



## LRML Joint Water Quality Committee

### Communication #4

It is wonderful to see our residents enjoying the lake on these amazing summer days. So far this year, our lakes seem to be fairly healthy and the LRML Joint Water Quality Committee wishes to thank each and every one of you for your continued efforts in keeping our lakes safe and clean. Our committee work continues with a focus on continued water testing, crucial conversations with Municipal partners and further research connected to water quality improvement of our two lakes.

**In short, we must all recognize that our lakes are vulnerable and in order to make them thrive, residents, both individually and collectively, must assume responsibility for their care.**

Recently, Rick Kalte and a few others took a tour around the shoreline of Lake Rosalind. Rick then offered a brief synopsis of this collective boat ride which we would like to share with all of you.

Rick did some testing of Marl Lake before the tour and noticed right off that Lake Rosalind was cloudier especially when going from the first lake and proceeding to the back lakes. Marl Lake is at 8.7 m of clarity which is the clearest that Rick has on record for this point in time by a long shot. The problem is that this is TOO clear which serves to promote more and deeper weed growth.

The back lakes of Rosalind are at a level of clarity that should be expected for this time of the year. Rick noted that it would be interesting to take an Algal Id and find out the makeup of the algae causing the turbidity in the water. It may be suspected that there could be a high concentration of the “good” phytoplankton because the zebra mussel populations are much lower in those back lakes.

It was also noticed that the Cladophora (green slime that grows on bottom and floats to the top) has now cleared up in Lake Rosalind, however, Marl Lake still has some in one section.

The biggest change in the lake this year appears to be the abundant plant and weed growth that is causing concern. **Eurasian Milfoil** is rampant along most shorelines. This is a very aggressive invasive plant/weed that can choke off lakes to the point where swimming and boating is no longer a possibility.

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especies/profiles-profils/eurasianwatermilfoil-myriophylleeneepi-eng.html>

These plants grow very quickly and with the clearer water we have been experiencing in the spring and early summer it will take hold in most areas of the lake. **It would be best to remove this one by the roots if possible.**

The lake is also becoming rampant with Sago Pondweed. This is the plant that has been noticed the last few years taking hold along shorelines and in deeper spots. The stands have increased in Lake Rosalind and have become denser. A lot of areas have the plants already at the surface creating a surface mat. This is only going to increase in the stands that are not near the surface as the water warms and the summer progresses. This is the same as the milfoil that can grow a foot a day under ideal conditions. Some plants in warmer and shallower water have already started to flower and have seed heads.

[https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/sago\\_pondwd.html](https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/sago_pondwd.html)

After the tour Rick noted how fast the lakes have changed from a low nutrient bottom lake that cannot support much plant growth (typical of a Marl type lake) to one that has more nutrients and allows the Sago Pondweed and Milfoil plants to thrive. The clear water and nutrients on the bottom are all courtesy of our friends the Zebra Mussel.

The Chara or Stonewort that typically grows on the bottom of a Marl type lake is back and doing well in most areas. This is not a real plant but an algae and it is very important in phosphorus removal from lakes.

So as of now no Blue Green algae is visible and the lakes are looking good. But the Sago pondweed and Milfoil is a real concern now and in the future.

To assist with the cutting of these plants, the LRPOA has used funds to purchase a V-EED cutter which can be cast into the water to cut the plants at the root. **The important thing to stress to residents is to remove all cuttings and plants from the water as they can spread this way.** The cuttings MUST BE collected on shore and disposed of appropriately. Over the past few weeks, several residents have removed extensive amounts of the damaging weeds/plants and have loaded up trailers to take to the dump at no charge. **Please do not use any tool to cut the weeds/plants and leave the cuttings to float into the lake.**

If you are a Lake Rosalind resident and are interested in using the V-EED cutter, please contact Diana Goodwin by phone at 519-636-3476 or by email at dianalynngoodwin@gmail.com. You can also drop by 439 Road 4 and Scott would be happy to offer you a lesson on using the cutter. If you are a Marl Lake resident, you can contact Rick Kalte at r.kalte708@yahoo.ca. or at 519-364-2894.

Our committee wishes to send a strong message to all residents **to please refrain from adding any chemicals to the lake or lawns no matter how safe they say they are or how good the results are touted from other users with respect to weed reduction.** If in doubt regarding any product use, please feel free to contact one of the members listed below. Our committee is always interested in hearing from you regarding water quality issues or concerns.

Ken Coleman	colemans@eastlink.ca	519-901-0025 (rd.2)
Mark Coleman	mscoleman@wightman.ca	519-881-1801(rd.2)
Deb Goddard	lakros268@gmail.com	226-909-0580 (rd.4)
Diana Goodwin	dianalynngoodwin@gmail.com	519-636-3476 (rd.4)
Rick Kalte	r.kalte708@yahoo.ca	519-364-2894 (rd.7 ml)
John McDougal	jamcdougall2012@gmail.com	519-540-8046 (rd.2)