



# CAPTAIN OTTY'S LOG

OTTY LAKE ASSOCIATION • OCTOBER 2018

## President's Message

from  
*Reid Kilburn*



If you were into heat and humidity I'm sure you enjoyed this past summer. I know our grandson did! Picture a six year old jumping into Otty Lake screaming "this is awesome". Need I say more.

Actually it was a pretty awesome summer. We celebrated the OLA's 40th anniversary with a special logo designed by David Bromley; we celebrated the 10th anniversary of our Lake Management Plan with a survey the results of which confirmed that we continue to address your top priorities; and our valued partner, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, published their much anticipated Tay River Subwatershed Report.

This revised Subwatershed Report shows improved water quality ratings for Otty. In the previous sub-watershed report Otty was rated "poor" but through our efforts in a careful joint review of the process it was determined that Otty should carry a "fair to good" rating over the period of time of the Report.

I would like to express my appreciation and the appreciation of the Board of Directors of the OLA to Martin Czarski and Sarah MacLeod-Neilson of the RVCA for their leadership, dedication and tremendous effort in producing an excellent report. It will serve us well in many ways during this report cycle. If you are interested in the health of our lake or any other water body in the Tay Watershed I urge you to have a look



Photo: Pam Weston

at the Subwatershed Report at <https://watersheds.rvca.ca/subwatersheds/tay-river/subwatershed-report-tay-river>.

A revision to the RVCA Otty Lake – Jebbs Creek Catchment Report is expected shortly. This document will provide detailed information on lake and stream water quality as well as many other aspects such as OLA efforts in protecting and enhancing our local watershed.

I would be remiss if I did not credit some of Otty's improved rating to our dedicated Lake Steward Murray Hunt. Murray has also demonstrated leadership, dedication and a tremendous amount of personal effort over the past 14 plus years he has been our Lake Steward. At our Board meeting in August, Murray announced that he would be stepping down as our Lake Steward this year. On behalf of the Board I want to thank

Murray for all of his efforts to ensure that our Otty's health will be foremost in the minds of our members and that we have the history and data needed to monitor change.

I would also be remiss if I didn't recognize how fortunate we are to

have someone on our Board who is not only eager but also well qualified to take over the job as Lake Steward. I want to thank Derek Smith for assuming the role of Lake Steward. He has worked with Murray for several years and is the co-ordinator of our State of the Lake report. Kyla Haley, also a Board member, will assist Derek with the maintenance of the OLA water sampling data base which contains over 40 years of water sampling history. Thank you Derek and Kyla.

While every season is special on Otty, Fall can be magical. Enjoy.

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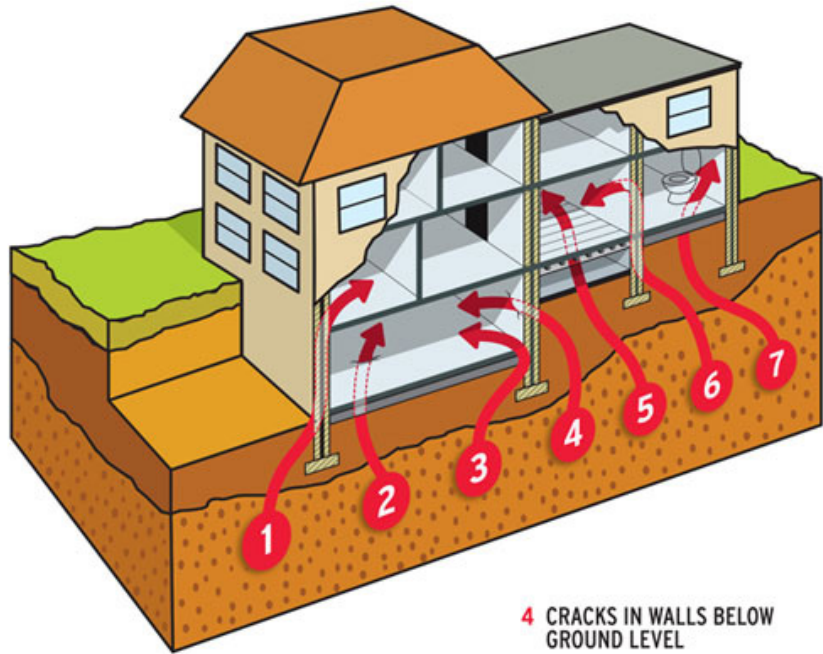
# TESTING FOR RADON IN YOUR HOME

A few months ago, we heard from a neighbour that they had discovered they had radon in their basement. They lent us a digital radon detector and we were surprised to see a high reading in our basement as well. I learned about an article on radon in the October 2011 edition of Captain Otty's log and started researching. If you own or are planning to build or renovate a cottage or home that is slab-on-grade or that has a basement, this article may be of interest to you.

Radon is a colourless, odourless gas that increases the risk of lung cancer with long-term exposure. Since it is associated with a measurably increased risk, Health Canada has set guidelines outlining maximum acceptable levels. If the levels in the home are between 200-600 becquerels per cubic meter (Bq/m<sup>3</sup>), it is recommended that you take action to reduce the levels in the next two years. If the levels are above 600 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>, it is recommended that action be taken within the year.

Radon is transferred from the soil into buildings through cracks or joints in foundation walls and floor slabs, spaces around pipes and posts, floor drains and sump pump holes, and/or cavities inside walls. These gaps may exist even in well-built new homes, and issues can exist with walk-out basements even though up to half of the basement walls aren't in contact with soil. Tight home construction can result in increased levels of radon as air exchange is reduced.

The Radon Environmental Management Corporation has created a map (see link below) that suggests an "elevated" Radon Potential Hazard at Otty Lake. In 2012, Health Canada conducted a study in which radon tests were distributed throughout the country and results were broken down by province and "health region". Nearly 20% of houses tested in the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit area were shown to have radon levels above 200 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>



- 1 CAVITIES IN WALLS
- 2 CRACKS IN SOLID FLOORS
- 3 CONSTRUCTION JOINTS
- 4 CRACKS IN WALLS BELOW GROUND LEVEL
- 5 GAPS IN SUSPENDED FLOORS
- 6 CRACKS IN WALLS
- 7 GAPS AROUND SERVICE PIPES

(link below). The amount of radon present in homes can vary widely even between neighbouring houses, and although there is an excellent chance that radon levels in your home are not elevated, testing is the only way to be sure the levels are within acceptable limits.

Testing can be done using digital devices, or by using long-term radon tests. For a variety of reasons, there can be a large variation in radon levels in a house, therefore long-term testing is recommended. The long-term tests are left in place for a period of time (at least 91 days, preferably over the winter months), and sent to a laboratory to be read (see below for where to find a testing kit).

Revisions to the National Building Code in 2010 included the addition of measures to protect against radon entry, including the installation of a vapour barrier under the foundation slab and also that a rough-in be installed for a potential future radon removal system. These measures help to reduce the amount of radon entering the house, and make a radon removal system more effective and easy to install, should one be needed. Unfortunately there is no way to test

the soil before building to determine whether a system will be required. Revisions to the Ontario Building Code were made in 2017 and these National Building Code measures for radon will be required in a new homes being constructed in Ontario after January 2019.

The only way to determine whether high radon levels exist in your house is to test for it. Test kits are affordable and nearly effortless to use. If you would prefer to borrow one, REAL, a non-profit organization in Smiths Falls, has one meter they are willing to lend for a \$300 refundable deposit. Please contact Katie Hoffman at [kthoffman@cogeco.ca](mailto:kthoffman@cogeco.ca) or (613) 983-3360 for details.

Please see below for links for more information, and other sources of test kits.

[Take Action on Radon](#) - a national organization that is raising raises radon awareness.

[Radon Basics from Health Canada](#)  
[Cross Canada Survey on Radon Concentrations](#)

Kyla Haley

## NO LOON CHICKS THIS YEAR

It was a disappointing year again for anyone hoping for some Otty Lake loon chicks. This year there were no confirmed chicks. (Last year's estimated five mating pairs produced only one chick that survived to maturity).

Of this year's estimated five mated pairs, two pairs were known to have nested. Both pairs began to nest at the beginning of June, with early July being the estimated "due date". One pair left the nest halfway through the incubation period. The



second pair sat the entire time. You may recall the intense heat at the end of June-beginning of July? The pair took turns on the nest throughout this period, mouths open in an attempt to stay cool on their unshaded nest. They officially left the nest on the estimated "due date" of July 6th, and there was much anticipation that there might be chicks. Unfortunately, no chicks were ever spotted—whether the eggs failed to hatch, or the chick(s) fell victim to predation before or immediately after hatching we'll never know.

The 1980-2012 Canadian Lakes Loon Survey by [Bird Studies Canada](#) states that "at least 1 young every other year (equivalent to at least 0.48 six-week-old young per pair each year) is considered good" (By this measure, our loons are producing

*Photo: Terry Crabe*

significantly fewer young than might be expected. (Check the great loon chick photo on the cover of that report!)

Gathering is a loon behaviour that is engaging and can be entertaining to watch. Loons gather in groups throughout the spring and summer for reasons that have not been determined. The gatherings become more noticeable later in the summer/early fall as the gatherings happen more often, with larger numbers of loons, and last for longer. Interestingly, there were several reports of large gatherings of loons beginning earlier than usual this year.

The OLA would like to thank everyone who reported loon sightings this year, and a special mention goes out to Richard and Jay Hendry, and Linda Davies, for their consistent and thorough reports. *Kyla Haley*

## 2018-2019 OLA BOARD

A new board came into effect at our July AGM. Retiring from the board this year is Gail Read. Gail has been a super organizer of so many OLA projects, including the calendars, the family picnic, shoreline planting, and leading the area counsellors to name but a few! President Reid Kilburn recognized Gail Read for her many years of dedication to the OLA and presented her with a certificate of appreciation.

Reid Kilburn is halfway through his second term as President. Directors are elected for two-year terms, so some are in the first year of their term, and others in their second year.

Gail's departure left one opening on the board, which is being filled by Rachel Roth. Rachel has a great deal of experience working in the non-profit and environmental sector, and is a trained secondary teacher specializing in ecological experiential education. Says Rachel "I grew up on Otty Lake exploring and enjoying the

area. I'm excited to be back living on Otty Lake. I'm looking forward to putting my efforts towards preserving the lake integrity for generations to come." Welcome to the board, Rachel!

Additional changes have been made this fall, precipitated by a health issue for David Bell. Christine Kilburn will be our Acting Treasurer, and Robert Cosh will be our Acting Membership Database Co-ordinator.

Secretarial duties will be shared. Monika Siegmund Savage, current board member will become Corresponding Secretary. Board Secretary and Recording Secretary duties will be handled by new Board member, Jacquie Mallory. Jacquie lives in Burgess Wood and has expressed interest in our lake and the OLA in the past. This means that Michelle Soucy, who had graciously postponed her resignation until a replacement could be found, has retired from the Board. We thank Michelle for her two years of service, although we aren't letting her go completely, as she will continue to manage the OLA's virtual clothing store.

The board has chosen not to publish their personal email addresses online. If you would like to reach one of them, simply send your email to [ola@ottylakeassociation.ca](mailto:ola@ottylakeassociation.ca) and it will be redirected.

### 2017-2018 Board Members

Full contact information is available on the website.

Reid Kilburn - President  
Robert Cosh - Past President, Acting Membership Information Co-ordinator  
David Bell - Vice President Finance & Treasurer  
Cathy Kari - Vice President  
Christine Kilburn - Acting Treasurer  
Jacquie Mallory - Secretary  
Kyla Haley - Loon Survey  
Monika Savage - Snake Survey  
Barb Hicks - Log Coordinator and Webmaster  
David Bromley - Log Design/Layout  
Ian McDonald - Lake Activities Projects (LAP)  
Wally Robins - Fish Enhancement Project  
Derek Smith - State of the Lake  
Anne Scotton - Director  
Rachel Roth - Director

# RURAL SEPTIC SYSTEM CHECKLIST

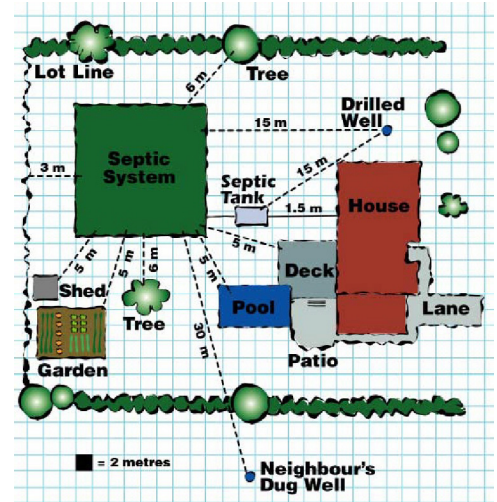
The primary purpose of your septic system is essentially to Process Poop! Everything else is secondary. In bygone days, poop was processed quickly and efficiently by the natural enzymes and bacteria contained within the soil. Modern systems still operate on the same principles. The same essential natural enzymes and bacteria are still there but they can be quickly overwhelmed by modern harmful ingredients that can slow or even stop the natural process of poop decomposition. There are endless ways to either corrupt or enhance your septic experience. Following is a short list of some of the most basic Do's and Don'ts to help you enhance your experience:



it down the drain because it is 'water soluble', but it too can clog your tile bed... a costly problem to rectify.

- Use household water efficiently. When too much water enters your septic system too quickly, untreated waste water may be forced out of your holding tank too soon. This can clog your tile bed and/or result in ground contamination.
- Do not flush hazardous chemicals into your system. These include -but are not limited to- varnish, paint, pesticides and gasoline. An item that is often overlooked is Latex paint. Many people flush

- Do not flush pharmaceuticals into system. These can be toxic. Most drug stores will take and destroy them for you.
- Avoid flushing cleaning products that are antibacterial, non-biodegradable, chlorine-based or toxic
- Avoid flushing fats, oils, grease, paper products, coffee grounds, garburator waste, egg shells, hair, tampons, cigarettes, dental floss, kitty litter, condoms, kleenex tissues, and other products that are slow or non-degradable.
- Try to use biodegradable, non-toxic shampoos, detergents,



soaps, toothpaste and cleaners.

- Be suspicious of strange odours in your septic area. Visually inspect your leaching field for liquid break-out routinely. Pump your tank regularly. Clean your effluent filter at least annually (All septic systems installed since 2006 should have a filter.)
- Plant only grass over and near your system. Tree roots can damage pipes.
- Don't drive or park vehicles on any part of your septic system.
- Test well water routinely.

Remember: "A healthy septic system is the first step ....toward a healthy environment!"

*Dan Woods*



**OUR LAKE,  
MY RESPONSIBILITY,  
- OUR REWARD.**

#### WHEN:

OCTOBER 20TH, 2018  
8:30 AM - 3:15 PM

#### WHERE:

PERTH CIVITAN HALL  
6787 COUNTY ROAD 43  
PERTH, ONTARIO

#### REGISTRATION

COST: \$25.00 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

REGISTER ONLINE AT:  
WATERSHEDS.CA/LAKELINKS2018

OR CONTACT MELISSA DAKERS AT:  
DAKERS@WATERSHEDS.CA OR  
613-264-1244

#### FOOD BANK DONATIONS

EACH YEAR AT LAKE LINKS  
DONATIONS ARE COLLECTED FOR  
THE PERTH FOOD BANK!  
PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A  
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM IF  
YOU CAN!

JOIN US FOR THE 17TH ANNUAL LAKE LINKS WORKSHOP TO EXPLORE THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD PROPERTY LEVEL DECISIONS.

HEAR DETAILS OF AN ACTIVE LAKE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM AND RECEIVE INPUT FROM LOCAL EXPERTS.

MEET THE 1ST RECIPIENT OF THE GORD RODGERS STEWARDSHIP AWARD.



## OTTY LAKE MEMORIES

Here is an excerpt from a moving letter received from one of our Otty Lake members who lives in Kentucky. His father passed away recently. This letter reminds us of what a truly special place Otty Lake is, and what it means to some. Enjoy!

**G**reetings my Canadian friends: Among your membership you have at least two life members from Kentucky in the persons of myself and my father, the Hon. George M. McClure III. We were made aware of your (OLA) projects and their impact by our friend Wally Robins, who my father met on Otty more than 25 years ago. Dad loved Otty and everything near it. Like Wally, we don't keep Smallmouth Bass. We kiss them and let them go to hopefully grace us again another day. Dad started coming to your waters when he turned 60 and was invited by some men who had been coming since 1961. They had tried some other lakes, but always came home to Otty.

Dad and I brought in two of my uncles, four cousins, my brothers (no anglers those two, but good companions on the shore no doubt) and a nephew. Last year for the first time I brought my own son, now 11 years old. He cherishes it as we all do, and I knew he would. I regret to tell you that it was Dad's last trip. We were again to be headed there June 27th of this year, but after 84 years on the

waters of Kentucky and Ontario, we lost the Hon. George M. McClure III on June 19th in the same hospital where he was born in Danville, KY. I was incredibly moved to see that our friend Tom Burns took it upon himself to ensure that the flags were lowered to half mast that week there as here. Our little slice of heaven at the end of Kerr Rd. is all the better for the hospitality of Tom, and the characters of Dave and Karen Kerr and their clan as well as so many other friends we have cherished there through the years including the Babcocks, the McCleans, Roger Shaw, and so many others; characters one and all. I would be quite remiss to fail to mention Frank McGinnis and Craig Campbell whom Dad loved to share stories and cocktails with as they remembered many of the same Presidents. I would also be tragically ungrateful to leave out the woman responsible for our introduction to all of these great people, Meranda Wilson and her now husband Barry Smith, our dear dear friends who Dad loved like family. Otty has always been a home, and Perth a welcome, to us. We will always treasure the true and long and binding friendships forged and never surrendered. Neither of us will ever forget the vitality, and the pure of heart kindness of my lifelong friend, the one and only Holly "Go Lightly" Chedd.

Wally Robins has also been a treasured friend for over two decades. We are sending a donation in the names of Wally Robins and his friend George McClure to shed some light on the waters Dad so loved there, the community of and around Perth, and our most treasured and hallowed harbor on what I still say is the actual North shore of Otty Lake.

Thank you for your time and for your dedication to restoring and preserving our little slice of Paradise, FOUND. Oh Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

Patrick and Paul McClure  
Joey and Will Kirk  
Bill and Kevin Caudill  
Greg and Rob Caudill  
Dwight and Matt Moberly  
George M. McClure IV and Samuel Nelson

--- The Kentucky Connection, aka  
"The Knowledge Circle of Kerr Rd."

## OTTY LAKE SIDE ROAD SPEED

**T**ay Valley Township had this explanation for the 60 km/hour speed limit now posted on the recently reconstructed Otty Lake Side Road: "The speed limit of a road is based on a number of factors, including width, radius of curves, hills etc. In the case of the Otty Lake Side Road the scope of work and cost would have been significantly greater had a higher speed limit been chosen for the design (as a result of land acquisition, longer approaches on hills, longer radius curves, etc.) Therefore, the road has been designed and built to a 60 km/hour speed. If the speed limit was set at a rate higher than the design of the road was built, it could be deemed unsafe and the Township could be liable for any damages or injuries as a result. Please remember to watch for wildlife and kindly share the road with cyclists and pedestrians."

## OMB NO MORE

**I**n April the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), the body that dealt with land development proposal appeals, became the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT). All the members of the OMB remain members of the LPAT, but their powers have changed. The new format reduces the number and types of matters that can be appealed to the LPAT. LPAT appeals are limited to planning decisions that do not conform or are inconsistent with provincial or local

plans such as Official Plans (OPs). It also limits the grounds of appeal, eliminates the introduction of new information at the hearings, and limits who can participate. Municipalities are responsible for aligning their local land use planning and OPs to provincial policy. The LPAT only has the authority to overturn a municipal decision if it does not follow provincial policies or municipal plans. (From FOCA Lake Stewards newsletter.)

## WILDLIFE POPULATION FLUCTUATIONS

In putting together July's OLA AGM Presentation, the AGM Planning Committee was contemplating how the Otty Lake environment has changed since 1978 when the OLA was established. Wally Robins and Roger Nuttall both came up with a number of observations on plant, animal and aquatic life, which unfortunately could not be accommodated in the presentation. Those of you who have been enjoying Otty Lake for a long time will concur with this amalgamation of their comments. We will save some observations, particularly some on water and aquatic life, for a future issue!



Photo: David Bromley

**Beaver:** Forty years ago the beaver population was almost doubling each year as it had been since their re-introduction in 1952. Most of the poplar trees along the shoreline were gone and the beavers were going farther and farther from the lake to get their favorite food. The population continued to increase until the 1980s, so that every bay had a beaver house and the beavers were going up to several hundred meters inland to cut down Big Toothed Poplar up to 60 cm in diameter. By the 1990s the beavers were cutting down beech and cedar trees and other poor quality beaver food. The result was a large drop in the beaver population to approximately 12 beaver houses around the lake and along Jebbs Creek. The beaver population has stayed relatively constant for the last 20 years or so.



Photo: David Bromley

**Black Bears.** There were very few bears around Otty Lake 40 years ago. One of the reasons for the increased bear population was a summer around 2004 with a poorer than usual berry crop across the river from Ottawa in Quebec. Approximately 100 bears crossed the Ottawa River to Ontario and were caught and released in northern Lanark County. From there they spread south to our area.

**Wild Turkeys.** Forty years ago there were no wild turkeys in Eastern Ontario. They were introduced to the region as an experiment in the 1980s. Many wildlife "specialists" believed that turkeys would perish because of the harsh climate and predation, and that a sustainable population of wild turkeys in eastern Ontario wouldn't happen. Now we see them all the time.



Photo: David Bromley

**Deer.** Back in 1978 there were far, far fewer deer. Unlike today, it was rare to see a whitetail deer when driving to/from Perth to Otty Lake. In fact, if a deer was spotted, it was quite usual for the car to pull to the side of the road so the driver and occupants could watch the deer. Climate change and individual climate events are cited by wildlife biologists as being the major reason for the increase in the eastern Ontario deer population. Winters have become shorter, warmer and produce less snow. These conditions benefit deer as they require less energy to survive. The ice storm in the early 1998 was the single "best" thing that happened for deer. The winter was unseasonably warm and many trees fell, providing a massive increase in readily available food. The deer population exploded as a result.



Photo: David Bromley

**Coyotes.** Eastern Ontario has always been home to coyotes but they were seldom seen or heard forty years ago. Coyotes are a species that adapts readily and easily to land development (The city of Los Angeles has a huge resident coyote population!). Humans produce food for coyotes (garbage, gardens, small pets, etc). It is very likely that we are seeing and hearing more coyotes today as a direct result in the increase in development. Canada Geese. In the 80s, a flock of geese winging over Otty caused most people to stop and look. Seeing a small flock of geese on the lake was noteworthy. Complaints about "goose poop" were non-existent until roughly 15-20 years ago.

*With material from Roger Nuttall and Wally Robins.*

## Back by Popular Demand.

The OLA will once again be offering shoreline plants in the summer of 2019! Residents will be able to purchase plants at a reduced rate, thanks to our partnership with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) Shoreline Naturalization Program. Native plants growing along our shorelines offer many benefits, including the reduction of nutrients reaching our lake and helping to prevent shoreline erosion. Stay tuned! More information to follow in our next newsletter.



## West Nile Virus Still Out

**There.** In August it was reported that the West Nile virus had been found in mosquitoes in Perth. The Leeds Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit determined this through their ongoing mosquito surveillance program. This virus is spread to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito. The risk of illness from WNV is low; most people will not develop any symptoms if infected. There have been no cases of the virus found in humans in Lanark County this year, but there have been three cases elsewhere in Ontario and one in Manitoba. See [Hometown TV](#) story for how to avoid infection.

## Safer Sunscreens for Lakes.

One threat to coral reefs in oceans is the chemicals in sunscreen, which disrupt coral's reproduction and growth cycles, and can lead to bleaching. The State of Hawaii has passed

a law banning sunscreens containing oxybenzone or octinoxate. Would these same chemicals pose a threat to lake environments? Apparently algae and fish are affected, but it is possible to find sunscreens with less damaging UV filter chemicals. Listen to [CBC](#) clip and see [National Geographic](#) story.

**MailChimp Self Serve.** Just a reminder that you can subscribe and unsubscribe from our MailChimp mailing list on your own. If, for example, you have another family member who would like to receive our notices and newsletters, they can add themselves using little form on the right sidebar of our homepage or contact page. Use the unsubscribe button at the bottom of any MailChimp message if you no longer want notices to that address. That being said, if you would prefer we do it for you, that's OK. Provide the details to the membership chairperson: [membership@ottylakeassociation.ca](mailto:membership@ottylakeassociation.ca).

## Jebbs Creek Embayment

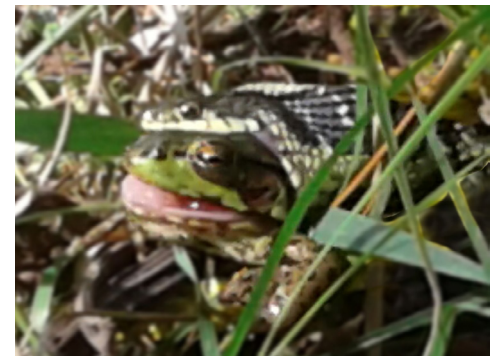
**Project.** Volunteers are needed for this fall's RVCA fish and wildlife enhancement project. You may have read about it in the [last newsletter](#), and heard [Jennifer Lamoureux's presentation](#) at the AGM. The first day, October 3, will have passed by the time you receive this Log, but you can still get involved on Monday, October 29, 9:30 to noon when eight to 10 volunteers are needed to install live stakes, namely willow and dogwood cuttings. Rubber boots are recommended. [Contact Christine Kilburn](#) at (613) 326-0493 if you are interested.

## Hey Tay, Still Wanna Restore

**Your Shore?** The RVCA is still looking for residents who would like to restore their shore! Thanks to special funding through the Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund, RVCA

is covering the cost for shoreline restoration for landowners in the Tay Subwatershed.

Landowners could be eligible for full cost coverage for shoreline naturalization and partial funding for tree planting and livestock fencing. Ultimately, this will improve watershed health and water quality. RVCA staff is looking to connect with shoreline residents and conduct site visits and prepare project plans over the next few months. Call Meaghan at ext. 1192 or [meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca](mailto:meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca).



***Congratulations to the OLA! At our AGM, representatives of both Tay Valley and Drummond/North Elmsley Townships presented OLA President Reid Kilburn with certificates of congratulations commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Otty Lake Association. Shown here are Keith Kerr, TVT Reeve, and Ray Scissons, DNE Councillor, making their presentations.***

## AGM QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Following the reports from the board at our July AGM, the president invited questions from our members. This can be a good indication of what's on our members' minds. Below are the questions and answers with some elaboration and developments since then.

### 1. Are there plans to update the Lake Management Plan (LMP)?

The original LMP was created in 2008. At the five year mark a review was done to assess how we were doing on implementing the plan, and a report produced. This year's ten year assessment of the plan began with the survey to re-establish priorities of the lake community, which was summarized on page 5 in the June newsletter. There will be a report, but the OLA will not be updating the plan itself.

### 2. Is there a list of plants which would be appropriate for shoreline planting?

In preparation for past shoreline planting programs, the OLA worked with the RVCA to put together a list of appropriate plants, and aim to make some of them available. Some other resources to consult would be Watersheds Canada database, a list by the North Bay-Mattawa

Conservation Authority, and this list from the RVCA. Since the AGM, it has been determined there will be a shoreline planting program in 2019.

### 3. This a municipal election year. In the past the OLA Board has suggested the candidates who support lake initiatives. Is there such a plan for this year?

The Board discussed this and decided not to organize an event. In the AGM audience that day we had some who were running in the municipal election: Ray Scissons from D/NE, Keith Kerr from TVT, and three other candidates). The fact that they were there sends a clear message that they care about our lake issues. The OLA has prepared some questions for Tay Valley and D/NE candidates relating to lake stewardship, and will be circulating their responses to members. The Christie Lake Association is sending questions to Tay Valley candidates, which we will pass on if we are able. The CFUW Perth and District Chapter held a Tay candidates meeting on Sept. 26 at the Glen Tay School. At this point there is no word on a D/NE candidates meeting.

### 4. In the next Newsletter, could we put something about people

**swimming in the middle of the lake?** It's amazing that no one has been killed. Unfortunately, at the time of the AGM, this mid-October issue of the Log was a long way away. So a broadcast email was made a few days after the AGM, which generated a lot of support, including comments that we weren't saying this often enough and that it was up to the boaters to be more careful and to be aware of the speed limits. The OLA did issue another broadcast email addressing boating at the start of August, which also generated several comments. Unfortunately, the OLA has no authority in these matters, and can only encourage everyone to obey the laws and be more respectful.

### 5. Fibre Optic Cable to homes on Otty Lake North Shore.

Susan Freeman let everyone know that, as president of the BurgessWood Property Owners' Association, she has approached WTC re fibre optic cable to the homes on the north shore. They are proceeding with this initiative

The OLA is always open to comments and questions. You can email them to [ola@ottylakeassociation.ca](mailto:ola@ottylakeassociation.ca) to be directed, or use the other addresses provided on the [contact page](#). The full minutes of the AGM are available on the [website](#) also.

## 2018 PADDLE POWER



The 6th annual Otty Lake Paddle Power took place Sat. Aug. 18. Another great turnout with more than 75 participants of all ages, three dogs, 37 kayaks, 11 canoes, two paddleboards and four

inflatables. Thanks to the Rideau Trails Hiking Club for joining us, and to Jason Flick for the drone footage. More photos are on our [Facebook page](#).

CAPTAIN OTTY'S LOG is produced by the Otty Lake Association (OLA) three times a year, and is distributed by e-mail or Canada Post to all OLA members. Contributions to the Log are welcome.

Coordinator: Barb Hicks  
Proofing: Don Beattie  
Distribution: Robert Cosh, Shari and Don Beattie  
Layout and Design: David Bromley

To find out more about the OLA, or to see past issues, please see: [www.ottylakeassociation.ca](http://www.ottylakeassociation.ca). Or write to: The OLA, Box 20122, Perth ON K7H 3M6.