each summer and fall. Boats are sitting high and dry on their ramps, and docks seem to be too high above the water, once August hits. Even more worrisome is that it creates unsafe boating conditions. The issue was discussed at recent Annual General Meetings of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association, as well as at association team meetings. We voiced our concerns to all members and asked all to echo these concerns to relevant contacts on federal levels. Some of us did! So now what? We recently talked with Parks Canada to help us to seek solutions. Going forward, the association might have to come up with other ideas to make our voice heard.

Parks Canada/Rideau Canal staff presented their work managing the Rideau Canal Water and answered questions at the 2017 AGM. That was an informative session. We learned that Parks Canada is responsible for the dam's operation and water levels of the Upper Rideau and that they alter water levels of reservoirs keeping in consideration public safety, the environment, fishery and navigation along the Rideau Canal, from Kingston to Ottawa. We also got confirmation that Parks Canada is guided by old legislation and manages only the lakes involved in the original design. It became clear that Sand Lake isn't part of their control system. The flow-over dam

at Sand Lake was put in by the Province of Ontario. We also got the impression that the two organisations don't seem to communicate with each other.

Unsafe boating

Last summer (2018) a lot of folks around the lake were annoyed by the removal of too many logs from the dam because it was a major contributor to low water levels. In addition, to reducing our enjoyment of waterfront properties and contributing to lower property values, the low water levels created unsafe boating.



The conditions could result in serious injury or even death to residents and visitors to our lake that are unaware of the hazards.

The Association kept on monitoring the logs at the dam, and asked its members to take action by sending letters to appropriate officials, such as The Honourable Catherine McKenna, federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Ms. Jewel Cunningham, Director of Ontario Waterways, Parks Canada, Ms. Valerie Dewinter, the Engagement, Partnering and Communications office, Parks Canada at the Smith Falls office and Mr. Colin Clarke, Water Management manager, Parks Canada at the Elgin office. **Ilse and Hubert Zandstra, Margie Neve, Daniel Spitzer, Paul Thomson, Anna Rijk** shared their letters with the Association. Maybe others did as well.

A bit later in the season, it was around August 18 (2018), we noticed replacements of the boards at the dam. That was certainly good news, although we were disappointed Parks Canada drained our lake for such a long period of time. Equally disappointing was the answer we received from Parks Canada (August 2, 2018) by Ms. Valerie Dewinter.

“Unfortunately, during dry, hot periods, there is very little that can be done to maintain water levels across the system. Conservation during drought conditions is paramount and the effects are also being felt on the southern portion of the Rideau Canal which is currently operating with a reduced boating depth. It is also important to note, that water passing through the lock system does not play a significant role in water levels on the Rideau Canal and lake levels can be dramatically affected by evaporation. Water updates, as well as lake level information, can be found online on our Water Management InfoNet, available here <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/on/rideau/info/infonet>. During times of drought conditions, it is essential for boat operators to practice safe boating and to be aware of the local conditions, including low levels and underwater hazards in their lakes. During dry periods, such as these, it can reasonably be expected that water levels will be lower than normal, and that extreme caution should be exercised.”

Q & A WITH PARKS CANADA’S OPERATIONS MANAGER

Recently we asked Scott Tweedie, the current Manager of Operations, Parks Canada a few questions, to give his thoughts on our water level issues.

① Is Parks Canada working on a review and update of their mandate and governing legislation. At the AGM presentation in

2017 it was mentioned that this might be happening. Scott Tweedie: “Parks Canada is not currently undertaking a review of our Agency mandate. However, a review of the Rideau Canal National Historic Site Management Plan is currently underway. The Management Plan provides guidance and direction on the management and appropriate use of historic canals: it is a roadmap for how Parks Canada will deliver its integrated mandate of protection, experience and education. Public consultations on this document are tentatively planned for the late spring: details will be updated on our website and communicated to stakeholders once available.”

② Until what time can Parks Canada justify that their only concern with regards to our water levels is the navigation on the canal and the upholding contractual agreement to provide water to the Gananoque Power and Light ‘s generating dam at the Kingston Mills locks?

Scott Tweedie: “Although the Rideau Canal was initially designed and used for navigation, today the system requirement is to sustain navigation, protect cold water fisheries, provide recreational opportunities that support significant economic benefits and mitigate flood events. The knowledge that supports operational decisions on the canal today is based on over 150 years of operational experience. This historical knowledge is combined with present day monitoring and analysis of inflows using multiple hydrological parameters, including snowpack amount, snow melt rate, rainfall amounts and current water levels in the system. During hot periods, evaporation can also cause significant water loss. The challenge of managing these multiple considerations has been significantly complicated by recent growth in shoreline infrastructure. Wolfe Lake is located in the Rideau Watershed. The power generation plants owned by Energy Ottawa (formally Gananoque Light and Power) are in the Cataraqui Watershed. Water from Wolfe Lake flows downstream to Upper Rideau Lake then north to the Ottawa River and therefore is not used for hydro-electric generation by Energy Ottawa at Kingston Mills.”

③ Why does Parks Canada neglect the interest of the residents and cottagers around Wolfe Lake, who are left with lower water levels each year and thus presenting us with unsafe boating conditions, and their enjoyment of having a waterfront property taken away.

Scott Tweedie: “Lake levels can vary year to year depending on the amount of precipitation received. Normally, levels are higher during a wet year and lower during a dry year. In 2018, the entire Rideau region experienced dry conditions during the months of May, June



and July which resulted in lower water levels throughout the Rideau Canal lakes. In these circumstances, our goal is to ensure an equitable impact on all connecting lakes in the Rideau Canal system. For Wolfe Lake the next connecting lake managed by Parks Canada is Upper Rideau Lake. During the driest stretch in June and July water levels on Wolfe and Upper Rideau were managed to ensure that the deviation from their seasonal norms were similar.

It's important to remember that as with all lakes in the Rideau Watershed, the water level on Wolfe Lake is subject to precipitation and evaporation over the course of the summer season. Water management decisions are focused on maintaining water levels to ensure an equitable impact on all connecting lakes in the Rideau Canal system during early to mid-summer. However, similar to other lakes on the Rideau system during the late summer and early fall season Wolfe Lake is gradually drawn down to prepare for winter precipitation and refilled during the spring freshet."

④ Would Parks Canada be interested in communicating with the Province of Ontario and start working on a solution satisfying for all involved, including the residents and cottagers of Wolfe Lake?

Scott Tweedy: "Our water management team maintains regular communication with the Ontario MNRF who operates the control structures at Westport Sand Lake and Westport Pond. Flow adjustments made at Wolfe Lake are communicated to MNRF to assist them with their water management decisions downstream. Water levels on Wolfe Lake are not impacted by water management decisions made by MNRF and Parks Canada has no authority over the management of water levels in Westport Sand Lake or Westport Pond.

A different approach dealing with low water levels

The Directors of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association have learned through research about the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow. The Coalition for Equitable Water Flow, (CEWF), is a coalition of 32 Member Lake Associations which represents 91 percent of the Trent

Severn Waterway's (TSW's) reservoir lake storage capacity and covers the sub-watersheds of the Gull, Burnt & Mississauga rivers plus Nogies, Eel's & Jack's creeks. In total, the Coalition represents the interests of 35,000+ shoreline property owners in the "Haliburton Sector" of the Trent watershed, which includes 35 reservoir and several flow through (RaFT) lakes in Haliburton County and northern Peterborough County. The CEWF was originally formed in 2006 to provide input to the Panel on the Future of the Trent Severn Waterway in 2007. Since then, the mandate has evolved to provide effective liaison between the Coalition members and the TSW on issues of water conservation and management. The Coalition is led by an eight-member Executive Committee.

At the December 2018 meeting of the Board it was decided that we would reach out to the CEWF for information and advice with a view to (potentially) working to form a similar organization involving cottage associations along the Rideau Canal. Past President Paul Thompson has offered to begin that work and will provide further information at the AGM in July 2019.



WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION
News Flash | July 26, 2018

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT THE LOW WATER LEVEL DUE TO THE COMPLETE REMOVAL OF THE LOGS FROM THE DAM ON WOLFE LAKE?

Take action and contact the influentials below

Your association has spoken several times with Parks Canada (they control the dam for the operation of the Rideau Canal) without satisfactory results.

In addition to very much reducing our enjoyment of water front properties and contributing to lower property values, the low water level creates unsafe boating conditions as it exposes water hazards not usually present and could result in serious injury or even death to residents or visitors to our lake that are unaware of those

From our treasurer

The association is financially solid in that the membership of 105 paid subscriptions and the revenue from advertising in our magazine should continue to support the annual lake husbandry activities undertaken. Activities targeting lake cleanliness, invasive species control and water quality remain high on the funding priorities of the board and can be funded from our existing financial position. Going forward we do not anticipate any adverse events and we do have reserve protecting against that possibility. The financial report of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association can be found on www.wolfelakeassociation.org.

Peter Neve

From our fishing director

Our last AGM was chock full of fishing-related news and topics, including an announcement about the installation of 3 monofilament fishing line recycling units on Wolfe Lake; clarification of whether the launch at the end of Hannah Road was a private or public site (it's public); concerns relating to the poor condition of the boat launch ramp at the 10th Concession roadway and potential plans to improve it; a brief summary of spring and early summer fishing, where it was noted that some sizeable bass and walleye had been caught; encouragement that the walleye slot size regulation continues to improve the quantity and quality of Wolfe Lake's walleye; a review of good catch and release ethics and practices; an informative and interesting slide presentation by Don Goodfellow (Westport Area Outdoor Association) about the Westport jar hatchery's endeavors to collect and hatch walleye eggs and stock the growing fingerlings into Sand Lake. Also, the Scanlan Creek project was introduced (see page 21 for more details.).

Margie Manthey

AGM

AGM 2018 | In pictures

AGM



ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ROUND GOBIES | MORE #INVASIVE SPECIES



The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority is warning for another invasive species! These ones can wreak havoc on the local ecosystem. A routine fish salvage exercise last fall on the Rideau Canal at Edmonds Locks (Smith Falls) found a new and unwelcome species in the Rideau River: round gobies.

These unwelcome species are competing with native fish, eating their eggs and young. Their aggressive eating habits and ability to spawn several times each season have helped them multiply and spread quickly.

Have you spotted round gobies in Wolfe Lake, the Rideau Canal or the watershed. Contact #ONenvironment.

For more information about invasive species in Ontario or to report a new sighting visit www.eddmaps.org/ontario or call the Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711. And please inform us when you see them, e.g. at the upcoming AGM or email: com-wolfelake@outlook.com

Source: www.rvca.ca, ontario.ca and Ontario Outdoors Magazine.



WOLFE LAKE FACTS & FOLKLORE

The Bresee family farms at the shores of Wolfe Lake

By Anna Rijk

Gone are the days where we saw farmers milking cows and plowing small plots of land on the shores of Wolfe Lake. But wait, there's still a farm up and running. The family farm of Gary and Joy Bresee sits on a small hill, right at the beginning of Concession 12 (Hanna Road), just off Westport Road. Driving by, or canoeing along the Eastern shore, you can hear their cows mooing. Time for an enjoyable chat with an extremely friendly and welcoming couple about their farming years at our lake.



Their farm is their life, their work and love. Just around the hectic season with the births of their 'babies,' as Joy calls the calves to be born, they dedicate their valuable time to talk. Gary, Joy and I sit down at their kitchen table. One senses this is the heart of the Bresee household, where the best family moments happen. Joy presents homemade cookies and plants a big pot of hot tea on the round table. "Don't mind the phone, it will be ringing frequently, and yes, I have to pick up my grandsons from the school bus at the end of the road at different times," Joy smiles. During our chat she also manages to start preparing supper. Gary sits in too, but after sharing several stories, he jumps up and runs an unexpected errand in Westport. You would think they are slowing down given their respectful ages, but I witness an energetic couple, used to constantly go – go – go.

Entire career at the lake

Garry has spent his entire professional life at the lake as a farmer. And he has seen it all: the growth and development of local farms, the heydays and then – unfortunately - the decline when local farmers



found reasons to stop farming.

Gary remembers from a long time ago, when his father was farming here almost without any power tools. "Well before the Second World War, milk used to be

delivered to Salem's cheese factory by horse wagons. That cheese factory closed in the early 40s. Hay was taken off the land loose and deposited in the loft by a track system. And grain was harvested in the

form of sheaves and once dry, neighbours would come in teams to load the wagons in the field. Those wagons were pulled alongside a threshing machine, while two men threw the sheaves into a machine. Two more men collected the grain to be brought in the grainery." Gary recalls the work was very, very dusty. "By the 1950s or so, our first tractor arrived. It was a Ford 8N, we were in awe. And later, combines started coming, they were small by today's terms." That kind of farming is now in the past. Gary is grateful for all the help over the years received from neighbours, family, amongst them lots of nephews and cousins. "Maybe the pay wasn't all that great, but we sure had a lot of fun." Today Gary is still going strong, although currently with a limited number of cows, in comparison with a long time ago. "Today I have 25 heads in the barn, but during our top farming days you could easily see over 120 - all milking - cows on our lands," he clarifies. But now, no agriculture, no hay, no grain anymore.

Brash Settlement

Both Gary and Joy are from this area. Gary, "My parents, Hendrick and Eva Winnifred Bresee, started farming here around the 1920s. They raised 6 children. Their homestead was built right here. In those days the neighbourhood was called the Brash Settlement. I was raised on the farm but born in a tiny hospital in Westport in 1938. It was situated on Rideau Street. And Joy was born in the Perth hospital in 1944 but was raised in Burr ridge." Asking why it was Gary who took over the farm from his parents instead of one of his siblings, his eyes twinkle and shine with eagerness to explain, "I was just too late, I was the Benjamin of the family, and all my siblings had already run off to do other things." So, when his father was basically out of options, Gary was there, at the right time, at home being able to help his dad. Although he had to quit high school in Athens in grade 13 (his teachers



stressed he was a smart kid and that it would be a shame to let him go), he never questioned that decision for one minute. And with Joy by his side, they married in 1962, they both rode the farming wave, and had a fulfilling life. Of course, the daily lists of chores appeared sometimes to be endless, but they were successful. A framed aerial photograph of the farm (2003) proudly hangs on one of the walls in their house.

Yes, the Breese couple agrees it was busy, farming while starting their own family and raising 4 children: Perry, Yvonne, Tracey and Steven. The dairy farm did well, and the income was steady. The milk quota introduced fairly soon after they married in 1965, was based on the previous 12 months of shipping milk. Many farmers milking a small herd quit as they didn't like the idea of a marketing board and quota. But the Breese's acted upon it, although it took some creativity; They needed to invest and to manage a new scheme of milking cows over a 12-month period, instead of just one long milking season to get the quota results for entire calendar year. In the end, buying milk quota turned out to be an excellent investment for them. Gary and Joy found that most local farmers agreed that the creation and existence of the Ontario Milk Marketing Board turned out to be the salvation of milk producers around them. They had witnessed themselves that prior to 1965 there was some sort of chaos for milk shippers.

Next to the farm work, Joy also had a job outside the farm. She worked at Green Shingle Lodge for more than 25 years. Green Shingle Lodge was situated on the lake where the Wolfe Springs Golf and Waterfront Resort has been built in 2008. In the past Green Shingle Lodge attracted many tourists to Wolfe Lake. Joy loved working there every second of it, got to know new people, travellers from as far as the United States and from Europe.

Time to change

Their son Steven was a wonderful help. Joy, "He started working with us right after grade 12 until we decided to sell most of the cows. The long working hours, and the daily commitment looking after their cattle, was never a real issue. Getting a bit older, we thought it would be a good time to semi retire, to enjoy the grandkids and taking it a bit easier." It was at a period of time where the number of existing



dairy farms declined substantially in Eastern Ontario. A Statistics Canada census around 2011 found that 48 per cent all farmers were 55 or older, the highest percentage ever. Joy and Gary were already beyond that age at that time.

Over the years much had changed, and they'd altered their farming accordingly, but now they felt it was just enough. They had done their fair share. Mind you, they are still active folks in the community and both volunteer for their church. Joy helps to prepare a monthly warm meal for the Mountain View apartments in Westport, together with a fine group of ladies. Mountain View is a local community of 55 + low

income people. And Gary still has to look after his 25 cows and related farm work.

Fortunate

Gary shows black and white family pictures, memories captured with older cameras. The father of four started bringing his children to the barn at a young age. Gary, "They did chores, they were around the cows a lot." But none of the kids returned to the family farm to take over from Gary and Joy. They chose different careers. "That is fine with us", says Joy, "the good news is that two of them, Yvonne and Steven and their partners and children, live on our land, right on our waterfront. And our other two grown up kids are most welcome to join." Both Joy and Gary are extremely happy to have their children and grandkids close by. Joy, "We both realize we are very fortunate, and we love it!"

Family art

Joy comes up with another conversation piece, this time a painting, created by their aunt Katie Knapp. And here is a bit of local folklore. Joy reminisces everybody knew her aunt Katie, because she was quite small. Joy liked her very much and got to know her even before she married Gary and became related to her. Although tiny in posture, aunt Katie did big things in arts: she painted a lot of great stuff, and she was wonderful to hang around with. Fred, Gary's brother, owned one of her paintings, and gave it to Gary and Joy after he had to



downsize. Joy, "Everybody will recognize this cottage and the boat house. It shows a bit of the history of the lake. This cottage, called Millers Cottage, must be at least 80 years old."

Association value

Gary and Joy are members of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association. They remember the first meetings at the beginning of the eighties very well but were never all that involved at that time. However, now they are members and they do support the work of the association and see the value of having a group of dedicated volunteers around the lake. Gary concludes, "We lived here our whole lives. The lake has played such as central role in it." Joy and Gary never took the lake for granted and were conscious of the precious environment. They never had big motor boats. And in the past, cow manure was only sprayed on the land across the road, so there would be no runoff towards the lake at all. And after busy and hot farming days, they used to walk down to the waterfront to decompress and calm down. "We never ever get tired of the beautiful sunsets Wolfe Lake offers us."



Bergeron | Clifford LLP

I N J U R Y L A W Y E R S



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DISCLAIMER WOLFE LAKE MAGAZINE

While the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of information contained 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 Wolfe Lake Magazine.

Great source for events and activities

WHAT'S ON WESTPORT

Recently launched What's on Westport www.whatsonwestport.ca is all about community and local businesses coming together to share, promote & support the events that happen in the village of Westport.



Recognizing a need to have one central location where residents & visitors alike could find up to date info about what's "On" in Westport, a handful of local businesses got together to start the website in early 2019. Even though it's

only recently launched, viewers will already find news and upcoming events with more to come as the summer months quickly approach.

WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION
Annual General Meeting | **Invitation 2019**

**COME AND JOIN US AT OUR
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

SATURDAY JULY 20, 2019

REGISTRATION 9:30 AM

AGM 10:00 AM – NOON

AT THE LIONS BEACH CLUBHOUSE

ON SAND LAKE, WESTPORT, ON



GREETINGS | MAYOR ARIE HOOGENBOOM

Township of Rideau Lakes



As the new Mayor of Rideau Lakes, I want to congratulate the Wolfe Lake Association and Magazine volunteers.

Rideau Lakes Council has recently acted to more aggressively support lake associations. In April, we created the Rideau Lakes Lake Association Committee. Its mandate is to meet with representatives of the numerous lake associations collectively to hear concerns and share information. Each association is to select one representative and one alternate to meet with the Mayor and Council representatives. A Lake Association Grant Program has also been added to help advance your priorities. Grant amounts are established using 3 criteria: a base allocation of \$300 plus \$1/hectare of lake area in Rideau Lakes plus \$5/registered member of your association. Details are available on the Township's new and improved website. I am proud of this initiative as it makes a couple of my election commitments reality.

Rideau Lakes has created Community Enhancement Committees to focus on beautification, our community halls, recreation and other municipal issues. The North Crosby CEC out of Shillington Park still

needs volunteers, so consider this opportunity to make a difference by volunteering.

2019 budgets were passed with a 1.9% increase for the Township portion and 0% for the County. The School Board rate was still unknown at the time of this article's preparation. With the budget, we are increasing our capital spending, reducing our debt, and increasing our reserves. County Road 10 will be reconstructed including, at my urging, paved shoulders. On a final note, the budget includes funds to improve the Municipal Boat Launch on Wolfe Lake.

Have a great summer on the lake! Stay informed, check out our website www.twprideaulakes.on.ca, and utilize our excellent hall and recreational resources at Shillington Park. If you have questions, contact your ward councillors, Bob Lavoie & Ron Pollard, or your mayor.

Arie Hoogenboom

mayor@twprideaulakes.on.ca | 613-323 0901

www.twprideaulakes.on.ca

GREETINGS | MAYOR RON VANDEWAL

Township of South Frontenac



The new Council for the 2018 to 2022 term of office started out with budget deliberations for 2019. Once again the approved budget is based on a 2.0% increase.

The average phased-in property assessment for 2019 is \$261,714. Based on the 2% target set by Council, an average phase-in property would see an increase of \$30.98.

It looks like another busy year in 2019 as Council and staff plan to undertake a Growth Management Study, a Strategic Plan Review, a Firehall Station Location Study, and initiating the review of the Official Plan. Staff and Council will be looking for community engagement by having a number of Open Houses for the public to provide input on a few of these topics. Please keep watch in the Frontenac News and on our website in the coming months for dates and locations of the Open Houses, as well as more information on how you can contribute from home. We have a team of extremely capable employees in all of our departments who provide great service to the public and I appreciate

the work they do on a daily basis to make this township such a great place to live. I continue to encourage residents to support local business and experience the numerous local events that make South Frontenac a great community. Keeping up with events, announcements, and the actions of Council can be made easy by following the Township of South Frontenac on Facebook - @SouthfrontenacTwp or on Twitter - @SthFrontenacTwp.

It is my hope that you enjoy a safe and fun summer on the beautiful Wolfe Lake with friends and family. I welcome the opportunity to connect with you and have included my contact information below.

Ron Vandewal

rvandewal@southfrontenac.net | 613 276 3027 ext 2236

or 613 929 7833

www.southfrontenac.net

FOUR QUESTIONS

Checking in with Cynthia & John Pringle



Cynthia and John Pringle’s passion for Westport and the surrounding lakes began almost immediately after a day trip to the ‘small hamlet of Westport.’ Shortly after that first visit – they used to live in Kingston - Cynthia and John, began planning a business venture called The Cottage Coffee House. Building a business from the ground up is no small feat, but for them things have evolved. John runs the Coffee House, and Cynthia opened Jake by the Lake. In the winter months John also produces a video show ‘Espresso Shots’, an online platform which he uses to introduce local folks from all walks of life and, with humor, shares updates on local affairs, and showcases local talents.

1 HOW IS YOUR WORK RELATED TO OUR REGION?

Typical of most entrepreneurs, we dove into things the same way that a cottager might dive into Wolf Lake from “Wild Thing Rock” “on a hot summer day, feet first! Now, fast forward 15 years and here we are still loving and operating The Cottage Coffee House, and along the way we opened a second business called Jake by the Lake, a lifestyle clothing brand. We are extremely proud of both of our businesses especially Jake by the Lake which is the first Life is Good Genuine Neighbourhood Shoppe to open in Canada.

Life is Good has become the motto of Westport. The text, written on a large sign that is mounted on the store, can be seen by visitors and residents from the beginning of Church street.

Visiting the region is like jumping into a lake on a hot day, it’s refreshing and rewarding. So, what is the relationship between work and life for Cynthia and me in this region? Well, simply put, we get to live, work and play here all 365 days of the year. All while being mindful of the balance, we must demonstrate between business services, guests’ expectations, our environment and the future of our region: and it’s a role we are happy to play!

2 HOW DO YOU CHILL OUT AT OUR LAKES?

Fortunately, we are blessed to have the opportunity to enjoy our lakes and region year-round. In the summer, after a hard day’s work serving customers, we put

on our swim wear, grab a couple of pool noodles and take a quick drive to our favourite swim holes at Wolf Lake, “Wild Thing Rock”. It is so refreshing, deep, clear, peaceful and with lighter boat traffic, we can easily swim across and back. Autumn is an all-

time favourite, as we see the leaves change to their golden yellows and brilliant reds. It is breathtaking as you travel down the mountainside from Fermoy.

We can enjoy a hike at the numerous local trails or take a bicycle ride around the lakes. Wolf Lake is the perfect distance for a bike ride before opening our shops for the day.

Many people look at winter as a time to hibernate, finding it difficult to get outside. Well, we take it all in. Having more time to ourselves this time of year, we enjoy a daily hike on the lakes, Foley Mountain and Westport Pond. This is also the time of year, when we can hear the “Wolf Howl” not the wolves but the incredible fishing derby that brings folks together for a fun filled family weekend. Also, in the winter I have created a web series called ‘Espresso Shots,’ highlighting life in our region. Episodes can be



viewed at www.espressoshots.com. The last season is the spring when we see the snow and ice melting, creating a natural artistic formation down the rocks on the south side of Wolf Lake. These longer days bring out anticipation of new growth and excitement for the new season upon us.

3 WHERE ARE YOUR MOST FAVOURITE PLACES IN OUR REGION?

Our favourite place to swim is Wolf Lake, where jumping off the rocks have become a rite of passage. We love to hike the Ottawa-Kingston Trail, the best view of Westport and a true hidden gem.

Most visitors use “Spy Rock” as their iconic stop in the area but we encourage people to go further into the trails and discover more natural beauty. The process of watching boats go through the locks is so interesting to



see. Try just sitting on the patio and take on the view of people watching.

4

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

The current associations and organizations that spearhead initiatives are a vital component to keeping our lakes clean, the land fertile and our wildlife safe for future generations. As business owners we support

their work, but we don't stop there! In our making low impact choices on things that we store we choose to go above and beyond by use and sell.

For example, at The Cottage Coffee House we have worked very hard over the years to eliminate all plastic single serve items such as plastic bottled water, we compost all our organic waste, including our coffee grinds and sort 100 percent of our waste before it hits curbside! I often get asked why we don't

FOUR QUESTIONS

highlight friendly folks who are making a difference in the wider Westport community. Each time we ask four questions about our region.

have more garbage cans out in the café, the obvious and my obvious answer is, it's not garbage!

John Pringle

FOCA survey: Cottagers are vital economic contributors to rural communities SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

By Anna Rijk



The Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations (FOCA) published an interesting report regarding the role of waterfront property owners in rural economic development in Eastern Ontario. It's a good read and an opportunity for our own association to underline the importance of contributions to the local economy beyond the role as 'consumers' and 'tourists' only. Current water property owners represent a significant number of total residents in many rural Ontario municipalities, which are otherwise facing increasing out-migration to urban centres.

Basically, FOCA's study used a multifaceted approach to gather data, including literature review, an online survey resulting in over 400 responses, follow up interviews and key informant interviews with economic development staff of 8 eastern Ontario municipalities. Overall the responses indicated widespread optimism amongst water property owners with regards to the potential opportunities to engage in rural economies. On the other hand, gaps were identified, such as rural high-speed internet coverage and the lack of networking, which may prevent successes.

suggest that there is no difference in the level of attachment to their community. The report shows that cottagers are deeply committed to their cottages, as they act as general meeting places for families, with one respondent stating:

"I love my waterfront property, it has been a core part of my life, and for three generation of my family. If for one reason or another I was forced to sell one of my properties, it would be my primary residence, not my cottage, so strong are my feelings."

Membership survey Wolfe Lake Association

It would be interesting to find out how many of our members living at or around Wolfe Lake are working, and in which sectors, if we have members who are working from their lake house cottage (and in which sectors), how many retirees are contributing and connecting with local economic communities, if our members are satisfied with their internet connectivity, etc. The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Associations would like to undertake a new membership survey, as mentioned on page 9.



FOCA's key finding from consulting both cottagers/water property owners and economic development communities was a

visible enthusiasm from both groups at the notion of working together on rural economic development initiative.

One of the main outcomes of the report was that representatives of economic development staff in Eastern Ontario, revealed that engaging water property owners in their rural economic developments – beyond their role as a consumer – had rarely been considered. Furthermore, municipalities looking to connect and engage with waterfront property owners seem to struggle with how to do so. On another note, according to the FOCA report, there is an assumption that permanent lake residents have a higher attachment to the community than seasonal residents. However, several studies

Sources:

"The Role of Waterfront Property Owners, In Rural Economic Development in Eastern Ontario", FOCA report (2018) and "Waterfront property trends in Ontario", by Terry Reese, president (2018). Both docs can be found on www.FOCA.ca.



FABULOUS FRIENDS | Favourite lake moments

From seasoned cottagers to newcomers at the lake, everyone has great moments to share. Just before we went to print, we asked a few cottagers about their special moments at Wolfe Lake.



Fishing brought the family to Wolfe Lake over 80 years ago. In our time on the southwest side of Wolfe Lake the love of fishing has remained, and other lake activities have changed from rowing, to small motor boats, to larger motor boats, to sailing, to canoeing, to our latest pastime, kayaking. What has not changed is the love of the lake. Now there are grandchildren and we hope they will continue the tradition.

CHARLIE WISEMAN | WESTPORT ROAD



Duncan's family has loved Wolfe Lake since the mid-1800s and 'cottaged' here since 1950. Our log cabin – still largely without road, telephone, electricity or indoor plumbing – is the center of our universe, where our four children grew up swimming, hiking, drawing, reading Dickens by candlelight, inventing games, staging talent shows, falling in love and bringing their growing families back to do it all again.

BETTY JO MCDUGALL | BRIGGS LANE

Hunting season for double -crested cormorants?

CORMORANTS: PAIN OR PLEASURE



Not many people like cormorants, but should hunters be allowed to kill up to 50 birds per day? Although they are impressive birds, cormorants can be a nuisance. The province of Ontario is the process to draft legislation to control the double-crested cormorant by creating a hunting season for them. At Wolfe Lake we are dealing with these big birds as well.

Basically, the plan would be to list the double-crested cormorant as a "Game Bird". Hunters would be required to have an outdoors card and small game license to hunt double-crested cormorants, similar to other species of game birds. The Government would create an open hunting season for double-crested cormorant **from March 15 to December 31** each year across the province. Starting this process, the Government has asked Ontarians to weigh in, also cottagers around Wolfe Lake did so, before the deadline, which was January 3 of this year. Several association members actively responded via the official website, just after News Flash No. 10 (2018) was distributed. At Wolfe Lake we all realize cormorants aren't the prettiest birds — and they're not the cleanest. Cormorants have been destroying trees, since their feces are quite acidic. And they eat lots of fish. Earlier this year (March 2019) Feds cautioned Ontario on proposed cormorant hunt: cormorant hunt could land Ontario hunters with charges if they disrupt federally protected species. The federal government warned the province's hunters that they could be charged if shooting disrupts the protected birds. The problem facing hunting enthusiasts is that cormorants migrate and nest with several protected birds, including herring, ring-billed gulls, as well as many others, Samantha Bayard, a spokesperson with Environment Canada, wrote in an email. She said the birds are federally protected under the Migratory Birds Act & Regulations. **We'd love to hear from you on this at the upcoming AGM.** Let us know if you are **FOR** or **AGAINST** the current cormorants hunting proposal by sending an email to: com-wolfelake@outlook.com **before July 5, 2019.**



SCANLAN CREEK | SPAWNING BED RESTORATION PROJECT

Supporting the walleye population of Wolfe Lake

By Margie Manthey

In an effort to facilitate spawning walleye at a juncture of Scanlan Creek below a pair of twin culverts, the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association has spearheaded a new restoration project. Partnering with the Westport Area Outdoor Association, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Camp IAWAH, a grant proposal was submitted to the Toronto Dominion Friends of the Environment Foundation, which was approved for \$4470. While the actual restoration site is on private property, the land owner supports the project and has graciously granted us permission to proceed with the project. Margie Manthey worked tirelessly to make it all happen. Here is her report.

Shortly after ice-out in the spring, when lake temperatures are rising, walleye congregate in spawning areas. They're attracted to current, which oxygenates the water, and prefer to spawn on clean, irregularly sized rocks, as this provides crevices for the fertilized eggs to settle in. Spawning occurs at night and is often timed to coincide with ideal conditions, enhancing reproductive success. Walleye are *broadcast spawners*: during mass, synchronous spawning, the fish release eggs and sperm, and



fertilization occurs externally. Adults don't guard eggs or fry.

Historically, Scanlan Creek, which flows directly into Wolfe Lake, has accommodated countless generations of spawning walleye along an extensive stretch of its length, until the installation of a culvert(s) under County Route 12. Since walleye won't typically pass through a culvert, a significant amount of upstream spawning habitat was lost. When two additional culverts were installed by a private land owner downstream from the county road, further bed

sites became inaccessible. Back in 1995, with provincial support, the WLA and volunteers rehabilitated spawning habitat downstream from the culverts.

At that time provincial grants covered the \$2612.20 contract costs to remove silt and to place rocks. Volunteer labour from our membership enabled the association to clear brush and other debris blocking the creek to spawning fish. It was reported to be well done. However, over 23 years of heavy spring current and erosion took their toll, and today the work is barely recognizable.

Great partnership

An early partnership was formed following discussions between **Margie Manthey**, as fishing director of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association, and Don Goodfellow, treasurer of the Westport Area Outdoor Association (WAOA). The WAOA has also completed habitat restoration work in the past.

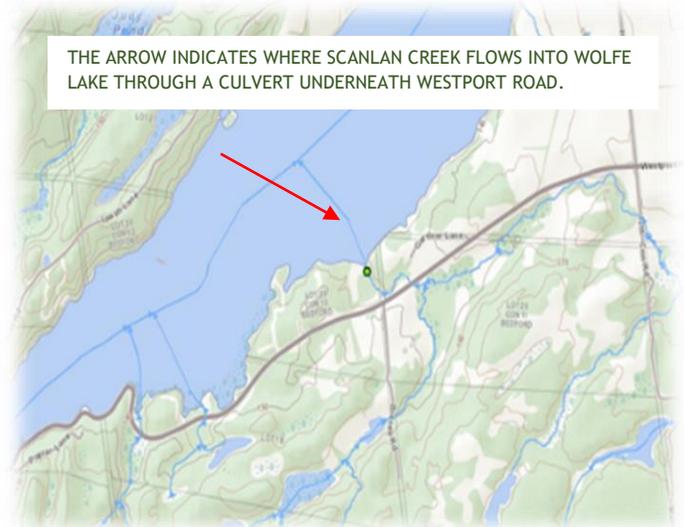
At our July 2018 AGM, Margie and Don introduced the project to attending members. **Paul Thompson**, chairing the AGM as president, proposed we allot up to \$3K towards the project. Membership voted,



DON GOODFELLOW, JENNIFER LAMOUREUX AND MARGIE ON SITE

and the budget passed with strong support. Next, a site visit was arranged with Jennifer Lamoureux, an Aquatic & Fish Habitat Biologist with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), and soon their partnership was added. In addition to sharing her experience and guidance, Jennifer applied for permits (pending at the time of this article) and grant money on our behalf from the Toronto Dominion Friends of the Environment Foundation, which was approved for \$4470. Finally, we were delighted to receive Camp IAWAH's offer of support and hope to work with their youth volunteers. The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association is grateful to all the partners for their valued contributions as we collectively endeavor to enhance the spawning success of our prized walleye.

Restoration work is planned for later this summer and includes adding substrate and structure to designated creek sites. This entails placement of appropriately sized, Ministry-approved rock, brought in and largely maneuvered with machinery by an experienced contractor -- we've chosen Tackaberry Sweet's Sand & Gravel in Seeley's Bay, based on their competitive quote of \$4220. A silt curtain will be installed downstream prior to the onset of work, and

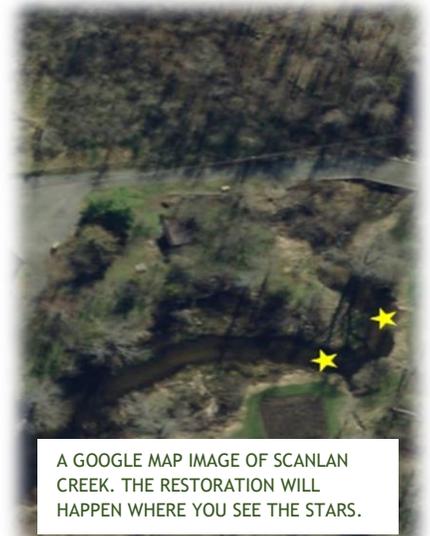


THE ARROW INDICATES WHERE SCANLAN CREEK FLOWS INTO WOLFE LAKE THROUGH A CULVERT UNDERNEATH WESTPORT ROAD.

volunteers will remove any debris from the creek that inhibits water flow. Post-project effectiveness monitoring will be conducted by RVCA staff and project volunteers.

Christmas trees

A smaller enhancement project may be initiated shortly after the creek restoration. Fish habitat would be created by securely setting donated, natural Christmas trees in specific locations of the lake, pre-approved by a biologist as well as by nearby property owners. This is a common practice throughout Ontario and the U. S. and has been shown to support recovering, post-spawn female walleye. Wood structure also attracts other fish species, aquatic life, birds and wildlife. A handful of test sites would be closely monitored to document how this type of habitat enhancement works on



A GOOGLE MAP IMAGE OF SCANLAN CREEK. THE RESTORATION WILL HAPPEN WHERE YOU SEE THE STARS.

Wolfe Lake. This proposal will be brought up for discussion and a vote among our members at the AGM this summer (July 20, 2019). All in all, Margie is optimistic that the fisheries projects, through both habitat restoration and enhancement, will facilitate a higher reproductive success for walleye and help to promote a robust fishery on Wolfe Lake.

For more interesting details on the Scanlan Creek fish habitat enhancement project, visit the RVCA web page dedicated to the endeavor at: www.rvca.ca/wolfe-lake-scanlan-creek-fish-habitat-enhancement-project





FOCUS ON WILDLIFE AROUND OUR LAKE

Beavers: Nature's Engineers

By Margie Manthey

The industrious beaver is one of Canada's most famous icons, and is featured on many Canadian coats of arms, logos, even on currency. They look a little comical with a bulky body, protruding teeth and a wide, flat tail. Beavers are also North America's largest rodent, weighing an average of 18-28 kilograms (approx. 40-60 pounds). They are found all over Ontario, but over-trapping nearly led to their extinction in the 1930's.

Beavers live in streams, rivers, marshes, ponds and along lake shores. Webbing between the toes of their back feet serve as flippers. This same adaptation enables them to walk on their back legs while carrying loads of mud with dexterous front paws.

Beavers require trees for both food and shelter. They eat the bark, buds, twigs and stems, but especially savor grasses, leaves, mushrooms, ferns and aquatic plant roots. Their front teeth grow continuously, so beavers must constantly gnaw wood. While propped against broad, flat tails and standing on their hind feet, they chew down around 200 variably-sized trees yearly -- mostly softwoods, like aspens and willows. Beavers are born knowing how to build lodges

and dams. The lodge is often a substantial dome-shaped pile of branches, rocks, plant matter and mud-plaster with multiple tunnels for entry and exit, including underwater access. The den is located inside the lodge, above water level. This snug dwelling houses the family unit, or "*colony*."

Beavers choose one lifelong mate, and kits stay with their parents for two years. They warn one another of danger by forcefully slamming their paddle-tails on the water. If the surrounding natural water level is too low, beavers will begin constructing a dam to raise the water level. This ensures that the lodge passageways are safely submerged and prevents them from being blocked by ice in the winter. Dams are



built in layers, like a sandwich, using sticks, bark, plant matter and rocks. Mud applied with paws and snouts binds the materials together. Once a dam site is chosen, beavers are almost impossible to discourage. Beavers can really alter the landscape to suit their basic needs. This can lead to conflict with humans when property or roadways are flooded, culverts get plugged or prized trees are destroyed. There is even a risk of flash flooding when a dam breaks.

The flip side of their dogged handiwork is an altered environment that creates and maintains wetland habitats which, in turn, break down toxins and purify the water that flows



into our rivers and lakes. Wetlands also attract and sustain many kinds of insects, fish, frogs, turtles, ducks, birds and mammals. In fact, as many as *half the endangered species in North America rely on wetlands for their existence!* Over time, lush meadows are created from sediment deposits, attracting and supporting even more wildlife and plant species, all thanks to beavers.

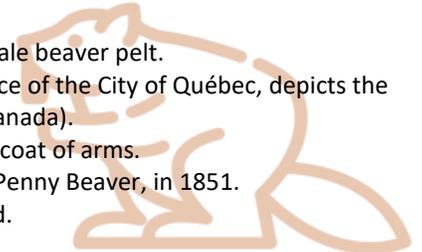
Perhaps we have a love-hate relationship with beavers; but aren't they entitled to a place in the world, especially as their industrious ways help "build" a healthy ecosystem?



THE BEAVER IS A FAMOUS CANADIAN ICON | Fun facts & some history

In the late 1600s and early 1700s, the fashion of the day demanded fur hats, which required beaver pelts. As these hats became more popular, the demand for pelts grew. The trade of beaver pelts proved so profitable that many Canadians felt compelled to pay tribute to the buck-toothed animal. The value of the beaver was recognized by the use of its image in emblems, heraldry and currency. The hard-working beaver archived official status of the sovereignty of Canada by Royal Assent on March 24, 1975. We found some more cool historical facts for you:

- ☞ Sir William Alexander, who was granted title to Nova Scotia in 1621, was the first to include the beaver in a coat of arms.
- ☞ The Hudson's Bay Company put four beavers on the shield of its coat of arms in 1678.
- ☞ A coin was created – which was known as a "buck" – that was equal to the value of one male beaver pelt.
- ☞ The French Kebece Liberata medal, created in 1690 to celebrate France's successful defence of the City of Québec, depicts the image of a seated woman (representing France) with a beaver at her feet (representing Canada).
- ☞ When the City of Montréal was incorporated in 1833, it included the beaver's image in its coat of arms.
- ☞ Sir Sandford Fleming featured the beaver on the first Canadian postage stamp, the Three Penny Beaver, in 1851.
- ☞ Le Canadien, a newspaper published in Lower Canada, featured the beaver in its masthead.
- ☞ The Canadian Pacific Railway company still includes the beaver on its crest today.



Source: Library & Archives Canada & Canada.ca

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COUNTY ROAD 10 | Road Closure

Keep in mind that County Road 10 between Westport and Perth will be (partly) closed for a month or so. The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville will post updates relating to the rehabilitation of County Road 10 from Grady Road to the Lanark boundary on their website. The rehabilitation of the section of County Road 10 is now well underway with completion expected by November 2019. If need be, the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association will be sending news via a News Flash (email).

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FALL WALK 2018 | 'FOREST BATHING' AT THE MAYNARDS Fantastic hike brings our community together

A small group of participating association folks and a few friends and family members had a great afternoon! Hosted by Bruce Maynard and Helene Wach, the second Fall Walk of our association was lots of fun and created an opportunity to connect with the lake community. The Fall Walk took place on October 13, 2018 on the Western side of Wolfe lake. Lots of 'forest bathing' included :)

The weather was cooperative, and even the sun came out, and its beams charmed the surroundings even more when all gathered at the gate of Belknap Road. Although more than 20 members had rsvp-ed, in the days before the walk, unfortunately a fair number of folks had to decline on the morning of the fall walk.

Keen on going, we started by heading up the road and soon found ourselves on a stunning forest trail. During the walk Bruce and Helene explained a bit about the history of their



wooded property, and they showed us different tree species and even mushrooms. "We ended up walking 5.2 kilometers," said **Anna Rijk**, who organized the activity. According to Anna's GPS tracking app, that was equivalent to 8505 steps including 16 climbed floors (the terrain was a bit hilly).

"Afterwards we all felt good, and we discussed the concept of Japanese 'forest bathing'. The Japanese have a specific name for this: Shinrin in Japanese means 'forest,' and yoku means



'bath.' So, shinrin-yoku means bathing in the forest atmosphere or taking in the forest through our senses. This is not supposed to be an exercise, or hiking, or jogging." **Helene Wach continues**, "For us, simply being in nature, connecting with it through our senses of sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch just feels good. We are so fortunate to have this at our doorstep."

Light refreshments were served before everybody headed back to their homes and cottages.

All participants agreed that the community walk gives every member of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association a great chance to meet other cottagers and full-time residents around the lake.

"By supporting our association, you are demonstrating what it means to be a member of our group," said Anna. "We are definitely going forward with this event going forward. Big or small, it is just so enjoyable."

FOCA, the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations, suggests that cottage associations should organize activities to bring members together to improve the coherence of the group. Anna, "I think that it just makes sense and that's why I feel this event could very well turn into a tradition. So: stay connected, keep in touch and come join us this coming fall. This year the Fall Walk will be held **on Saturday October 5 (2019)** from 2- 4 pm. In the end, you can walk away from the walk with just a good feeling and a great memory and with something as amazing as new friendships."

Last year (2017) the Fall Walk took a large group of association members to the beautiful pathways on the grounds of Camp IAWAH, guided by director **Jeff Friesen**, also member and director, of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association.



**WALK WITH US
ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 5 (2019)
FROM 2 PM - 4 PM**

A News Flash with the details of the upcoming fall walk will be emailed to all association members once we get closer to the date of Saturday October 5 (2019). Please also check our website and Facebook page.



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They have products and services we all need. Tell them you saw their ad in your Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association's Magazine!

OUR STAKEHOLDERS ARE IMPORTANT | WE KEEP IN TOUCH!
Creating a magazine is just one thing, bringing it to all of you, avid readers, is another. It's important to keep in touch with our stakeholders, such as the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and both municipalities. That is why we mail the newest print edition of the Wolfe Lake Magazine to these groups and organizations of interest for us. It is one of the ways to stay connected and keep our stakeholders informed of our vision, activities and events.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AT OUR ASSOCIATION?
People choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. For some it offers the chance to give something back to the community or make a difference to the people around them. For others it provides an opportunity to develop new skills or build on existing experience and knowledge. So why not volunteer at our association? We have a team of dedicated association members who give their own time, over and above their day jobs to ensure that our association is staying ahead of various developments and is creating much needed visibility. Of course, there is always room for more volunteers. Step up to the plate and contact us by emailing com-wolfelake@outlook.com.
Looking forward to hearing from you!

KIDS' PAGES | Come and play



Here is something to work on when you feel bored at the cottage, although that sounds quite unlikely. All answers can be found somewhere in this magazine. Enjoy and let us know what kind of puzzles you like to see in next year's edition.

Critter riddles & giggles

- A. I'm nocturnal, have feathers and big, round eyes. "Who" am I? **Who am I?**
- B. If you startle me, I might share my fragrance with you. **Who am I?**
- C. I'm not a bird, but can *glide* from tree to tree at night. **Who am I?**

Do you know why mosquitoes are called "Math Bugs?" It's because they **ADD** to misery, **SUBTRACT** from pleasure, **MULTIPLY** quickly and **DIVIDE** your attention!

More cottage riddles

1. Why did the cow go to Hollywood?
2. What happened when the bobcat swallowed a ball of yarn?
3. How do birds stop short in the sky?
4. What is smaller than a talking mouse?
5. Why didn't the detective believe the angler's story?



"Things that fly" | Word scramblers

Unscramble these words to reveal the names of things that fly around Wolfe Lake. Next, write down all the blue bold-printed letters and unscramble them to reveal the secret word. (If you get stuck, use the hints to help out!)

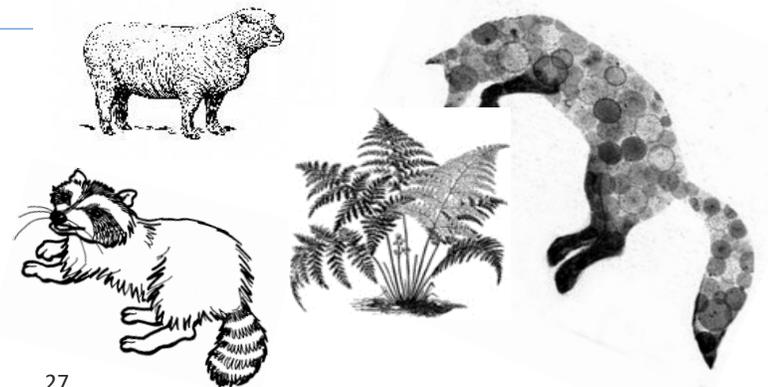
1. ALRFDO**G**YN _____
2. ONOL**L** _____
3. TUBTFY**E**LR _____
4. ERV**N**A _____
5. RTON**H**E _____

Secret Word Letters _____
 Secret Word _____

- Hint Big bugs that hunt smaller bugs in mid-air.
- Hint They can dive under water to catch fish.
- Hint Colourful insects that visit your flower garden.
- Hint Cousin to the crow.
- Hint Careful, it stings!
- Hint Wolfe Lake Association's mascot

Three tricky tongue twisters

- My sister Sharon's shop sells shoes for sheep
- Five frisky foxes frolicked in the fancy ferns.
- Rocky Raccoon's red racquet ripped raggedly





“THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT” (or screech, or howl, or squeak or croak)!



When you're getting ready to head to bed at night, there are a bunch of critters that are just starting their "day!" These animals are *nocturnal*, meaning they're most active after dark. Nocturnal creatures are able to survive with little or no light because of special adaptations. Many have highly developed senses that people and other animals more active during the day don't have. The animals featured below live around Wolfe Lake. Read a little about what makes each one perfectly suited to its nocturnal existence. In the summer, when your windows are open, try listening for nocturnal animals and the sounds they make. Can you identify any that you hear?

LITTLE BROWN BAT

It can catch over 1,000 insects per hour using *echolocation* (it sends out pulses of high-frequency sound that creates a return echo when something is in its flight path).

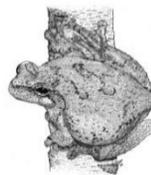


FLYING SQUIRREL

Huge, round eyes give this nighttime glider a super cute appearance, but those big peepers serve a purpose: they collect more light for better vision in the dark.

GRAY TREE FROG

It hides in trees, logs and leaf litter during the day, but comes out at night to hunt insects. It has large, forward-facing eyes to help it spot prey, and long, sticky toe tips that enable it to climb easily.



RACCOON

Its nimble paws with tapered "fingers" have a remarkable sense of touch that's as important as hearing, smell and sight. These super-sensitive paws feel around for food, often in places where it's hard to see, like the mud or under water. So a raccoon essentially "sees" with its hands. (While most raccoons venture out after sunset, it's

not unusual to see them in the daytime. This doesn't mean they're sick -- that's a myth! Mother raccoons with kits back in the den often forage for food in daylight.)

ODE TO A BARRED OWL



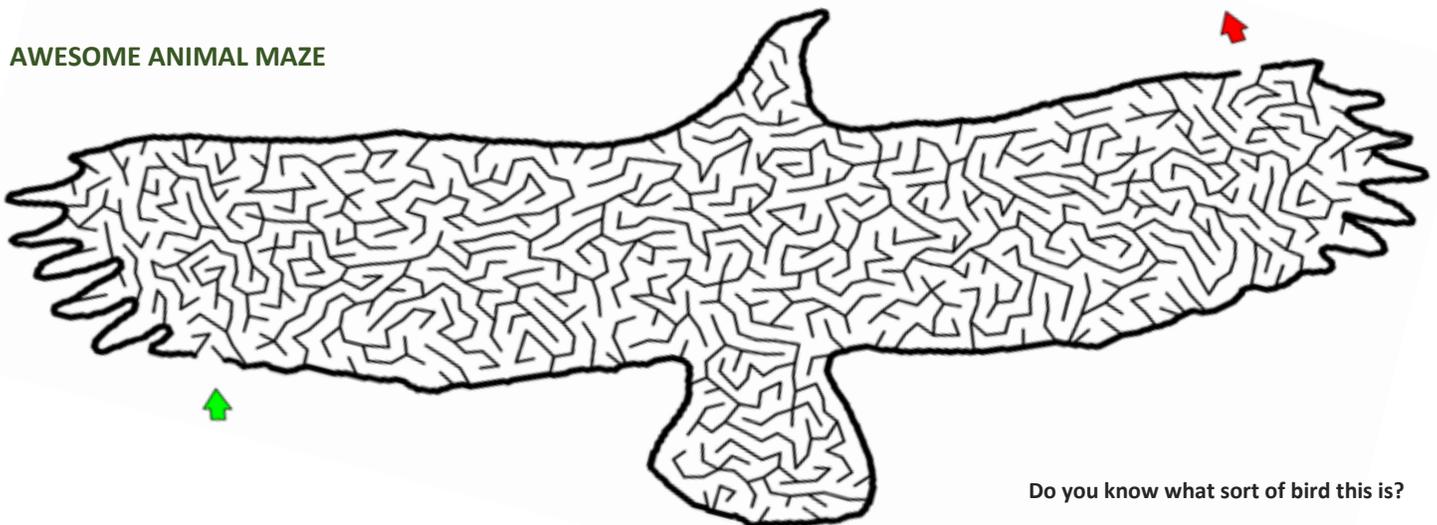
When the moon shines down at night, my bedroom filled with silver light,
I hear a question...there! Do you?
"Who," it ponders, "cooks for you?"

WALKING AT NIGHT | FUN TIPS

Check out this link for fun tips on planning a night-time nature walk where you might spot some nocturnal animals:

www.naturecanada.ca/news/blog/exploring-canadas-creatures-of-the-night/

AWESOME ANIMAL MAZE



Do you know what sort of bird this is?



SOAKING IT UP | Eye-catching view of our lake water

PROTECTING OUR LAKE ENVIRONMENT

By Daniel Spitzer

In general, the water quality in Wolfe Lake remains excellent. Water clarity seems to have decreased in the past few years though. Spread of invasive bottom vegetation (mainly Eurasian water milfoil) is the major environmental and recreational issue that needs to be addressed. Daniel Spitzer, the soon departing water quality director, addresses key issues in protecting our environment and sums up his 2018 findings. Daniel's full water quality report can be found online at www.wolfelakeassociation.org.



The water quality was tested on 6 occasions in 2018. The water clarity (Secchi Disk depth) was measured and deep-water samples were taken at sites DP1 and DP3 on May 25, June 27, July 10, July 05, August 24 and September 22. The samples were analyzed for total phosphorus (TP) concentration through the Lake Partner Program (Ontario Ministry of the Environment). Deep and shallow-water samples were also taken at

several sites by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA). Daniel recaps up a few key environmental threats to our waterfront environment, and how to deal with it. 'It's imperative we all take the responsibility to protect our shores and water quality. This is my take-away as a departing Water Quality Director.'

Eurasian water milfoil infestation: our core environmental topic

It appears that milfoil infestation remains the core environmental problem for Wolfe Lake and therefore our number one enemy. In 2018, we continued our efforts to identify the best monitoring and eradication methodologies. Technical and scientific articles dealing with various lake vegetation elimination techniques were reviewed.



A large number of relevant publications were collected and downloaded by **Paul Thompson** (currently past president) during the past years.

The experimental procedures were supported by underwater photography, using the Olympus TG5 camera with GPS. The camera acquisition was kindly funded by the FOCA. Series of underwater images were taken in a heavily infested area around the laminar flow underwater aeration system at the south-western corner of Woods Bay. Milfoil eradication methods were summarized in an article by **Peter Neve** in the 2019 issue of the Wolfe Lake Association Magazine (see page 8). In Wolfe Lake, three milfoil eradication methods are tested, weevils, aeration and bottom mats. The 'weevil method' seems to be most effective. It might receive more attention in the future endeavors of the Association.

Prevention is better than protection

Proliferation of invasive bottom vegetation (milfoils) along Wolfe Lake shores and in its bays is now the major environmental and recreational issue that needs to be addressed. Protecting our waterfronts against milfoil spread is therefore a priority.



It is recommended to be vigilant and to monitor your waterfront frequently. Keep the unaffected areas free of any invasive species. Remove any new plants immediately and dry them on land. Underwater objects such as dead trees and branches can stimulate unwanted milfoil infestations.

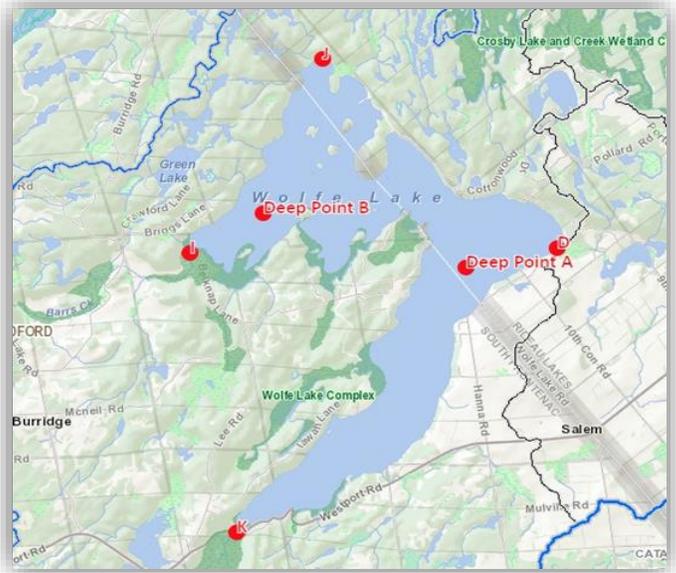
Fortunately, at many shores of our lake, currents help to prevent the

milfoil contamination. Milfoils do not easily root in streaming water. It is imperative that cottage owners, who are 'blessed' with having currents along their waterfronts, have to take care that the naturally water streaming is not disturbed. Remove any objects that do not belong there (dead trees, branches) which could affect the free water flow.

Plastic in water

In a recent statement of the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, zero plastic litter in our environment is a priority, confirmed by Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change. Zero should be zero, also for Wolfe Lake. Needles to emphasize that plastic litter such as cups, pieces of nylon rope, chunks of Styrofoam etc. are harmful for the aquatic environment. It is recommendable to check frequently your waterfront and to remove any plastic debris from your shorelines and from the lake bottom. In some fish habitat improvement projects, bundled trees are submersed in water close to the shores. For the bundling, nylon rope is used. This may soon become an illegal practice. It's well predictable that, after time, the trees will decay, and the nylon ropes become loose litter. Highest caution is recommended before taking decisions

on placing tree bundles in lake waters. This holds not only from a boating safety point of view, but also from the lake-pollution aspect. Of course, using nylon ropes for sport and recreational purposes



(boating etc.) is a 'different story,' and isn't considered as an environmental risk (as long as boaters keep their ropes attached to their boat), as opposed to (possibly illegal) depositing nylon ropes at the lake bottom for an undetermined period of time.

Conclusions

Overall results were very comparable to the period on record. In general, the water quality in Wolfe Lake remains excellent. The E. Coli concentrations were far below the required provincial maximum values.

Water clarity, as expressed by the annual average Secchi Disk depth, seems to have decreased in the past few years. This trend continued also in 2018. A probable cause for the decrease in water clarity over the past few years may be the rapid decline in zebra mussel numbers which has occurred over that period.

Proliferation of invasive bottom vegetation (Eurasian milfoil) along Wolfe Lake shores and in its bays is the major environmental and recreational issue that needs our attention. Protecting our waterfronts against milfoil spread is a priority.

Along with prevention of the milfoil spread, eradication of the infestations may also become a priority of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association.

Acknowledgements The RVCA water quality data were provided by **Greg Melvin**. The LPP data were provided by **Emily Shapiera**, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change www.ontario.ca/data/ontario-lake-partner. Federation of Ontario Cottager's Association (FOCA) has kindly provided funding for the acquisition of the Olympus TG5 underwater camera with GPS.



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WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION
Magazine Summer, 2019



LOW WATER LEVELS
 What is next?
SCANLAN CREEK | WALL EYE
 Spawning bed restoration project

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MANY THANKS TO ROY CHISAMORE AND BILL BLAINNEY FOR SETTING OUT, MONITORING AND RETREIVING THE ORANGE SHOAL MARKERS ON WOLFE LAKE.

PICTURE TIME CONTEST: KIDS | GRANDKIDS IN THE LAKE

A chance to win a gift card of \$75 @ Jake by the Lake



Usually kids and grandchildren are enjoying the waterfront of Wolfe Lake to the fullest. That's why we decided that this year's topic is 'KIDS being active in the water.' Be sure to pack your camera every time you go out on the lake with kids or grandchildren. Be inspired by the sheer joy of our youth in the water, swimming, jumping, playing, fishing, canoeing, surfing, skiing, kayaking, tubing. You get the gist. To be eligible you must have to have a strong tie with Wolfe or Green Lakes and be 18 years or older. The winning photo will be awarded a gift certificate with a value of \$75 kindly offered by Jake by the Lake-Life is Good (Genuine Neighbourhood Shoppe) in Westport.

Winning pictures

- First prize winner will be receiving a \$75 gift card from Jake by the Lake-Life is Good to be used at this store.
- The first 3 winning pictures will be published in the 2020 Magazine.
- We are looking forward to receiving your picture. Please upload your best shot directly on: www.facebook.com/Wolfe-Green-Lakes-Westport-Association or e-mail to: com-wolfelake@outlook.com. The deadline is September 30 (2019). See also: www.wolfelakeassociation.org/picture-time

THESE ARE THE WINNING PICTURES OF 2018 | CANOE THEMED



1st Prize Winner ☆
"Waiting"

Submitted by Lianne Huiskens

WHAT WE LOVE

This winning photograph is stunning in its simplicity. It hits all the high marks for composition, texture, natural beauty and mood...and it's all about the canoe! Lianne managed to capture a dramatic image in a spartan way. So simply composed: the canoe dragged up on a rocky shoreline with a large draping cedar branch acting as a stage curtain. Meanwhile, the canoe leads the eye over the shadowy, textured rocks -so quintessentially Wolfe. A superb image that we think is poster quality, and so takes the **1st Place prize of a \$70 gift card to THE COVE** in Westport. Thanks for sharing, Lianne!



2nd Place
"Late Spring Sanctuary"

Submitted:BJ Greenaway MacDougall

WHAT WE LOVE

This beautiful photograph presents more like an oil painting, evoking a peaceful, almost surreal quality. Its composition is excellent, in that the eye is led over the canoe and into the lush greenery of recently leafed maples, ferns and aquatic grasses. While the attractive canoe is showcased, one can also appreciate the splendour of the pristine lakeshore in spring. The bright blue vest in the canoe's hull not only adds a pop of colour, but also lends an anticipatory feel to the scene. Thanks so much for your gorgeous submission image, Betty Jo!



3rd Place
"Canoe Cutie"

Submitted by Wendy Rose

WHAT WE LOVE

Out on the water on a spring day, (maybe one of the first that was sunny and warm enough for a family paddle?) this little girl is clearly enjoying her adventure! The photo is positively vibrant and saturated with colour: the pink outfit, purple hat, orange vest, bright blue sky and brand new green buds and leaves on the trees. We also like the repeated pattern starting with the straps of the vest, continuing through the wooden thwarts and ending with grandfather Opa's paddle. This leads your eye from the cute little girl to Opa and his great smile. Congrats, Wendy! Lovely pic!

See also
page
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HELP MAINTAIN A STRONG ASSOCIATION FOR THE FUTURE

You can become a member if you live on or near the Wolfe or Green Lakes area. There are many advantages to joining as well as beneficial services our lake association provides, including but not limited to:



- ✓ Water quality testing & environmental monitoring
- ✓ Shoal marking for boater safety
- ✓ Invasive species info & updates
- ✓ Detailed fishing reports
- ✓ Representation to government on topics of concern (i.e. low water levels; Algonquin land claim; etc.)
- ✓ The (annual) Wolfe Lake Magazine distributed to all association's members, packed full of lake news, water quality reports, AGM news, Facts & Folklore, local wildlife tidbits, a kids' activity page and much more.
- ✓ Annual General Meeting (AGM) held every summer, includes a lively agenda where members are asked for their views & votes on relevant issues, as well as light refreshments while discussing lake topics. A great way to have your voice heard and meet your lake neighbours!

Why not consider becoming a Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association member and join those who love Wolfe Lake and desire to protect its natural beauty and environment? Find out more about types of membership (including Friends) by contacting Les Kom, our Membership Director (contact info on page 4).

This magazine is supported by local businesses

THANK YOU

Herlehy Home Building Centre (2), Bergeron Clifford (16), Norris Live Bait and Tackle (16), Stor-N-Lock (24 Design Mine (24), The Cove Country Inn (31), Kudrinko's Groceries (31), Aarde (30), IDA Westport Village Pharmacy (33), Rosebush Energies (33), North Country Marine (39), Barker Wilson (39), Tackaberry Sweet's Sand & Gravel (39), Evergreen Golf Course (43), Men in White (43), Greenshield Pest Control Inc. (43), Neil Scott Bowes & Cocks (43), Norris Bait & Tackle Inc. (45), Westport Brewing Co. (47), McNichols Electrical & Plumbing (47) and LD Power Sports (48) for your generous support by advertising in our annual Wolfe Lake (Westport) Magazine!



THE 32rd ANNUAL WOLF HOWL FISHING DERBY A BIG HIT

Close to 200 anglers were having fun on a sunny and safe lake

After a busy period of preparation, the volunteers of the Westport Area Outdoor Association (WAOA) couldn't have asked for more. On Saturday February 16 (2019), close to 200 hearty ice anglers eagerly took part in the annual Wolf Howl Ice Fishing Derby. The set up was absolutely professional, the weather was great with moderate winter temperatures, lots of sunshine and blue skies. "This event is the biggest fundraiser for the Westport Area Outdoor Association," explained Tom Myatt, who is President since December 2018. "And with so many folks participating, the results were above our expectations." (The proceeds will go to a few projects, see text box next page.)



The folks of the WAOA welcomed all participants at weighing station, which also served as a meet and greet and 'get a bite to eat' area during a full day of ice fishing. This year the organizers used new scales, donated by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), showcased in the picture here by Tom Myatt. A neat presentation of relevant flyers was laid out on a table, and – important – a food station, including a huge BBQ, sponsored by Kudrinko's Groceries.

To those who enjoy time on a frozen lake there is nothing like pulling a fish, any fish, through a hole and up onto the ice. Especially when the conditions are excellent. One angler, who was ice fishing for the very first time, concluded "This has been an amazing experience. I like the community spirit." We spoke to participants from Ottawa, Brockville and Toronto. The remaining attendees were all from the greater Westport area (as far as we know).

Thank you, local sponsors!

Many local businesses chipped in, sponsoring the event, with door- and actual prizes. Tom Myatt is thankful for the support and donations from businesses in the "greater Westport area". He mentions Canadian Tire Cataraqui Centre, Carson Wing, Charley Jones, Country Kitchen, The Cove Country Inn, Herlehy Home Building Center, Kudrinko's, Lake Effects, Norris' Bait & Tackle, Rikki's Repairs, Scheuermann Vineyard & Winery, Tangled Garden, Village Green, Westport Brewing Company, Westport Homeware and a kind anonymous donation.





WHO

Chris Nord

HOMETOWN

Newmarket, ON

FAN OF THE SPORT SINCE

I started young, with my dad!

WHY DO YOU ICE FISH

I hate winters, but I love ice fishing, to be outside with my buddies. One of my friends has a cottage here.

FAVOURITE SPOT

Just across Evergreen Golf Course, close the cottage.



WHO

Tim Rhoden

HOMETOWN

Delta, ON

FAN OF THE SPORT SINCE

At least 12 years!

WHY DO YOU ICE FISH

You're outside, not getting sunburned. The strange thing, you don't see the fish when ice fishing. I like that!

FAVOURITE SPOT

Centre shore, off Wolfe Lake Road is always great for me.



WHO

Brad Stevens

HOMETOWN

Gananoque, ON

FAN OF THE SPORT SINCE

First time ever!

WHY DO YOU ICE FISH

Being outside, breathing in the fresh air and having a good time with my friend. And, I'm used to the cold.

FAVOURITE SPOT

Next year, ask me again. Right here seems fine.



WHO

Thomas Murphy (on the left)

HOMETOWN

Toronto, ON

FAN OF THE SPORT SINCE

3 years already!

WHY DO YOU ICE FISH

The camaraderie, and to go out on my skidoo talking with other folks on the lake. I love this lake and I drive up as much as I can.

FAVOURITE SPOT

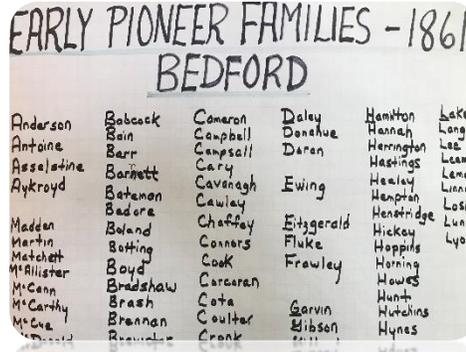
In front of my friend's cottage, between Concession 9 and 10.

<p>DERBY TOP ENTRIES</p> <p>At the weigh station 27 walleye, 9 perch, 9 pike and 7 ling were handed in. The top entries were:</p> <p>Walleye: First: Jason Neumann Second: Eric Mustard Third: n/a</p> <p>Pike: First: Scott Smith 4.07 lbs. Second: Dustin Mulville 3.96 lbs. Third: Ryan Tye 3.43 lbs.</p> <p>Perch: First: Herb Simpson 1.41 lbs. Second: Steve Barham 1.21 lbs.</p> <p>Ling: First: Steve Barham 3.41 lbs. Second: Brodie Rock 2.75 lbs.</p>	<p>DERBY TOP FUNDRAISER</p> <p>The Wolf Howl Fishing Derby is WAOA's most important annual fundraiser through which this association endeavours to generate enough funds to offset the costs of the projects the WAOA undertakes or allows the WAOA team to donate to other local projects/partners with mutual objectives.</p> <p>Currently there are three projects that the association has identified for 2019.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first and foremost is the operation of the Westport Hatchery (also presented at last year's AGM of the Wolfe Lake Association by Don Goodfellow of WAOA). 2. The support the rehabilitation of Scanlan Creek in conjunction with the Wolfe Lake Association. 3. The rehabilitation of Mary Jane's Creek. 	<p>DERBY TOP SLOT SIZES</p> <p>During a recent meeting with officials of the WAOA, one of the Management Biologists of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, expressed concerns that he had heard that some fishermen were not respecting the 'slot size' for Wolfe Lake and keeping walleye less than or greater than the 15.7" to 19.7" size allowed.</p> <p>At the Wolf Howl you may have seen the sign post making all anglers that passed fish were aware of the current regulation. In the interest of maintaining the walleye population in Wolfe Lake, we are kindly reminding you of this regulation.</p> <p>So, next time you go out on Wolfe Lake to fish, please take note of these most recent slot sizes. THANKS! More info:</p> <p>www.ontario.ca/page/fishing-limits-size-restrictions-and-catch-and-release</p>
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BEDFORD | DIVE INTO LOCAL HISTORY

When snow and ice was still covering our region, the Bedford District Historical Research Centre's held an open house at the Glendower hall near Godfrey on February 21 (2019). Close to 100 visitors attended this event, including a significant number of Wolfe Lake Association members.

It was a great event to dive into some local history and to meet, chat, sip some coffee while admiring the displays of archival information, historical photos, maps and more. The organizers also invited local vendors and collectors set up booths advertising their wares and services. Gerald Stinson, who chairs the Bedford District historical Research Centre was pleased with the day, "The annual open house is to promote the center and the local artisans and service providers in the area, and we just did that." In case you would like to know more or do would like to share your own local history with these history fans email Gerald Stinson at stinson@rideau.net



NOTE: The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association will inform you of the next open house in 2020, via a Wolfe Lake News Flash (emailed to all members).

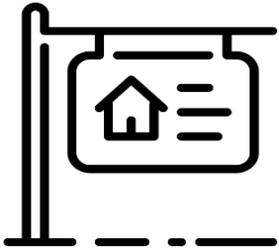
RIDDLES AND GIGLES: A. Owl; **B.** Skunk; **C.** Flying squirrel. **GIGLES ANSWERS: 1.** To be a movie star; **2.** She had mittens; **3.** With air breaks; **4.** A spelling bee; **5.** It sounds fishy; **THINGS THAT FLY WORD SCRAMBLERS: 1.** Dragonfly; **2.** Loon; **3.** Butterfly; **4.** Raven; **5.** Hornet; **Secret Word: Eagle** **BIRD MAZE: Turkey vulture**

FIND THE DIFFERENCES | Westport street view 1933 & today



As Wolfe Lake residents and cottagers we are constantly driving up and down to Westport. On the 'Vintage Kingston Group Facebook Page' we found this historic street view of Main Street with the text 'Entering Westport ca. 1933.' We asked permission to share it. Bill, who posted this unique picture, said that it is actually a postcard he had picked up on eBay a few years back. On the right, a (2015) Google street view of area, posted by Christian Inkster "The Post Office is still there, as well as well as the building that now is Vanilla Bean's Cafe & Creamery," and Vicki Baldwin's reaction, "My initial reaction to this photo was this could be taken today and edited for the grain and age. Wow!"

TREND ALERT | Millennials are becoming cottage owners



Millennials are looking for a recreational property. According to Cottage Life Magazine (spring edition 2018) this change in the traditional demographics of cottage buyers is being happening

for a few years now. Based also on experiences of several realtors and brokers in the Toronto area, it seems that the younger generation wants to get out of the city. They see the value of having a property in Canada's great outdoors. To be able to buy recreational property millennials start to be willing to rent in cities (such as Toronto and Ottawa). Asking local realtor Neil Scott, Sales Representative at Bowes & Cocks Limited Brokerage in

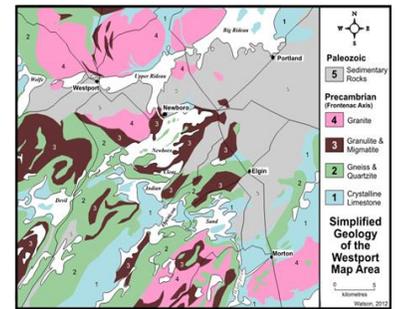
Westport about this trend, he confirms that this strategy is noticeable in our area. Neil, "A substantial number of Ottawa homeowners, because of escalating prices, are selling their city homes, and purchasing local cottages, upgrading them to four-season status. The increasing number of 4-wheel drive cars as well as the availability of high-speed internet in rural areas, facilitates this move." Neil finds that many younger generation

and new cottagers are lucky to be able to work from the cottage, accomplishing their jobs on their computer and smart phones at the lake. A number of them do a 'reverse' commute, once or twice a week." Neil and his business partner Monique VandeWint experience daily that the biggest benefit is the beauty of the Rideau Lakes and South Frontenac area, relatively close to Ottawa as well as Kingston."



NATURAL HISTORY RIDEAU LAKES TOWNSHIP Fault Line Runs Right Through Here

Westport, similar to San Francisco, are on fault lines. That's quite unique! According to Canada's Geological Survey Centennial Map, the Rideau Lakes Fault shapes and follows the cliffed north shores of the Big Rideau, the Upper Rideau, Westport Sand Lake beneath Wolfe Lake and Fermoy, Canoe, Knowlton and Holleford Lakes. Paul Thompson has done some research and shares the on-line results with us.



The Holleford (near Sydenham) coincidence is fascinating as Holleford is also the site of one of the most ancient meteorite craters still visible on our planet. Undoubtedly there were myriad meteors, asteroids and comets that collided with our Earth in its earliest times. Mountain ranges have risen. Rain, wind and glaciers have eroded. Most traces of ancient impacts from heavenly bodies have been erased. But now you can stand on a hill above the tiny hamlet of Holleford and look northward the several kilometers across one of our oldest craters, still evident after millions of years of time and trees. That is pretty neat! The Rideau Lake Fault is defined as a normal fault, a fracture in our Earth's fragile crust caused by tension. One side of the fracture has pulled away and sunk down relative to the other. You can see the form of the Rideau Fault from Westport's Lions Beach, from Rideau Vista School and from many other places along its nearly 50 kilometre length. If the your inner geologist wakes up by reading this, please visit

www.twprideaulakes.on.ca/heritage and www.rideau-info.com/canal/history/geology.html

PICTURE TIME | Photo Contest Honourable mentioned pictures 2018



"Flock of Seagulls"

Submitted by Juliette Naaijens



"Ready to Go"

Submitted by Phil Earnshaw

WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION'S MEMBERS ARE ACTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY

The members of our association are spotted at many local events and activities. Whether at the open house of the Bedford District Historical Research Centre, at a fundraiser aimed to raise money for high school students organized by the Simpson Masonic Lodge, at musical events at The Cove or at the Westport Music Festival, at Stacey Blair's Pie Bar at the Cottage Coffee House - you name it - **we are there to support!**

RIDEAU LAKES AMONG SAFEST PLACES IN CANADA

No matter where you live in Canada, your chances of becoming a victim of crime are low, but if you want to be where the odds are lowest, at Wolfe Lake, we are in a good spot! A recent survey by Maclean's Magazine rated the Township of Rideau Lakes as the 11th safest place in Canada to live, with a Crime Severity Index (CSI) of 27.04%. Well, that's great news, right?

Maclean's annual Dangerous Places report ranks communities according to Statistics Canada's Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, a measure of all police-reported crime. The CSI was based on the following details:

Population: 10661

Number of homicides in 2017: 0

Homicide rate per 100,000 people: 0

Breaking and entering rate per 100,000 people: 206.36

Assault level 1 rate per 100,000 people: 253.26

Police service: Ontario Provincial Police, Rideau Lakes detachment

NOTES:

 WOLFE LAKE IS DIVIDED BY TWO TOWNSHIPS: RIDEAU LAKES & SOUTH FRONTENAC

 READ THE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE ARTICLE AT: WWW.MACLEANS.CA/NEWS/CANADA/CANADAS-SAFEST-PLACES-2019



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WING IT: TOWING BILL OF RIGHTS | Here are the changes



Nobody ever thinks that you'll need a tow when driving up and down to the lake in the summer and winter alike. But sometimes we get unlucky as our vehicle stops running or are involved in an accident. Did you need a tow recently in our area? If so, did you know that the Ontario government changed some rules and regulations last year involving automotive roadside services, merely in response to complaints from consumers? Most of these concerns were about vehicles involved in collisions and difficulties drivers experienced regarding where the vehicle was being towed to and who was responsible for any storage charges, and what body shop choices were available. Nobody wants to get stuck on the side of the road, but it is important to know what your rights are. You can wing them, once you know!

The Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) had conducted a study with Ipsos to complete a public survey on the towing topic. They found that half of Ontario drivers were educated about their rights if they require a tow or roadside assistance.

According to research done for Canadian Automobile Association South Central Ontario by Ipsos, only half of Ontario drivers feel educated about their rights if they require a tow or roadside assistance. Drivers also worry about issues such as being charged unreasonably high fees or being misled and told by tow truck operators that insurance will cover costs when it doesn't.

Despite the rules that came into law in Ontario early last year, many consumers still seem to be unaware of their rights when it comes to towing. It can often be very stressful for motorists after a collision or vehicle issue, especially when you are on your way to the cottage, and the Towing Bill of Rights is a quick and easy reference guide to help put the power and knowledge back in the hands of consumers.

The Towing Bill of Rights is an easy glove box reference guide designed to help ensure Ontario motorists are familiar with the provincial rules and regulations that protect consumers and regulate the towing industry in Ontario. CAA South Central Ontario (CAA SCO) encourages all Ontario motorists and consumers to familiarize themselves with the specific terms of the Towing Bill of Rights:

TOWING BILL OF RIGHTS

- You have the right to decide who can tow your vehicle and to what location unless otherwise directed by police.
- A permission to tow form must be signed before towing starts, unless you have an auto club membership.
- The towing company must provide you with an itemized invoice, before receiving payment.
- The final bill cannot be more than 10% above the quoted price.
- If you choose, you can pay by credit card.
- During business hours, you can access your vehicle to get your personal items, while it's stored at a towing facility.
- A tow operator must notify you where your vehicle will be towed.
- Tow operators must disclose if they are receiving a financial incentive for towing your vehicle to a particular vehicle storage facility or repair shop.

The Towing Bill of Rights is based on specific rules and regulations set by the Government of Ontario through the Fighting Fraud and Reducing Automobile Insurance Rates Act. More details: <https://www.caasco.com/Advocacy/Towing-Rights.aspx>

DIY MOSQUITO YARD OR DECK SPRAY | Worth a try

Oh, those mosquito bites... what can we possibly do to avoid them? Undoubtedly you tried many commercial products, and perhaps you are happy with some of those. We found an eco-friendly 'Do It Yourself Mosquito Spray' recipe on-line and we are happy to share it here.

This solution will not harm plants or flowers. Would you like to give it a try? If so, please let us know if it works by sending an e-mail to com-wolfelake@outlook.com.



Ingredients

- Big bottle blue cheap mouthwash
- 3 cups of Epsom salt
- 3 stale 12 oz cheap beer



Instructions

- Mix the three ingredients together until salt is dissolved
- Spray anywhere you sit outside, your deck, a patio, around pools
- Spray deck all around sitting areas twice a summer
- Go out and sit at night, you will NEVER get bit!



INSPIRED & HOOKED BY THE NATURE OF WOLFE LAKE

Loretta Moore makes beautiful rugs

Loretta Moore used to work as an office & sales manager in Montreal. Some 25 years ago she got introduced to hooking and since then this hobby has pretty much taken over her life, but in a good way! Now she operates her creative business from her studio/shop in her lake house at Wolfe Lake, slowly filling up the entire basement. Her husband Gord is afraid he'll be relegated to the garage soon. Before that might happen, we paid a visit and had an awesome conversation.



guilds – Rideau Valley Boots and Baskets and the Olde Forge in Ottawa. “I have taken classes with some amazing teachers over the years and continue to take at least 1 – 2 classes every year as I firmly believe you can never know all there is to know.”

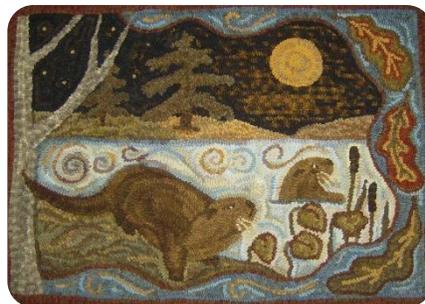
Fibre Fests in our area

Interested in meeting Loretta? She travels around quite a bit, showcasing her rugs, doing workshops or meeting people in her booth on many ‘fibre shows’.

Loretta used to be an avid quilter in her spare time, while she was still working. She never heard of rug hooking until she purchased a rug hooking kit at a quilt store in the United States. “I just loved pattern (a Tish Murphy kit),” she tells us. “I gazed at it in despair for about 4 months until my cousin dropped over one evening and showed me what she was working on – RUG HOOKING. I proceeded to sign up for a 4-hour class with her friend and teacher, Tony Latham (from Montreal). Those two quickly got me hooked! I gave up quilting, beading, knitting, cross stitch and everything else (would have given up work and cleaning the house and cooking but...) and became an addicted hooker. I started teaching beginner rug hooking and making kits about 20 years ago because it was so

difficult to find supplies in our area.” Loretta loves primitive rug hooking, loves to dye primitive colours, and loves to teach people how to hook. “It is my obsession and my passion. I am amazed at the wonderful talented people I have met and befriended because of rug hooking, also around our lake.” Loretta belongs to two

She will be participating in the ‘Fibre Fest’ Almonte (ON) on **September 7-8** (2019), and in Kemptville’s ‘Fibre Extravaganza’ on **September 21** (2019). Or go to Burritt’s Rapids on **November 7** (2019) at the ‘RVBB Vendor Day’. For more details or to contact her directly, visit Loretta’s website: www.hookedonthelake.wordpress.com.



WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION

We need you | **Nominations Executive Positions**



Why not join our team? And help us to ensure that the cottage experience at Wolfe Lake remains safe and enjoyable for everyone. Several positions within the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association team are open for nominations. We really need more hands-on deck. It will be a great experience and you will make new friends in our community. The first step is to contact us by sending an e-mail to com-wolfelake@outlook.com

1. **PRESIDENT**
2. **WATER QUALITY DIRECTOR**
3. **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**

The volunteer positions of our team evolve over time. Members of the current team may wear several hats and we would like to share volunteer hours. To get an understanding of the 2018 (and beyond) roles and tasks, we are happy to give you a call and explain what the positions entail. Please, don't forget to include your contact info in your e-mail!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | YOUR SAY



Check out the new stand-up paddle boards rules

I am an avid paddler...canoe, kayak, rowboat on occasion (when my outboard conks out) ...but now also love using my stand-up paddle board (SUP) on Wolfe Lake. Recently I came across a few new rules for small vessels like canoes and kayaks - but also stand-up paddle boards - on the website of Paddle Canada www.paddlecanada.com/are-you-using-a-stand-up-paddleboard. They gave an update to small vessel regulations that could affect you, so I thought this would be an excellent opportunity to share a summary of the recent changes to safety requirements for various paddle sports, including: Stand Up Paddleboards (SUP) used for navigation fall into the same category as canoes, kayaks, rowboats, rowing shells, and other human powered boats less than 6m and you are required to carry mandatory safety equipment under the Small Vessel Regulations.

- **Option 1: WEAR a lifejacket with a whistle (no buoyant heaving line required).**
- **Option 2: CARRY a lifejacket on board with whistle and a buoyant heaving line.**
- **Option 3: NONE then could receive a \$200 – \$500 fine for non-compliance.**

There are several other recent changes to the Small Vessel Regulations. For a full list of safety equipment required in your boat download the Canadian Safe Boating Council's Boat Notes App at www.csbc.ca/en/boatnotes or check their website www.csbc.ca/en/.

Les Kom

Member of Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association since 2012



We welcome readers to submit letters to com-wolfelake@outlook.com. Please supply your name, address and day time telephone number, and inform us of the year you became member. Letters should be fewer than 200 words, and may be edited for space, style and clarity.



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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Westport is ready



In the summer snow is certainly not on our minds, but earlier this year, we had to deal with relentless winter storms. On February 12 and 13 the highest 24-hour snowfall accumulation for many parts in eastern Ontario was recorded with a whopping 51 cm of snow. Remember? And around that time, on the main Westport Ontario Facebook Public Group page, many people in town were wondering if the town would have an emergency plan. For all of us living on our close to Wolfe Lake, it's important that we are aware of Westport's emergency preparedness.



When the snowstorms were almost unyielding in the winter, on Westport's main Facebook page some group members made jokey comments to keep up everybody's spirit, like a proposal that in case of real emergencies everybody should gather at the local supermarket and eat Neil Kudrinko out of stock. Another post suggested that the best emergency plan ever would be to "love thy neighbour, all year long" which could make sense, since we all have to keep in touch with one another under less pleasant circumstances, such as those winter storms. But all joking aside, most of the villagers started a serious conversation about the topic. A few knowledgeable folks referred to the official website of the Village of Westport. It showed that this local social media platform can be useful.

Working together

This is what Wolfe Lake Magazine found out for you; indeed, Westport is prepared for emergencies. The Emergency Plan has been developed to reflect the public safety requirements of our community. The plan was written in 2004 and it is kept current and viable by adherence to a maintenance schedule. Representatives of the municipality, police, local fire departments and paramedics/ambulance teams, all will be working together and are prepared to respond to an emergency in the most effective manner possible. More info and details available at www.villageofwestport.ca/emergency



THE WESTPORT ONTARIO PUBLIC FACEBOOK GROUP is for everyone who loves Westport. You are encouraged to ask questions, share ideas, events and pictures. Not a part of this page yet? As a Facebook user it's easy to be a part of this community, just go the page and hit the 'join'



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FALL WORD SEARCH

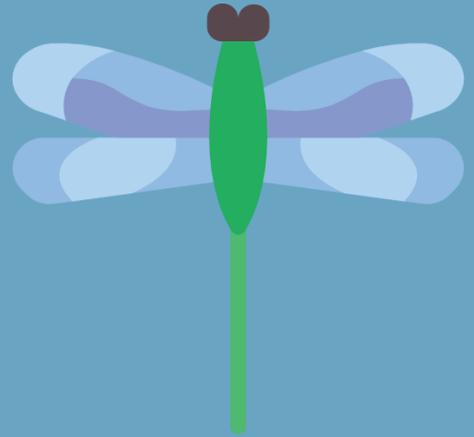


Fall will be just around the corner! Get into fall mode with this Wolfe Lake puzzle. The word search includes names, verbs and items we use when the leaves are falling. Words are spelled horizontally, vertically, and diagonally, both forwards and backwards.

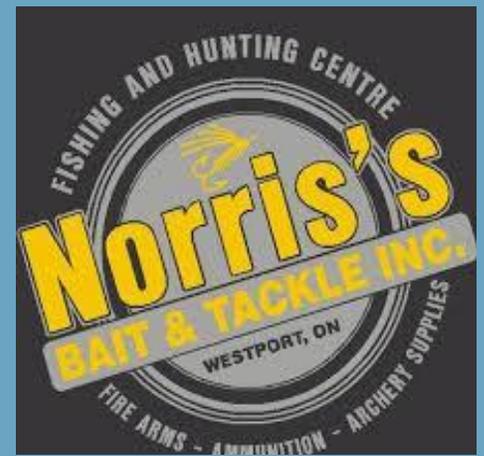
S K Y J K R G G K X T X Z E N O S A E S
 P U L B D C A N U Z S G U U O G R Q G S
 U G N M B Q G I H R E W N S S A K O C Z
 F R U O L X M V N P V S V I K B U A F V
 E C A L P E R I F V R Z U I R L R O L S
 T X S C T X Y G A H A A N Y J E J X Z C
 A E B O O K L S B G H G T P C P H N J N
 H T G G U R R K E G Z R N R C S B T J A
 E A N Z Z P N N W E Z T O S U I Q K A H
 B M I E C Z X A R U U W I W Q R B L Q G
 C I K T H A E H E Q Z V G W A C T E D H
 M L A V A N H T D O N E E W O L L A H G
 V C B H N J Q R I T N C A G X G K V X P
 Y R V P G T C R P B N I S O E J T E M G
 D I Y B E X T X S F M T T E E T Z S P Y
 N S T U N T S E H C K S Y L L E A L N Y
 I U M U S H R O O M E L P F L P L B K W
 W F V P Z L J X T F O O L D S K P O L P
 N V C J R E H T A E W S F I C L R A O E
 O R E D I C K S N I K P M U P R A N X C

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Acorn | Climate | Halloween | Raking | Thanksgiving |
| Apples | Cool | Harvest | Scarecrow | Toque |
| Baking | Crisp | Leaves | Season | Vegetable |
| Change | Fest | Mushroom | Solstice | Walk |
| Chestnuts | Fireplace | Pumpkins | Soup | Weather |
| Cider | Gathering | Rain | Spiderweb | Windy |

DRAGONFLIES



We love the sight of dragonflies around Wolfe Lake. Flying insects are usually annoying. Mosquitoes bite you, leaving itchy red welts. Bees and wasps sting. Flies are just disgusting. But there's something magical about dragonflies, inspiring artist, photographers, even engineers, who study how dragonflies fly. They're expert fliers. They can fly straight up and down, hover like a helicopter and even mate mid-air. If they can't fly, they'll starve because they only eat prey they catch while flying. (Source: www.ontarioinsects.org)



INFORM US ABOUT YOUR WONDERFUL WOLFE LAKE LIFE | Your stories & tips

You are important to us! Your life, adventures, stories, tips or great experiences at our lake can be of value to others as well. If you have anything to share with us - or even a suggestion - we welcome all of them. Gardening, DIY projects around the cottage, useful boating guidelines, shoal marking stuff, handy advice on cutting wood, on hunting, how to stay safe while swimming, cooking for your guests, really anything. And let's see if we can use your ideas for a new article, or topic to you'd like us to write about. Get in touch with us and email com-wolfelake@outlook.com.

OATMEAL CHIPITS COOKIES

The classic 'go-to' cookies

By Helene Wach



It's all part of cottage life. Your neighbours are coming over for coffee, kids call only an hour ahead to inform you they will be soon at their favourite spot on the lake. Instead of raiding the pantry, make these oatmeal chipits cookies. Fast and easy! Besides, baking cookies is comforting, and cookies are the sweetest little bit of comfort food, according to Helene Wach. "This is the original one everyone likes. These are the go-to cookies for grandkids and adults alike year-round. Even better with a glass of milk!"



WHAT YOU NEED

2 cups sifted flour or 1¾ cups all purpose flour
½ tsp salt
2 cups rolled oats
½ cup shredded coconut
1 cup brown sugar
1 tsp. Vanilla
1 tsp. Baking soda
¼ cup boiling water
Chipits. Your decision how much
1 cup shortening

WHAT YOU DO

- ☞ Mix together flour, salt, rolled oats and coconut.
- ☞ Cream together shortening (I always use Crisco) brown sugar, vanilla. Dissolve baking soda in boiling water and add to creamed mixture. Add flour mixture a little at a time, mixing well. Add chipits. Drop by small spoonful well apart on a greased cookie sheet, flatten with a fork.
- ☞ Bake in 350o F oven for 10 minutes.
- ☞ Number of Servings: 48
- ☞ Prep Time: 30 minutes



CREATIVITY BLOOMS IN WESTPORT | Two new initiatives

Westport Market



Tracey Philips and her husband Paul Thorp started a weekly **Saturday Westport Market** from **May -September (2019)** on 38 Concession Street (across from Lockwood Park) to showcase local talents. The idea was pitched at a 'Dream Big Breakfast' with Westport's mayor Robin Jones. Tracey: 'My husband is an artist, a wood worker, and has been attending various shows since he moved here in last year. It occurred to us that we could do something similar with our property in town. After lots of positive feedback from both vendors and the public. Tracey explains: 'As a philosophy, we are trying to create a venue in Westport to showcase our abundance of local talent. To that end, we will try to have a variety of vendors showcasing various items and will limit participation in the same week of too many similar vendors. We will attempt to also have a variety of new vendors as well as returning favourites. We plan to highlight a vendor or two on the Market's Facebook page to help promote talent as well as drive awareness and excitement from the public.' This initiative will also be promoted on www.whatsoninwestport.ca. More info, or interested in participating? Contact Tracey at westportmarket.on@gmail.com

Makers Rendezvous

Bear Mountain Boats and **Canadian Canoes** will be hosting on **September 14&15 (2019)** downtown Westport **Makers Rendezvous**, a unique event to promote and recognize the role of craftspeople and makers. With paddlers, tinkers, metalworkers, woodturners, sailors, builders, designers, suppliers, artists, writers, schools, woodshop cooperatives, filmmakers, historians, musicians, publishers, conservationists, educators amongst others. It promises to be a lively weekend, and the organizers welcome everybody. There'll be free events/activities, but some of them will have a fee. Details at: www.bearmountainboats.ca/pages/makers-rendezvous-2019





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