

OTTY LAKE

POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

1978-1

FEBRUARY 1978

SOILS AND GRAVEL PITS - PHOSPHATE TRAPPING IN YOUR TILE BED

The Ministry of the Environment has published a report on tests it has conducted on soils in Eastern Ontario gravel pits. The object was to identify those soils and those pits whose soils were effective in trapping phosphates, in order to recommend that the better soils be used in tile beds associated with septic tanks.

The report recommends that only material having good phosphate retention capabilities be used in raised tile beds and that a 100-foot setback for raised disposal systems be maintained on all sensitive lakes.

The report states that many major borrow pits contain suitable material, but this is usually only in the top 2 or 3 feet of the soil, which is characteristically light brown in colour.

No testing was done on the Otty Lake shoreline; and unfortunately, the nearest pits that are known to be suitable are several miles away. Three are near Lanark, and one is near the Narrows Lock.

The Health Unit has been advised and will, we understand, direct permit holders to the recommended pits for their fill. If you are in this category, you will wish to get the right kind of soil. If you have any doubts or problems, call Bill Schriever.

T-SHIRTS

A few Otty Lake T-shirts are available, mostly in small sizes. First come, first served. Price is still \$5.00. Write the Chairman. Orders for next summer can be placed anytime.

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Otty Lake good neighbours

MERCURY REPORT

A recent Bulletin from the Ministry of the Environment contained the following advice:

Otty Lake (North Burgess Twp., Lanark Co.), was sampled for northern pike, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and walleye. Analyses for mercury content of these fish are now available; size-specific projections are available only for northern pike and smallmouth bass, since too few largemouth bass and walleye were collected.

Fifteen northern pike averaged 0.67 ppm mercury, 12 smallmouth bass averaged 0.70 ppm, one largemouth bass contained 0.58 ppm while two walleye averaged 0.93 ppm mercury.

Northern pike up to 18 inches are suitable for unrestricted consumption, from 18 to 30 inches they are suitable for occasional meals and when over 30 inches in length pike should not be eaten.

Smallmouth bass up to 12 inches in length were suitable for unrestricted consumption; from 12 to 18 inches they were suitable for occasional meals; and when over 18 inches in length they should not be eaten.

The complete report, with similar remarks about other lakes, is available from: Ministry of Environment
133 Dalton Street, Box 820
Kingston, Ont. K7L 4X6

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CLEANING UP OTTY

We were encouraged to learn that the following residents of Otty Lake had installed holding tanks during 1977:

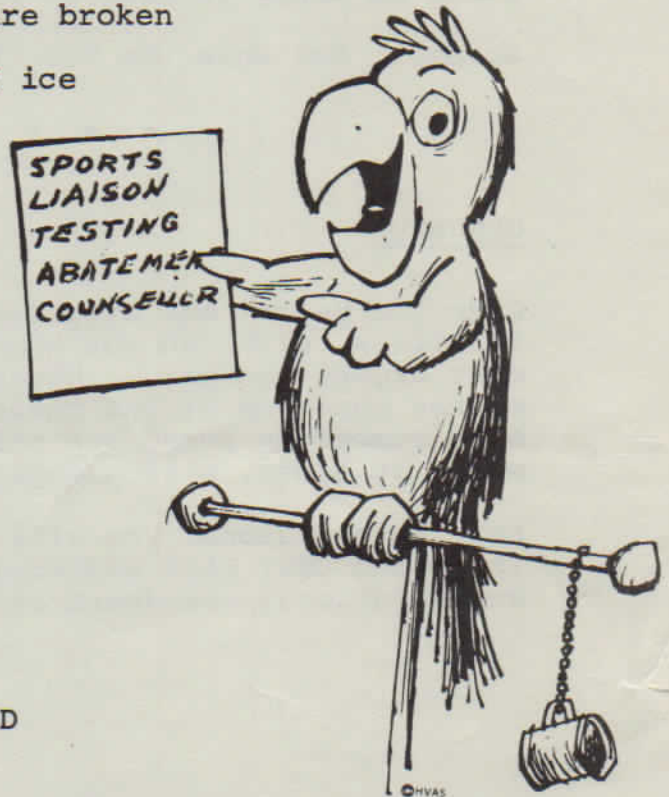
H. O. Allison and Mrs. V. Woods, Area 9
Mrs. A. L. Abercrombie, Area 7
and that Mr. Hendricks will be doing the same in 1978 on his property in Area 7.

We would like to be made aware of any others who have recently taken measures to improve their systems.

In early 1978 the Perth Health Unit will be making inspections at the island in Parks' Bay that has been the subject of many complaints in recent years.

BEAVER, WATER LEVELS, TREE DAMAGE, etc.

At our request, the Ministry of Natural Resources has licensed trappers in the Otty Lake area. As of January 10th, three beavers had been removed near the dam at Jebb's Creek, and nine more from farther downstream. Another trapper is at work on the south shore of the lake. Your executive will try to ensure that the beaver dams are broken before spring, to lessen the risk of ice and flood damage.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET TAKEN A TURN AT SERVING YOUR LAKE COMMUNITY, PERHAPS YOU ARE READY TO OFFER A FEW HOURS OF YOUR TIME DURING 1978. WE COULD USE ALTERNATE COUNSELLORS, RECREATION DIRECTOR OR ASSISTANTS AND PART-TIME LIAISON OFFICERS.

Name

Address..... Phone.....

I am willing to serve, if asked, as:

Counsellor..... Alternate Counsellor.....

Recreation Director or assistant (a few hours)

A few hours of other volunteer duty (liaison)

Mail to: Mrs. Marg Bishop, 2725 Springland Drive
Ottawa, Ont. K1V 6M3

ASSOCIATION FUNDS

Many lake associations, elsewhere in the Province, charge a membership fee of \$25 or more. We charge only \$5 which we think is modest but, because we have been thrifty, the bank balance has been rising and is now up to about \$3,200.

Your executive has always felt that it is prudent to have some funds on hand, in case of sudden large demands that might arise. But what do YOU think?

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OUR NAME

Over the years, our organization has taken on a variety of functions, although our name has emphasized our prime and most urgent concern. Because our activities include many of the concerns of the residents of Otty Lake, the executive have sometimes found our official name overly precise and even, at times, misleading.

For these reasons, you will be asked to consider changing it to The OTTY LAKE ASSOCIATION. This would require a constitutional amendment at the 1978 annual meeting.