



est. 1890

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER
2018

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

www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca

President's Message

Welcome back to beautiful Charleston Lake. Spring has been a long time coming and hopefully we do not get a repeat of last year's wet conditions.

We are fortunate to live on or near this wonderful body of water. Just how wonderful is the fact that we share similar water quality parameters with some of the lakes in Algonquin Provincial Park as cited by a Queens University study of our area lakes. To maintain this quality is everyone's responsibility; yours, mine and governments. The Official Plan (OP) of Leeds and the Thousand Islands (LTI) affects 3/4's of Charleston Lake and it is my hope that the newly developed plan recognizes the value of Charleston Lake and puts into place regulations that will keep it beautiful for generations to come. Please see the letter, in this newsletter, sent to LTI by CLA/CLEA regarding the new OP and what we hope to see entrenched in its regulations. To register your opinion on the OP contact the LTI municipality in Lansdowne, 613-659-2415.

It seems that we constantly face new challenges in our effort to "Keep Charleston Lake Beautiful" from Zebra Mussels, nutrient loading, blue green algae, invasive species and

now microplastics and microbeads. These products are the new scourge polluting our oceans, lakes and rivers. I have asked Ontario Lake Assessments to look into the plastic situation here in Charleston Lake. We can all help out by reducing the plastic we use and by picking up discarded plastic bottles and plastic litter in and around the lake.

Upcoming events this summer at Charleston Lake:

Annual water quality testing.

Youth Summer Programs - For details visit our website www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca

Doug Hale Memorial Golf Tournament. Info in this newsletter.

Shoreline Challenge Program. Please register your property.

Ontario Youth Summit in Orillia, Ontario

Student Bursary – To encourage area youth to be environmental stewards, we provide two bursaries to local Public High Schools for students continuing post secondary studies in the environmental field.

AGM July 28th, 9:30 am at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church on Lower Oak Leaf Road.

Come and hear our guest speaker, Elaine Mallory from the municipality of



TLTI, talk about the new OP and how how it will impact our lake.

Please note the date change of the AGM.

Thanks go out to Robbie Gibson, Cody Johnston, Gerry Clancy and George Bellisle for helping to keep us safe on the lake by the installation of shoal markers. These 75 shoal markers are completely funded by CLA/CLEA and are part of how your dues are being spent.

If you spot a loon nesting site or platform, please give them their space so we can continue to enjoy them on Charleston Lake.

Once again a thank you to all our CLA/CLEA directors who donate a lot of time to keep our lake one of the best in the area.

We welcome your input -you might consider joining our team of directors.

Bill Hallam

FISHING ON CHARLESTON LAKE

Enjoy Family fishing week:

June 30th to July 8th – get out and enjoy the lake with friends and family - no licenses are required during this week.

Opening Dates:

Pike – Second Saturday in May

Lake Trout – Fourth Saturday in May

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass – Third Saturday in June

Catch and Release Tips

“Many people go fishing all their lives without knowing it is not the fish they are after.” Henry David Thoreau

While there is nothing wrong with catching and taking fish from the lake to have a meal at the cottage, catch and release fishing is increasingly becoming the norm for many fishermen. The following are some tips for insuring that your catch makes it back into the water safely for another angler or generation to pursue.

HANDLING FISH - Wet your hands if you need to handle a fish - fish have a natural (and smelly!) layer of slime which protects them from fungus, bacteria and parasites. Dry hands are much more likely to remove a fish's protective layer of slime. Remember, never touch a fish's gills or eyes if you are planning on releasing.

LANDING FISH – Keep them in the water as much as possible, only removing them when necessary for a few seconds at a time. If you feel you must take it out of the water, don't hold a fish with one hand by its lower lip – support the belly with your other hand. Keep admiration and photo time (try shooting them in the water) to a minimum to avoid exposure to air.

LANDING NETS - using a net increases the risk of injury or mortality, so releasing in the water without a net is the best approach when that is possible. If not, a rubber knotless net lessens injury to fins and the removal of the protective slime. Large mesh allows for quicker removal of hooks.

HOOKS – single, barbless circle hooks are the best as they minimize the chance of deep hooking. Another option is to simply use needle nose pliers to flatten the barbs on your hooks to minimize the tissue damage that barbs inevitably create when fish thrash and in hook removal.

Barbless hooks usually reduce the release time and often fish can be released without taking them out of the water at all. Trailing treble hooks often snare the gills or eyes. Trebles can be removed or replaced by a large single hook. While slightly more difficult to land a fish with barbless hooks, it can be a fun challenge to your angling skills (keeping line tight at all times etc.) if you are going to release anyway.

If the hook is buried deep and cannot be retrieved easily, cut the line as close to the hook as possible. One study found that approximately two thirds of fish survived with the hook still in the fish while only 11% survived when the angler tried to do deep surgery. (reference: Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission).

Adverse conditions such as water temperature greater than 65 to 70 degrees, require extra care in handling fish.

AVOID UNNECESSARILY LONG LANDING BATTLES

(except when releasing trout – see below).

Use slightly heavier gear to keep the fight short.

SWIM BLADDER – when most fish (bass, pickerel, perch) are caught in deep water and brought to the surface, gasses dissolved in the blood are released causing the bladder to expand, often causing internal damage. Fortunately, for lake trout this is not the case as they have the ability to inflate and deflate their swim bladders to compensate for changes in water pressure at different depths. Even if you see air bubbles surfacing or the fish burping/gurgling, it is the trout's way of reducing the pressure and they can still be safely released. They do not need to be 'fizzed'. As opposed to bass and pike where you want the fight to be relatively fast and short, bringing trout up slowly is the preferred method as it gives the trout enough time to complete the pressure adjustment process. (reference: Outdoor Canada Magazine)

REVIVAL – if the fish is struggling, hold it gently in the water and look for the gills to open and close – use a gentle figure eight pattern when moving water through the gills, not in a straight line as this impedes the fish's ability to move water from the mouth to the gills.

TAKE YOUR FRAYED LINE HOME TO THE TRASH

BUCKET – throwing it back into the lake can endanger fish, loons and other wildlife.

BAIT OR ARTIFICIAL LURES? - Using live bait often results in hooks being ingested deeply rather than in the lip where lures generally latch.

Large Lake trout are less resilient than small trout, so be extra careful with them.

Large mouth and small mouth bass caught and released early in the season (or before the season opens) results in reduced ability to protect their young against predators after being caught while defending their nests.

(Reference: JP Bushey, Ontario Out of Doors, June 2016)

CATCH AND RELEASE DOESN'T ALWAYS WORK - 16 % of fish die after catch and release (but it sure is better than 100% the other way!) For further information, see the 2005 MNR article: Casselman, S. J. 2005. Catch-and-release angling: a review with guidelines for proper fish handling practices. Fish & Wildlife Branch. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Peterborough, Ontario. 26 p.

BENEFITS OF CATCH AND RELEASE – besides the obvious benefit of helping maintain a healthy fish population in the lake for the next generation to enjoy, I find the main benefit is being able to tell even bigger whoppers when you get back to the cottage – “that seven-pound monster didn’t get away on its own, I let it go!”

“Fishermen are born honest, but they get over it.” Ed Zern



QUALITY PRODUCTS THAT DON'T COST THE EARTH

Using these quality products will significantly reduce lake and groundwater pollution, help maintain your septic system & minimize your family's exposure to potentially dangerous toxic chemicals.

Products may be purchase at: Dockside Restaurant • Kelsey's Marina Lakeline Lodge & Marina • Lakeline Lodge & Marine CLEA info Centre (109 Charleston Road) Lansdowne Food Mart

Shampoo, Liquid hand soap, Bar soap, and dishwashing liquid, Pet Stain and Odour Remover.

CHARLESTON LAKE FISHERY HEALTH AND ANGLER DIARIES

Charleston Lake is currently on a five year BROADSCALE Monitoring rotation. Monitoring last took place in 2014, and it is expected that it will make the schedule for monitoring in 2019 again .

The 2014 monitoring cycle showed that the majority of lake trout in Charleston Lake were in the 400-500 gm (1lb), 300-400 mm, 7-8 year range, which is just below or at the age of maturity. Charleston Lake looks to have a good healthy population of large bodied lake trout. The longest fish caught during the 2014 monitoring was 714 mm (28.1”) and the heaviest fish was 4500gm (9.92 lbs).

As BROADSCALE Monitoring only happens on a rotational basis, we rely on angler diary submissions to monitor the health of the lake in between. The angler diaries are an opportunity for residents of Charleston Lake to help contribute to its management. With enough diaries submitted, we can calculate Catch per Unit Effort which will give us a good idea of the abundance of lake trout, and their health as well.

Unfortunately, in recent years, the response rates to the angler diary program have been very low. This makes the data we compile statistically limited. Every entry is important. But unless we have a good sample size, their use to us is limited.

Angler Diaries can be picked up at the following locations:

- Kelsey's Marina
- Lakeline Lodge
- Twist's Marina
- Charleston Lake Information Centre.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Charleston Lake Association and the participating drop-off locations for running this program

Lisa McShane - Ministry of Natural Resources

TOWNSHIP OF LEEDS AND 1000 ISLANDS OFFICIAL PLAN - 2018

This is a copy of the letter sent to the Municipality to express CLA/CLEA's thoughts on the Official Plan. For more information about the Official Plan, please go to the Township of Leeds and the 1000 Islands website.

March 19, 2018
Township of Leeds and Thousand Islands
1233 Prince St.
P.O. Box 280
Lansdowne, ON K0E 1L0

Attention: Ms Amanda Werner-Mackeler

Re: Official Plan Review – Draft Directions and Recommendations Report dated February 2018

The Charleston Lake Association wishes to express its gratitude for the opportunity to participate in the public process regarding the Township's Official Plan Review. The Township and its Planning Department is heartily commended for undertaking this comprehensive review and developing a number of important Recommendations for policy changes to the Township's Official Plan that shall guide development and land use planning decisions - particularly as they relate to updating its Natural Heritage and Waterfront Development policies.

The Charleston Lake Association's desire to celebrate, protect and enhance the natural heritage and environmental features of the Charleston Lake ecosystem through the implementation of effective policies, guidelines and Approval (permitting) and oversight processes are important to note. A comprehensive

and robust legal framework and governance approach (including community out-reach and public education) is, moreover, recommended and necessary to ensure that proposed shoreline developments harmonize with the natural environment and do not adversely affect the environmental and ecological health and integrity of the Charleston Lake ecosystem.

Given Charleston Lake's 'at capacity' and 'highly sensitive Lake Trout Lake' designations, a 'no net increase in phosphorus or nutrient loadings' policy and watershed management approach is recommended to be adopted and implemented to manage shore-line development and protect water quality on a lake-wide basis. This would also enable the implementation of best management practices and technologies for sewage and septic systems around the lake and up-stream; and, furthermore, support 'sustainable community development' while 'sustaining the natural environment' (i.e., key pillars of the Township's Strategic Plan).

Once again, thank you for undertaking this very important and thoughtful Official Plan review process and giving consideration to these remarks.

Sincerely

Bill Hallam
CLA President

CHARLESTON LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK ACTIVITIES – SUMMER 2018

JULY 3 – Canoe Workshop • **JULY 14** – Live Animal Show

AUGUST 2 – Canoe Workshop • **AUGUST 10** – David Archibald Concert

AUGUST 11 – Live Birds of Prey

For more information about these and many other activities at the Park, go to the Charleston Lake Provincial Park website.

CANADA'S 151ST BIRTHDAY

CELEBRATE CANADA DAY AT THE LAKE THIS SUMMER WITH THE BEST FIREWORKS DISPLAY IN THE AREA

Saturday, June 30th, 2018 (Rain Date: Monday, July 2nd)

Boat Poker Run and Fireworks in Charleston Village.

Fireworks will be at 9.45 pm. approximately.

Boat Poker Run is not a race, but a 50/50 winner split.

Registration (\$10.0 per hand) starts at 8.30 am. at the Main Dock.

The hands will be read by officials at 12 noon.

6.pm – 10.pm Live Music on the Main Dock with The G Men

Hot Dogs, BBQ, Pizza by the slice and pop.

Family activities include wagon and pontoon boat rides, a clown and face painting and games.

50/50 draw to support FX Committee Fireworks event. This group is non-profit - donations and ticket sales are necessary to cover costs!

Look forward to seeing you for some family fun!

CLA SUMMER CAMPS

Limited space is left in CLA Summer Camps at Sand Bay County Park, Charleston Lake.

For information and registration forms, check out Charleston Lake Association website or email Mary Mansworth at mmansworth@ripnet.com

Charleston Lake Association Centre
109 County Road 40,
Charleston Lake Road.
613-924-0149

The Information Centre will be open every weekend in June.
July and August: Thursday - Monday
10.a.m - 4.p.m.

2018 HEALTHY SHORELINE CHALLENGE

The Charleston Lake Association and Charleston Lake Environmental Association are sponsoring the 2018 Healthy Shoreline Challenge for all Charleston Lake residents.

The purpose is to recognize the many beautiful natural shorelines on Charleston Lake. Is yours one of them? If so you will want to register your property and have a chance to win one of two beautiful pieces of wildlife art.

There are two categories:

Category A for those shorelines where little or no development has occurred.

Category B for those shorelines that have some lake friendly alteration/rehabilitation

Shorelines are the ribbon of life for any lake and are key in keeping Charleston Lake beautiful.

Our Healthy Shoreline Handbook, sent out to all CLA members and cottagers provides recommendation for shoreline improvements and helps guide landowners to make changes where necessary.



It is easy to enter the draw before June 30, 2018:

Register online at www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca or email jay.kyle0213@gmail.com Although you do not need to be a member of CLA, it would be appreciated if you were. Past applicants will be included in this year's draw.

You could win a beautiful original piece of art just like this!



Charleston Lake Association & Charleston Lake Environmental Association

Comparative Combined Financial Report Statement of Revenue & Expense

Revenue	2017		2016
Membership Dues	\$20,160		\$19,320
Club \$100 Donations	\$10,700		\$9,845
Golf Tournament	\$4,522		\$4,087
Other Donations	\$1,105		\$5,440
Interest and Other Income	\$1,340		\$770
Total Revenue	\$37,827		\$39,462
Expenses			
General Administration	\$10,914		\$9,877
Information Center	\$11,161		\$6,480
Youth & Social Programs	\$4,480		\$2,960
Safety	\$1,625		\$7,488
Miscellaneous	\$3,774		\$4,866
Total Expenses	\$31,954		\$31,671
Total Environmental Project Costs	\$6,967		\$7,817
Total Expense & Project Costs	\$38,921		\$39,488
Unexpended Funds Current Year	-\$1,094		-\$26
Unexpended Funds Prior Years	\$82,401		\$82,427
Unexpended Funds at Dec. 31st	\$81,307		\$82,401
Combined Balance Sheet at Dec. 31st			
	2017		2016
Cash on Hand	\$23,283		\$25,339
Cash Invested	\$57,654		\$56,662
Accounts Receivable	\$1,395		\$3,186
Total Assets	\$82,332		\$85,187
Accounts Payable	\$1,025		\$2,786
Unexpended Funds	\$81,307		\$82,401
Total Liabilities & Unexpended Funds	\$82,332		\$85,187

Prepared by: Wayne Gill
Secretary Treasurer CLA & CLEA

2018 DOUG HALE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

2017 was a sell-out – please register early!

Get your team together now for our 9 hole golf tournament on Saturday August 11th at the Cedar Valley Golf Course, 7041 County Road 29 (at Highway 42). We begin with a putting contest at 9:00 AM with the 9 hole scramble starting at 9:30 AM.

Golf will be followed by a social hour with lunch beginning at 1:00pm. An early wrap up around 2:30pm will allow everyone to enjoy the rest of a beautiful summer day at Charleston Lake. Those who wish to come for lunch only are most welcome.

Let's keep Doug's memory alive by supporting the Charleston Lake Environmental Association! Remember 100% of all net proceeds go toward the environmental programs which will help keep Charleston Lake in pristine condition now and for future generations.

So get your team, complete the attached registration form and forward it to us ASAP with your team cheque. Advance payment will ensure a quick registration process.

Thanking you in advance.

Wayne Ashford 613-659-4715
 Pierre Menard 613-617-9669
 Golf Tournament Co-Chairmen
 Charleston Lake Environmental Association
 PO Box 609, Athens ON K0E 1B0



Charleston Lake Environmental Association - 2018 Doug Hale Memorial Golf Tournament Registration

Saturday, August 11th, 2018 at the Cedar Valley Golf Club

7041 County Road 29 at Highway 42 (613) 342-2158

All Proceeds go toward our Environmental Association Projects

Entry Fee Includes:

Golf * Door Prizes
 Buffet lunch

* Golf Prizes
 Lots of Social Exchange

* Putting Contest

<u>Teams of Four Scramble (Shotgun Start)</u>	<u>Fees</u>	<u>Cedar Valley Member</u>	<u>Lunch ONLY</u>
Putting Contest begins at 9:00 am 9 Hole Golf Teams at 9:30 am	\$50	\$30	\$20
Youth (under the age of 16)	\$40	\$20	\$15
Child (Golf Carts are extra, to be arranged at the Pro Shop, 613-342-2158)	\$20	\$10	\$10
Team Name: _____		CEDAR VALLEY	EXTRA LUNCH
Name (Players) _____ Address _____ <u>Golfing Member</u>		Y/N	
1. _____		Y/N	
2. _____		Y/N	
3. _____		Y/N	
4. _____		Y/N	
* Tee Assignments at the Pro Shop 1/2 hour prior to the Shotgun Start			

Please Make Cheques Payable to CLEA | Mail to CLEA, PO Box 609, Athens, ON. K0E 1B0

Or deliver to: CLEA Office, 109 Charleston Lake Road, open Thurs to Mon 10:00am-4:00pm Or pay at the starters table

To Register by Phone or for More Information, Please Contact:

Wayne Ashford 613-659-4715

Email: bev.wayne@gmail.com

Pierre Menard 613-924-6212

Email: psmenard@hotmail.com

THANK YOU FOR ASKING

Dear Charleston Lake Association,

As a long-time resident of Charleston Lake, I can't help but notice the increase in the resident Canada goose population. They are a problem with my lawn near the water where they spend most of their day along with their new hatchlings. It is difficult to walk without stepping in goose droppings. Should I be concerned about swimming and fecal contamination in the lake from geese and ducks?

(Response from Reg Genge of Ontario Lake Assessments)

Fecal coliforms (FC), fecal streptococci (FS) and Escherichia coliform (E.coli or EC) are examples of indicator bacteria. Samples are collected for indicator bacteria because they always occur in the presence of pathogenic bacteria in the water. All of

these bacteria can live outside of their host and in water for a short period of time.

E.coli is used to indicate the presence of fecal contamination, since it is primarily found in the gastrointestinal tract of humans and animals and these bacteria can also survive in watercourses for a period of time. Beaches and swimming areas are closed based on a geometric mean value of 5 samples, where the geometric mean exceeds 100 E.coli/100 mls. Some types of E.coli are more harmful than others, such as E.coli O157:H7. Water is considered unsafe to drink if E.coli or fecal coliforms are detected in any sample.

Bacterial sampling was undertaken by the Charleston lake Association as part of water quality surveys conducted during the years 2000,2001, 2002 and 2003. The results are reported in the respective reports for those years; this sampling effort was only for E. coli. The stream inlet sites have higher

bacterial counts than the lake proper sites and the sites at Charleston Harbour proved to also have very low counts. Samples collected after rainfall events were higher in contamination than prior to the occurrence of runoff. None of the sites sampled exceeded the PWQO of 100 counts/100 mls.

For sites with high resident populations of waterfowl (ducks, geese and sea gulls) like public beaches, fecal contamination levels have been known to cause beach closures. So the short answer to the question is, if there is a resident population of waterfowl using your waterfront, the likelihood is that the nearshore water is contaminated with fecal bacteria. Geese like short grass because it simulates tundra conditions; planting and maintaining a shoreline buffer of shrubs is usually enough to discourage them from staying.

Reg Genge – Ontario Lake Assessments

Charleston Lake Association Directors

Bill Hallam - President/Environment

Cottage 613-659-2997 billhallam@hotmail.com

Wayne Gill – Secretary/Treasurer

Dwayne Struthers – Fisheries and Wildlife

Robbie Gibson - Boating Safety / Law Enforcement

Wayne Ashford – V.P. South / Golf Tournament

Pierre Menard - V.P. North / Golf Tournament

Rocci Pagnello – Fish and Wildlife/ Ontario Youth Summit

Jay Kyle – Shoreline Challenge

Charleston Lake Environmental Association Directors

Roy Angelow – Municipal Contact

Daragh Mansworth – IT

Irene Ireland – Membership

Rob Ross – County Contact

Mary Mansworth – Newsletter/ Youth Programs

Charleston Lake Association CLA/CLEA

“Dedicated to Keeping

Charleston Lake Beautiful in Every Way”

- Management Plan Alive & Active
- Protecting Water Quality Through Testing
- Maintaining Healthy Fisheries
- Restoring And Protecting Our Shorelines
- Shoal Marker Placement
- Youth and Family Lake Programs

www.charlestonlakeassociation.com

**Supported Through Membership
Membership Driven, Join Our Membership**

2018 AGM

**SATURDAY, JULY 28th at 9.30.am
Holy Trinity Church, Oak Leaf Rd.
Guest speaker - Elaine Mallory
Chief Planner - Leeds and Thousand Islands**

Photos courtesy of Dwayne Struthers