

# OTTY LAKE

1976 - 3

## POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

### ACTION ON THE GOVERNMENT FRONT

During the past winter the OLPCC has had an active correspondence and some meetings with a large number of government officials and agencies. We also put together an Audio-Visual show on the condition of Otty Lake. In 15 minutes of slides and voice, it tells the story of recreational use of Otty Lake and what is needed for its continued health and survival. The effort seems to have been worthwhile. The show has been displayed recently at the Township Councils of both N. Elmsley and N. Burgess. Results this far:

#### From the Townships

Both Townships have agreed to join the OLPCC in a Property Standards Committee to draft new minimum standards for sewage disposal and other related matters. This committee will submit its proposals to the Township councils as recommended by-laws. The Township of N. Elmsley has also agreed to suspend the issuance of building permits on its share of the lake for a period of one year, to allow the committee ample time to prepare the new standards to which properties will be required to conform. Your representatives on this committee are Charles Robertson and Dave Code.

#### From the Province

The Minister of the Environment has responded to our request that the minimum setback from the shore for future sewage installations ought to be at least 100 feet. Mr. Kerr has written to announce that this will now be the minimum " for lakes which we have classified as nutrient sensitive. Your lake has been put in this class and future development will require that setback. "

The Minister has also given us the assurance that the requirements for the approval of septic installations will include

- a) determination of percolation rates
- b) depth to water table
- c) depth to bedrock.

WATER TESTING

Although our concern for bacteriological pollution remains keen, our prime concern this year is to watch for the signs of Biological Pollution. Accordingly, Bill Schriever is re-arranging the testing patterns to allow us to pay more attention to testing for clarity with the Secchi Disc, for Chlorophyll and for Phosphorus; i.e., tests will be taken at fewer stations on the lake, but where they are taken they will be more intensive.

ARE YOU SAFE ?

Do you have a septic system? If so, are you confident of its condition? and that you are not overloading it? Is the tile field at least 50' from the shore ( Preferably 100' )

10 feet from the property line

25 feet from a building

3 feet higher than the highest water level

3 feet higher than the maximum ground water level

3 feet higher than any rock formation ?

Is your septic tank big enough?

2 bedrooms or less	500 gallons
3 bedrooms	600 gallons
4 bedrooms	750 gallons

Do you overload it, or do you use the water sparingly?

Are you an OTTY LAKE GOOD NEIGHBOUR ?

OUTBOARD MOTORS

The 1975 report on our lake suggested that we might like to consider the possibility of pollution control devices on our motors, the use of lead-free gasoline, or even a limit on the size of the engines. Ministry of the Environment, however, feels that the issue is less obvious. Do you have an opinion? If so, the annual meeting is the place to voice it.



BUCKY BEAVER SAYS  
" Make Less Waste Water "

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Anne Atkinson enjoys the sight of a \$5.00 membership renewal. Give her a happy day. Same address: 885 Melwood Avenue, Ottawa, K2A 3C4.

Where does it go? Your area counsellor will have a description of our expenses when he or she visits you this July.

VOLUNTEERS

Some of you have been meaning to volunteer to help with some of the jobs, haven't you? But just haven't got around to it yet? Summer's here now, so what do you say? Jobs available include: Assistant Area Counsellors, Membership Representatives; Assistant Regatta convenor...

Some jobs can take an estimated 30 hours per year, some would be about 20 hours, and some about 10 hours or less. Call any member of the executive, or call me weekends at 267-1399.

ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, July 10

10:00 a.m.

Perth Town Hall

We expect to have some meaningful news by then, as well as the slide show, so please plan to attend. There are no unexpired terms on the executive, and all present members are agreeable to continuing in office. However, we do need some Area Counsellors, so if you are available, we would like to hear from you.

EDUCATION PROGRAM

During the coming summer you may expect a visit from your Area Counsellor with the latest messages on phosphate-free detergents and other useful advice. In the meantime, those who would like to improve their understanding of the subject of biological pollution might be interested in reading, " The Algal Bowl ", by John R. Vallentyne. It is available at government bookstores for under \$4.00 and in some libraries. For a more whimsical treatment of our favourite subject, how about " Flushed with Pride " or "Clean and Decent " ( The Fascinating History of the Bathroom ).

David E. Code,  
Chairman, O.L.P.C.C.