

MVCA Lake Networking Spring 2025 update

Planning:

New Manager of Planning and Stewardship Ben Dobson, in attendance to introduce himself.

Monitoring update:

The 2024 Integrated Monitoring Report is currently going through final approvals before it can be shared with all of you. Thank you for your patience as we work through these updates.

The lakes for 2025 are: Blue Lake, Buckshot Lake, Clayton and Taylor Lakes, Dalhousie Lake, Grindstone Lake, Kashwakamak Lake, Mazinaw Lake, Miller Lake, Mississagagon Lake, Mississippi Lakes, Sand Lake, and Shawenegog Lake.

We have partnered with the OFAH Invasive Species Hit Squad again this year, so if you have any questions or concerns about invasive species please give us a call. We will do our best to help with identification, or sharing best management practices.

Stewardship update:

- Lake Tree Days: 773 plants ordered across 52 properties on Mazinaw, Buckshot, and Shawenegog lakes. Giveaways will take place over the first two weekends in June.
- Shoreline Plantings: Approx. 1,400 plants across 7 properties this spring. Site visits are currently taking place for fall plantings.

Less directly related to lakes, but also:

- ALUS: Projects are continuing to be reviewed by our committee, with 7 projects confirmed and 8 being reviewed at our next advisory committee. Project types this year include wetland restoration and creation, buffer plantings, pollinator grassland creation and restoration, and delayed haying incentives.
- Invasive Species Action Fund: MVCA has received a grant from ISAF to continue our work along Watts Creek, in partnership with The National Capital Commission. We will be removing Dog Strangling Vine, Garlic Mustard, Flowering Rush, and Wild Parsnip.

Septic:

The Mississippi Rideau Septic Office is doing mandatory re-inspections in Tay Valley and Rideau Lakes, and voluntary re-inspections in North Frontenac this year.

If anyone has questions about which lakes or general septic questions they can contact us directly (mrsso@mvc.on.ca). <https://www.rvca.ca/permits-planning/about-septic-permits>

Education:

Outdoor Adventure Summer Camps - day camps at the beautiful Mill of Kintail!

Ages 6-12. Day camps running 9am - 4pm (early drop off and late pickup available). Registration available online at our website. <https://mvc.on.ca/education-programs/>

Email: programs@mvc.on.ca

Water levels and Dams:

The majority of lakes are close to their summer target levels, and staff are working to maintain stable levels and flows over the next few weeks to meet the requirements of fisheries (walleye and bass), wildlife (nesting loons, ducks etc.) while ensuring summer levels are set for the long weekend of May.

Crotch Lake has reached its summer target. Levels on this lake will be used to sustain downstream flows during the summer months. Flows and levels in the lower reach of the system including Dalhousie Lake and Mississippi Lake are gradually being reduced to normal summer levels.

Rainfall will continue to be the controlling factor for high and low water conditions on our lakes and rivers. MVCA staff will continue to actively monitor and manage the system according.

The Kashwakamak Lake Dam replacement process continues to move forward and the following update was shared with our board of directors at the May meeting. (For more details on the process please see our website <https://mvc.on.ca/kashwakamak-lake-dam-design-bid-build/>)

“The new dam will be designed and constructed to meet updated Inflow Design Flood criteria and Hazard Potential Classification. The project will integrate climate change considerations into the design, ensuring that the new structure provides crucial flood

protection and mitigation for local communities, residents, businesses, and the surrounding environment throughout its service life.

The project will proceed with a preliminary and detailed design, permitting, tendering and construction, subject to regulatory approvals and stakeholder feedback. The implementation phase will include rigorous monitoring to ensure compliance with environmental standards and effective mitigation of potential impacts.”

Corporate:

The Mississippi Valley Conservation Foundation (MVCF) is currently running a 50-50 Raffle. Foundation funds are used to support our shoreline stewardship, and children’s education programs. Please consider buying your tickets early for the **50-50 raffle** as you could win some great early bird prizes – indoor vehicle storage package (draw on May 16th) or a canoe package (draw on May 30th). **Raffle closes June 10, 2025.** For more details please see www.mvc.on.ca or <https://mvcf5050.ca/about>

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