

# Shoreline News

## Steenburg Lake Community Association

Spring Edition 1992

Gilmour, Ontario - Hastings County

### NOTICE OF IMPORTANT MEETING ON THE RESULTS OF THE LAKE CAPACITY STUDY

The open house will be held on Tuesday, April 21st at the Limerick Community Centre: 1st session 2:00 PM - 5:00PM, 2nd session 7:00PM - 9:00PM.

Recommendations to the Limerick Township Plan as a result of the study will be presented by representatives from the township council, Hastings County, and the Consultants. It is important that there be a respectable representation of cottagers from Steenburg Lake at the meeting. This open house will not be without controversy and representatives from development interests will be in attendance. As the current jargon says "Be There". The next step in the implementation of this study will be the Hastings County Council.

#### EDITORIAL

**Lake Capacity Study:** This study was an independent study by the Township Of Limerick to establish some firm ground rules based on facts and data that would assist in the orderly control of development on the 15 lakes, in the township, that were studied. Approval or disapproval of severences and issue of building permits was a very subjective decision. The nagging issue behind it all has been, when is enough, enough? Those that own a cottage on the lake can see cottages everywhere they look and feel that "enough" has been reached, by common sense if for no other reason. Those that own undeveloped property feel that their rights are being jeopardized when a requested severence is denied them.

Those of you that have returned questionnaires and listed the issues impacting the lake by order of importance as you see them, list continued development as the most serious factor facing the preservation of Steenburg Lake as a high quality recreational lake. Following close on the heels of that was water quality, and of course both are inexplicably tied to each other.

We all rejoiced when the Capacity Study was announced as we felt sure that it would put an end to this mad scramble of developers to cram something on every available piece of property within the bounds of the lake basin. At this point we do not know what the outcome of the study will recommend. We can only hope that it will be the vehicle to facilitate wise and prudent development where it can reasonably be accommodated without endangering the water quality of Steenburg Lake.

Lake Capacity study continued.....

A concern that all on Steenburg Lake must have is how Tudor/Cashel Township will view the recommendations of the study. Since both townships are represented on the lake, action by one without agreement by the other will be counter productive. In addition to that situation there is concern over back-lot development beyond the 1000 foot mark. There are several disquieting rumors around the lake concerning that subject.

As a cottager on Steenburg Lake and a member of our lake association you are urged to make every effort to arrange to attend one of the open house sessions when the results of the study will be made public. Our lack of participation can only damage our efforts to date.

#### New Neighbors Around the Lake

We have some new neighbors around the lake, eager for their first year of cottage enjoyment on Steenburg Lake. Let us welcome the following:

Cottage #	Name	Residence
22	Kathryn Andrews & Douglas McMain	Toronto
89	Dell & Marion Watson	Oakville
94	Nicholas Kosnic & Nicole Sirois	Toronto
104	Gary & Ena Galloway	Ajax
142	Steve & Lesley Clare	West Hill
191	David E. Golem & Jayda Rueggeberg	Mississauga

#### STeenBURG LAKE WASTE DISPOSAL SURVEY SUMMARY

Systems Surveyed: 160 (3/92)

Types and number in use

Septic	Privies*	Holding Tank	Chemical	Other
127	17	18	1	6
System upgrades under consideration				23

Routing of Kitchen Waste

Septic	Dry Well	Lch Fld.	Sand Bed	Hold Tank	None	Other
104	24	4	7	10	3	8
Septic systems installed prior to EPA (1974) : 29						

\* Privies used on a regular basis, not as back up  
160 out of 204 cottages have responded = 78% participation

As you can see by the above Waste Disposal Survey Summary we are almost at the 80% response level. Our efforts in this area encouraged the Limerick Township to get involved by preparing and releasing their resolution on older septic systems (published in the last issue of the

**Waste Disposal Continued.....**

This resolution has since been adopted by the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and a direct meeting with Minister Grier is being pursued.

A reminder to those that are considering an update to their system to please advise Tom Hughes, cottage #30, when that action has taken place. In this manner our history file can be kept current. If a form is included with this newsletter please complete and mail to Anita Waddell.

**Questionnaire Response Status**

Questionnaires from 77 cottages have been recieved and four reports have been created to summarize the information from the data base that those questionnaires provided. All tallies will not add up to 77 as not every question was answered on every questionnaire. This is the last issue in which a questionnaire will be included, please complete and mail to Anita Waddell. Thank you.

The summaries from those reports are part of this newsletter and address as follows:

- **Issues & Their Priorities**
- **Township Services**
- **Annual Meeting & Dinner**
- **Community Well, Boat Launch & Noise By-Law**

Based on membership, spread of responses (roughly equal at this point between the two townships), the confidence level of the data is +/- 10%. To bring it within 5%, at least 30 more questionnaires would have to be entered into the data base.

The information can definately provide direction for the directors. Social, Municipal Affairs, Natural Resources and Environment are impacted by the information that you have provided. If you have any suggestions that might assist the directors in laying out an action plan, I am sure they would be most appreciative.

**Issues & Priorities**

Issue#	Description	Priority				Total
		#1	#2	#3	#4	
0	Blanks	13	1	35	54	123
1	Further Develop	17	4	2	2	25
2	Septic Systems	6	3	1	0	10
3	Water Pollutants	3	2	1	0	6
4	Fishery	2	4	1	1	8
5	Water Quality	9	10	6	3	28
6	Environment	4	2	2	1	9
7	Waste Disposal	3	6	2	1	12
8	Recycling	1	1	0	0	2
9	Boat Launch	2	1	3	0	6
10	Water Safety	4	7	10	2	23
11	Boat Launch	2	4	2	4	6
12	Noise Control	2	4	2	4	12
13	Assoc. Well	1	2	1	2	6
14	Roads	6	1	6	0	13
15	Lake Level	1	4	3	0	8
<b>Total By Priority</b>		<b>63</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>176</b>

**Issues & Priorities continued.....**

Note: Priority Total does not include blanks

The following is one persons attempt to draw some conclusions from this portion of the questionnaires received to date. First of all the number of blanks on the questionnaires (123 out of a potential 308) is a good indication that a number of cottagers simply do not have an opinion, or do not have issues that are bothering them concerning the lake. You will notice from the priority totals that the number of identified issues drops significantly by each level of priority.

Some of the issues are inter-related, especially the "Water Quality" of the lake. Issue Nos. 2,3,5, and some of #1 from a sensitivity point of view can be lumped together to make Water Quality the #1 issues to be dealt with (discounting the blanks). That tack merges the three priorities. If you take just #1 priority column, then "Further Development" assumes the #1 position. I merged the 3 water quality issues in my own mind as I felt that reflected what the overall thinking that was behind the response. Thus the top 3 issues become: Water Quality(44), Further Development(25), and Water Safety(23). Water safety also has a number of sub-issues i.e. boats too fast and too close to swimmers, boats overpowered for the lake and boats taking unsafe routes around the lake

Now that there is some consensus about what the problems are, the challenge becomes what to do about them. The "Further Development" issue may go away to some extent depending on the outcome of the Lake Capacity Study.

**Township Services**

The question was "Are you satisfied with the services your township provides?"

Limerick Township	Tudor/Cashel Township	
	Yes	No
25	6	8
		26

There is a great disparity of preceived satisfaction between the two townships on the services that are provided.

Comments relative to "Services that could be improved" and "Additional services" have a wide range but for Tudor/Cashel concentrate on roads, dump and by-law enforcement. The detail will be passed on to the township council.

For Limerick Township there was no one area you could identify as being the prime complaint. Areas covered were the public beach, barking dogs, building code enforcement, keep ATVs off the road, weight limit for trucks. The complete list will be forwarded to the council.

## Annual Dinner & Meeting

The first question was "Should the dinner and the meeting be separated?" Responses were:

Yes	No	Undecided	Blank
21	38	7	11

Second question was "Type of dinner preferred?"

- Corn & Weenie Roast 25
- Catered sit down 24
- Pot Luck (Assoc provide meat) 19
- Other\* 9

\*Included: A dance, euchre social, more socials

### Best Time/day for meeting/dinner?

Many variations in response to this question, bottom line is as follows:

- Generally, hold on a non-holiday weekend and on a Saturday.
- Meeting should be held in the late afternoon.
- Dinner early in the evening.
- Social after dinner

### What would you attend?

Social	Meeting	Undecided	Neither one
28	38	3	5
<u>Social only</u>	<u>Meeting only</u>		
5	9		

### If you have never attended either the dinner or the meeting, why?

Two main reason given for this:

- The Civic weekend we always have guests and we are too busy.
- We are never at the cottage on the Civic weekend.

## Community Well, Boat Launch, Noise Control

### An association well for drinking water ?:

Yes	No	Undecided
49	26	1

### Willing to make a one time contribution to install a well?

Yes	No	Undecided
47	28	1

### Boat Launch:

- If it was available would you use it?

yes	No	Undecided
27	48	1
- Favor a private launch?

yes	No	Undecided
29	43	2
- Contribute to installing a launch?

yes	No
24	51

continued.....

This response eliminates the proposal of an association sponsored boat launch.

### Are you in favor of requesting the townships to consider some type of noise control by-law?

Yes	No	Undecided
50	22	3

### Preferred hours for such a by-law to be in effect?

10:00	11:00	12:00
14	14	25

The response to this question was so positive that it sends an unmistakably message, the cottagers desire peace and quiet when at the lake. The comment section touched on these points relative to such a by-law:

- Enforcement would be impossible
- What is too loud?
- It is a neighbor to neighbor thing and should be resolved that way.

Whether or not any formal type of noise control is put in place the message is loud and clear, a quiet lake if you please

Note: This is the last issue in which a questionnaires will be included. Please complete and mail to Anita Waddell.

## Summer Delivery of Toronto Star

Liane and Sean van Dompeler (cottage #106) will be delivering the weekend Toronto Star newspaper again this summer from Saturday, July 4th, to Sunday September 6th. The following is a note from them:

In June, we will be visting our previous customer to confirm 1992 delivery. Anyone else wishing to have the weekend Toronto Star delivered to their cottage, please phone our home at 705-799-5914, or, send a letter to RR#2 Peterborough, Ont. K9J 6X3. Please include your name and cottage number, and let us know if you would like the newspaper delivered on Saturday, Sunday or on both days of the weekends. Also what dates you will be at the cottage.

Congratulations goes out to Mr. & Mrs. Platt of cottage #77, winners of last summer's Toronto Star draw.

Thank you - Liane & Sean

## Events & Dates for the 1992 Season

### May

- Pitch-In Week - Limerick May 4 - 10
- Home/Recreation Show-Bancroft Cmm. Ctr. May 29-31
- Lobsterfeast - Bancroft, Legion Hall - May 30th

### June

- Kayak/Canoe Slalom Races - Madawaska Canoe Camp June 13th
- Strawberry Festival - Limerick Centre , June 20th

### July

- Canada Day Celebrations - Bancroft, July 1st
- St. Ola United Church Anniversary Dinner - Limerick Centre July 4th at 4:30
- Midway - Bancroft July 10 - 12
- St. Ola United Church Pancake Breakfast - Limerick Centre , July 18th

Events continued.....

Beef Dinner & Picnic - Limerick Centre, July 25th  
Coe Hill United Church Anniversary Dinner - Coe Hill  
July 29th  
Rockhound Gemboree - Bancroft Community Centre  
July 30th - Aug. 2nd

#### August

Summer Craft & Bake Sale - Limerick Centre, August 1st  
The Ridge United Church Anniversary Supper - Ridge  
United Church August 8th  
Annual Turkey & Ham Smorgasbord - Coe Hill, Aug. 8th  
Baptiste Lake Bass Torurnament - August 8th

#### Regular Events

Every Tuesday & Thursday starting June 23rd - Mineral  
Collecting Field Trips out of Bancroft Chamber of  
Commerce.

Euchre every Friday night during June - Bancroft Legion  
Hall, 7:30

Cribbage - Sunday afternoon - Bancroft Legion Hall 1:00

**Steenburg Lake Community Association:**

As I go to press I have not heard from the Social  
Committee as to the lake events and their dates. Those  
events will be in the June newsletter

#### Steenburg Lake "T" Shirts

We will have "T" shirts for sale this summer. The design is  
presently being finalized and Tom Quinn will place and  
intial order for 200 shirts. Bob Watson has agreed to  
handle the sale of them. Price, color and design will be  
included in the June newsletter.

#### Association Bulletin Board

Wes Moffatt will complete the construction of the bulletin  
board in time to have it installed for the coming season.  
Bob Watson has given us permission to locate the board  
out by his parking lot. The construction will include lexon  
doors and a small roof to protect it from the weather.  
Contact any director on the Social Committee if you have  
an item you want to post on the board.

#### Classified:

For Sale.....

Fiber glass boat shell - 13 1/2 "Scott" full shell, \$50.00 or  
best offer. Contact Ken Waddell at 474 - 5486 or 416 - 284 -  
8098.

Wood burning stove - Has heated a four bedroom cottage.  
Takes 30" wood. Good condition, includes pipes. Asking  
\$100.00. Cottage 27 474 - 2645 or 416 - 781 - 1019

Wanted.....

Small outboard up to 10 - 15 hp  
Small single sail sailboat  
Tom Little #15 474 - 5653 or 416 - 576 - 5220

Send your classified notices to:

Thomas Hughes  
6 Highview Trail  
Pittsford, NY 14534 USA

They will be included in the June newsletter which will  
be delivered to cottages at the lake. Dead line for these  
notices is May 15th



Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources  
Richesses naturelles

ministère des  
Richesses  
naturelles

Ag... ..  
**FACT SHEET • ACTUALITÉS**

May 1991

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
MAY 22 1991

BANCROFT, ONTARIO

## PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) is an aquatic plant of Eurasian origin. It grows up to 2.5 metres tall and has a spike of purple-pink flowers. One plant can produce up to 2.7 million seeds each year.

The weed was accidentally introduced into rivers in northeastern North America in the early 1800s, likely in the ballast water dumped by ocean-going ships from Europe. Purple loosestrife was also imported for use as an ornamental by gardeners and as a honey plant by beekeepers and this, too, aided its spread.

In Canada, the plant caused few problems until the 1930s, when it began to take over flood plain pastures along the St. Lawrence River. Since then it has steadily spread and now threatens native aquatic vegetation in shallow-water marshes throughout eastern and central Canada.

The weed causes wetland loss. According to a study for the Ontario Heritage Foundation, purple loosestrife has invaded half the wetlands in southern Ontario and north to a line running from Sault Ste. Marie to Kirkland Lake. In the United States, the most recent study estimates that 1,900 square kilometres of wetland habitat are lost annually to purple loosestrife.

The impact of purple loosestrife on native vegetation has been disastrous. The plant easily out-competes native plant species and then forms dense stands with thick woody roots. Unlike many other invading plants, purple loosestrife regenerates year after year with no apparent loss of vigor. In addition, purple loosestrife does not provide suitable food, nesting habitat or shelter, and thus reduces wildlife populations.

### Management and control

The search continues for an effective system to control purple loosestrife. Some Ontario municipalities, such as Bruce County have declared purple loosestrife a noxious weed, enabling weed inspectors to ban its sale in local nurseries.

### Control techniques

**Handpulling.** Pulling out purple loosestrife by hand is effective, but labor-intensive, and is only practical in wetlands where plant density is low and plants are one-to-two years old. The root stocks of older plants are too large to be entirely removed by handpulling. When handpulling, remove the entire plant, including the rootstock, disturbing the soil as little as possible, and then remove all plant material from the site to prevent re-establishment from fragments.

**Cutting.** This reduces stem numbers and seed production temporarily, but many cuts are required for long-term control. This method does not eliminate the weed. Late summer cuts tend to reduce density better than mid-summer cuts. Remember to remove all pieces of plants after cutting because fragments can float to other areas and regenerate.

**Burning.** Burning, even in winter when water levels are at their lowest, is not effective because the rootstock is not destroyed and can resprout the next spring. Burning also destroys other desirable species, creating new areas for purple loosestrife to spread.

**Flooding.** This technique results in some success, but is not selective and is impossible to apply in natural wetland areas.

**Herbicides.** At present, there is no licenced herbicide in Canada that can be used to control purple loosestrife in standing water.

**Biological control.** Researchers will need another three to 10 years to fully develop a biological control for purple loosestrife. At present, U.S. scientists are testing three species of beetles. European laboratory tests indicate these beetles prey on purple loosestrife and kill the weed by feeding on various parts of the plant.

This summer, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will field test the beetles in New York State to determine what effect they have on North American plants closely related to purple loosestrife.

### **Ontario's strategy for purple loosestrife control**

In 1990, the Ministry of Natural Resources established a working group that will make recommendations this year on managing purple loosestrife in Ontario. The agencies represented in the working group include the Canadian Wildlife Service, the Canadian Parks Service, Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario, as well as the provincial ministries of the Environment and Agriculture and Food. The group now is assembling information on purple loosestrife, effective control methods, public education programs and is preparing a purple loosestrife management strategy.

In January 1991, the province's Standing Committee on Resources and Development met with various experts to listen to their opinions on managing zebra mussels and purple loosestrife.

REMARQUE : Version française disponible.

- 30 -

DISTRICT MANAGER  
BANCROFT DISTRICT  
P.O. BOX 500  
BANCROFT, ONTARIO  
K0L 1C0

008

**BOATERS**  
**THERE'S A NEW LAW**  
**THAT AFFECTS YOU**

AS OF AUGUST 28, 1991 IT IS  
ILLEGAL TO OPERATE A POWER-DRIVEN  
VESSEL OVER 10 KM/H (6 MPH)  
WITHIN 30 METRES (100 FEET)  
OF ANY SHORELINE

EXEMPTIONS ARE MADE FOR SMALL  
RIVERS LESS THAN 100 METRES WIDE,  
CANALS, BUOYED CHANNELS, OR WATERS  
THAT ALREADY HAVE A SHORELINE SPEED LIMIT

**OBEY THE LAW AND**  
**REDUCE**  
**TRAGIC ACCIDENTS!**



F.O.C.A.

# H. E. L. P.

## HELP END LAKE POLLUTION

**DO NOT USE SOAP IN THIS LAKE.**

**DO NOT USE SHAMPOO IN THIS LAKE.**

**DO NOT USE FERTILIZER NEAR THIS LAKE.**

*ALL OF THE ABOVE ADD NUTRIENTS TO THE WATER  
WHICH ENCOURAGE THE GROWTH OF ALGAE WHICH  
DESTROYS THE LAKE ENVIRONMENT.*

# REWARD

**Our reward will be the opportunity to continue using and enjoying this beautiful lake.**

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations Incorporated

215 Morrish Rd., Ste. 105, Scarborough, Ontario M1C 1E9

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