



THE WHITE LAKE WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

General Delivery

White Lake, Ontario

KOA 3LO

NEWSLETTER — 1982

From time to time we hear comments like — “the water is much clearer in the last year or two” or “there is no sign of the pickerel coming back.” Well comments are frequently based on subjective judgment and may sometimes be misleading.

The facts about the water quality of White Lake can be determined by looking at the data in this Newsletter. It appears from the data collected over the past 10 years that no major change in water quality can be detected. The Ministry of the Environment (Ontario) state that “it is difficult to determine if three, five or more consecutive years’ measurements merely represent fluctuations about a stable long term average condition or whether lakes may perhaps be undergoing a gradual shift in trophic level on a broad scale.”

During 1981 the WLWQC had 36 samples tested for clarity and chlorophyll between June 1 and Oct. 15. One set of 3 samples was also analyzed for coliform. The coliform samples tested showed excellent water quality as far as coliform count is concerned, although the Ministry advises that “it is not possible to make a definitive statement relative to water quality based on one set of samples.” It should be noted that the Ministry will not undertake coliform testing on a regular basis, however the WLWQC will make strong demands to have at least one or two sets of samples analyzed during 1982.

As far as the pickerel population is concerned there are signs that lead the Ministry of Natural Resources to be cautiously optimistic about the results of their water level management program. During the 1981 net sampling in White Lake a substantial number of small pickerel were collected. This leads MNR to believe that the impact of increased pickerel population could be noticed by 1985. In addition several reports have been received confirming pickerel catches.

In the fall of 1981 the WLWQC executive met with representatives of the MNR. A wide range of pertinent subjects was discussed. The one which evoked the greatest interest was the water level management program.

There have been many concerns expressed about low water affecting boating, swimming, access to boat-houses, water intakes etc. All these concerns were discussed with the MNR representatives.

It must be appreciated that the water level management program was initiated in 1977 to encourage the increase in pickerel population. Pickerel had all but disappeared from White Lake. Their decline can be attributed in great part to high static water levels and the pressure of increased angling.

The water level is probably the most significant factor. In 1968 a new dam was built at White Lake and the water level over the next 9 years was maintained at a relatively high and constant level. This allowed the pickerel spawning beds to be silted and covered with algae, resulting in unsuccessful spawning.

The water level management program was started in 1977 and may now just be starting to show some encouraging signs.

The reason for lowering the water relatively early in the season is to allow sunlight to dry out the algae on the spawning beds so that it will be flushed away. The long sunlight days of June, July and August are critical for the success of the program.

Put succinctly — good pickerel fishing and good boating, on White Lake, are mutually exclusive — if — good boating means constant high water.

The water level management program will be continued at least until 1985/86, when some indication of its success may be evident. Another subject of interest, discussed at the meeting, was real estate development. It was suggested that a rough guideline for lake development is one unit per 10 acres of lake surface. White Lake has 5800 acres of surface and at last count there were close to 500 cottages. In addition there are thought to be something in the order of 1000 tent/trailer sites — many of them year round.

There are two areas of the lake currently being considered for further development — a 500 acre site at the end of Snye Road in the 3 Mile Bay area and a 400 acre site in the Windy Point area.

The WLWQC feels strongly that plans for future development will have to be carefully evaluated and monitored in order to ensure that no detrimental effects result to the lake environment. If you have concerns let us know.

It may be of interest to present a few excerpts from a letter already received concerning the proposed developments — it reads in part — “As a taxpayer I am greatly concerned about the added burden that all this development will be putting on the property owners of this municipality. It is an accepted fact that no residential development of this kind ever pays for itself in added revenues. We cannot maintain the roads we have with the present travel as it is. Our dumping facility is no more than adequate for the present population and as I have been informed once that area designated for the dump is filled that is it as far as the Ministry of Natural Resources is concerned.

“It can be, and has many times been argued that we who are already situated on a lake are selfish when we are not in favour of further development around the lake. In trying to share the natural beauty and great out of doors with too many people is like attempting to put more than the recommended number of people in a life boat. You end up losing everything.

“There needs to be a universal concern regarding the world’s depleting supply of water, soil, forest resources, clean air — for instance acid rain — and our rapidly diminishing wilderness areas. Our whole world ecology is based on a working concern of so many factors. It starts right here with you and I and Darling Township and wherever we happen to be standing. We as individuals have to care and show that we care if you and I are to have anything decent to leave to our descendents.”

If you are also concerned you may wish to write to the proper authorities to express your views — (see attachment for addresses).

The Committee wishes to extend thanks to A.E. Baker and Claud Dixon for acting as area representatives for the past number of years. Area #1, formerly Claud Dixon’s, will be taken over by Bob Jackson. A representative for area #14 will be appointed as soon as possible.

Your support and participation in the work of the Committee is in your own interest.

If you would like to participate or contribute please get in touch with your area representative or one of the executive (see attached list).

Protect your lake environment — have a good summer.

	1981		1980		1979		1978		1977		1976		1975		1974		1973		1972	
	SD	CHL	SD	CHL	SD	CHL	SD	CHL	SD	CHL	SD	CHL	SD	CHL	SD	CHL	SD	CHL	SD	CHL
(1)	2.8	3.9	2.7	5.3	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.7	2.8	3.6	2.3	6.4	3.1	3.5	3.0	2.2	2.6	4.2	1.8	4.8
(2)	—	—	4.05	3.83	4.01	3.24	4.20	2.92	4.05	2.97	4.15	2.65	3.76	2.91	3.68	2.83	3.63	4.27	3.08	7.20

(1) **White Lake.**

(2) **Overall Mean of 68 Lakes in Southeastern Ontario.**

S.D. — Secchi Disc — This is a test for visual clarity. A 10 inch black and white disc is lowered into the water on a graduated cord and a record taken of the depth at which the disc can no longer be seen.

CHL — Chlorophyll — A weighted bottle is lowered to a predetermined depth and the water collected is analyzed for phytoplankton.

Letters may be addressed to:

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Planning Administration Division
Community Planning and Review Branch
Mr. M.G. Morris - Senior Planner
56 Wellesley St. West, 8th floor
Toronto, Ontario, ~~M5S 2S3~~ *M7A 2K4*

WHITE LAKE WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

— 1982 —

Executive

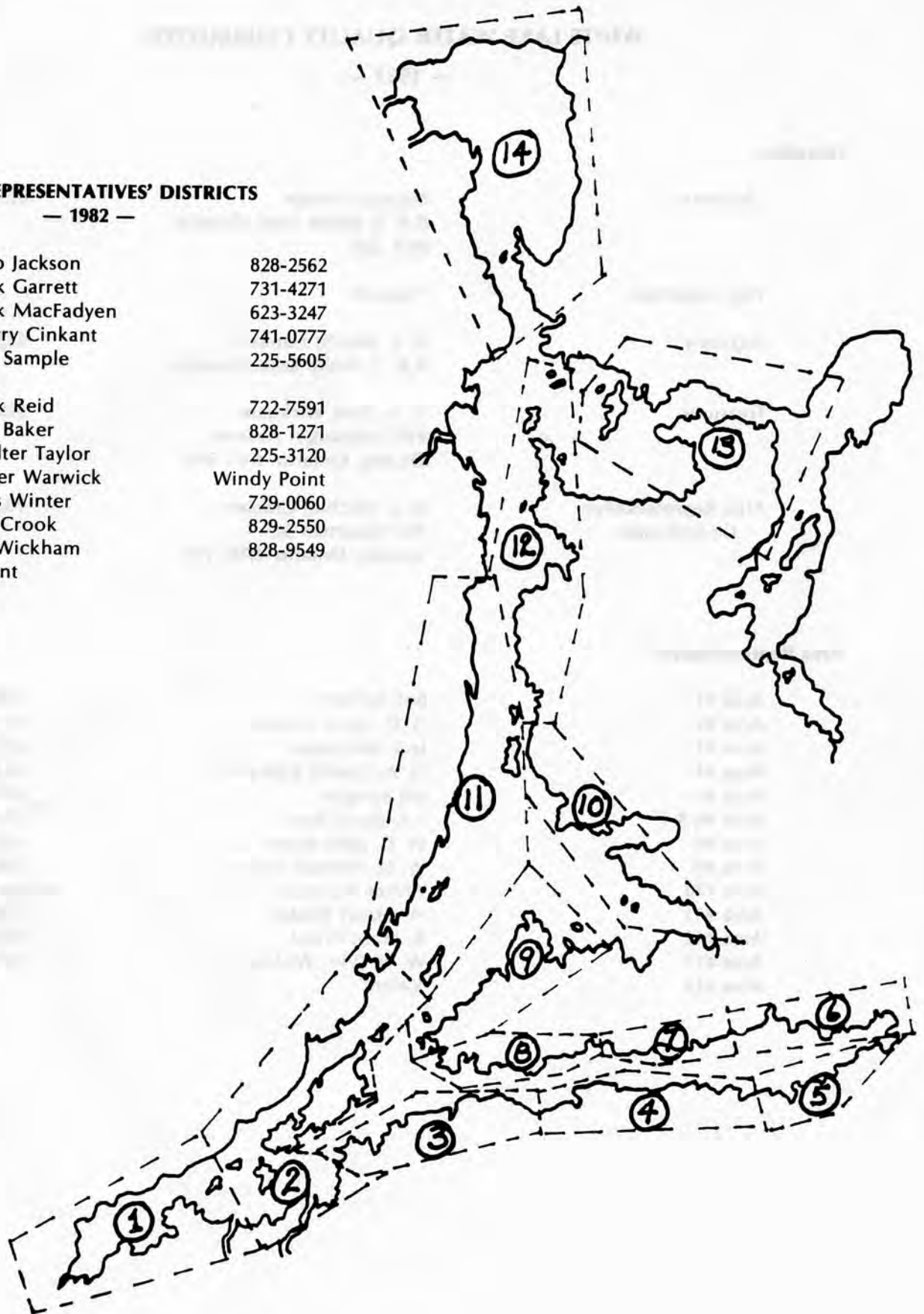
Chairman	Norman Moore R.R. 2, White Lake, Ontario K0A 3L0	623-5283
Vice-Chairman	"Vacant"	
Secretary	H. L. (Hugh) Hampel R.R. 2, White Lake, Ontario	623-3655
Treasurer	V. A. (Vin) Wickham 919 Connaught Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K1G 5M7	828-9549
Area Representative Co-ordinator	A. E. (Archie) Graham 782 Chapman St. Ottawa, Ontario K1G 1T9	733-1628

Area Representatives

Area #1	Bob Jackson	828-2562
Area #2	G. C. (Jack) Garrett	731-4271
Area #3	Jack McFadyen	623-3247
Area #4	H. A. (Harry) Cinkant	623-3786
Area #5	Bill Sample	225-5605
Area #6 & 7	J. S. (Jack) Reid	722-7591
Area #8	W. G. (Bill) Baker	828-1271
Area #9	W. H. (Walter) Taylor	225-3120
Area #10	Armer Warwick	Windy Point
Area #11	H. (Hans) Winter	729-0060
Area #12	R. (Bob) Crook	829-2550
Area #13	W. H. (Vin) Wickham	828-9549
Area #14	Vacant	

AREA REPRESENTATIVES' DISTRICTS
— 1982 —

Area #1	Bob Jackson	828-2562
Area #2	Jack Garrett	731-4271
Area #3	Jack MacFadyen	623-3247
Area #4	Harry Cinkant	741-0777
Area #5	Bill Sample	225-5605
Area #6 and #7	Jack Reid	722-7591
Area #8	Bill Baker	828-1271
Area #9	Walter Taylor	225-3120
Area #10	Armer Warwick	Windy Point
Area #11	Hans Winter	729-0060
Area #12	Bob Crook	829-2550
Area #13	Vin Wickham	828-9549
Area #14	Vacant	



Copies to:

Ministry of Environment
133 Dalton St.
Kingston, Ontario, K7L 2X6
Mr. M. Holy, Chief Approvals and Planning

Ministry of Natural Resources
Carleton Place District
10 Findlay Avenue
Carleton Place, Ontario K7C 3Z6
Mr. Robin Rogers

Mrs. Della Ranger
Clerk Treasurer, Darling Township
RR 4, Lanark, Ontario K0G 1K0

Norman Moore
Chairman, White Lake Water Quality Committee
RR 2, White Lake, Ontario K0A 3L0