

**Bass Lake Property Owners Association
BLPOA**



SPRING NEWSLETTER
It won't be long - another 2 weeks ?

Executive Summary

1. Algae and aquatic plants are crucial to the health of our water bodies. Too much, however, threatens the health of our water bodies. For details on how to help, refer to Educational Manual on page 2;
2. Blue Green Algae can be toxic. If you suspect a bloom it should be reported to Ministry of Environment and climate change spills action unit. 1-800-268-6060. For details on recognizing Blue green algae please also review this RVCA manual;
3. Learn about the spread of Lyme disease in Ontario. To keep safe and what to do if a tick bites. Review the FOCA presentation link on page 2;
4. Property assessments for taxes were postponed due to covid 19 pandemic. Assessments for 2022 and 2023 will be based on 2016 levels;
5. Details on Water Quality Monitoring;
6. FOCA benefits and discounts;
7. Call for volunteers & lake stewards.

President's Message

Welcome to the Bass Lake Property Owners Association's (BLPOA) Spring Newsletter. The winter season has almost passed and once again we have a wonderful opportunity to enjoy beautiful Bass Lake. We sincerely hope that all of our members and their families are well and look forward to preparing for a fantastic summer season on the lake.

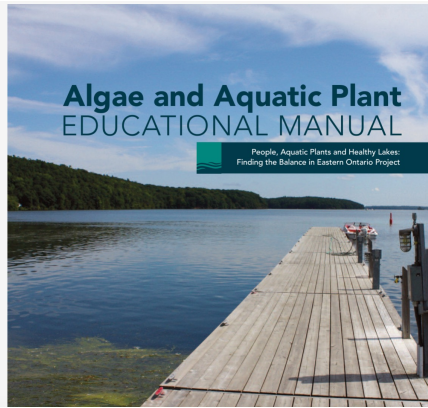
Thank you for your ongoing support of the BLPOA. Your Board and volunteers are working hard to ensure that the health of Bass Lake is preserved. The Board will be holding a Spring meeting in late April and if you have any topics of concern or ideas to share please let us know. We encourage suggestions and feedback.

See you out on the lake!Bill

Email: president@rideaubasslake.com

BLPOA Website:
<https://www.rideaubasslake.com/contact-us>

Algae & Aquatic Plant - Educational Manual



Algae and aquatic plants play an important role in maintaining the health of our lake. But when you have too much algae and aquatic plant growth the health of our aquatic systems can be threatened. In this manual you will learn about the role algae and aquatic plants play in our waterbody, what influences their growth and ways that you can help to keep your lake healthy.

Algae & Aquatic Plants - RVCA Educational Manual



2

Tick Talk – Tracking the spread of Ticks that carry Lyme Disease in Ontario

Manisha Kulkarni
Canadian Lyme Disease Research Network

Common tick species in Ontario

- Ixodes scapularis*, aka deer tick or blacklegged tick
- Dermacentor variabilis*, aka American dog tick or wood tick

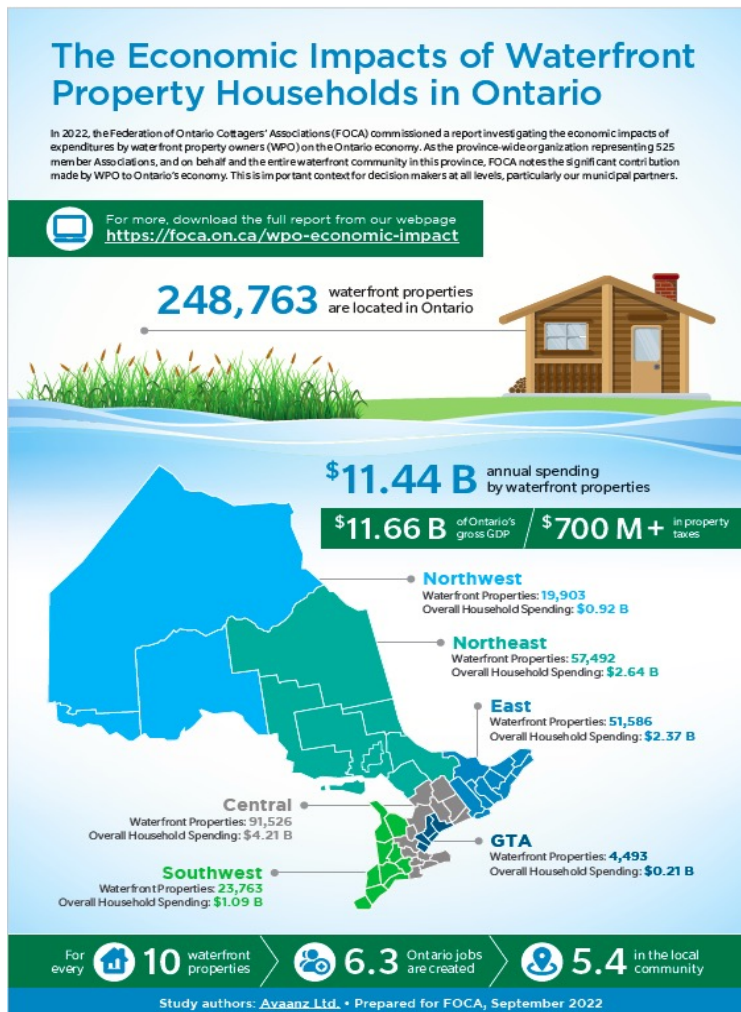
Tick Talk;



MUNICIPAL
PROPERTY
ASSESSMENT
CORPORATION

2023 Property Tax update from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC):

- due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ontario government postponed the 2020 Assessment Update
- property assessments for the 2022 and 2023 property tax years **will continue to be based on January 1, 2016 current values**
- as soon as an assessment announcement is made, property owners will be made aware.



Since MPAC's last report, Ontario has grown by approximately 100,000 new properties and they have added **more than \$37 billion in new assessment** from new construction and improvements to existing properties. You can read the 2022 report here: <https://news.mpac.ca/2022-municipal-partnerships-report>.

CURIOUS ABOUT LAKE WATER QUALITY

Representatives from township lake associations and RVCA have designed a web page to display lake water quality indices and lake sensitivity information and it is now linked to the Township of Rideau Lakes website. To check water quality index for Bass Lake and other neighboring lakes, check this link below.

[Rideau Lakes Water Quality & Sensitivity Indices](#)

BASS LAKE HEALTH REPORT - 2022

For more detailed information on our water quality index rating and yearly water quality sampling results click on the link below.



[Bass Lake Health Report 2022](#)

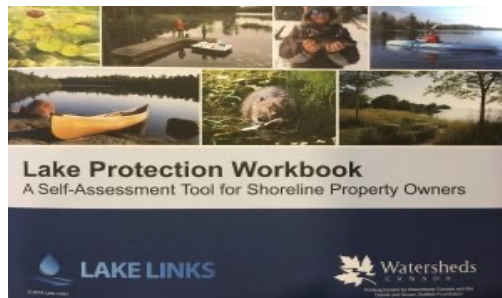
This Lake Health Report is in the process of being updated to reflect the 2022 sampling results obtained by RVCA and the BLPOA supplementary programs that were presented in our December Newsletter. Overall readings show we had a positive year with normal results as compared to historical data. Nutrient levels (Phosphorous and Nitrogen) were below provincial guidelines, no E.coli and no major blue/green algae blooms.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Protect our Water Quality with “Best Management Practices”

Each waterfront property owner can make a significant impact — pro or con — on Bass Lake’s water quality. How we each manage the shoreland on our property affects the lake we share.. Just a reminder to once again check out the “Lake Protection Workbook” a Self-Assessment Tool for Shoreline Property Owners. Diagnose any shoreline property problems, and see how you can help your shoreline. Printed hard copies were distributed by our association to all Bass Lake property owners last Spring 2022. You can download an online copy off of our BLPOA website.

[BLPOA Website: Lake Protection Workbook](#)



FEDERATION OF ONTARIO COTTAGERS ASSOCIATIONS

All of our BLPOA members have membership in FOCA for 2023. FOCA is a not-for-profit organization representing volunteer waterfront associations and individual property owners all across Ontario and is made up of more than 500 property associations across Ontario cottage country – a total of 50,000 families.



BENEFITS & OFFERS AVAILABLE FROM FOCA TO BLPOA MEMBERS

- Members only access to resources on the FOCA website (login access codes required*)
- Free Elerts (e-news) updates (sign up required)
- Attend FOCA events and webinars at reduced Member Rates
- Learn how to plan your family's cottage succession plan

SPECIAL OFFERS FROM FOCA'S CORPORATE PARTNERS

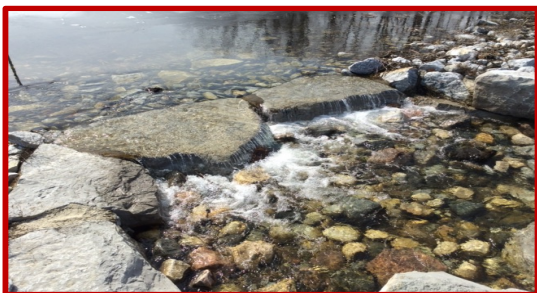
- Exclusive access to CottageFirst, the first cottage group insurance plan
- Cottage Life Magazine only \$24.95 annually
- Action First Aid – special FOCA price on defibrillators (AEDs)
- Canadian Canoe Museum – 30% off any Membership

To access copies of study reports and presentations relating to waterfront living, insurance discounts, and numerous other benefits; [FOCA | Your lake. Your lifestyle. Your legacy.](#) If you need the Username and Password please contact us through the website.

SPRING SEASON 2023 – EARTHEN BERM & CROSSVANE SPILLWAY



24 March 2023



FUTURE OF OUR LAKE ASSOCIATION



RELIES ON NEW VOLUNTEERS AS DIRECTORS & LAKE STEWARDS



This year will mark the five year anniversary for our BLPOA. The advocacy work of our association has been carried out by a lake-wide representative group of hardworking volunteers primarily focusing on the work of the Board, liaising with the Township; Conservation Authority; provincial ministries and collaborating with other lake associations within our Rideau Lakes watershed. After having successfully achieved our primary mandate of constructing a new berm/dam in our lake's outlet that will assist in maintaining water levels for generations to come..... we have been transitioning to focus primarily on lake health and water quality objectives.

Community-based volunteers are the backbone of any non-profit organization. Our young lake association is no different. We are seeking new association volunteers to give some folks a well deserved break and to help with various lake initiatives and activities. We are in great need of several new Board Directors as well as new or Water Quality Committee members in support of our lake health programs.



**Water Quality
Sampling & Testing**

If you are interested and motivated in helping in any capacity and would like to share your knowledge or talents, we would love to hear about it.

Please reach out to the President – Bill St Jean and/or send an email to: president@rideaubasslake.com or reply to this Newsletter Email address. and we will contact to chat and answer any questions you might have.

