



Est. 1890

# NEWSLETTER

We're dedicated to keeping Charleston Lake beautiful in every way !

Summer 2007

## LAKE TROUT POPULATION GOING WILD

Charleston Lake is truly a unique and special place, especially for lake trout; it is a lake where in times past 100% of the fish were healthy, wild and natural. This is Canada's southernmost lake trout lake and despite heavy angling pressure, development impacts, and the history of stocking, the lake trout population continues to be supported by natural reproduction. In fact, studies by MNR have shown that now about 20 % to 40% of the population is maintained by natural reproduction this despite the negative effects of stocking non-native lake trout for many decades. One evaluation of field results for the period 1993 to 2004 shows that native fish have declined to between 18 and 25% of the population; this low value of contribution to the population is worrisome to fisheries managers; experience in other lakes has shown that this need not be the case.

The recent move to stock with hatchery-reared Charleston strain lake trout was undertaken on an experimental basis to eliminate the possibility of weakening the native gene pool by stocking with non-native strains. While the outcome is positive in the sense that there is good survival of hatchery reared natives, it is now known that there are many complicating factors with any form of stocking that could lead to a collapse of the native wild population. For example, it is known that stocking leads to greater angler expectations and increased angling pressure, unfortunately, this promotes an unsustainable harvest of native fish from the population and therefore fewer remain to reproduce. In a comparative analysis of 48 wild natural strain lake trout lakes with 28 stocked lakes, fisheries scientist Dr. David Evans found the angling pressure was 2 to 3 times higher for the stocked lakes but the catch per unit of effort was higher on the natural lakes; in short, the natural wild populations produce a higher quality fishery.

Native wild strains are locally evolved gene pools and interbreeding with non-native fish weakens the adapted gene pool and reduces overall fitness (health) of the population. If continued, it threatens the long-term survival of the locally adapted gene pool. Even the native hatchery reared lake trout lack the genetic diversity of wild fish. Eggs are collected from a small number of females and survival in the hatchery is very high compared with the survival to adulthood of about 4 per 1000 in the wild.

It is now thought that hatchery reared native strain fish that swim in a shallow tank for 15 to 18 months become preconditioned to shallow waters and to forage over spawning shoals and this may be contributing to the decline of the native population by predation on young native trout. Hatchery reared native fish also are larger than the wild same aged fish and may in fact predate on their wild cousins.

An additional problem may also develop with fisheries dependant on stocking. Stocking can artificially increase fish numbers in excess of the sustainable forage base for a lake; this situation promotes more predation on young native strain fish and ultimately a loss of the wild strain fish altogether while at the same time the fishery becomes totally dependent on hatchery sources. Fortunately, for Charleston Lake the situation has not advanced to this point.

The good news is that experience on other Ontario lakes shows that where natural reproduction is contributing to the fishery, native wild stocks rapidly recover and increase to the lake's natural productive capacity when stocking is terminated. On Lake Rosseau, a heavily fished lake, when stocking was terminated, natural recruitment increased while angling success stayed the same.

The Charleston Lake fishery shows the symptoms of the negative effects of years of stocking. Excessive angling pressure has resulted in the high unsustainable harvest of natives as determined

**See Lake Trout Pg. 3**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Lake Trout Population.....	1	Mission Statement .....	5
President's Message.....	2	Boater's Checklist.....	5
Letter from Mayor.....	2	Financial Report.....	6
Lake Trout Cont'd.....	3	For Your Information .....	7
Proposed Monitoring Schedule .....	3	Annual Meeting Notice.....	8
Environmental News.....	4	Vision for Charleston Lake .....	9
Township - Official Plans.....	5		

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

**WINTER**-Our winter was fickle this year. The ice on Big Waters formed on January 24th and was followed by 44 consecutive days of below freezing weather. The ice left Big waters on April 16th, chased by a major snowstorm which dumped 15 centimeters in its wake.

**ALL SYSTEMS ARE GO**-For Summer 2007. Our highly popular Youth Programs and the Regatta will continue this Summer. The Golf Tournament has been named the Doug Hale Memorial Golf Tournament. For more information on these events please refer to the insert included with this newsletter.

**SAFETY**- Five new Marker Buoys were purchased this Spring and are in place on the lake. Boating Safety remains a top priority in 2007. Please see the Boaters Check list on Page 7 of this newsletter.

**WATER QUALITY TESTING**- Two programs are scheduled for this Summer (1) The annual test for phosphate (2) A test for oxygen levels in the Trout basins. These programs will cost approximately \$8000.00 and are funded by your donations to the Charleston Lake Environmental Association.

**WOW 39%**-Studies carried out in 2005 and 2006 indicated that 39% of the sewage systems inspected had the potential to pollute Charleston Lake. Given that there are, at last count, 816 residences on the lake a projection of the 39% indicates we could have 318 sewage systems with the potential to pollute the lake. A very serious situation given that we swim in the lake and that leaking systems cause weed populations to flourish.

**PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT** --Please refer to pages 30 to 34 in the booklet included with this newsletter and then implement the 30 Take-Action Tips.

**LAKE TROUT STOCKING**--Many, many hours were spent this past winter developing a program for the year 2007 and beyond. Please refer to the article on pages 1 and 3 of this newsletter.

**ENJOY**--Beautiful Charleston Lake this summer. May your time at the lake be happy and safe.

Don Curry

President--Charleston Lake Association & Charleston Lake Environmental Association.

## Township of Athens letter from the Mayor

It is indeed a pleasure to have the opportunity to put a few words in your Lake Association publication on behalf of the Township of Athens. Another summer is almost here again and on behalf of your Township Council I hope everyone has a wonderful time around Charleston Lake in 2007.

Your newly elected Council is aware of this valuable resource in our Township that we share with Leeds and the Thousand Islands Township. The Lake must be protected for future generations and I believe that those in the past have set a standard that must be adhered to for its protection. Some things that are in place are hard to accept but for the good of future generations, we must have regulations in place for its protection. I congratulate your association for the excellent work they are doing throughout the entire year on your behalf for Charleston Lake.

The Township of Athens this year is publishing a newsletter for all our residents in the Municipality. Watch for this in your tax bill or in the mail. In this way you are informed of what is happening in the Township. Also more updates as to what your Council is involved with is being printed in the local papers. The Township has a website [www.athenstownship.ca](http://www.athenstownship.ca) for any information that you may require about your Township and if it is not there please phone the Township Office 613-924-2044. The agendas and minutes of the Council meetings are also posted for your information. In moving ahead with Council concerns your Township Council is now meeting twice monthly. This year the International Plowing Match, September 18 - 22, is in Leeds County and a number of our local organizations are taking part in this event. Also the Rideau Canal is celebrating its 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Of course the other annual local events are scheduled to take place again this year.

Enjoy your summer in the Township and we look forward to seeing you at the various events around the area.

Mayor John F. Conley Township of Athens

# LAKE TROUT POPULATION GOING WILD

Continued from page 1

through creel surveys and observed reduced numbers of native stocks on spawning shoals and in netting surveys. Charleston Lake is fortunate in that it continues to support good prey stocks, good deep-water habitat for juveniles in Runnings Bay and a wild natural population that can recover.

The MNR has been responsive to the concerns of the Charleston Lake Association and have agreed to a phase out period in the stocking. Beginning immediately all stocking of non-native fish will be terminated and stocking with hatchery reared native stocks will be phased out over the next few years. During this phase-out period the MNR will conduct intensive monitoring of the lake trout population and fishery. The CLA will partner with MNR as necessary to assist with the monitoring efforts.

The monitoring will include netting surveys (MNR), spawning assessments (MNR), creel surveys (MNR & CLA), angler diaries (MNR & CLA), continued yearly monitoring of phosphorous levels (CLA) and periodic monitoring of late summer oxygen conditions (CLA). At the same time the Leeds County Stewardship Council (LCSC) will continue to partner with the CLA to complete watershed ecosystem level improvements such as re-forestry abandoned farmland and fencing livestock out of streams etc.

During the stocking phase-out period the information collected by way of the monitoring will be used to make additional adjustments to the management strategy as necessary. In some situations where angler harvest remains above the sustainable production of the wild population then harvest controls may be required in order to establish a strong reproductive age adult population.

Looking to the future, anglers can expect to fish a high quality native lake trout population gone completely wild.

## Management Strategy

- 2007 - Stock 10,000 Charleston Lake Strain; Spring Littoral Index Netting; CLA Water Quality Survey\* with oxygen/temperature recordings; angler diaries
- 2008 - Fall Spawning Assessment; Summer Creel; angler diaries
- 2009 - Fall Spawning Assessment; Spring Littoral Index Netting; angler diaries
- 2010 - Stock 5,000 Charleston Lake Strain;
- 2011 - Stock 5,000 Charleston Lake Strain; spring littoral Index Netting; Summer Creel; angler diaries
- 2012 - Water Quality Survey with oxygen/temperature recordings; angler diaries
- 2013 - Spring Littoral Index Netting; angler diaries
- 2014 - Summer Creel; angler diaries

\* The water quality monitoring for phosphorus will continue annually as long as the Lake Partner Program continues

## NEWSLETTER



Est. 1890

While the Association makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of information contained in this newsletter, it cannot accept responsibility for errors and omissions. Readers are urged to obtain professional advice before acting on the basis of the material contained in this newsletter.

This newsletter is published regularly by the Charleston Lake Association for its members and those persons interested in Charleston Lake. Comments and/or submissions are welcome and should be forwarded to The Secretary, Charleston Lake Association, P.O. Box 609, Athens, ON, K0E 1B0

**Newsletter Co-ordinator:**  
Don Curry, Box 399  
Athens, ON, K0E 1B0

E-mail: don.curry@sympatico.ca  
Tel.: 613-924-1598

**For Membership  
Information  
Call 613-924-2809**

# ENVIRONMENT

## SEPTIC RE-INSPECTION PROGRAM---CHARLESTON LAKE

**FAST FACTS** Inspections were carried out by the Lanark Leeds Grenville Public Health Unit in the years 2005 and 2006. 169 residences in the Slack Road area off Charleston Lake in the Township of Leeds and The Thousand Islands were re-inspected. 37 cases (22%) were discovered where a septic tank, leaching bed or holding tank had to be replaced. Another 29 cases (17%) were discovered where corrective action was required. In total, of the 169 residences inspected, 66 (39%) had the potential to pollute Charleston Lake.

Projected on a lake wide basis these results indicate there could be 318 sewage systems having the potential to pollute Charleston Lake. A recommendation in the report from the Health Unit was to make the re-inspection program mandatory which may in the future be made mandatory by the Provincial Government.

Environment - Land / Water Level Committee

## Zebra Mussels

Zebra mussels, the razor sharp molluscs, have the nasty habit of sticking to just about everything in the water. Anyone stepping into the water barefooted soon realizes what an awful mess they can make of your feet or anything else that rubs up against them. Zebra mussels were first discovered in Lake St. Clair in 1988. They are an invasive species from Eastern Europe and they are here to stay.

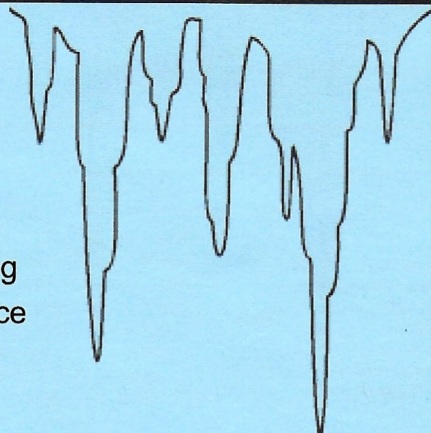
They have been present in Charleston Lake for the last number of years. There is so far no way to control them and almost nothing eats them. Because they are filter feeders our water is much clearer, however, there is also a down side; they compete in the food chain with fish and other aquatic species in Charleston Lake. The long range effect they will have on fish is still not certain. A recent study has suggested that Zebra Mussels, through their filtering process, are increasing phosphorous levels in lakes. Certain algae thrive on high phosphorous levels and one type called Cyanobacteria (Blue green algae) has been responsible for creating serious problems in freshwater lakes. It is present in small numbers in most Ontario lakes including Charleston Lake but with high phosphorous levels it can produce algal blooms very quickly. Some species of Cyanobacteria secrete chemicals that alter the taste of water and create a foul odour. Others emit toxins that are harmful to humans. Zebra Mussels are not going anywhere but we can help control the amount of phosphorous getting into the lake by using phosphate free products for washing, by not using fertilizer on lawns and plants anywhere near the water, and by making sure our septic systems are efficient.

We all need to be doing our best to keep Charleston Lake Beautiful.

Environment - Land / Water Level Committee

## THE LAKE'S ICE

In March of each year, conversation turns to: "When will the ice leave Charleston lake?" Looking back over the years, the ice departed as follows:



YEAR	DATE
2000	March 28
2001	April 16
2002	April 11
2003	April 21
2004	April 17
2005	April 13
2006	April 2
2007	April 16

Info courtesy of A. Lighthart

# TOWNSHIP - OFFICIAL PLANS

## WHERE DO WE STAND NOW

In November 2006 we elected new Councils in both of the Townships in which Charleston Lake exists. We are looking forward to the same excellent relationships we had with the outgoing Councils.

In terms of ongoing activity, our main interest has been with the Township of Leeds and the 1000 Islands. (TLTI) Working with the previous council we were able to have most of the important items in the Charleston Lake Plan incorporated into the Township's Official Plan. The townships plan was then approved by the Province with one significant amendment. The Province amended the Township plan to define Charleston Lake as an "at capacity lake" This is important because it introduces significant restrictions when zoning bylaws are developed to implement the Official Plan. The most significant of which is a mandatory set back of 300 meters for septic systems on new lots.

A Zoning Bylaw was introduced by TLTI last fall and was vigorously opposed by several associations, so much so that it was withdrawn and a committee of interested parties was formed to recommend corrections and amendments. We are proud to tell you that the committee was chaired by our own Bill Borger. That committee's work has now been completed and turned over to council. Since all the dissenting associations have been

part of the process it is expected that, if Council agrees, the resulting new Zoning Bylaw will be passed without serious objections. We do not feel that the 300M setback, imposed by the Province; and therefore contained in the proposed bylaw is realistic, and we will be

urging the council to negotiate with the Province to allow a more appropriate restriction.

We are pleased to note that the Township of Athens will be updating their Official Plan this summer. As we did with TLTI, we will work closely with the Township of Athens to have the important items in the Charleston Lake Plan incorporated into that update.

Municipal Affairs Committee

## *Charleston Lake Environmental Association* (A Charitable Trust Foundation)

### **Mission Statement**

The Charleston Lake Environmental Association, (CLEA) is a separate and distinct organization from the Charleston Lake Association (CLA).

The principal function of CLEA is to act as the fund-raising wing or component of CLA and to assist that organization, and others, which engage, or may engage from time to time, in programs relating to the ecological environment of the Charleston Lake area and watershed.

CLEA will seek individual donations and grants of funds which will be passed on, as directed by the Board of Directors of CLEA and as mandated by the Federal Government Offices of Customs and Revenue. CLEA is authorized, under it's Constitution and By-Laws, to acknowledge any receipt of gifts by issuing receipts for the purpose of Tax Deductions.

A secondary function of CLEA is to assist in the development and physical maintenance of the "Conference Centre and Offices" to serve both organizations, CLEA and CLA.

### **Boater's Checklist**

Before heading out on the water, make a checklist of everything you'll need to ensure a successful trip.

To help get you started, here are some items to include:

- Personal flotation devices (PFD's) for everyone
- Current boat registration
- Anchor and line
- Fishing licenses (for those needing one)
- Paddle
- Bucket or bailing aid
- Cell phone
- Sufficient clothing (change of clothes, rainsuits, jackets etc.)
- Boat fire extinguisher (on-board and charged)
- Whistle, horn (or other approved audible signal device)
- Trip information and plans left with family and/or friends

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## CHARLESTON LAKE ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT JAN 1, 2006 TO DECEMBER 31, 2006

**BANK BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2006** \$4,261.67

### INCOME

Membership Fees	24,616.18
Bank Interest	5.80
Bank Error Corrected	25.00
Donations	355.00
Grants	3,058.67
Swimming Lessons	1,235.00
Youth Camp	1,035.00
Regatta	1,627.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>31,957.65</b>

**TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS** \$36,219.32

### EXPENSES

General Administration	1,798.30
Membership Administration	3,127.40
Environment	2,087.32
Safety	1,788.58
Youth	4,318.39
Newsletter	5,217.76
Annual General Meeting	493.89
Info Centre	1,879.00
Donations	1,401.40
Municipal Affairs	150.11
Memberships, Other Orgs	900.00
Lake Plan	1,512.39
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>24,674.54</b>

**INCOME LESS EXPENSES** \$7,283.11

**BANK BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2006** \$11,544.78

*Don Curry, Acting Treasurer  
January 10, 2007*

**ARE  
YOU  
MOVING  
?**

**Make sure  
your  
newsletter  
moves with  
you!**

Take a moment to  
provide us with your  
new address so that  
we can ensure unin-  
terrupted delivery of  
your Association  
Newsletter

### 3 easy ways to do it

Phone:  
613-924-1598

E-mail:  
don.curry@sympatico.ca

Mail  
CLA  
P. O. Box 609  
Athens, ON K0E 1B0

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

---

### CHARLESTON ASSOCIATIONS MOVE TO RENAME PAVILION

By Matt Flikweert

At the Athens Municipal Council meeting in April, Councillor Curry put forward a request to rename the County Park pavilion at Charleston Lake in honour of the late Doug Hale.

The request will also go to the United Council of Leeds and Grenville to officially recognize by name and plaque, the pavilion newly created at the County Park, Sand Bay, Charleston Lake, as the Doug Hale Memorial Pavilion.

Mr Doug Hale, as Past President of both the Charleston Lake Association and the Charleston Lake Environmental Association, raised over \$400,000 for the purpose of programs designed to keep Charleston Lake beautiful for generations to come.

He also played a key role in raising over \$20,000 to construct the park pavilion which community groups and families enjoy. Article Courtesy of The Mural.

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Annual Memorial Service will be held at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday August 19th at 10:30am.

Senator Hugh Segal and Canon Bordon Purcell will be guest speakers.

The late DOUGLAS HALE will be remembered as a great friend of the Charleston Lake, Oak Leaf , and Athens areas.

Canon Bordon Purcell

### KEEPING THE COTTAGE IN THE FAMILY

The summer is a great time for the whole family to enjoy your cottage on Charleston Lake. Many of us have fond memories of cottage life as a child and as an adult. It is something that we would like to pass on to our children. But.....

How do you pass on the cottage to the next generation without triggering a huge tax bill?

How do you prevent the family cottage from becoming a family battleground?

The Charleston Lake Association is sponsoring a free "Cottage Planning Seminar" on Thursday, July 19th from 7:00 - 8:30 PM at the CLA office at 109 Charleston Lake road. The free seminar will be presented by Susan Reynolds, CFP and Robin McHardy, CFP of the Investors Group. For more information call Director Bill Borger or Robin Hardy at 1-877-899-2262 ext. 300. More information will also be available at the CLA Annual meeting in July.

### DAUGHTERS, SONS & FRIENDS

Year after year our adult children and our best friends visit with us at the Lake.

They, as we do, love Charleston Lake, and wish to see it kept beautiful in every way. They also want to know what's happening at the lake each year.

To meet these needs, many members are giving their children and best friends a membership in the Charleston Lake Association. Reportedly the recipients very much appreciate this gift and thereafter renew their membership each year.

Membership applications are available at the associations Information Centre, 109 Charleston Rd (County Rd 40).

Membership Promotion Committee

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

---



Est. 1890

# Notice of Annual General Meeting

**Saturday, July 14th. 9:30 a.m.**

**Holy Trinity Church**

Holy Trinity Road  
(Between Lower and Upper Oak Leaf Roads)

## AGENDA

Minutes of last meeting

Election of Directors

President's Report

New Business

Treasurer's Report

Adjournment

Guest Speaker

## Guest Speaker

Arrangements for our Guest Speaker were not finalized by press time. Watch for an announcement, or stop in to the Information Centre.

**Come early for refreshments**

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

*The Directors,  
Charleston Lake Association*



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Vision for Charleston Lake

The Charleston Lake Associations, their partners, lake users and property owners share in the following vision for the future of Charleston Lake:

We are committed to maintaining:

- the highest possible water quality
- pristine landscapes and beautiful vistas
- all of the fish, wildlife, birds and plants that belong here and the opportunity to see them in nature
- tranquility, peace, privacy and an ambiance that enhances the spirit
- a sense of community, family roots and traditions
- commercial and recreational uses that benefit the local economy without hurting the natural integrity of the lake
- a safe lake with public accessibility for all to enjoy

Our guiding principle is to guarantee the right of future generations to enjoy the natural heritage of the lake as we have, undiminished in any way.



Est. 1890

#### The Charleston Lake Associations Information Centre

109 County Rd. 40 (Charleston Rd.)

Tel.: 613-924-0149

#### Hours of Operation:

#### May & June:

Saturday, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

#### July & August:

Thurs. Fri. and Saturday, 10 am to 12 noon & 1 pm to 3 pm

Sunday 10 am to 12 noon

#### Holiday Schedule:

Monday, July 2, Aug. 6 & Sept. 5 ~ 10 am to 12 noon



## Yes!

I / We wish to help keep  
Charleston Lake Beautiful  
and Healthy

Enclosed is my / our donation of:

\$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_

\$100 \_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_

Make cheques payable to C.L.E.A.

Mail to:

CLEA, Box 609, Athens, ON  
K0E 1B0

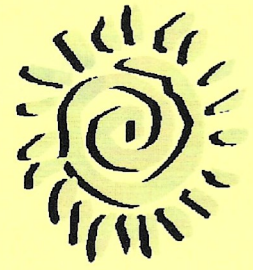
# Events Listing

April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● April 21 - 22 Delta Maple Syrup Festival</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Community begins to Bloom and Lakeline Lodge has its Annual Open House</li> <li>● May Long Weekend Cottages are opened and flower beds are planted</li> <li>● May 12<sup>th</sup> Pike Season Opens</li> </ul>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Lake Trout Opens</li> <li>● June 16<sup>th</sup> - St. Lawrence River Dragon Boat Races 613-342-4849</li> <li>● June 23<sup>rd</sup> Bass Opens</li> <li>● June 29<sup>th</sup> July 2<sup>nd</sup> Riverfest Brockville Waterfront Festival 613-342-8975</li> <li>● June 30<sup>th</sup> July 1<sup>st</sup> - Canada Day Party Delta Big V Music Festival To support Children with Special Needs</li> <li>● June 30<sup>th</sup> Charleston Lake Fireworks for Canada Day 9pm</li> </ul>

July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● July 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> &amp; 7<sup>th</sup> -CLA Youth Environmental Camp</li> <li>● July 14<sup>th</sup> - Athens Garden Tour</li> <li>● July 14<sup>th</sup> - Charleston Lake Association General Meeting</li> <li>● July 16<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> CLA Swimming Lessons at Sand Bay Park</li> <li>● July 18<sup>th</sup> Legends and Loes Charleston Lake Shores Charleston Lake Provincial Park - 8:15pm</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Charleston Lake Regatta August Long Weekend</li> <li>● August 4<sup>th</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> Horse-a-Rama Brockville 613-498-3925</li> <li>● August 18<sup>th</sup> - Cornfest</li> <li>● August 20<sup>th</sup> Star Gaze 8:30pm with Terrence Dickenson - Charleston Lake Provincial Park</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 15<sup>th</sup> Lyndhurst Turkey Fair</li> <li>● September 18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> Plowing Match Leeds Grenville 1-800-975-7174</li> </ul>



# SUMMER FUN



**Charleston Lake  
Association  
Summer Programs**



## Youth Camp

## Swimming Lessons

**Date: July 16 - 20, 23 - 27**

**Time: 10 am - 2 pm**

### Entry Fees:

- \$50.00 for members of CLA
- \$55.00 for non-members
- Location: Sand Bay County Park

### 2-Week Aqua Quest Program

Located at Sand Bay County Park.

Lessons run in 1 hour sessions.

All children are invited to participate. All ages and abilities are welcome.

For more information on these events  
please contact:

**Charleston Lake Association:  
613-924-0149**



Come to the 2nd Annual Charleston Lake Regatta! This new take on an old event - the fun starts at 1:00 pm with various games, contests and races for kids of all ages. A water ski / wakeboard show will begin around 3:00 pm, along with a Bar-B-Q. Suitable prizes will be awarded for all events.

## REGATTA

**Date: August 5, 2007**

**Start Time: 1:00 pm**

**Location: Sand Bay**

**Date: July 4,5,6 2007**

**Time: 10 am - 3 pm**

### Entry Fees:

- \$40.00 for members of CLA
- \$50.00 for non-members
- Location: Sand Bay County Park

Charleston Lake Youth Camp offers an outdoor education program designed to raise environmental awareness and water safety among area youth. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy the beautiful lake environment.

Each day includes guest speakers, journals, games, crafts, swimming & nature walks. Events are supervised by experienced councillors. Please bring a favourite summer photograph (5x7) of yourself doing something that you enjoy outdoors.

Registration forms available at:

**Lakeline Lodge & Marina &  
Charleston Lake Association Office**

Each person is responsible for supplying their own safety equipment for each event (ie: life jacket)



Est. 1890

**OVER**

# **Charleston Lake Association 2007 Golf Tournament**

## **The "Doug Hale Memorial"**

**Saturday, August 11, 2007**

**Village Green Golf Club - Athens**

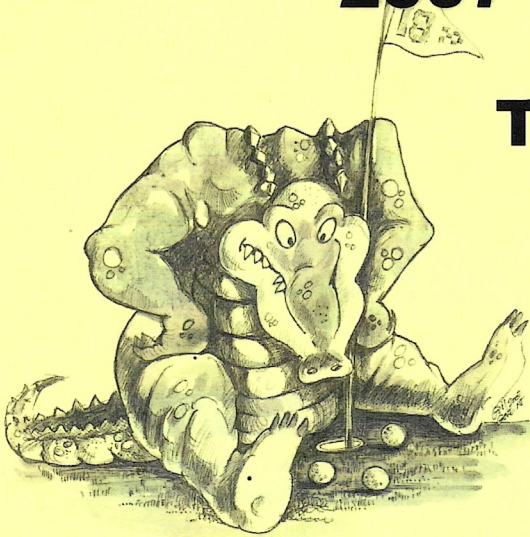
**9 hole teams: \$55.00**

**18 hole teams: \$80.00**

**Village Green members: 9 holes: \$40.00**

**18 holes: \$55.00**

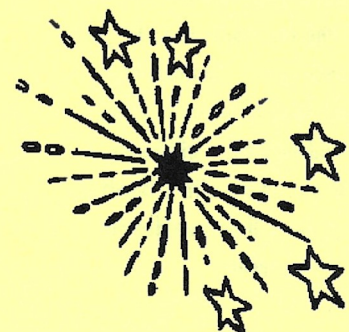
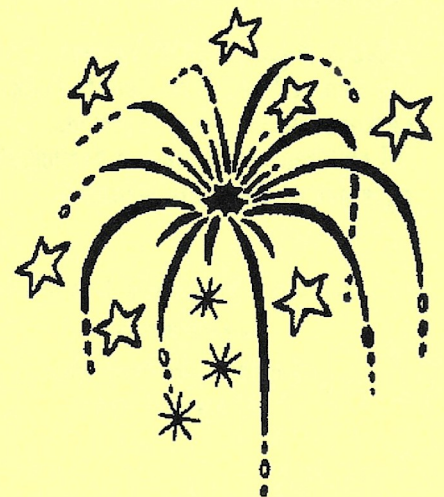
**Includes: Golf, awards, chicken BBQ dinner, live auction.  
Many prizes and a fun day for everyone!**



## **FIREWORKS DISPLAY and BBQ**

**Saturday evening on June 30th.  
at the Charleston Lake dock**

**Display organized by the  
Charleston Village Fireworks Committee**



**OVER** 

# **HOW TO PROTECT CHARLESTON LAKE STARTING NOW!**

## *18 Take-action tips*

### **1 Sniff out a sick septic system**

Leaking and overloaded septic systems are a major source of phosphorous in the lake, fueling algae growth and causing water quality to decline. Inspect your septic bed frequently for odours and puddling and if need be, call in the pros. Get the tank pumped out every three years. If you are having a big crowd at the cottage, rent a porta potty instead.

### **2 Kick the lawn habit**

About 50% of rainfall rolls right over the grass to the water, carrying with it harmful fertilizers and pesticides. Better to replace lawn with native plants such as dogwood and black-eyed susans which readily absorb much surface water. If you must have a lawn, keep the grass at least 30 metres from shore. Mow it no shorter than eight centimetres high, and eschew chemicals.

### **3 Do not soap in the lake, ever**

Even if a soap says it is phosphate free and biodegradable, it can hurt aquatic life. All biodegradable means is it is capable of breaking down with the help of soil bacteria.

### **4 Replace hard, paved surfaces with more porous ones**

Instead of asphalt or concrete surfaces for paths and drives, use wood chips, small pebbles, permeable paving stone or anything else that allows runoff to soak into the soil. You can also plant a small rain garden, a planted depression designed to catch overflow water around paved areas.

### **5 Stock up on green cleaners**

What goes down the drain and into the septic can still make its way to the lake. Many detergents and soaps on the market contain phosphates, so watch out what you buy. Avoid using household chemical cleaners which destroy the beneficial bacteria that break down waste in your holding tank. There are much less toxic alternatives available now (**available at your Associations Info Centre**) and tried and true do it yourself cleaners like baking soda, vinegar and lemon juice.

### **6 Hook a rain barrel up to your eaves troughs**

It is such an easy thing to do with significant benefits. By catching rainfall before it hits the ground, you can greatly reduce runoff. *For those who only associate runoff with summer rainfall, it also comes in winter, and spring in the form of snow melt.* Even temporarily storing rain in a barrel until after a storm lets up will help reduce erosion. Newer rain barrels are designed to keep out mossies so the water won't become a breeding pool for them.

### **7 Pick up after your pooch**

Yes, there's already wildlife poop around the cottage, but modern CSI - style tracking of pollutants has identified doggie-doo as a major source of water pollution in many areas, one that carries coliform bacteria that can make people sick. Bury it or toss it in the back forty or flush it down.

### **8 Refuel away from the water**

When you need to top up gas tanks such as chainsaws, generators, pumps and boat engines, do it well back from the shore, preferably over a tray and in a shelter with a hard floor. Have a rag on hand for mopping, to make clean up easy.

### **9 Plant a tree or two**

Green giants are great insulators of the cottage. Plant deciduous trees on the south and west sides of the cottage to provide shade in summer, and let sun inside throughout the winter. Conifers on the north and northwest sides block cold wind in winter with their thick evergreen boughs.

## 18 Take-action tips cont'd

### 10 Switch the cottage wattage

Compact fluorescent bulbs last up to ten times longer and use about one quarter the electricity of incandescent ones.

### 11 Don't be a night polluter

Flood lights and other high wattage outdoor bulbs are not only energy eaters, they are inappropriate at the cottage. They cause light pollution on our lakes, messing up mating and feeding behavior of wildlife, reducing boater's ability to see the navigation lights, and stealing our view of the stars. Replace them with low wattage lamps, and turn them off unless you really need them. Same goes for indoor lights.

### 12 Keep a healthy shoreline

Rebuild the buffer zone if your cottage waterfront has been stripped of its' native shrubs, trees and grasses. Do your lake a favour by replanting this **buffer zone**. It traps harmful run-off in roots and decomposing leaves, helps to prevent erosion and is a rich habitat for shore dwellers essential to a healthy aquatic ecosystem. Ideally, the buffer should be as wide as your waterfront, and as deep as thirty metres, but if that sounds too daunting, start small with a strip that's a few metres deep and enlarge it over a few years.

### 13 Let sleeping logs lie

Driftwood and fallen trees at the shore may look like clutter to you but they provide vital hiding places, feeding grounds and spawning areas for lots of aquatic creatures such as fish, frogs and salamanders. So resist the urge to tidy up debris.

### 14 Let dead trees stand

Not just for woodpeckers, these snags act as hotels for a host of other birds, mammals and insects.

### 15 Opt for a low impact dock

If you are ready for a new dock, choose a floating, pipe or cantilever dock which cause much less disturbance to lakebed habitat than the traditional crib dock. Ideally, choose a design that minimizes modifications to the shoreline.

### 16 Go easy on water weeds

Yes, they make the kids squeal, but they also hold sediment in place and are home to lake critters. Don't strip all the weeds away; designate a small area to swim in, and contact the MNR before you clear it.

### 17 Be a considerate boater

When close to shore, maintain a no wake speed (10 km/h within 30 metres of shore) to guard aquatic nurseries from wave action and to prevent erosion.

### 18 Get the lead out of the tackle box

Too often, lead sinker and jigs are ingested by aquatic feeders like loons, fatally poisoning them. Switch to non lead substitutes and save our icon.