

Lake Life

**For Members of the Baboosic Lake Association
Fall 2008 Edition**

Visit your web site at: <http://www.BaboosicLake.com>

Water Quality Improvements

Good news here!!

For the first time in 4 plus years, we did not have a blue/green algae bloom. A few specks were reported here and there, but quickly disappeared. There were no state advisories for the lake this summer. Our e-coli counts for the month of August looked very good as well. Maybe Mother Nature helped us out with all that rain this summer. We like to think it's you, the people that live around this lake, that are starting to make the difference. Your diligence in putting the health of the lake first could be starting to pay off. So take a moment and pat yourself on the back and say job well done. The board also would like to thank you for the efforts you have put forth in the past and your continued efforts into the future.

Improvements Underway

As you know, we have been working on storm water runoff issues in certain areas of the lake. The town of Amherst has been fixing related runoff problems at the town beach. They have also regraded Greenwood Rd. and pitched it so the runoff does not go directly into the lake. Great news here also, a homeowner fixed one of the sites on his property that was identified in our watershed report. Thanks for taking the initiative; your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Major Improvement at Four Seasons

The folks Four Seasons beach have installed an infiltration trench which runs almost the entire length of their beach. This project was originally identified in the report done by GeoSyntec as a high priority site, and Four Seasons used this report and the subsequent engineering plan developed to make the improvements. The result of this work will be reduced runoff into the lake, an improvement in the quality of Four Seasons' beach, and fewer geese on the property. Special

thanks goes out to Dave Paul for the use of his tractor in helping dig the trench and moving all of the crushed stone. Also helping out on this project were Richard Sullivan, Greg Gendron, Keith Fogarty and Bill Cashman.

Amherst Community Septic Update

Stage 3 of the community septic is nearing completion. All the tanks and lines are in, and should be completed within the next 2 weeks. Currently being hooked up are 10 waterfront homes, and 3 that are not on the water, but within 200 feet. All 3 phases combined have 17 waterfront homes connected and 18 non-waterfront homes. That is a significant percentage of all waterfront homes on the lake!

Grant #1 Update

With the \$30,000 grant funding we were awarded in the spring of 2006, \$20,000 was invested in the watershed report, which left us \$10,000 for design and engineering plans. Out of that money, we were able to get 7 plans done. We had plans done for sites 1,2,3 and 4 also sites 5,8,and 12 are in process. Of the seven sites, work has begun on sites 1,3 and 4. Site one work should be completed in the spring of 2009 with the planting of a vegetated buffer strip. Sites 3 and 4 could be completed this fall, if not, by early spring of next year. Work is slated to begin in the spring/summer of 2009 on sites 2, 5, 8 and 12. Work has been completed on site 11. As you can tell, there has been a lot of behind the scenes work being done this summer with finally some physical results starting to take place.

Grant #2 Update

To keep things moving forward on repairing the 10 remaining sites, we have applied for more grant funding. Richard and Greg spent nearly 80 hours preparing the pre-proposal paper work and getting it up to DES in Concord before the deadline. DES received 17 proposals. Out of that, we were one of 7 that were invited back to be interviewed by the DES staff. So we traveled up to DES headquarters in Concord for our interview. Four DES staff members grilled us for a little over an hour asking us questions from A to Z. We weathered the onslaught of questions very well and turned a few heads in our favor. Based on our pre-proposal and interview, DES would like us to submit a full proposal for the 2009 Watershed Assistance and

Restoration grants program. We have been assigned a DES project leader, Andy Chapman, who will assist us in preparing our full proposal. As of right now, things are looking very promising for additional funds.

Information on Phosphorus

Phosphorus is a nutrient essential for plant growth. It is found in lawn fertilizers, some detergents, and human and other animal waste. Too much phosphorus in water causes algae blooms and excessive aquatic plant growth. These plants, and the water quality problems that occur when they decompose, can harm fish and other organisms and limit our use and enjoyment of the lake. While phosphate is banned in laundry soaps and hand dishwashing detergent, it is still used in automatic dishwasher detergents. Please help keep phosphorus out of Baboosic Lake by using phosphorus-free or low-phosphorus detergents for your dishwasher. Just a few extra seconds at the grocery store picking a phosphorus-free detergent helps.

New BLA Merchandise

If you did not attend the annual cookout, you missed out on some new items that Toni Paul has available for sale. One item that might be of interest right now is to have your very own Baboosic Lake Christmas ornament. Wouldn't this look nice hanging on your Christmas tree? Also new is the stainless steel insulated travel mug; it will keep that morning cup of coffee nice and hot. And for when you lose your lights, we have BLA flashlights. The price for the ornament is \$8.00, flashlight is \$5.00 and the mug is \$10.00. So when you're looking for those unique stocking stuffers, remember to contact Toni Paul at 424-3942.

You can see color photos at:
<http://www.BaboosicLake.com/lakelife.htm>





2008 Water Testing Results E-coli Water Testing

June/July/August 2008		
<u>Location</u>	<u>Map Code</u>	<u>E-coli Count</u>
Hillside	1	3 - 16 - 35
4 Seasons	2	2 - 59 - 5
Greenwood/Lakeside	3	0 - 4 - 21
Oliver's Pipe	4	1 - 9 - 12
Carter Road	5	0 - 16 - 16
Jebb Road	6	1 - 23 - 16
Far Cove	7	0 - 34 - 5
Seagull Heaven	8	6 - 20 - 22
Washer Cove	9	6 - 11 - 6
Moonbeam	10	10 - 30 - 20
Amherst Town Beach	11	5 - 49 - 23



Also, please remember not to feed the ducks and geese. Their waste contributes to higher e-coli counts!

2008 Secchi Disk Readings in Meters

DATE	SHARKS TOOTH	CENTER	WASHER COVE	CLARK ISLAND	WATER TEMP	AIR TEMP	SKY
5/28/08	2.8 – 3.3	3.2 – 3.8	3.2 – 3.4	3.0 – 3.6	66°	70°	CLEAR
6/5/08	3.2 – 3.9	3.0 – 3.5	3.0 – 3.4	3.3 – 3.4	68°	57°	CLOUDY
6/11/08	3.2 – 3.9	3.0 – 3.4	3.2 – 3.5	2.8 – 3.4	80°	75°	SUNNY
6/18/08	4.5 – 5.0	4.4 – 4.8	3.2 – 3.5	4.2 – 4.7	73°	63°	SUNNY
6/25/08	4.2 – 4.5	4.0 – 4.5	3.3 – 3.5	4.3 – 4.6	74°	66°	SUNNY
7/2/08	3.8 – 4.2	3.8 – 4.3	3.5	3.9 – 4.3	77°	71°	SUNNY
7/9/08	3.3 – 4.0	3.4 – 4.1	3.4	3.8 – 4.3	82°	80°	SUNNY
7/16/08	3.9 – 4.3	3.8 – 4.0	3.4	4.2 – 4.3	80°	70°	SUNNY
7/23/08	3.4 – 3.7	3.6 – 3.8	N/A	N/A	79°	67°	CLOUDY
7/30/08	3.5 – 3.6	3.5 – 3.7	3.2 – 3.3	3.2 – 3.6	78°	70°	SUNNY
8/7/08	2.5 – 2.7	2.4 – 2.8	2.5 – 2.8	2.3 – 2.7	76°	65°	CLOUDY
8/13/08	2.2 – 2.7	2.0 – 2.3	1.9 – 2.4	2.2 – 2.6	74°	65°	SUNNY
8/21/08	2.6 – 2.8	2.2 – 2.5	2.0 – 2.3	1.9 – 2.3	74°	60°	SUNNY
8/27/08	2.9 – 3.0	2.9 – 3.2	2.6 – 2.6	2.3 – 2.4	73°	61°	SUNNY
9/3/08	2.9 – 3.2	2.9 – 3.5	3.1 – 3.3	2.4 – 3.0	75°	65°	SUNNY
9/10/08	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9/17/08	2.5 – 3.2	2.3 – 3.0	2.5 – 3.1	2.7 – 3.3	70°	53°	SUNNY

2.7 meters = 9 feet.

3.3 meters = 11 feet

4.3 meters = 14 feet.

Winter Safety

Just a few reminders for our winter users of the lake. Please use extreme caution when on the ice this winter. Be it ice-skating, ice fishing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, walking or snow-mobiling; make sure it is thick enough to support you and your winter activity. Remember, if it doesn't look safe, it probably isn't or when in doubt; don't go out on the ice. Please be careful of the buoys around the lake. We put some reflective tape on them so they are more visible for the snowmobilers and ATV riders. Also, please don't let your pets go out on the thin ice, think of their safety too.

Judging Ice Conditions

Look for solid bluish-black ice. Four to six inches* of solid bluish-black ice can support a few well-dispersed people. Eight to ten inches* of solid bluish-black ice can support OHRV activity. Even if the weather has been below freezing for several days, don't guess about ice thickness. Ice does not form consistently across the lake. The lakes size, temperature, depth, currents and wind exposure affect ice formation. Remember all ice is potentially dangerous, check the ice in several places; start at the shore and continue

testing as you go out. Watch out for thin, clear or honeycombed ice, dark snow may also indicate weak spots. Ice can remain dangerously thin in places with current, like inlets, outlets and spring holes.

What if I break through the ice? **Don't panic**, Move or swim back to the place you fell in where you know the ice was solid. Lay both arms on the unbroken ice and kick hard. This will help lift your body onto the ice. A set of ice picks can aid you in self-rescue. Wear them around your neck they will give you added grip on the ice. Roll away from the hole until you reach solid ice.

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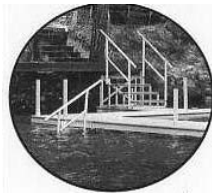
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Baboosic Lake Snowmobiling

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Note: you can print just this page to enjoy the puzzle.