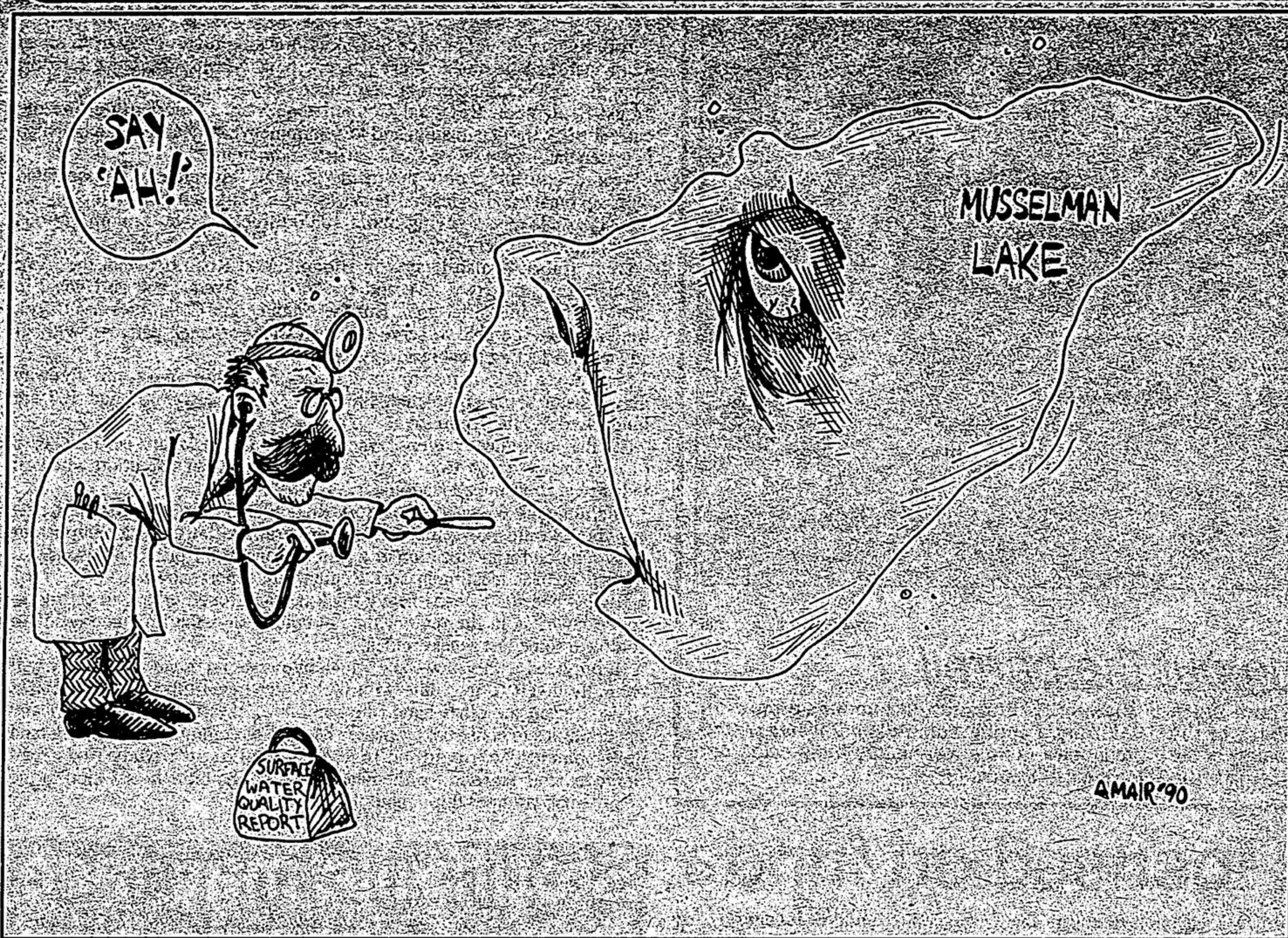


# Comment Page



## Lake study results no big surprise

The ongoing question of Musselman Lake's water quality is finally in public hands and its results are not really any big surprise.

And now the global environmental concern is brought to our doorstep - proof the much-publicized "save the Earth, no-no's" are not just somebody else's problem.

After years of study, the tri-party governmental investigation into the lake's pollution problem clearly indicates the residents and the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville need to re-think priorities, and pull up up some environmental socks.

The study shows it's not just the politicians who need to act, but the locals too - the lake will not tolerate further abuse and is labelled "an enriched lake."

The study indicates fertilizer, motor boats and products containing phosphorus will indeed be the death of Musselman Lake.

Local officials had better heed the warnings and step up a watchful eye on potentially dangerous projects, while the residents must all do their part in and outside the home.

Pollution can only be reduced if we all pull together. The Musselman Lake problem is proof of that.

# Town BRATS raising real stink

There's a rotten stench in Whitchurch-Stouffville. And it's spreading. Fast.

Good citizens read about it in local papers and the rotten smell gets worse.

And we thought a stench like this only lingered through the mean streets of Toronto.

Let's face it - even the friendliest town in Ontario cannot escape the awful stench that mars our otherwise pleasant community atmosphere.

The smell emanates from a bad breed, a rotten mix of teenagers that have no respect for public property, no respect for their neighbors and no respect for themselves.

I call them the 90's breed of



kibble's bits

tracy kibble

BRATS - Bad Rotten Attitudinal Teens. And these BRATS are tainting this quiet town with their hunger and their lust for destroying other people's property.

Is this one, giant bad-smell or a conglomerate of separate BRATS competing in rival gangs?

"Hey dude, bet we can smash more windows and throw more toilet cleaner around than youse."

"Yeah, well bet we can bust up more stuff than youse and steal more and wreck more and everything, ain't we gonna?" (My bet is

these BRATS are not on the top grad list.)

It's a shame these young people are ruining the reputation for the many intelligent, bright and talented teens we have in town too.

But we better face the music. The smell is growing in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

We couldn't even get through the annual Strawberry Festival without the BRATS of this town leaving their disgusting trademark. And it's the taxpayer - that's you and me - who will end up paying for their crimes.

Is it fun to throw toilet cleaner and furniture into a public swimming pool?

This little charade will cost about \$4,000, including many

staff man hours from the recreation department and the fire department, lost revenues and pool maintenance costs.

Is it fun to break into Town property and steal the people's equipment (another \$3,000)?

Is it fun to break into local buildings and make off with other people's livelihood?

It's not like they actually stole things they really need, or even stole things at all. The BRATS of this town merely vandalized property, and inconvenienced the people who use them.

Are these BRATS in dire need of attention? They could use some attention, alright, and it wouldn't be a day at Canada's Wonderland.

Are the BRATS frustrated at home or are they just a bad seed - a commonplace in society?

Should we accept this as a part of life?

No, we shouldn't. We should keep our eyes and ears open starting now, sort of a community police force. In every crime there

is always someone who sees something, and that someone could be you.

These BRATS have no mercy for anyone else, so why should society bend over backwards for them?

If these BRATS know we're watching, they will probably think twice before damaging our property again.

It seems to me there's almost a twisted incentive to live the life of crime, under-age, before it's too late, before you're an adult and they really put the screws to you.

This is an embarrassment to our community and maybe if we, as citizens, buckle down maybe then the BRATS of society will fade away.

Until the law gets tougher, we're stuck with a stench that will continue to grow - like massive piles of garbage.

Oh, incidentally, if there were any adults involved in the crimes surrounding the Strawberry Festival, it is my opinion they were probably BRATS first.

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### Editor's mail

# Inflated holiday prices have resident flustered

Dear Editor,

While driving through the town of Stouffville on the Canada Day weekend, I noticed that our local retail gasoline outlets had again raised their prices just in time for the festivities. (The prices had been lower during the week, if my memory serves me correctly.)

I have noticed the same pricing techniques on other holiday week-

ends to such an extent that this cannot be more coincidence.

Obviously the giant oil companies and their retailers have taken Economics 101 which instructs them that when demand is high (people usually like to travel on holiday weekends) that is the time to raise prices and maximize revenues. What is so galling is that they are so blatant about it, and

either think the driving public is not paying attention, or perhaps they don't care what the public thinks.

The Grinch that stole Christmas has nothing on the oil companies; they stick it to us on every holiday. I will be looking forward to Labor Day.

Wayne McVittie  
Stouffville