



NEWSLETTER

Environment First | Protecting Our Lake

Website

Residents of Oak Lake are encouraged to visit the website www.friendsofoaklake.com to learn about the non-profit and registered Ontario lake association.

Looking for Volunteers

Friends of Oak Lake are looking for volunteers to work independently or collaboratively in areas such as;

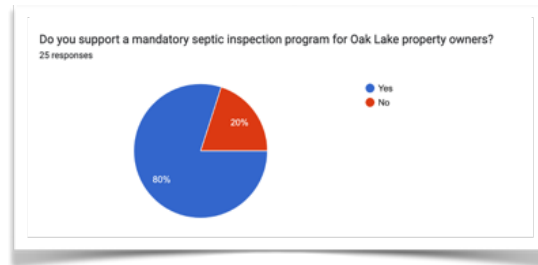
- Social media
- Environmental Law
- Website Management
- Lake Stewardship
- Social/ Educational Material Development/ Events
- Government Grant
- General Volunteer

Contact Us

Have a question or concern or suggestions to offer for events? Please feel free to reach out. We can be reached by email at friendsofoaklake@gmail.com

FOOL Residential Survey - Oak Lake Septic Inspection Program

Below are the results of the most recent survey of Oak Lake residents regarding opinions on the creation of a mandatory septic inspection program for waterfront property owners. As you can see, out of 25 surveys returned, 20 were in favour and 5 opposed.



As a result, on November 1, 2023, Scott Symons of Friends of Oak Lake (FOOL) spoke to Quinte West Council regarding the creation of a septic inspection program for waterfront owners. Outlined was FOOL's efforts to rehabilitate the lake since 2018, including managing an agricultural manure spill, retaining Hutchinson Environmental Services to undertake a multi-year study and report, as well as the re-routing of a historic agricultural tile drain. Subsequently, Quinte West City Council passed a unanimous motion to have city staff investigate the implementation of a septic re-inspection by-law for residents of Oak Lake with a report on a program's viability brought forward at a future council meeting. Details forthcoming. Better understand your septic system by viewing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DWg-U14sTE> or visit www.friendsofoaklake.com.



Upcoming Events

Friends of Oak Lake will host some upcoming events.

- Trash Bash - 20 April - 10-2pm
- All Watercraft Regatta - July 1st from 12-1pm
- Fishing Derby - July 6th, from 9am - 3pm
- Annual General Meeting & BBQ- Saturday August 17th, 1-2pm

Become a Member

Begin enjoying the benefits of membership. Which include;

- A vote on the actions of Friends of Oak Lake
- Access to information related to Oak Lake
- Access to information from the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association (FOCA)
- And More!

Membership costs are \$25 per household and fees are used exclusively for projects intended to improve both the health and quality of enjoyment of our beloved Oak Lake.

Visit our website for more info.

friendsofoaklake.com

Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association Chooses Its NEW LEADER



Leslie Lavendar, who for the past five years has served as the CEO of the Prince Edward County Chamber of Commerce, has been selected as the new CEO of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association. After twenty years at the helm Terry Rees is pursuing other interests.

Loon Nest Raft

In April 2024, Friends of Oak Lake secured a loon nesting platform to Oak Lake's floor. The platform is marked with a red flotation buoy. Residents are reminded to be aware of the Loons presence while boating.



Oak Lake Photo Contest and Calendar Fundraiser

The Oak Lake Photo Contest returns for 2024 (and subsequent 2025 Calendar). Residents may submit their three (3) best pictures from 2023-2024 to friendsofoaklake@gmail.com by August 5, 2024. Online voting will begin shortly after and expire at FOOL's 2024 Annual General Meeting to be held on August 17, 2024.



Once printed, the Top 13 photographs will comprise a 2025 Calendar that makes an excellent keep sake or gift, and available for Christmas. Please visit FOOL's website for Photo Contest rules, tips, and timelines.

New Boating Regulations

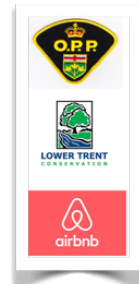
This will be the second summer under Ontario's new boating laws. Learn the new regulations at: [Ontario's new boater pathway regulations - OFAH Insider](#) or <https://www.intelligencer.ca/news/new-ontario-boating-rules-jan-1-to-stem-spread-of-aquatic-invasive-species>



Resident Complaint Options

It is not the responsibility of FOOL to answer complaints about noise, AIRBNB usage, etc. Should you have a complaint please use one of the following resources.

1. OPP Online Complaints Portal at www.opp.ca
2. Quinte West OPP at 1-888-310-1122
3. Lower Trent Conservation Authority at www.ltc.on.ca
4. AIRBNB 24/7 Hotline at 1-844-234-2500 or www.airbnb.com

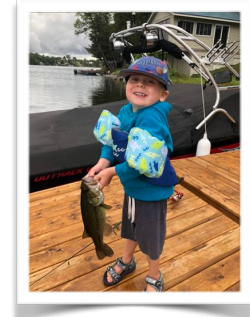


Safety Reminders - Smoke Alarm, Fire Extinguishers and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Never underestimate the importance of properly working safety devices. They each save lives! Change batteries annually and ensure your residence is equipped with at least one ABC Fire Extinguisher. Also, a friendly reminder to clean out your BBQ and it's grease trap.

Fishing Contest

This year FOOL has partnered with High Falls Outfitters to have a fishing contest on Oak Lake with prizes to be won. The event will take place July 6 from 8-3. The date was chosen so that we take advantage of "Family Fishing Opportunities" without having to purchase a fishing licence. There will be two classes of entry: Junior—all those 16 and under: Senior- those over 17 and only one category this year, resulting in two prizes. More info on our website.



Bottle Bin

Bottle Bin Fundraiser is going well. Please remember to drop off your empty alcohol beverage containers to 30A Neighbourly Rd or email friendsofoaklake@gmail.com for pick-up.



Report Floating Debris

Fool is asking residents to report any objects in-or-on Oak Lake that they deem as potentially hazardous, including floating debris so that we can remove them from the lake. Send an email to friendsofoaklake@gmail.com

Resources (click title to open link)

- [Oak Lake Biology](#)
- [Shoreline Info](#)
- [Shoreline Do's and Don'ts](#)
- [Wastewater Info](#)
- [Wastewater Do's and Don'ts](#)
- [Hutchinson Environment Sciences LTD - Year 1 Report](#)
- [Hutchinson Environment Sciences LTD - Condensed Report](#)
- Previous Newsletters www.friendsofoaklake.com click Newsletters at the top to see newsletters dating back to 2019