

**OTTY LAKE  
ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026**

# AGENDA

- Welcome
- AGM Business
- OLA Activity Updates
- DNE/TV Fire Rescue
- Our Municipal Partners
  - - Drummond North Elmsley
  - - Tay Valley Township
- BaSS Project – David Philipp



# AGM BUSINESS

- Approval of 2026 Agenda
- Approval of 2025 Minutes
- Financial Statements and Budget
- New Bylaws
- Introduction of 2026 Board of Directors / Election
- OLA Activity Update



# 2025 FINANCIALS

Opening bank balance: \$18,540.88

Closing Balance: \$14,145.50

GIC investment now at \$2,858.81 (Dec 31st, 2025)

Signing officers: Jen O'Donoghue, Kim Bolton & David Murray.

# 2025 EXPENSES

Typical Expenses:

insurance, FOCA membership, water testing, shoreline plant subsidy

Largest 2025 Expense:

Data Consolidation Project \$4,550

New Expenditure:

\$500 to the BaSS project, to be assessed annually

New investments for 2025:

funds were drawn from previous year surpluses to support the data consolidation

For 2026:

more funds towards shoal marking project  
spending patterns are tracking similar to last calendar year

# NEW OLA BYLAWS - OVERVIEW

- Ontario's Not-For-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) was brought into force in 2021.
- All Not-for-Profit organizations in Ontario were required to review and update their constitutions
- For the OLA this has meant
  - Adoption of Bylaws instead of a constitution
  - Addition of definitions
  - Re-organization of content
- Took advantage of the process to modernize some elements of the OLA governance processes

# NEW OLA BYLAWS – KEY CHANGES

1. Adjusted and simplified the language in a number of sections
2. Moved to one vote per household instead of two
3. Changed the minimum number of directors on the Board from 10 to 5
4. Added more flexibility for the Board to determine roles and responsibilities on the Board
5. Added more clarity on dismissals of both members and officers
6. Updated language to reflect operating in a digital age - including meeting management and financial management
7. Updated language around conflict of interest

# BOARD STATUS

## Half way through 2 year term:

- Kim Bolton
- Charles Mojsej
- Anne Scotton
- Barb Hicks
- David Murray
- Jen O'Donoughue
- Linda Cuthbertson
- Susan Murray

## New member standing for election:

- Bev Garvin (Secretary)

## Concluding 2 year term:

- Cathy Kari
- Nancy Lynn



# BOARD MEMBERS FOR ELECTION

Standing for re-election:

- Cathy Kari

To be newly elected:

- Bev Garvin



# SHOAL MARKING PROGRAM

- 2026 is the fifth season
- Each year the goal is to install by May long weekend, and take out by Thanksgiving
- Involves 10+ volunteers



# SHORELINE PLANT SALE 2026



- RVCA provided a \$500 subsidy
- OLA provided a \$500 subsidy
- All 130 native plants and shrubs sold quickly
- Pick up was May 30th
- Thanks to Susan Murray for coordinating



## **PADDLE POWER 2025**

August 9, 2025

Meet point between Ruby, Clegg  
and Buck Islands

## **PADDLE POWER 2026**

Sunday, Aug. 9 (rain date Aug.16)

Meet at 10:45, picture at 11:00

**Note new location:** Blueberry Island  
BYO picnic after at Cloverleaf

Coordinator: Kim Bolton

# BASS SPAWNING SANCTUARY PROJECT (BaSS)

- an area where fishing for all species is prohibited until entire bass reproductive period is complete
- led by Dr. David Philipp
- Otty Lake rep is Kit Muma
- 16 area lakes in the coalition
- Dr. David Philipp is our guest speaker and will tell you more



# WILDLIFE HOME BUILDING WORKSHOP

- 18 participants built 19 bluebird, swallow, duck or bat houses on July 2, 2025 in two sessions
- Thanks to McVeigh Lumber, the Otty Lake volunteers and David and Susan Murray for organizing
- This year's date is Sunday, July 19
- Sign up today at the back



# FISH SPAWNING ENHANCEMENT WORK DAY

- Led by Amanda Lange, RVCA, and Melissa Dakers, Watersheds Canada, who teamed up to reassess previous locations
- 10 volunteers on Sept. 5, 2025
- 20 bundles of Christmas trees anchored by cinder blocks
- Most were replenishing existing sites



# OTTY LAKE LOONS - 2025

- 5 confirmed nesting pairs
- 6 known chicks hatched
- 5 survived to migration time

2025 was a very successful season  
for loons on Otty!

Photo credits: Linda Davies



An aerial photograph of a large, deep blue lake surrounded by dense green forest. The lake has several small islands and peninsulas. The text "Otty Lake - Water Quality Monitoring Data Consolidation" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image. There are some faint, thin lines in the bottom right corner of the image.

# Otty Lake - Water Quality Monitoring Data Consolidation

# SAMPLING PROGRAMS

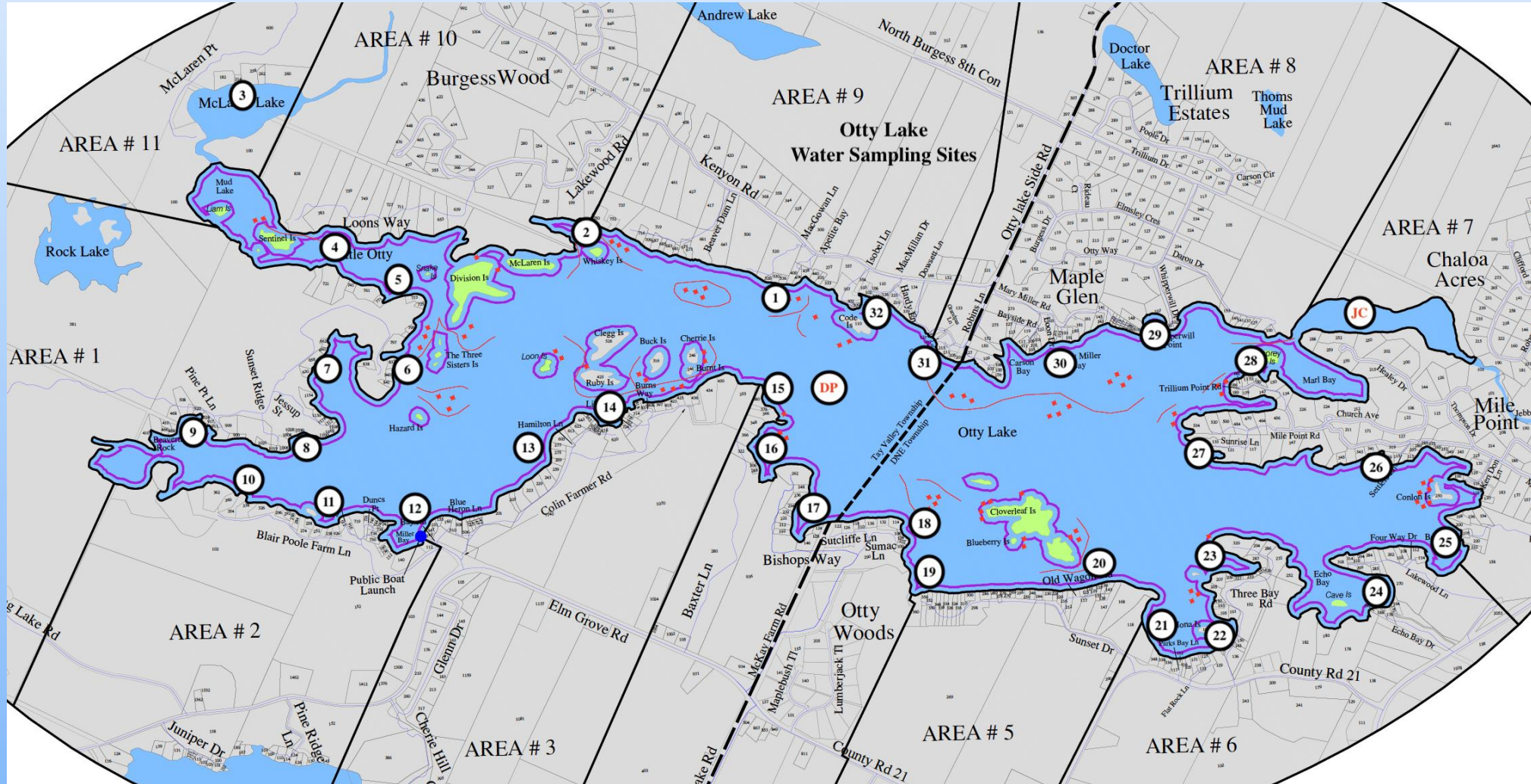
- ▶ Lake Partners Program (LPP)
- ▶ Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA)
- ▶ Otty Lake Association (OLA)



# OLA SAMPLING

- ▶ Sampling by OLA Volunteers
  - ▶ Boat transportation to sampling site
  - ▶ Taking and labelling the sampling
  - ▶ Delivery of the sample to the laboratory
- ▶ Frequency
  - ▶ 32 Locations, 3 sampling events:  
June - July - Aug
  - ▶ 1 Location, 6 sampling events:  
May - June - July - Aug - Sept - Oct
- ▶ Recording the results

# OLA SAMPLING SITES



# OTTY LAKE SAMPLING DATA

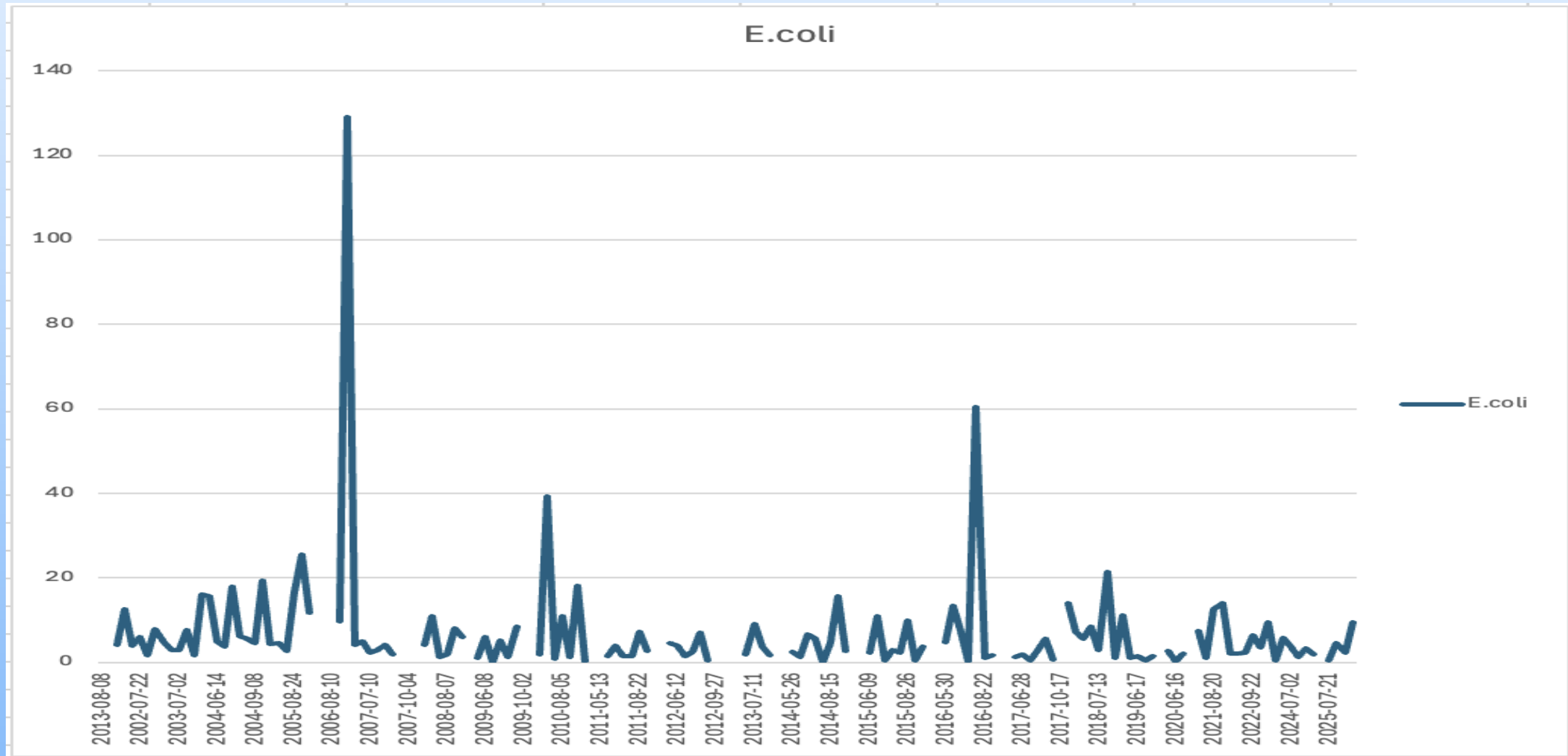
- ▶ The OLA has 54 years of collected data.
- ▶ The data is in multiple forms: electronic and hard copy.
- ▶ Assessing trends and interpreting the results was difficult.
- ▶ Multiple volunteers have helped collect this data.
- ▶ We needed consistency and simplicity.
  
- ▶ **Data from 54 years was consolidated into one electronic file.**

# DATA CONSOLIDATION

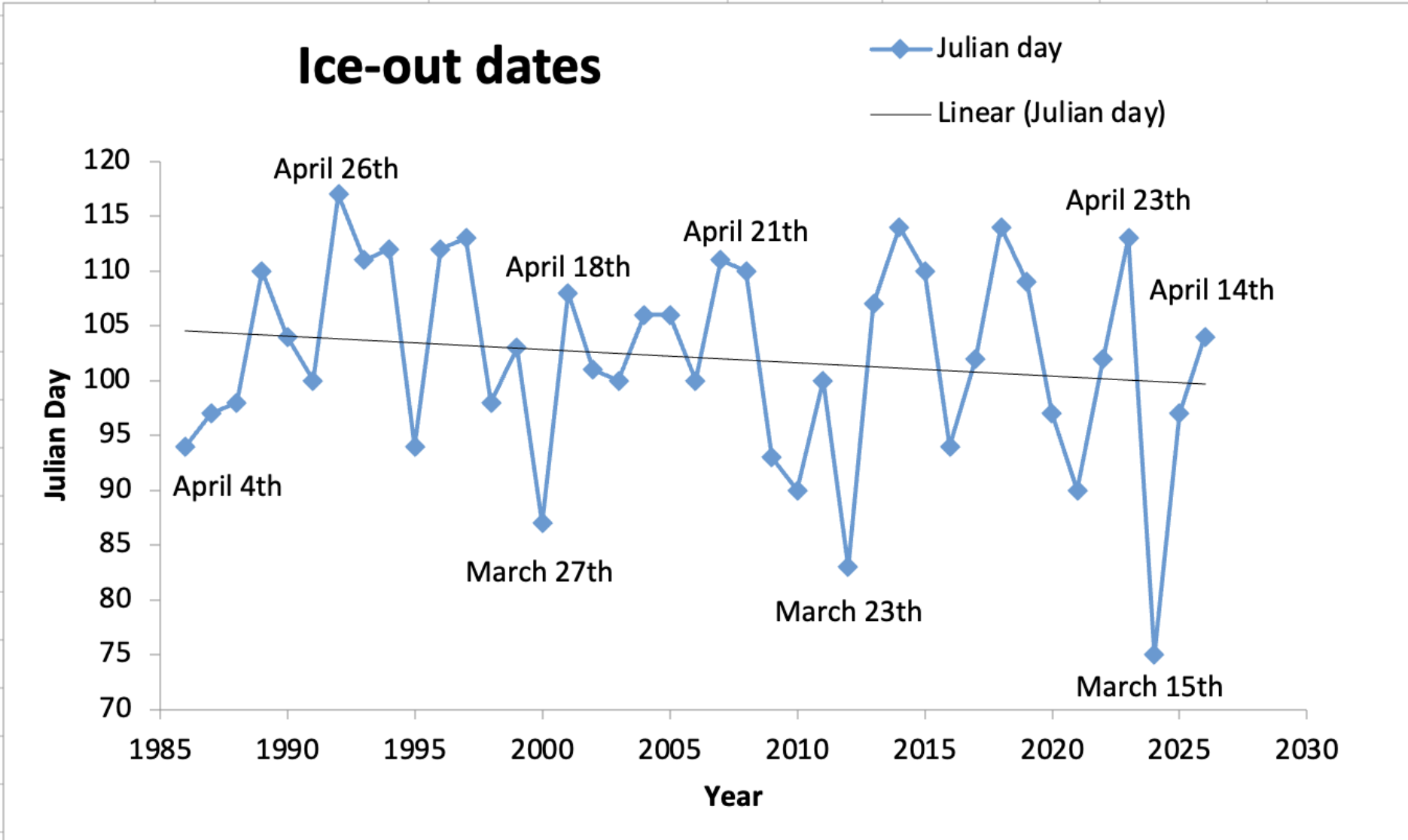
This single file is designed to:

- 1) Allow uniform data format and entry procedures.
- 2) Allow comparison of sampling results over time.
- 3) Support ongoing lake stewardship and monitoring.
- 4) Provide options for data summary and analysis.


# TRENDS – E.COLI



# TRENDS – ICE OUT



# ESSENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ **Data Management:** Maintain a consistent record of research findings in a single consolidated spreadsheet to track historical sampling events and support trend analysis.
  - ▶ **Data Consistency:** Keep a standardized data entry protocol to ensure consistency and accuracy.
  - ▶ **Data Visualization:** Use pivot tables and charts to visualize changes in key parameters over time.
- 

# COMPLETE REPORT

<https://www.ottylakeassociation.ca/environment/>

Under - Protecting the Lake  
“Historical Water Quality Data Consolidation”

# VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

THANK YOU



- 63 individuals have volunteered over the past two years, many on multiple projects
- A thank you card and plant was given to each of these people in recognition of their contribution
- Thanks to Susan Murray for spearheading this project

# MEET YOUR OTTY LAKE AMBASSADORS



Volunteer Lake Ambassadors are our membership liaison and a vital communication link to our Otty Lake Association membership base.



# VOLUNTEER TO BE A LAKE AMBASSADOR



Want to meet your neighbours, give back to your community and support the OLA mission?

Connect with Heidi to learn more @ [hlynnmckean@gmail.com](mailto:hlynnmckean@gmail.com) or send an email to: [lakeambassadors@ottylake.ca](mailto:lakeambassadors@ottylake.ca)

# WHAT VOLUNTEERS HAVE TO SAY...

“

Door to door  
visits are  
effective



“

Helps to  
develop  
relationships

“

Lake Association  
is an important  
community-building  
organization

“

Building our  
lake community  
connects us

“

It is important  
to acknowledge  
volunteer  
efforts

“

The most  
important focus  
is on the health  
of the lake.

# LEARN ABOUT THE OLA


This information brochure highlights OLA membership benefits, lake facts, and key events for 2026. It is designed as a quick, easy-to-read takeaway for residents and visitors.


Available in print or on the website.



## OLA Membership Makes a Difference!

Your \$25 annual household membership helps keep Otty Lake:

 **SAFER** - Shoal markers help boaters navigate safely.

 **CLEANER** - Regular water testing monitors lake health.

 **SUSTAINABLE** - Shoreline plant sales and lake assessments.

## Membership Perks

- ✓ Free Otty Lake maps (one per household).
- ✓ Entry into a draw for free membership.
- ✓ Get **Captain Otty's Log** for lake news, articles, tips and events.
- ✓ **Voting rights** (two per household) at Annual General Meeting.

## Get involved

Learn about Otty Lake and ways you can get involved at [ottylakeassociation.ca](http://ottylakeassociation.ca)



## 2026 Events

-  **Spring Shoreline Plant Sale**  
Saturday, May 30  
Order details by email.
-  **Annual General Meeting**  
Sunday, June 7 – 12:30 social |  
Meeting 1-3 p.m. Everyone welcome.
-  **Wildlife Home Building Workshop**  
Sunday, July 19  
All materials provided.
-  **Paddle Power**  
Sunday, August 9  
Meet at Blueberry Island.  
BYO lunch at Cloverleaf Island.  
Rain date: August 16



## Otty Lake Facts

- Otty Lake covers 630 hectares (~1,500 acres) with 27 km of shoreline and is up to 28 metres deep (-92 feet).
- The area's first inhabitants were the Algonquin, Huron and Montagnais.
- The first white settler purchased land in 1805.
- Otty Lake was named after **Captain Allen Otty** in 1816 by Colonel Cockburn of the Royal Navy.

# **DNETV FIRE/RESCUE**

- Daren Gibson – Deputy Fire Chief



# Open Air Burning Safety in Cottage Country

Presented by DC Darren Gibson



# Agenda & Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the rules and regulations of your municipalities Open Air Burning Bylaw
2. Discuss the different types of Burn Permits and how to apply
3. How to help reduce the risk of outdoor fire spread on your property
4. Q&A

Within the 2025 calendar year, data from Drummond North Elmsley Tay Valley Fire Rescue indicates an increase of 145% in the amount of bush and grass fires within the rural areas.

**– 2025 DNETV Incident Reports**

# Open Air Burning By-Law key points to know

## General Regulations

- What can you burn and when?
- Understanding how it may affect others and their rights.

## Types of Open Air Burning

- Residential (less than 30” in diameter)
- Agricultural (larger than 30” in diameter)

## Fire Bans

- No person shall permit, set, or maintain Open Air Burning when a Fire Ban has been issued.
- Partial fire bans may allow residential fires only.

**“Every person who contravenes any provision of the Open Air Burning By-Law shall be guilty of an offense and liable, upon conviction, to a fine for each offence.”**

Sentence 10.1 Offences and Penalties By-Law No. 2024-030



# Offences and Penalties

- Burning without a valid permit - \$500
- Burning when setbacks are not met - \$250
- Set or maintain fire with flammable liquids - \$250
- Burning materials other than natural woods - \$250
- Leaving fire unattended - \$350
- Not totally extinguishing fire when finished - \$350

# Burn Permit Applications

## DRUMMOND NORTH ELMSLEY TAY VALLEY FIRE RESCUE **BURN PERMITS**

Apply for your online permit today.



Login to Your Account

[Forgot Password](#)

[Login Now](#)

[Create Account](#)

**Apply through your Township website or directly at URL  
[www.dnetv.burnpermits.com](http://www.dnetv.burnpermits.com)**

# Burn Ban Status / FAQs

Toll-free: 1-833-973-1200

NO FIRE BAN - RESIDENTIAL and AGRICULTURAL fires are permitted at this time.



**YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO CALL WHEN HAVING A RESIDENTIAL FIRE.**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



**Who can apply for an open air fire permit?**

Any resident (over 18 years of age) who lives in Tay Valley Township or Drummond/North Elmsley Township may apply for an open air fire permit. Residents who are renting will require approval from



**How can I obtain an open air fire permit?**

You may register online using this website, or you can call 613-267-2596 ext. 4.



**What can I burn?**

Materials to be burned shall only be wood products.

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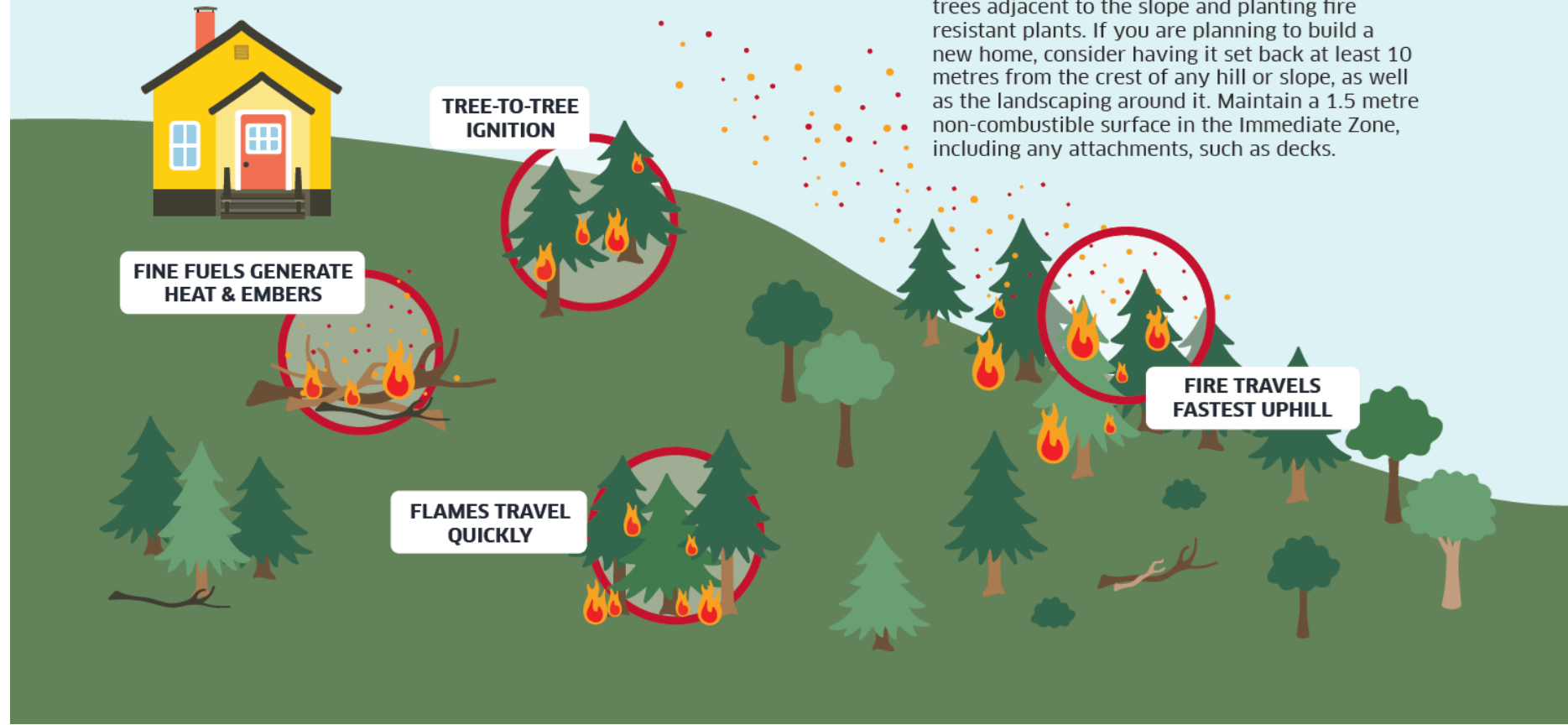
**the number of wildfires recorded in Ontario during the  
2025 fire season (Apr to Oct)**

# Factors that influence the spread of wildfires

## Factors Influencing the Spread of Wildland Fire

### Dense Continuous Forests

Wildland fire can spread quickly in forests where trees are near each other. Fire spreads directly from tree to tree, and can produce sparks and embers that may travel distances of two kilometres. These embers may land on trees or homes well ahead of the fire and create multiple fire situations. It is important to be aware of the dangers of sparks and embers when creating a FireSmart property.



Coniferous trees are highly flammable.



Deciduous trees are less flammable.



### Slope

Fire moves fastest uphill. The steeper the slope, the faster a wildland fire will spread. Homes on hills, or at the top of hills, face the greatest risk from wildland fire. If your home is located on a hill, consider taking extra measures, like removing trees adjacent to the slope and planting fire resistant plants. If you are planning to build a new home, consider having it set back at least 10 metres from the crest of any hill or slope, as well as the landscaping around it. Maintain a 1.5 metre non-combustible surface in the Immediate Zone, including any attachments, such as decks.

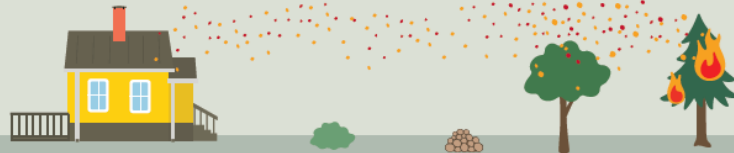
# Fuel + Fire Why homes burn

## UNDERSTANDING FIRE BEHAVIOUR

### FIRE + FUEL = WHY HOMES BURN



Unmitigated Property



FireSmart-Mitigated Property

Fuels include trees, woodpiles, structures, fences, plants, etc.



## How Wildland Fires Spread

### Embers & Sparks

Embers and sparks can blow up to two kilometres ahead of a wildland fire. They can ignite materials on or near your home causing severe damage.



### Extreme Heat

Radiant heat from a wildland fire can melt vinyl siding, ignite your home, and even break windows. Extreme heat can come from flames within 30 metres of your home.



### Direct Flame

As wildland fires spread toward homes, they ignite other flammable objects in their path. To stop wildland fire from directly affecting your home, create breaks in this path, especially close to your home.

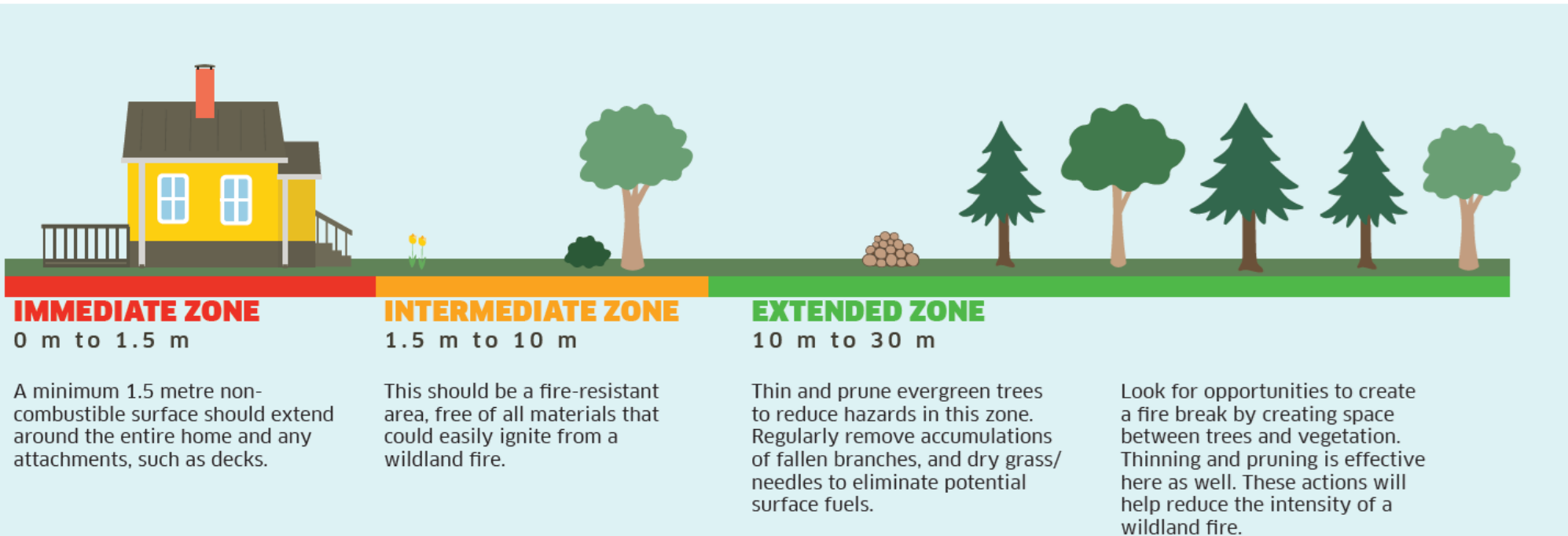


# BEGIN YOUR FIRESMART JOURNEY

Each section of this guide will help you to focus on the changes that protect your home from wildland fire. Start from your home and work your way outward. Changes made to the area closest to your home, and your home itself, have the greatest impact in reducing your risk of wildland fire damage.

## Making the Most of Your Time

Home renovations and upgrades can be costly and time-consuming. FireSmart principles focus on what is realistic for you to achieve to limit the risk of wildland fire to your home. Integrate FireSmart into your long-term renovation plans and incorporate regular yard cleanup to reduce your risk of damage from wildland fire.



# Conclusion

- Apply for and renew annually your Burn Permit
- Understand all of the rules and regulations of the Open Air Burning By-Law
- Ensure safe practices around your property to reduce the risk of fire spread



**Q & A**

# OUR MUNICIPAL PARTNERS

- Reeve Steve Fournier -  
Drummond North Elmsley  
Township
- Noelle Reeve, Planner - Tay  
Valley Township



Tay Valley Township

# TAY VALLEY 2026



Legislation, Planning,  
and Climate Update

OTTY LAKE AGM

## Proposed Legislation

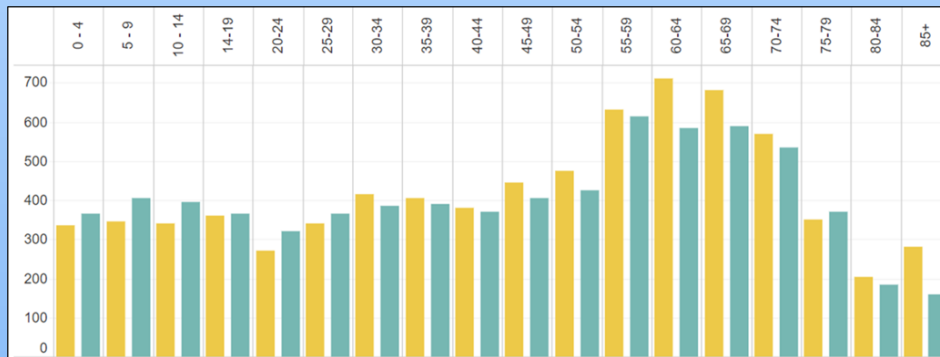
- ▶ *Bill 98, Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act*
- ▶ Proposes to remove Site Plan Control Agreements (again)
- ▶ Proposes to remove Development Charges (taxpayers pay for development instead of developers) – contact Minister Flack, MPP Jordan
- ▶ *Bill 119, Protecting Ontario's Streets and Communities Act*
- ▶ Proposes fines for Zoning By-law contraventions!

# Zoning Public Meeting

## August 18

- Height – 11m instead of 9m for dwelling, 6m instead of 5m for garage
- Narrow Channels – 150m wide; no docks, boathouses if navigation hazards
- Lot area – does not include areas unable to be built on
- Illumination – cutoff design required to protect night sky
- Deck – 3m encroachment permitted >15m setback

# Climate Adaptation



Residents 55+ =  
55% of TVT pop.

# Stakeholder Session

## How Can the Township Help?

### 1. Strengthen Neighbourhood Connections to Respond to:



Climate Emotions Wheel



### 2. Provide Alerts and Information on Escape Routes

# Stakeholder Session

## How Can the Township Help?

### 1. Strengthen Neighbourhood Connections to Respond to:



Climate Emotions Wheel

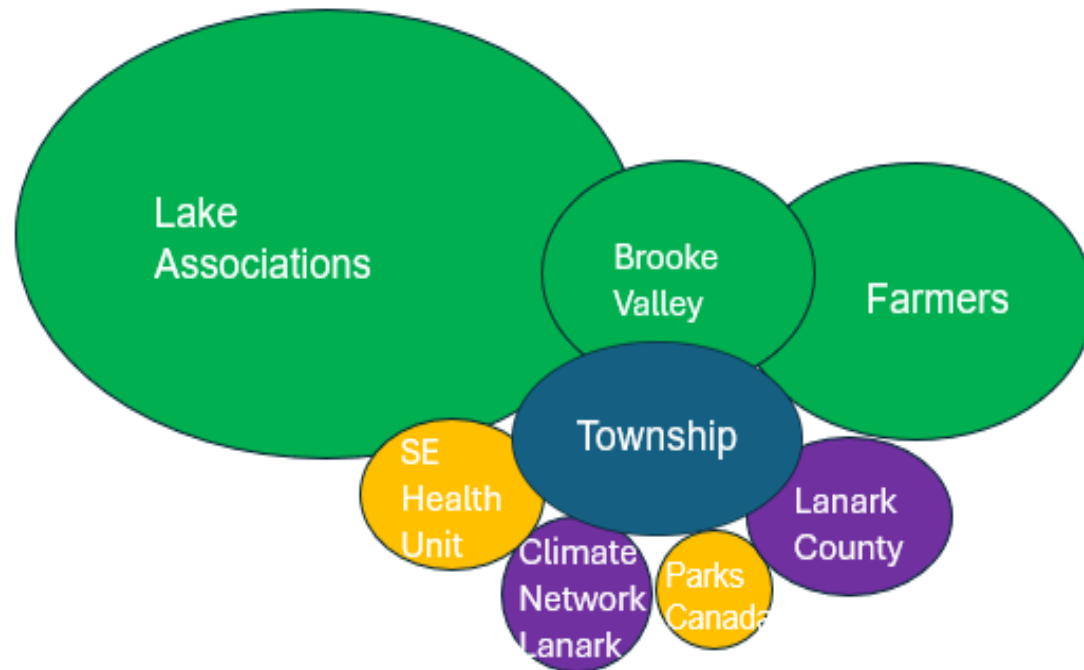


### 2. Provide Alerts and Information on Escape Routes

# Resilience Action Network

## Communication and Outreach Framework

- Information Sharing (FireSmart Infographics, etc.)
- Outreach Protocols



QUESTIONS?

Contact [planner@tayvalleytwp.ca](mailto:planner@tayvalleytwp.ca)

Stay up to date by signing up for e-news on the Township website!!

<https://www.tayvalleytwp.ca/subscribe/>

Tay Valley 2026

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# BASS SPAWNING SANCTUARY (BaSS) PROJECT

Dr. David Philipp

- Director of the Fisheries Genetics Lab at the Illinois Natural History Survey
- adjunct professor at the University of Illinois
- Chair of the Fisheries Conservation Foundation
- Lake Opinicon cottager



**HAVE A GREAT SUMMMER!**

