

# Stouffville Tribune

VOL. 102 NO. 29 A Metroland Community Newspaper Wednesday, July 18, 1990 32 Pages 50 cents

## Lake quality depends on residents

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

Musselman Lake residents must stop all lawn fertilization and practice a dog "stoop and scoop" method to save the lake, says one water quality expert.

The lake's long-overdue pollution problems are now under the microscope and one government official says residents can make a major difference to its quality.

Mike Walters, spokesman for the Lake Simcoe and Region Conservation Authority (ESRCA), who was one of the governmental tri-party investigators into the study, says there are "simple" ways Musselman Lake residents can help to preserve the lake.

One of the recommendations the experts highly recommend in the publicly-released 1989 Musselman Lake Surface Water Quality Report

is to ban the use of motorboats.

And Mr. Walters agrees the use of motorboats in the small kettle lake could seriously damage its future by causing erosion, siltation and unnecessary turbulence from wave action.

Mr. Walters says there are many other ways residents can help combat further pollution in the now highly-urbanized area.

"You really have to go back in time - back to when urbanization first started," he says and maintains that's when the pollution really began to build up.

He says phosphorus, a major concern and rising element of pollution at Musselman Lake, is "a naturally occurring element" but "could be reduced

substantially through residential and town co-operation.

"If people really have the need to fertilize use a product that has a slow release of fertilizer or simply pump water from the lake," Mr.

Walters suggests.

He says elements already in the lake can act as an effective and successful source to fertilize a lawn, and therefore eliminate and reduce further stormwater run-off.

Residents can also check out any grey water leakage (from laundry or wash water) that may come from basements," Mr. Walters says.

He also recommends the use of environmentally safe products that are phosphorus free and says the Environment Ministry has a list of good safe products now on the shelves.

"People should refrain from using detergent when washing cars too,"

he says.

Mr. Walters says if detergents are used in washing cars and other things outside the home, that a safe detergent - phosphorus free - is highly recommended.

"There is nothing done in this lake that is not done in any other lake but there are many simple ways people can help reduce pollution."

One major step would be to treat stormwater runoff, which cannot be done by the average resident, but the study recommends the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville implement such treatment.

Spokesman for Lake Musselman

Club Ken Jobe, now part of the worldwide Sierra Club, says the study "is one of the most thorough I've seen," and wants to be sure anyone interested in finding out more, attend the newly formed Sierra Club founding meeting July 25 at 7 p.m. in the Parkview Village Auditorium.

The meeting will discuss this study with qualified expert panels and give residents an opportunity to join the Sierra Club.

Town officials have not yet commented on the study's recommendations, but are expected to deal with the issue at a special meeting August 14.

**"There is nothing done in this lake that is not done in any other lake but there are many simple ways people can help reduce pollution."**



**Clowning around**

Photo: SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Mark Franken was all smiles as he posed as a clown at the grand opening of Upper Canada Post & Beam's new location at Kennedy Road and 19th Avenue. Here, he hands out a balloon to Trevor Ottley, 5, while his mother looks on.

**MUSSELMAN LAKE STUDY**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1 Ban on all motor boats
- 2 Stop all lawn fertilization
- 3 Stoop and Scoop, practiced
- 4 Use only phosphorus-free products
- 5 Check basement grey water
- 6 No detergents for car washing

## Sierra Club inaugural meeting to address Musselman issue

The Musselman Lake report on water quality will be a main topic of discussion at the inaugural meeting of a new environmental group in the area.

The Sierra Club, York Region branch members are asking everyone from Ballantrae, Musselman Lake, Whitchurch-Stouffville and York Region to attend its Sierra Club (York Region) founding meeting Wednesday, July 25 at 7 p.m. at the

Parkview Village Auditorium, 9th Line South.

"Everyone interested in our endangered environment is invited to meet the Directors of the Sierra Club of Eastern Canada, discover the excitement of participating in local and national projects to preserve and protect our precious wilderness and living waters," said a press release from the group, issued appropriately enough on recycled paper.

There will be a ministerial presentation of the Lake Musselman Surface Water Quality Report 1989, where a panel of governmental experts will answer your questions from the results of the investigation of Musselman Lake and the environs.

For more information write to the Lake Musselman Club, Box 162, Stouffville, Ontario, L4A 7Z5.

BRATS



SPORTS



HISTORY

