

STARTING  
JUNE  
**29**

# HEALTHY SHORELINE PROJECT IS COMING!

## An Important Note for all Property Owners on Long, Miskwabi, Negaunee and Wenona Lakes

This summer, our four area lakes are participating in a shoreline assessment project, co-ordinated by the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations (CHA).

This program (also known as LOVE YOUR LAKE) was developed by Watersheds Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF). Local community associations such as the Miskwabi Area Community Association (MACA) and the CHA help to deliver the program on their local lakes.

The goal is to evaluate the shorelines of the four lakes, to help preserve the water quality of the lakes for the future.

By the end of this year, almost 100 lakes across Ontario will have participated in the LOVE YOUR LAKE program, including over 40 lakes in Haliburton.



Our Shorelines are often referred to as the "Ribbon of Life". Up to 90% of all life in and around our lakes depends on shorelines for food and habitat. Natural vegetation along shorelines helps to prevent harmful runoff from septic systems and other sources from reaching the lake, and helps to prevent the toxic blue-green algae that has seriously damaged lakes in other parts of cottage country including Muskoka. **Healthy shorelines protect our water quality.** Failure to protect them can result in lakes that are unsafe for swimming, and declining property values, so it's important that we be proactive.

## HOW IT WORKS

- **Starting June 29th**, two specially trained university students will be out on the water, conducting a visual evaluation of the shoreline of the whole lake. **All evaluations will be done by boat; no one will set foot on shore.** The students will be accompanied by local volunteers. The evaluations will take approximately three weeks to complete.
- The students will then prepare a report on the overall shoreline health of the lake, as well as a confidential letter mailed to each property owner, with suggestions on how best to maintain the health of their individual shoreline.
- **The evaluations are strictly confidential.** Only the property owner receives the evaluation of their individual shoreline. The individual shoreline assessments will not be shared with anyone. Please note: if you do not wish to receive your individual shoreline evaluation, please contact MACA's Lake Steward, Tim Hagarty, at [jthagarty@bell.net](mailto:jthagarty@bell.net) no later than June 29th.
- **There is no cost to property owners to take part.** The program is approximately 90% funded by grants, including a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The Miskwabi Area Community Association is contributing approximately \$5 for each property toward the cost of the program.

The LOVE YOUR LAKE program is a one-time opportunity to help protect our lakes for the future. MACA would like to thank our current members and volunteers for supporting this important initiative. If you are not yet a MACA member, and you support protecting our lakes and water quality, please consider joining us at [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net)

For more information about the Love Your Lake Project, visit [www.loveyourlake.ca](http://www.loveyourlake.ca).

