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# NEWSLETTER

WINTER  
2015

*We're dedicated to keeping Charleston Lake beautiful in every way!*

[www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca](http://www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca)

## President's Message Winter 2015

Greetings from beautiful Charleston Lake. Another summer has come and gone, though some might wonder if it ever arrived.

There is an old adage that says "Many hands make light work" and your CLA/CLEA Association is a good example of this. I recently attended Lake Links, a local all lakes seminar in Perth and presented what we at Charleston Lake are doing to keep our Management Plan alive and active. I would like to highlight some of the important points in our Plan and what we are doing to address these important issues.

### 1. On Protecting Water Quality

We support yearly comprehensive water quality testing by Ontario Lake Assessments with assistance from the Lake Partner Program. This involves monthly summer trips to 7 key locations on the lake to analyze water clarity, phosphorous counts and oxygen concentrations (oxygen every 5 years).

We work with area farmers to remove cattle from Charleston Lake streams. We continue to look for more opportunities here.

A Septic System Inspection Program is now in place as mandated by local municipalities. This will take time to complete as there are over 5,000 septic systems in the area.

### 2. On Maintaining Healthy Fisheries

We worked with MNR to develop a new and updated fishing diary for 2014.

Slim netting conducted by MNR in 2014 will help us identify numbers and species of fish in Charleston Lake.

We meet annually with MNR's area Biologist, Joff Cote, on fish related issues.

### 3. On Restoring and Protecting the Littoral Zone

We revisited our Healthy Shoreline Review Program to look at next steps and subsequently initiated a Shoreline Challenge Program which will be ongoing again in 2015.

We continue to emphasize the importance in maintaining a lake friendly shoreline via our newsletter, AGM and Healthy Shoreline Challenge.

No Wake Zone signs and Speed Restriction signs were placed in strategic spots on the lake. A few more are to come in 2015. These help to alleviate erosion issues.

Please consult your Lake Management Plan for all the other details.

Youth Summer Programs, shoal markers, Golf Tournament and the annual Regatta continue to keep all your Directors busy.

Don't forget to register for our 2015 Shoreline Challenge Program. Registration forms are included in this newsletter

CLA/CLEA welcomes all your comments and questions. We wish all of you a safe and healthy winter. See you in the spring.

**Bill Hallam**

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# Water Quality Summary for 2014



The Charleston Lake Association has worked with CLEA to monitor and protect the water quality of Charleston Lake over the past fifteen years. During the summer of 2014 forty-two samples were collected over the period May 20th to October 27th inclusive; six samples from each of seven basins in the lake.

Whole-lake mean water clarity continues to be very good at 6.55m but shows a decline from the high values in the range of 8 metres achieved in the years 2010 through 2013 inclusive. For the year 2014 the clearest water column was found in Donaldson Bay at 7.14 m while the least clear water was found in Southern Waters with a mean value of 6.04m. These very clear water conditions are the result of low phosphorus concentrations coupled with the impact of colonization of the lake by zebra mussels. For the 5-year period 2000 to 2004 inclusive, the whole lake average water clarity was

4.30m. Zebra mussels were first recorded in 2004. For the 5-year period 2005 to 2009 inclusive, the average whole lake water clarity increased to 6.14 m and for the period 2010 to 2014 inclusive the average water clarity increased more to 7.51m. The decrease in water clarity in 2014 may be a result of a decline in zebra mussel densities; this invasive species is known to reach climax population levels and then decline to a lower density once a new equilibrium is established. The decline in clarity could also be attributed to year to year variability inherent in natural ecosystems; values recorded this year should not be viewed as the beginning of a downward trend.

Phosphorus concentrations in the lake continue to be low with a whole lake mean value of 9.07 ug/L (2014).

Donaldson Bay had the lowest mean value of 8.42 ug/L and the Goose Island

location had the highest mean value of 9.72 ug/L. The sampling that occurred on May 20th, 2014 indicated that the spring mixing period was still underway; phosphorus values ranged from 11.6 ug/L to 12.6 ug/L. Spring mixing period phosphorus values are usually higher than the three season average due to re-suspension of nutrients from the sediments. This phosphorus is quickly up-taken by diatoms and algae and soluble phosphorus concentrations decline for the remainder of the season as a result. The good news is that the whole lake mean value of 9.07 ug/L for Charleston Lake continues to fall in the oligotrophic category; lakes in this category are typically clear, dilute and have low phytoplankton densities and rarely experience nuisance algal blooms.

*(Prepared by Reg Genge – Ontario Lake Assessments)*

**YES!** I / We wish to help keep  
Charleston Lake  
Beautiful and Healthy

Enclose is my / our donation  
of:

\$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_  
\$100 \_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_

Make cheque  
payable to C.L.E.A.

Mail to:  
CLEA, Box 609, Athens, ON  
K0E 1B0

# Saving Indian Head (Old Baldy)



This iconic landmark on Charleston Lake is about to be saved from development by being taken over and purchased by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC). The only obstacle to this is a monetary shortfall of approximately \$190,000. CLA/CLEA has promised \$10,000 towards this proposal for Indian Head. The Thousand Islands Watershed Land Trust (TIWLT) is partnering with the Nature Conservancy of Canada and present owner, Michael Mc Adoo to come up with the additional funding.

CLA is asking that you consider making a donation to this fund to help keep Indian Head (Old Baldy) undeveloped for the enjoyment of all. If you would like to make a donation or need more information, please contact:



**The Thousand Island Watershed Land Trust,**  
19 Reynolds Rd.  
Lansdowne, Ontario. K0E 1L0  
613-659-4590 or  
dmross@1000island.net

## QUALITY PRODUCTS THAT DON'T COST THE EARTH

Using these quality products will significantly reduce lake and groundwater pollution, help maintain your septic system & minimize your family's exposure to potentially dangerous toxic chemicals.

### Products may be purchase at:

**Dockside Restaurant**  
**Kelsey's Marina**  
**Lakeline Lodge & Marina**  
**CLEA info Centre**  
(109 Charleston Road)  
**Lansdowne Food Mart**

### OUR BIG SELLERS 2013

Shampoo, Liquid hand soap, Bar soap, and dishwashing liquid. New in 2014, backed by rave reviews: Pet Stain and Odour Remover.

# The Importance of Healthy Shorelines



Charleston Lake has over 160 kilometres of rugged yet fragile shoreline that is vital to maintaining the overall health of our entire lake system.

Shorelines are often referred to as the ribbon of life because they protect against erosion, help filter

pollutants and provide habitat for fish and other wildlife.

Shorelines support plants, microorganisms, insects, amphibians, birds, mammals and fish. The

majority of all lake dwelling species begin life, feed and thrive in the first 10 meters on either side of the high water line of our lake.

Charleston Lake's location on the most southerly portion of the Canadian Shield provides a beautiful

rugged granite shoreline, but this also makes it fragile for retaining the limited soil layer from erosion and sustaining native plants and tree species growing there.

## What can you do to maintain a Healthy Shoreline?

1. Retain or replace the natural shoreline vegetation on your property to prevent soil erosion and runoff.
2. Eliminate the use of herbicide and pesticides along shorelines to prevent reduction of water quality.
3. Leave or rehabilitate a major portion of your shoreline back to its natural state as a wildlife zone.

**For more information please visit the CLA office or our web site [charlestonlakeassociation.ca](http://charlestonlakeassociation.ca)**

**Charleston Lake Association Directors**  
**Bill Hallam - President**  
**Cottage: 613-659-2997**  
**Home: 613-535-2621**

**Wayne Gill - Secretary/Treasurer**

**Hartley Nichol - Environment**

**Robbie Gibson**

*- Boating Safety/Shoal Markers*

**Julia Woito - Youth Programs**

**Daragh Mansworth**

*- V.P. North/I.T. Manager*

**Wayne Ashford**

*- V.P. South - Golf Tourn. - Municipal Liaison*

**Dwayne Struthers**

*- Fish and Wildlife Coordinator*

**Charleston Lake Environmental Association Directors**

**John Swift - Safe Boating**

**Rocci Pagnello - Director at Large**

**Brain Hollingsworth - Director at Large**

**Pierre Menard - Golf Tournament**

**Roy Angelow - Township Liaison**

**Mary Mansworth**

*- Newsletter Coordinator*

**Information Ctr.**

*- Hartley Nichol, John Swift, Don Curry*

**To contact either group, please call Bill Hallam 613-535-2621 / 613-659-2997 or [billhallam@hotmail.com](mailto:billhallam@hotmail.com)**

## SHOAL MARKERS

Thank you once again to Rob Gibson and his team who look after the shoal markers, including putting them in and taking them out in the Fall. Special thanks to Rob, Garry Bellisle, Cody Johnston and Tyler Reuvers.

CLA would like to thank the Township of Leeds and the 1000 Islands for the generous donation of \$2,500 to our shoal marker program.

# Up For The Challenge

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## Healthy Shoreline Challenge

CLA/CLEA are once again sponsoring the Healthy Shoreline Challenge to all Charleston Lake residents. The purpose is to recognize the many beautiful natural shorelines on Charleston Lake.

Is yours one of them? If so, you will want to register your property and have a chance to win one of two beautiful keepsakes. It is easy to enter. Just fill in the attached form and mail in; drop off at the CLA office or enter online. Although you do not need to be a member of CLA, it would be appreciated if you were.

There are two categories: Category A for those shorelines where little or no development has occurred and Category B for shorelines that have had some lake friendly alteration or rehabilitation.

Shorelines are the ribbon of life for any lake and are key in keeping Charleston Lake beautiful. Our Healthy Shoreline Handbook sent out to all CLA members provides recommendation for shoreline improvements and helps guide the landowner to make changes where necessary.

Are you up for the challenge? Please register your property below and mail to:  
Charleston Lake Association, PO Box 609,  
Athens Ontario K0E 1B0 ; or register online  
[www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca](http://www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca) ; or drop off at the  
CLA office.

One prize winner from each category to be awarded at the CLA AGM July 11th, 2015.

I wish to enter **Category A** \_\_\_\_\_

**Category B** \_\_\_\_\_

Property Location:

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Landowner Name:

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Address:

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Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

- Deadline to register June 15th 2015
- Nominate a friend or neighbour's property (with permission)
- All properties submitted in last year's challenge will be included in the 2015 Healthy Shoreline Challenge.

# Doug Hale Memorial Golf Tournament



The Doug Hale Memorial Golf Tournament and lunch was again held at the Cedar Valley Golf Course on August 9th. The course was in great shape and 60 golfers enjoyed a beautiful morning on the course, followed by a delicious family buffet lunch. Over \$3600 was raised to support the many environmental activities of the CLEA.

A big "thank you" to all our participants and to our many sponsors who continue to support us year after year. A listing of all our sponsors is enclosed; please provide your support to our local businesses wherever possible.

We look forward to another great tournament in 2015, again to be held at Cedar Valley on the second Saturday of August, August 8th.

*Committee Co Chairs*  
*Pierre Menard*  
*Wayne Ashford*

## TEE MARKER SPONSORS

Addecco Employment Agency  
Burt Hudson Real Estate  
Canarm Limited  
Doug Greenham Electric  
G. Tackaberry and Sons Construction  
Greg and Kelly Judson  
Hartley and Peggy Nichol  
Jim Nichols  
Kelsey's Marina Ltd.  
Lakeline Lodge and Marina  
Lee Easter Construction  
Lyndhurst Home Building Centre  
Mansworth Family  
Mary Jane Manley  
Margaret Hale & the Hale Family  
Purcell's Freshmart  
Roger Kelsey Insurance Brokers Inc  
Rolling Bank Lane  
Strader Ferris International Limited  
V Mech Plumbing Services  
Wayne Kelsey Construction  
Award Sponsors  
Athens Pharmasave  
Charleston Lake Service Centre  
Willards Bakery  
The Friends of Charleston Lake Park  
Other Sponsors  
EMC, Performance Printing, Smith Falls

## SILENT AUCTION, PRIZE SPONSORS

Camalor Manufacturing  
Cedar Valley Golf Course  
Doug Hale Jr.  
EMC  
Greg Nichol  
Lansdowne Fresh Mart  
Marks WorkWarehouse  
Roger Kelsey Insurance Brokers Inc  
Royal Bank (Brockville)  
Sports Experts, Brockville  
Township of Leeds and the 1000 Islands  
Wayne Gill

**AGM**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2015**  
**9:30 A.M.**  
**Holy Trinity Church, Oakleaf**

## SHORELINE CHALLENGE 2014

Congratulations to the winners of Shoreline Challenge 2014:

### Category A:

*Steve and Katherine Horvath*

**Category B:** *Patricia Keane*

# CLA SUMMER 2015 Registration Form

Name:	DOB:	Address:
Parent(s)/Guardian(s):	Summer #: Cell #: Email:	Emerg. Contact and phone #:
Doctor and phone #:	Health Card:	Medical Conditions (allergies etc.):
Previous Swimming Level:	Authorized individuals to reclaim your child:	Other Information:

**Camps are from 9.a.m to 3.p.m at the County Park, Sand Bay  
and are open to children from 5-12 years.**

*\*\*Charleston Lake Association is committed to our youth and **subsidizes** all youth programs ..  
- Camp and swim programs subject to a maximum # of participants, register early! -*

**2015 CLA SUMMER OPTIONS:**

a) Camp ONLY      b) Swimming ONLY      c) Camp + Swimming

Please check each session your camper would like to register for:

- |   |                   |      |       |
|---|-------------------|------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Week 1: July 27 - 31 | Nature Camp       | \$50 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Week 1: July 27 - 31 | Swimming Lessons  | \$25 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Week 2: Aug 4 - 7    | Sports Camp       | \$50 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Week 2: Aug 4 - 7    | Swimming Lessons  | \$25 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Week 3: Aug 10 - 14  | Adventure Camp    | \$50 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Week 3: Aug 10 - 14  | Swimming Lessons  | \$25 | _____ |
|   | <b>TOTAL FEES</b> |      | _____ |

**Liability Waiver**

I agree not to hold Charleston Lake Association or its agents responsible for any accidents, injuries, losses, or damages, which may occur as a result of named participant involved in planned activities. I also understand that misbehavior will not be tolerated and will result in being removed from the program at the discretion of the individual in charge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Summer Camps 2015

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Charleston Lake Association Summer Camps in 2014 were a big success with no vacant spots. The participants had a great experience, in spite of the sometimes challenging weather. I would like to thank the many people who assisted in making the camps memorable, especially Mark Earle, our Geocaching expert volunteer and Nigel Brown, who donated the entire watersports experience (boat, tows, equipment, instructor and feedback) to all our Sports Campers. Also thank you to Chris VanStaveren, who donated his boat and time to make the watersports day possible and to Pat Johnson, who generously donated his time and talent to provide Jazz to the Regatta Day.

The dates for the camps in the summer of 2015 will be as follows:

**NATURE CAMP - JULY 27-31**  
**SPORTS FITNESS CAMP - AUGUST 4-7**  
**ADVENTURE CAMP - AUGUST 10-14**

Swimming lessons will be on the same dates as each camp so there are three options for which to sign up: Camp only, Swimming only and Camp and Swimming. The registration form is attached to this newsletter.

Sign up early and guarantee your spot in these camps...

## CHARLESTON LAKE ASSOCIATION REGATTA AND BARBEQUE

The regatta will be on Sunday, August 2, (rain date of Monday, August 3) 1-4 P.M.

This event is great fun for all ages with food and music and many water contests. More information will be available in the Spring newsletter.

Looking forward to a fun and energetic camp experience in the Summer of 2015.

Julia Woito

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## Camp 2014

*Camp is a fantastic experience for everyone. It never ceases to amaze me what kids are able to accomplish, given the chance. As a counsellor and volunteer, I had the pleasure to watch them make new friends, solve problems, develop perseverance and positive self-esteem, learn leadership and inclusion....and have loads and loads of fun! I even witnessed a 400 square chalk hopscotch course come to life in the span of a couple of hours. Incredible!*

*One of the best parts about being involved with CLA is getting to know your commu-*

*nity. The fact that many lake residents are present for only a couple of weeks each year means that it is sometimes difficult to get to know all your neighbours. Camp and the Regatta provide a fantastic opportunity to socialize and make new friends, especially for kids.*

*Being a camp counsellor is the best job out there. Working with awesome kids, amazing staff and volunteers at a venue as beautiful as the park, is almost surreal. I can't wait for next summer!*

**Denbeigh Whitmarsh, Counsellor 2014**

*I have been going to Charleston lake Association camps every year since I was three years old. This past summer was the first time that I was too old for camp, so I volunteered as a camp counsellor. I loved being a counsellor as much as participating. The days are fun filled and I love the kids and the outdoor activities. Also, every year I go to the Regatta with my family and it is really fun. My favourite event is the Titanic where the people in the canoe have to sink it, without flipping it. Both camp and the regatta are so much fun and I cant wait for next year!*

**Claire Baker - Volunteer Counsellor and Participant**

*Our family has participated in the Charleston Lake Association Regatta for several years now and we have many wonderful memories of fun-filled days at Sand Bay Park. When our girls were small, it was water balloons and sand monsters. Now that they are older, the kayak and canoe activities are a highlight. We love the Regatta because it promotes fitness and outdoor activity, and is an event our whole family can participate in together. We look forward to it every summer and our oldest even makes sure she has the day off work long before it arrives. We see the Regatta as a great community event and we hope it continues for many years to come.*

**Jeff, Katie, Sara and Claire Baker.**