

JULY 2016 NEWSLETTER FROM WASA LAKE LAND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT



Photo by Cliff Youngs

Hello Property-owners: The beautiful duck family in the photo above are Common Mergansers, distinguishable by their streamlined appearance and cinnamon coloured, tufted head. They usually nest in a natural cavity or woodpecker hole up to 100 feet above the ground. The male abandons the family during the incubation period; hence, there is no father duck in the picture.

Water Sustainability Act

In an effort to prepare for the possibility of drought, in February 2016 the provincial government released the new **Water Sustainability Act**. Changes to regulations, which will be enforced over the next 3 years, include ground water licencing of agricultural, municipal, and commercial water use. (Domestic wells will NOT be subject to licencing.) Other changes include increased protection of aquatic ecosystems and new requirements for well construction and maintenance.

More information about the Act and the implications of the new regulations can be found at <http://www.gov.bc.ca/water> An information brochure about the new *Water Sustainability Act* is on the homepage at www.wasalake.ca

Aquatic Plant Removal Project

In May and June, WLLID trustees and volunteers experimented with different ways to remove milfoil: raking the lake bottom from a borrowed pontoon boat, hand removal from the muddy shore area, and using the services of a volunteer diver. The diver hand pulled and brought up armloads of milfoil very quickly and trustees could see why this is one of the methods of choice in established removal programs. The committee of trustees and community members will continue to meet and plan the next steps. Thank you to everyone who helped the trustees with the project by volunteering time and equipment: Tony Miguel, Chuck Anderson, Mike Blair, Richard Sellan, Mark Dixon, Ted Jolly, and Julie Holmes.

The full story on the project and photos will be posted at www.wasalake.ca within the week.

Prevent the Spread of Milfoil

Aquatic plant growth is influenced by weather, nutrients, and human activities. Although we can't do anything about the weather, we can reduce or eliminate the amount of lawn and garden treatments

(fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides), the residue of which (nitrogen and phosphorus) seeps into the lake and promotes plant growth. Boaters can avoid the infected areas so props don't fragment and spread milfoil. These are just a few of the things we can do to help the problem; check the WLLID column in the June BUZZ and our website at www.wasalake.ca for a more complete list.

The next regular board meeting is **7 PM Monday August 15** at the Wasa Community Hall.

Safe boating!

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