

The Sandbar

Lac Patterson's newsletter



Goodbye to another summer!

The fall season has arrived and it's time to close up!

There was a lot of activity this spring and summer around the lake! Chemin Lafond was finally extended to the happiness of the cottagers who lived without a road or electricity for over 50 years! A new cottage was built near the sandbar at the corner of Chemin des Cèdres and Chemin des Pionniers. We had a baby loon, a bear, an eclipse, northern lights and a comet!

Many of the cottages have now closed up for the season but the lake will be on our minds for the rest of the year. Do you want to receive the newsletter through email and not miss it in your endless Facebook notifications? Please follow the steps below.

1

EMAIL

Send your email address
to: admin@lac-patterson-lake.ca

2

ADDRESS

Please add your cottage address in the email and language preference

3

FEEDBACK

Your feedback is always welcome through email or Facebook!

Invasive species

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Invasive species

We've got to keep it out of our lake!

In the first issue we talked about how incredibly invasive Eurasian water milfoil can be and how it can affect your property value negatively from 8 to 19% and affect your ability to enjoy any water activities on the lake.

"Wash your pleasure crafts!"

The only way to prevent/mitigate the spread of invasive species like Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels is by washing and inspecting your watercrafts such as boats, jet skis, canoes & kayaks, and paddleboards when you've been in another lake. But it's also inspecting your fishing equipment for Spiny or Fishhook Water Flea which are harmful to the fish population s

This summer, I submitted another report to Sentinelle, the Quebec government website to report invasive species for official validation of Eurasian Water Milfoil taken from Little Patterson and I am awaiting their report.

If you haven't travelled to Little Patterson lately, you will find it is choked with a type of milfoil and other weeds. If you do go, PLEASE **inspect** and **remove** any weeds that are attached to your pleasure craft and propeller **BEFORE** you get back to big Patterson.



It is always recommended to wash your pleasure crafts with high, and low pressure hot water.

You can view a video here by RPEVG that shows the process at the Messines washing station.
https://youtu.be/jCk7kjqXivY?si=Hqt3jT48L8q_ps5

The closest washing station is in Cayamant at the municipal office on 6 chemin Lachapelle. You can also visit [Forêt ouverte](#) to find all of the washing stations across the MRC and the province.

Again, think about how much time, effort and money you spend yearly at home for landscaping or keeping the grass free of weeds. Wouldn't your lake paradise merit just as much?

WASH YOUR WATER PLEASURE CRAFTS!

Be a water hero, and always wash your water pleasure crafts to keep our lake healthy our generation and the next.



Water testing results

E. Coli

An E.Coli test was done at the beginning on August after a heavy rainfall the day before and another done near the end of August a few days after a moderate rainfall to see how the lake recovers. Again, Mother Nature didn't provide us much with a stretch of hot sunny weather that fit into the lab's delivery timetable to do another sample.

Little Patterson was greatly affected by the heavy rains and had a very high E. Coli count. Here are the Quebec government swimming standards with regards to E. Coli.

- 0-20: Excellent
- 21-100: Good
- 101-200: Passable
- 201 and above: Polluted

“The E. Coli count must be zero for drinking purposes.”

RSVL

In June, July and August, I performed the RSVL tests for Total Phosphorus (TP), Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC), Chlorophyl a, as well as new tests for major metals, PH and Chlorides.

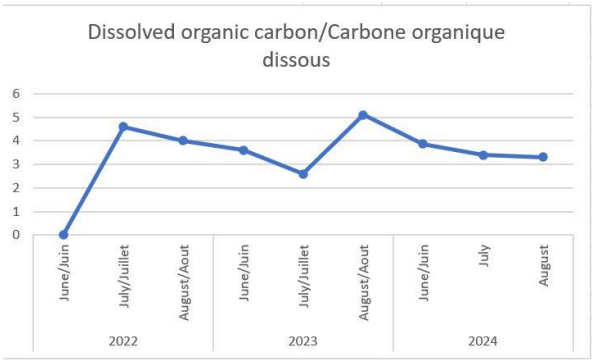
I also did the water transparency tests every two weeks.

Year/Année	2024	
Date sample taken/Date de prélèvement de l'échantillon	8/24/2024	8/1/2024
	E.Coli cfu/100mL	E.Coli cfu/100mL
	After moderate rain/Après pluies modérées	After Heavy rains/Après Grosses pluies
Conditions		
Lake areas/Endroits sur le lac		
South Bay/Baie sud - Sweets	0	2
South Bay/Baie sud - McNulty	0	38
North East End/Fin nord est - Turner	1	0
Narrows/ Chenail	3	10
Bridge end/Fin pont (St-Jean's)	1	35
Bay/Baie- Youngs	15	12
North West side/Côté nord-ouest- Morrison	3	29
Little Patterson/Petit Patterson	35	106

The full data will be available on the province's website sometime in the early spring at this link.

Le Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs de villégiature

For now, here are the 2022-2024 YTD of our results for DOC. DOC is from the decomposition of organisms. It measures the colour of the water and directly affects water transparency.



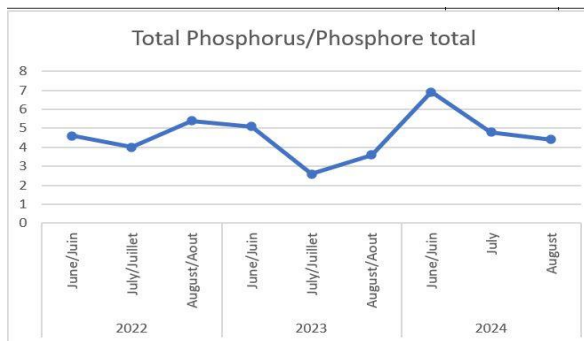
RÉSEAU DE SURVEILLANCE VOLONTAIRE DES LACS

After three years of collecting data, RSVL requires that we take a pause in data collection for a period of four years. However, we will still continue regularly monitoring the water transparency as well as the E.Coli testing (not part of RSVL).

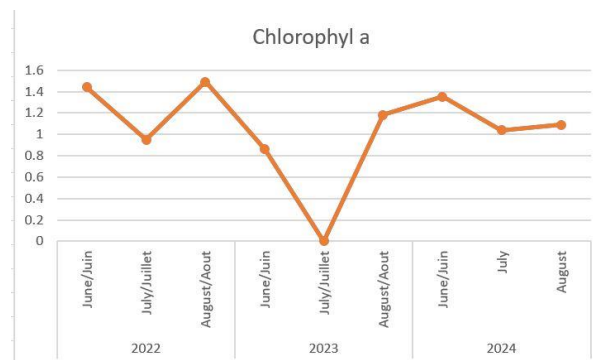


Water testing results (cont...)

Here are the 2021-2024 YTD of our results for Total Phosphorus. TP is a nutrient that controls the growth of plants. There is a strong relationship between phosphorus concentration, the abundance of algae and aquatic plants, and the trophic level of a lake.



Chlorophyll a, is a green pigment found in the composition of plants and algae. The concentration of chlorophyll a has generally increased with the concentration of nutrients, especially phosphorus. There is therefore a link between this increase and the trophic level of a lake. Eutrophic lakes often struggle with significant algal production. Above on the right, is the YTD values since 2022.



Though we do not test Little Patterson, it fits all of the criteria for an eutrophic lake whereas Big Patterson is recognized as an oligotrophic lake. However, five decades of visual observation has determine that the growth of aquatic plants where none existed before is beginning to be concerning.

Two factors that are not measured are the sedimentation and periphyton that is now in the lake. Periphyton is a complex mixture of algae, cyanobacteria, heterotrophic microbes and detritus that attaches to submerged surfaces like rocks and plants.

Sedimentation is particles like sand, silt, clay and organic matter that is carried by water (i.e. runoff) and gradually settles on the lakebed. Excessive sedimentation promotes aquatic plant growth and can create an imbalance in the ecosystem.

WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN/INVENTORY

Many lake associations are creating Water Management Plans or getting assessments of aquatic plants, sedimentation, density, or shoreline health from specialists like **RAPPEL** or **Fyto**. Although costly, these plans provide guidance for maintaining a healthy lake. They can also be presented to municipal councils when developments near lakes, such as the Lac Metayer subdivision or nearby mining, are proposed. Scientific documentation is essential to effectively voice concerns.



Cayamant Council news

New Planning Advisory Committee

In June, the municipal council voted to create a Planning Advisory Committee (PAC). This committee will comprise of one council member and three Cayamant residents as well as the Director of Planning. This planning advisory committee will be able to study and formulate the recommendations it deems useful to the municipal council in terms of urban planning, zoning, subdivision, and construction.

The term of office of the members of this committee is two years and is renewable by resolution of the municipal council.

“How can I make my voice heard?”

Public Notices are published in the newspaper *Le Droit* since the local one shut down in February and available daily on this link below.

[Avis publics | Le Droit](#)

Anyone interested may be heard in public session at the council meeting at which the



decision will be taken by the municipal council, on the recommendations of the PAC.

Beaver issue update

In July, council voted to authorize management to take all steps to obtain the SEG permit to capture beavers, from the ministry of Ressources naturelles, de la Faune et des Parcs to responsibly improve work in waterways to restore as much as possible the free flow of water on our territory. No further information is available.

Please let the municipality know if you find a beaver dam so that in the meantime, its employees can break the dam.

COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE ON YOUTUBE!

All council meetings are now recorded and posted on YouTube.

You can view them all by clicking on this link.
[Diffusion des séances du conseil](#)



Wave impact on shoreline

This past summer I wrote a blog (see link below) on the effect of boat wake on the shoreline and keeping a 10km speed in the channel.

Boat wake – Sillage de bateau - Lac Patterson Lake

Our poor neighbours in the channel have been suffering boats speeding in and out of there and having waves destroy their shoreline not to mention the safety issue of swimmers and kayakers, paddleboarders and canoe enthusiasts who have little chance to prepare for the oncoming wave or boat.

I did notice that after I wrote the blog that when I would go in either with a boat, paddleboard and kayak, that other boaters I met were taking it slow, so kudos to all of you!

“What do we do with visitor boats?”

I do believe that some signage at the beginning of channel (coming from the bridge) would be



beneficial to those who are not familiar with our lake or are not aware of a 10km speed.

A marker could be placed right on shore at the entrance of the channel where it would be visible but not in the way of navigation.

What do you all think? Would anyone volunteer to look for a sign and cost it out?

10KM SPEED LIMIT WITHIN 30 METRES

Many provinces have a law that requires boaters to keep their speed limit To 10 km if within 30 metres from shore. In Quebec, it is up to each Municipality to put in their own rules.

During a discussion with our mayor before COVID, we brought up the subject of installing signage in the channel. Though, he couldn't commit to funding signs, the mayor had no opposition to us installing signs (as long as they do not impede boat traffic or pose a danger).



Loons!

It's been a while!

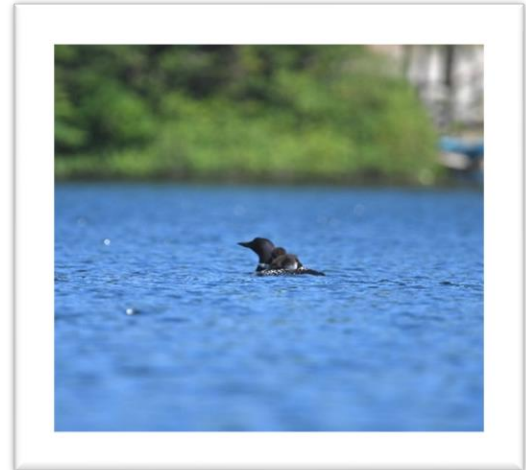
This year we were blessed with a loon chick from our adult pair of Common Loon. It is not a common occurrence as the path from egg to juvenile status is froth with dangers from animals eating the eggs, parents abandoning the nest due to disturbances, large predator fish eating the chicks, or even drowning of the chicks because of large waves from boats or accidental hits.

The juvenile loon will be ready to fly away soon and we wish it luck!

We can all help protect our future loon population by minimizing our boat wake during April and early June when eggs are being laid so that waves do not upset the nest on shore.

"Who wants to be a loon Citizen Scientist?"

Birds Canada is looking for volunteers to do the Canadian lakes Loon Survey. All it takes is one volunteer from our lake to register and dedicate at least three days – once in June (to see if loon



pairs on site, once in July (to see if chicks hatched), and once in August (to see if the chick(s) survived long enough to fledge).

Can we have a volunteer, please? Call it out on Facebook and then go to:

[Canadian Lakes Loon Survey - Birds Canada | Oiseaux Canada](#)

LOONS NEED YOUR HELP!

You can help our loons by following these steps. Be a water AND loon hero!



Lake Association

It needs to happen!

In the last issue, I talked about we need to come together again as a formal association.

As a committee member of the Regroupement pour la protection de l'eau de la Vallée de la Gatineau, I can see all of the benefits that a lake association can receive.

The biggest one is in the form of funding support. The Association pour la protection du lac des Cèdres is a great example. They have received \$64,900 from La Fondation de la faune du Québec to fight Eurasian milfoil because it impacts lake trout habitat.

As well, this past summer, they received \$40,000 in funding from the lottery *L'as de Pique* (Chase the Ace) run by radio station CHGA to further help fight their milfoil issue.

There are many avenues of funding from the federal or provincial governments as well as other organizations (i.e. Ducks Unlimited) that can help. However, without a formal association



we cannot apply for any until we are registered as a non-profit.

I will be asking each of you on Facebook if you want this and your reply (or not) will speak to whether we will move forward or abandon this. I hope that you will make your voices known.

There are more advantages to belonging to a lake association than not. Protect your investment.

LET'S TAKE THE FIRST STEPS!

1. The name of our association must be in French and relate to protection of the lake. Example: « Association pour la protection du lac Patterson »
2. Name three temporary administrators
3. Choose an address for our non-profit
4. List our goals. (i.e. To protect and educate on the quality of the water and the conservation of the natural environment surrounding lac Patterson)
5. Fill the form and attach a copy of the confirmation of the name reservation (search result that the name doesn't exist already), a signed declaration under oath and the payment (apprx \$215+tax).
6. Once confirmation is received from the Registrère des entreprises, fill in the online Declaration
7. The temporary admins create the rules and regulations, set the annual membership amount and select a general meeting for the elections of the new council and adoption of regulations

2024 Financial Summary

How did we do?

Our bank account as of October 27, 2024 is \$2164.44. We had six more cottages contribute than last year, though we lost some of previous years for an overall 46.28% contribution. As well, this year, the merchandise campaign provided an extra \$252.91 to our revenue.

“Are we still going to raise funds next year?”

As stated in the first newsletter, the answer is yes. It's not all about the water testing. Currently, website costs, informational material is privately funded by one person. If a formal lake association is created, there are some costs as well in the form of one-time ministry setup cost, yearly insurance costs and membership to sister organizations. As mentioned on page 4, in the near future, we will need to invest with outside resources to produce a water management plan which could also include help with the control of invasive species and/or inventory of aquatic plants, sedimentation and periphyton. I will be asking for some quotes in the spring. Let's build that fund for the future.

États financiers-2024- Financial Statement Sep	
Revenue - Revenus	
2023 contribution balance	\$1,331.36
2024 contributions	\$1,250.00
Intérêt/Interest	\$26.24
Merchandise campaign/Campagne de marchandise- June	\$101.78
Merchandise campaign/Campagne de marchandise-July	\$133.17
Merchandise campaign/Campagne de marchandise-Sept	\$17.96
Total revenue -Revenus totaux	\$2,860.51
Dépenses/Expenses	
RSVL 2024 tests	\$ 122.87
Canada Post shipping/expédition	\$ 69.50
Caduceon	\$ 503.70
Other/Autres	
Dépenses totales -Total expenses	\$ 696.07
Balance remaining / Solde restant	\$2,164.44

This summer, I managed to pass out some hard copies of the newsletter and talk to people who aren't on Facebook. Although, many had positive feedback, few sent in their contributions. You can help by spreading the word.

A big THANK YOU to cottagers who own more than one property and contribute for each of them, as well as those who own one cottage but contribute more than requested or those that have more than one family member contributing.

Street name/ Nom de rue	Cont. received/	#cottages/ chalets	% contributions	\$ contributions
Bertrand	29	48	60.42	\$610.00
des Cedres	6	10	60.00	\$120.00
Lafond	15	27	55.56	\$360.00
Beausoleil	3	9	33.33	\$100.00
des Pionniers	1	3	33.33	\$20.00
Gagnon	1	3	33.33	\$20.00
Patterson (from bridge to end of municipal road where Bertrand starts)	0	5	0.00	\$0.00
Landers	1	16	6.25	\$20.00
Total	56	121	46.28	\$1,250.00

\$20 CONTRIBUTION FOR 2025 WATER TESTING

The 2025 campaign will begin again in April 2025.

But it's never too late if you haven't given anything for this year.

You can etransfer \$20 to: admin@lac-patterson-lake.ca.

Please include your address in the etransfer and indicate for 2024.

