



LAKE STEWARDSHIP

Lake Panache Campers Association Inc.
www.lakepanachecampers.com

WELCOME

In March 2011, the Lake Panache Campers Association's Board of Directors created the Lake Panache Stewardship Committee.

The Committee, which is a committee of the Board of Directors, has a mandate to act as an advocate for the sound stewardship of Lake Panache.

While we would all generally agree that Lake Panache is in excellent shape in terms of water quality, it is important that we are vigilant and pro-active in protecting Lake Panache for future generations.

Richard Bois, one of our Directors, has agreed to act as Interim Chair of the Lake Stewardship Committee so that we can get the Committee going. Thank you Richard.

There are two key steps that we need to undertake:

1. We need to recruit Association Members who are willing to serve on the Lake Stewardship Committee.
2. The Committee will need to establish a mandate and specific list of activities that it will undertake on behalf of the Association.

The remaining pages of this newsletter provide more information on Lake Panache (thanks to the City of Greater Sudbury), an outline of possible activities for the Committee, a request for volunteers for the Committee and septic system tips from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.

Stu Greaves, President

UPCOMING EVENTS

The 2011 Annual Picnic will return to Mountain Cove Lodge on **Saturday July 23rd** from 1:00—4:00 P.M. The picnic will be held rain or shine as we will have a tent.

The 2012 Spring Thaw Dance Dinner will be held on **Saturday March 24th** at the Tom Davies Community Centre. Tickets will be available at the Annual Meeting on **Thursday November 23rd, 2011.**

To report a forest fire within the City of Greater Sudbury call

911

If outside of the City of Greater Sudbury, call

310-FIRE (3473)

LAKE STEWARDSHIP

ABOUT LAKE PANACHE

Specifications

Size: 8034.1 ha

Watershed: Panache

Township: Dieppe

Population: 20 permanent residences and 255 seasonal/recreational residences

Water Quality

Clarity: A seechi depth reading of 5.5 m falls into the oligotrophic level, which indicates that Lake Panache is clear.

Phosphorus Levels: The 10-year average for spring phosphorus in Lake Panache is 4.7 µg/L, which falls under the oligotrophic level, indicating that the lake is fairly low in nutrients and free of large algae blooms.

Shoreline Development

Lake Panache has a relatively sparse population for its size, and much of the shoreline remains undeveloped. Lake Panache falls into the range of having 0—5% of its shoreline perimeter disturbed or damaged.

Fish Species

Lake Panache has 15 known fish species and ranks extremely well in this category, achieving about 79% of the expected number of fish species for a lake its size.

Species found in the lake include Brown bullhead, Burbot (Ling), Cisco (Lake herring), Lake trout, Lake whitefish, Largemouth bass, Log perch, Northern pike, Pumpkinseed, Rainbow smelt, Rock bass, Smallmouth bass, Walleye, White sucker and Yellow perch.

Source: City of Greater Sudbury Website

LAKE STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES

Here's a partial list of activities that the Lake Panache Lake Stewardship Committee may want to consider:

- To be the voice of your lake.
- To develop a communications network for sharing lake news.
- To raise awareness of lake issues in the community.
- To launch fund-raising events.
- To act as a support group for members.
- To gain strength in numbers.
- To gather information and educational materials for the members.
- To conduct data collection on a broad range of lake concerns (water quality, development, lake use conflicts).
- To gain a historical perspective from long-time residents.
- To network with other lake organizations.

Once the Committee has been formed, it will recommend what activities it wants to pursue and the resources it needs to the Board of Directors.

We need you!

The Lake Panache Stewardship Committee needs your participation. We are looking for 6—8 Association Members who are willing to serve on the Committee and volunteer a few hours of your time throughout the year to support the activities. If you are interested in volunteering for the Committee, please contact Richard Bois, Interim Chair, at (705) 692 5047 or via e-mail at richard.bois@sympatico.ca, indicating your interest in participating. The first formal meeting of the Committee is planned for September 2011 after our recruitment efforts are complete.

Help us ensure a healthy Lake Panache for future generations!

CONTACT US

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BE FireSmart®

SEPTIC TANK TIPS

WATCH FOR SIGNS OF AN IMPROPERLY FUNCTIONING SEPTIC SYSTEM

Warning signs of an improperly functioning septic system are many – some are obvious and some require more effort to notice.

Around the camp:

- The grass over the system may become unusually green or spongy to walk on
- Toilets, showers and sinks may take longer to drain
- Occasional sewage odours may become noticeable, often after a rainfall
- You may see gray or black liquids surfacing in your yard, or backing up through plumbing fixtures into the camp

In lakes and ponds:

Leaks from septic systems can cause weeds and algae to grow in lakes and ponds. Just a small amount of additional phosphorus (which can come from soaps, shampoos, household cleaning products and detergents) in a lake or pond can make a huge difference in the amount of weeds that grow during the spring and summer. Lakes sometimes develop “dead zones” as a result of an overload of phosphorous – which can lead to too much algae, deplete oxygen supplies and kill fish.

KEEP YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM WORKING WELL

Fortunately, regular septic maintenance and watching what you pour down your drains can prevent the problems above. Moderating your water use will help, too.

Watch what you put down the drain

Bacteria are critical in the septic system — they are what make it work. They thrive on wastewater but certain chemicals can kill them. Flushing even small amounts of paints, solvents, thinners, nail polish remover and other common household compounds can poison these helpful organisms.

Laundry bleaches, toilet bowl cleaners and caustic drain openers can slow the treatment process, allowing sewage to pass through without proper treatment. And often, the chemicals themselves seep into the ground, sometimes contaminating wells or surface water.

Septic systems cannot digest oils, grease and fat. Besides plugging up your pipes, grease can combine with detergents and flow into the drainage field where it may clog the soils. Fats can form a blob in the top of the tank and interfere with the work of the bacteria. Oils, grease and fat can be composted, in moderation, under suitable conditions. These materials can usually go into the green bin or, if needed, out with the garbage. Adding these materials to your backyard composter may attract pests. You also shouldn't use your septic system to dispose of garbage. In-sink garbage disposals are unwelcome strains on the system. Disposable diapers, sanitary products and many other kinds of garbage can create problems for septic systems. If something doesn't break down naturally, don't flush it into your septic tank.

Maintain it regularly

One of the most important things you can do to keep the system functioning properly is to have the septic tank pumped regularly. Many experts recommend pumping a tank every three to five years, but a tank may need to be pumped more or less frequently depending on how many people use the system, what they put into it and whether or not it's used for garbage disposal.

A safe approach is to have the tank inspected by a qualified septage hauler before the tank is pumped.

Source: Ontario Ministry of the Environment