



Internal waves are gravity waves that oscillate within, rather than on the surface of, a fluid medium.

We've Had a Busy Time

Watershed Discovery Day

This year's edition of our annual Watershed Discovery Day, on Saturday, August 15, at Perth's Crystal Palace, in partnership with the Farmers' Market, was very successful, based on attendance, interest shown, and comments from our partners. Credit is due, again, to the quality of our partners' displays and their expertise: Town of Perth, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Perth & District Union Library, and Watersheds Canada, and, also, to Queens University, Plenty Canada and Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters.

Thank you to the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, Perth Farmers' Market, and Maximilian's Restaurant for their support.

The objective of this event is to raise public interest in our watershed and its resources. We want to tell the public about programs underway to monitor these water resources and have experts available to answer any questions. This event is aimed at all ages, with some focus on children.

This year, the 10th Anniversary of the commencement of the general lake management planning program in the regions was also recognized (see page 2)

Lanark County Harvest Festival

On October 13, our association, represented by Carol Dillon, Sarah Anderson and David Taylor, presented a display at the Lanark County Harvest Festival, at Beckwith Park, organized by Tay Valley Township to promote awareness of the area's upcoming 200th Anniversary in 2016. Despite

inclement weather, several thousand visitors toured the event from all parts of Lanark County and the Ottawa area.

Lake Links

On October 24, five of our Board members attended the 14th annual Lake Links Workshop at Perth's Civitan Hall. A display of watershed support materials was set up.

The Workshop theme, management of our area fish resources, attracted some 113 people, and 20 lake associations. We offered three of our distinctive T-shirts for door prize draws. Ruth Cooper, Vice-President, of the Malcolm/Ardoch Lake Association, and Dwayne Struthers, Charleston Lake Association, were two of the lucky winners. We have not heard from the third.



Annie Dalton & Ashley Edwards share their knowledge at WDD 2015



Taro Alps, Peggy Land and Frank Roy staff our association display at the 2015 Lake Links Workshop.

Wilson Street

Stormwater Testing

On a rainy day, September 29, 2015, Board member Peggy Land carried out testing for E-coli on six storm water sites along Wilson Street, in cooperation with Perth's Environmental Services staff. Testing by the 'Friends', between 2012 and 2014, determined that the Wilson Street outlet beside Code Park was delivering high E-coli counts into the Tay River, particularly following rain. The results of this joint project with the Town's Environmental Services Department, designed to track pollution sources along the Wilson storm water line, are being evaluated with the Town, and will be presented on our website.

Merry Christmas



Lake Management Planning Program Recognized

This year, in addition to our usual activities, Watershed Discovery Day held a brief ceremony to recognize the 10th anniversary of the launch of this area's lake management planning program in 2005. Our association partnered with Otty Lake Association, RVCA, MVCA, Tay Valley Township, and Lanark County Community Stewardship Council to manage a three-year \$96,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, which financed the technical support and initial staff resources for the area's successful lake planning program.

10th Anniversary Reunion



At Watershed Discovery Day 2015, representatives of area lake associations, RVCA, MVCA, Lanark County Stewardship Council, and municipal councils, joined our association and Otty Lake Association in recognizing the 10th Anniversary of the area's lake management planning program.

Photo: David Zimmerly

Young Environmentalists Learn about the Tay

In November, our association was invited to join the 4th Perth Scout Group with a presentation on the Tay Watershed.

Peggy Land and Carol Dillon volunteered to spend an evening with the young environmentalists. The program began with a look at the map of the Tay and the boys and girls were interested in finding where they lived in the watershed. They then divided into two groups for two different presentations. Peggy used a detailed watershed model that gave the young-

sters a hands-on experience with what happens to land-applied fertilizer, herbicides and insecticides when it rains. Carol gave a presentation on the water cycle and stressed the value of water because we can't make any more and have to take care of the water we have. The evening ended with the making of paper "crunchies" that contained questions about the Tay watershed. Many thanks to Scout leader Trina Conboy for organizing the visit and Rebecca Whitman at Foley Mountain for the loan of the watershed model.

4th Perth Cubs
and Beavers
study the map
of the
Tay Watershed



Rocky Ramp at Rainbow Bridge



Upstream end of "Rainbow Rapid"

The Town of Perth is now the home of a beautiful new water feature. A "rocky ramp" has been built at the head of the Little Tay to replace the badly deteriorated control dam under the Rainbow Bridge. Rather than having the water drop as a broad curtain over the lip of the old dam, the rocky ramp confines the flow to a narrower V shape channel. The slope and depth of this channel is designed to allow fish migration upstream by eliminating the vertical height of the dam.

Of course, the main purpose of this project is to more closely manage flows and water levels in the Little Tay through Stewart and Code Parks. The situation is now much improved.



Improved control of water level

One virtue of the rocky ramp design is that as experience is gained with river flows over the years, the ramp can be easily modified to reduce or increase flows as required to hold the desired water levels through the parks.

During spring flows, there will be enough water in the channel to "shoot" this rapid in a kayak or canoe!!

Commemorative Bench

Landscaping to restore the construction site is all that is required before the Friends of the Tay Watershed Commemorative Bench is installed on the point. Come spring, visitors will enjoy a grand vista spanning the Tay upstream to the Rogers Road bridge and across to the top of the new Rainbow Rapid.

Bobs Lake Dam Reconstruction

As advised earlier this year, Parks Canada has obtained funding to build a new dam to replace the present structure at the Bobs Lake exit to the Tay River, upstream from Bolingbroke. This is necessitated by the degradation of the limestone bedrock base of the present dam, which had been detected in several studies undertaken as early as the 1980s. The most recent geotechnical investigation, undertaken in 1984, had recommended completely replacing the dam, which had been built in 1915.

Parks Canada advise that the new dam will be constructed

upstream of the existing structure, between shore line property owned by Parks Canada. Field work for the geotechnical investigation and topographical surveys have been completed, the engineering consultant is developing the conceptual designs for the new structure, and Parks Canada is initiating a detailed environmental impact assessment for the project.

We will be posting a complete history of the Bobs Lake Dam on the association website later this season.

www.tayriver.org.

Call for Environmental Awards Nominations

Our Environmental Awards Committee of Susan Brandum, Karen Hunt and Judy Buehler would like your input. If you know of some person or organization that fits one of our following three categories, please contact Judy Buehler, **before Jan. 31**, stating how they meet the criteria, at goodlife@myhighspeed.ca

1. **Contribution to the Tay Watershed** (contribution to water resources specific to this watershed).

2. **Contribution to Water Resources at the provincial, national or international level** (person or organization, either local or outside area, whose activities have an impact on water resources on a wider basis).

3. **Contribution to the General Environment** (a local person or organization whose activities are aimed generally at the environment but impact on our water resources).



Coming Events

19 January 2:30 Board Meeting

Since our last newsletter the FoTW has

submitted a written brief in response to request for comments to:

- The Provincial Review of the Conservation Authorities Act (October 2015, thanks to Carol Dillon)
- The Review of Wetland Conservation in Ontario by the Provincial Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry (October 2015, thanks to Carol Dillon)


Membership Matters

Thanks to the donation of three \$50. Gift Certificates from Maximilian Dining Lounge, draw prizes were offered in a fall membership campaign. The winners of the draw were Jim Ronson, Peter and Ruth Nelson and Ruth Craig.

Membership is now annual from 1 January, so now is the time to renew for 2016.



Maximilian

 You can easily renew using the PayPal system on our website at

<http://tayriver.org/documents/membership.php>

Get Involved

Members are always invited to volunteer some of their time helping at our booth at a festival, help at WDD or get involved with a favourite research study or project such as storm water sampling or rain garden design. We also invite photos for our website. They don't have to be professional, but of water related

subjects, low water, high water, problems, beautiful water scenery, people enjoying water, water animals, fish, flora, water structures such as bridges, dams, locks and docks. Include a caption and location if possible and send your contribution to friends@tayriver.org. All photos will be attributed.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Directors

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| Taro Alps | GB&CLA, Upper watershed | Ashley Edwards | Smiths Falls |
| Judy Buehler | Perth | Jim Graff | Perth Council Representative |
| Robert Cosh | Otty Lake Association | Peggy Land | Perth, Water Quality |
| Annie Dalton | Tay River, Scotch Line | | Coordinator |

ADVISORY PANEL

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Susan Brandum | REAL; Past Board Member | Barb King | Watersheds Canada |
| Matt Craig | MVCA; Past Board Member | Andrea Klymko | RVCA |
| David Crowley | Past Board Member | Annie Laurie | Ontario Waterways Unit, |
| Karen Hunt | Otty Lake Association; | | Parks Canada |
| | Past Board Member | Richard Schooley | Tay Valley Township; |
| Doug James | Perth; Past Board Member | | Area business community |

Webmaster Colin Stephenson

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Little Stream Bakery of Glen Tay
Store—N—Lock, Perth
The Factory, Perth
Maximilian Dining Lounge, Perth