



# The Buck Lake Association Inc.

Box 36, INVERARY, ON K0H 1X0

[www.bucklake.ca](http://www.bucklake.ca)

email: [Buck Lake Information](mailto:BuckLakeInformation)

*"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"*

## *Buck Lake News – January 2017*

### Activities of the Board of Directors

The mandate of the Buck Lake Association is "To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations". The board of directors attempts to fulfill this mandate by promoting activities and awareness in 3 key areas:

- Social and Outreach
- Environment, and
- Government Relations

At our most recent meetings, we have been working to develop a strategic plan to help focus our efforts on these areas. We are still working on the plan, but have begun on 3 initiatives:

- Developing an improved listing/directory of lake residents and cottagers
- Reintroducing neighbourhood watch programs for neighbourhoods around the lake
- Opening dialog with Frontenac Park about how Buck Lakers could reasonably access the Park without having to obtain a day-pass from the main gate

Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters.

The Board would welcome both your comments on what it is doing and your suggestions of other initiatives it might take to enhance your enjoyment of our lake. The Board's email address is [bucklakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:bucklakeassoc@gmail.com)

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## Join the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Backyard Bird Count – February 17-20, 2017

The Buck Lake Association is encouraging Buck Lakers to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count happening on the weekend of February 17-20. If you do participate, we would love to hear from you about what you saw (and pictures too). We would also be interested to hear from anyone who has participated in the past, is an experienced “birder” and may have tips and comments to share. As always you can contact us at: [bucklakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:bucklakeassoc@gmail.com)

So if you want to participate, here is the information you will need. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. [Register for the count](#) or use your existing login name and password if you registered in previous years. If you have never participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count or any other Cornell Lab citizen-science project, you'll need to [create a new account](#). If you already created an account for last year's GBBC, or if you're already registered with eBird or another Cornell Lab citizen-science project, you can use your existing login information.
2. **Count birds for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the GBBC.** You can count for longer than that if you wish! Count birds in as many places and on as many days as you like—one day, two days, or all four days. Submit a separate checklist for each new day, for each new location, or for the same location if you counted at a different time of day. Estimate the number of individuals of each species you saw during your count period.
3. **Enter your results on the GBBC website by clicking “[Submit Observations](#)” on the home page.** Or download the free [eBird Mobile app](#) to enter data on a mobile device. If you already participate in the eBird citizen-science project, please use eBird to submit your sightings during the GBBC. Your checklists will count toward the GBBC.



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## Does your Septic System suffer from Indigestion?

### A Briefer on “Aerobic” Septic Systems

Submitted by: Dave Frid

Did you know that our traditional septic systems rely on relatively inefficient *Anaerobic* microbes for decomposition of organic waste, producing hydrogen sulfide and sludge byproducts? Whereas an aerated *Aerobic* system utilizes efficient microbes, producing an earthy compost byproduct and CO<sub>2</sub>. Municipal and commercial waste treatment installations operate almost exclusively on aerobic processing mechanisms, that offer many benefits for home septic systems.

Okay, full disclosure. An aerobic septic system - generally called *Aerobic Treatment Units or ATUs* can add a little bit to your hydro bill, but at around a dollar a day it could be well worth the added expense.

So what are the benefits? Well, the big number one according to our BLA member's survey, is the very real need to protect our lake water quality. An ATU system installation will go a long way to ensuring that we don't contribute oxygen depleting nitrogen, ammonia, and other pollutants to our lake. Effluent leaving an aerobic system headed to a weeping bed or leaching system is generally already 90% cleared of organics, as opposed to classic septic tank effluent at a 40% reduction. Municipalities issuing permits for septic installation or modification recognize currently more than a dozen different ATU systems and thereby permit a reduction in the size of leaching beds in the range of 50%. This reduction in size down to typically a 3 by 4 meter area could be, for some of us, a distinct benefit - especially in lots with limited available space and tenuous soil covers. An ATU installation approved under the Ontario Building Code can also allow for the use of a “shallow buried trench system” in lieu of a septic leaching bed.

How does an aerobic system work? Simply by introducing a minimal steady supply of air and thereby oxygen to the septic system (usually in an independent tank), the growth of aerobic bacteria is encouraged, and as previously mentioned, the aerobic process is more expedient and complete than that of anaerobic breakdown. Aerobic microorganism decomposition of sewage waste is more exothermic<sup>1</sup> than its anaerobic cousin, and its by product is CO<sub>2</sub> rather than methane gas. Methane's contribution by volume to global warming is many times that of CO<sub>2</sub>.

<sup>1</sup>An exothermic process generates some nominal heat – which accelerates the biological decomposition process.

Okay, that is some food for thought that might cure some indigestion!

I know that I may be preaching to the choir for the already educated, but here are some of the sources which the rest of us can refer to for more enlightenment on the topic of ATUs.



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ELSTON LEGEND BOATS TRIUMPH MERCURY

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These two online briefs by the Ontario Government give very good overviews of septic systems. Septic Smart 2 includes the Ontario Building Code's SB-5 list of approved suppliers (more are being approved regularly).

[www.rvca.ca/news/septicsmart/Septic\\_Smart\\_2\\_ENGLISH\\_2011.pdf](http://www.rvca.ca/news/septicsmart/Septic_Smart_2_ENGLISH_2011.pdf)  
[rvca.ca/news/septicsmart/Septic\\_Smart\\_English.pdf](http://rvca.ca/news/septicsmart/Septic_Smart_English.pdf)

Here is a bit of science review on aerobic and anaerobic biology for those keen to understand a bit more of it all.

[www.ebsbiowizard.com/2011/08/aerobic-vs-anaerobic-treatment-in-wastewater-systems-part-1-2/](http://www.ebsbiowizard.com/2011/08/aerobic-vs-anaerobic-treatment-in-wastewater-systems-part-1-2/)

[wastewater/residential-wastewater-treatment-systems](http://wastewater/residential-wastewater-treatment-systems)

[www.ebsbiowizard.com/2011/08/aerobic-vs-anaerobic-treatment-in-wastewater-systems-part-2-2/](http://www.ebsbiowizard.com/2011/08/aerobic-vs-anaerobic-treatment-in-wastewater-systems-part-2-2/)

[www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/primer.pdf](http://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/primer.pdf)

NSF International, is an independent globally recognized certification body who issue their NSF/ANSI 40 stamp on tested systems.

[www.nsf.org/services/by-industry/water-wastewater/onsite-wastewater/residential-wastewater-treatment-systems](http://www.nsf.org/services/by-industry/water-wastewater/onsite-wastewater/residential-wastewater-treatment-systems)

Other than that, the individual web sites of many of the suppliers of aerobic septic systems found on the SB-5 chart or under an “ATU septic” web search can be quite educational.

Any questions, comments or first hand knowledge would be very welcome. You can email me at [cbdavefrid@gmail.com](mailto:cbdavefrid@gmail.com)

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## Announcing 2 Additions to the Board

The Board of Directors is excited to announce the appointments of Cheryl Dawson and Kathy McDonald to the board.

Kathy and her husband, Bruce, are new to Buck Lake in August 2016 and are located at the end of Pillar Lane on the North Branch. They divide their time between the lake and their home in Kingston where Bruce is retired and Kathy works from home in Information Technology for St. Lawrence College. Each week it gets more and more difficult to return to town to work! They have two grown children. Mallory is married and living in Comox, BC and Michael lives and works in downtown Toronto. They are enjoying getting to know the lake and becoming involved in the Buck Lake community.



Cheryl and her partner Bruce Grant are also new to the lake. They are living in what will forever be fondly known as "Pat and Ann's place" 😊 on Irish Lane on the North Branch. They moved in July 2016 and really feel like they've found their paradise. Cheryl travels to Kingston every day where she works as a Physical Education and French teacher at Frontenac SS. Bruce works with the OPP in Smiths Falls. Between them they have 3 children McCulla who is at U of Guelph, Liam who is working in the trades, and Alicia who is finishing gr.12 this year. Sadie, their black lab, is certainly enjoying all the swimming. They are thoroughly enjoying their new home, this beautiful lake, and the wonderful people. They are looking forward to many years as part of this great community.

Cheryl and Kathy's places on the board will be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting in the summer of 2017.

We are always looking for new members to join the board. Being on the board does not necessarily need to be a huge time commitment and it is a great way to get involved and meet people around the lake. If you think you might possibly be interested, or would just like more information, please contact [bucklakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:bucklakeassoc@gmail.com)



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## **Update on Private Lanes**

The January 25<sup>th</sup> South Frontenac Council meeting included a discussion of a report from the Frontenac County Council on "private roads".

The Province of Ontario became concerned as long ago as the 1970's with the number of permanent homes being established on private lanes that previously served only seasonal residents during the summer months. It sought to limit such development by establishing standards for the construction of lanes. When Frontenac County submitted its most recent Official Plan it was told it needed policies to limit and possibly prohibit further permanent residential development on its many private lanes, a discussion that led to preparation by the County Council of the report discussed by the South Frontenac Council. The goal is to develop a planning guideline for future private lane development throughout the County. South Frontenac is somewhat ahead of the game in that it already provides subsidies for upgrading lanes, has a policy in place on their "assumption", and has standards established for the development of new lanes. All of these will be reviewed when next South Frontenac rolls forward its Official Plan for submission to the Province for approval.

Council members have indicated that they are well aware of the large number of issues that affect the growing number of permanent residents whose homes are serviced by lanes created only for seasonal use, issues that have to be addressed and resolved before too long. We in the Buck Lake Association will have to stay tuned.

## **Perth Road Olympics**

The 3rd Annual Perth Road Winter Olympics will be taking place on February 11th, 2017. This event was born from an idea to encourage members of our rural community and other surrounding communities to be physically active through the winter months when it is more difficult to get outside. In an era when children are spending more time inside in front of screens and less time interacting with their environment, we hope the importance of getting out there even when it's a bit colder catches on – especially when they can see how fun it can be! Please check out all the fun we had last year on our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/perthroadwinterolympics](http://www.facebook.com/perthroadwinterolympics).

We will have 8 main stations in which participants will have the opportunity to try cross country skiing, Boot Hockey, Yukigassen (snow battle), Sled Pull, Snowshoeing, Fat Biking, Ice Stock and Inuit Games. As participants move through the stations they will receive a stamp in a passport and upon completion will be able to put their names in a draw for some prizes. This event is being offered for free to the community, however the parent council will be fundraising with a chili cook off, to raise funds for the Athletics programs at Perth Road Public School.

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### **Opening Ceremonies !**

Create a flag to carry in the  
**FLAG PARADE**

**Saturday, February 11th**

**Noon – 2:30 p.m.**

**Harris Hall & Field**

5612 Perth Road Crescent in Perth Road Village

**Come on out and learn how you can *stay active and have FUN* in the snow with your friends and family!**

- 12:00 – 12:15 p.m.**    **Opening Ceremonies:** Flag parade and igniting the Olympic bonfire with Olympic Torch (see Facebook page for how to enter for chance to become the Olympic flag bearer)
- 12:15 – 2:00 p.m.**    **Olympic Games and Chili Cook-off** (put your family recipe to the test)
- 2:00 – 2:30 p.m.**    **Closing Ceremonies:** Prize raffle and Chili Cook-off winner

### **The passports are back!**

You will get a Winter Olympics passport that will be stamped each time you try a winter activity and once completed you will qualify to enter your name for a chance to win a prize!

Some of the events will be:

Cross-Country Skiing  
Fat Biking  
Yukigassen (snow battle)  
Boot hockey  
Snowshoeing  
Sled Pull  
Inuit Games  
And more!

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to make this event another huge success!**

We need help preparing for the events before-hand, set-up and take-down and overseeing the events. If you are interested, please contact us at the email or phone number below

For more information and new updates, please like our Facebook page (and share it!) at

**<https://www.facebook.com/perthroadwinterolympics>**

email us at [perthroadwinterolympics@gmail.com](mailto:perthroadwinterolympics@gmail.com)

or call **613-888-4743** (Leslie) **613-449-3182** (Tammie)



The remains of this unfortunate deer were sighted by Barbra Rose Perry and Gord McDairmid close to shore just north of the Narrows on the South Branch. According to Gord, you can tell by the position of the deer's jaw that its last words must have been "Ahhhhhh!"

## Upcoming Events:

**Perth Road Winter Olympics:** Saturday, February 11th, 2017, noon to 2:30pm, Harris Park Hall and Fields in Perth Road Village

**Tuesday Lunches at Perth Road Hall:** Every Tuesday starting at noon. Soup, sandwiches, coffee and dessert all for just \$5.00. All Welcome

In order to promote the spirit of Buck Lake, we invite your comments and suggestions for newsletter articles or announcements. Mail to: [Buck Lake Information](#)

Renew your Buck Lake Association membership on line. A receipt will be emailed to you to confirm your payment. A service provided by FOCA: <http://foca.on.ca/product/buck-lake-association/>

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