

NEWS

CVC: Fish deaths in ponds and lakes are natural in the spring

The cold, harsh temperatures this winter caused extensive ice coverage on local lakes and ponds in the Credit River watershed. Prolonged cold periods in January and February contributed to thicker ice, which affects oxygen levels in the water and result is higher than normal fish mortality in the spring.

This is a natural phenomenon known as winter die-off or "winterkill".

"Winterkill happens naturally and is common in shallow lakes and ponds. When ponds and lakes freeze over with thick ice and snow the water becomes separated from air. It reduces the amount of sunlight available to aquatic plants," said Jon Clayton, Aquatic Biologist for CVC. "This limits the amount of oxygen available for fish. Without

enough oxygen, fish die."

Ontario experienced one of the coldest Februaries on record this year, which resulted in more ice coverage on our lakes and ponds. The Great Lakes saw approximately 86 per cent coverage this winter, compared to 61 per cent last year. Once spring temperatures normalize and the ice begins to melt, fish mortalities become obvious.

Please notify Credit Valley Conservation staff if you see results of a large winter die-off. CVC staff will monitor fish species that experience winterkill and the extent of any die-offs.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact CVC Aquatic Biologist, Jon Clayton (905) 670-1615 ext. 502 or jclayton@creditvalleyca.ca.

legal matters | FAMILY LAW

ASK THE PROFESSIONAL

We work for you.



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Q

My husband and I have a Separation Agreement from 2013. He isn't paying child support to me as the agreement sets out and owes me money. What can I do to make him pay the child support?

A

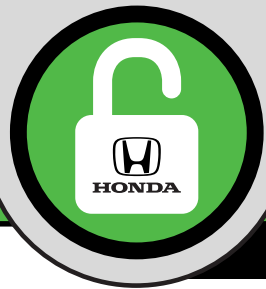
The Family Responsibility Office (FRO) is part of the Ontario Community and Social Services and they collect and enforce support payments. They automatically enforce court orders for support but if you have a Separation Agreement you must register it with the court who will then forward the information to FRO for collection of the support. If your husband is not paying the child support, they will take steps to enforce payment of the support.

There are different ways that FRO may enforce support payments in addition to deducting the support payments through your husband's employer and include garnishing his bank accounts and any money that he may be owed from the Government of Canada for income tax refunds, employment insurance and CPP benefits. His driver's license may be suspended or his passport or lottery winnings can be seized or he could spend up to 180 days time in jail.

Go to "mcss.gov.on.ca" select "English" and then scroll down to "The Family Responsibility Office" for more information or give me a call to set up a consultation to discuss your particular situation.

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