



**LOWER BEVERLEY LAKE  
ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 92, Delta, ON K0E  
1G0

[www.lbla.net](http://www.lbla.net)

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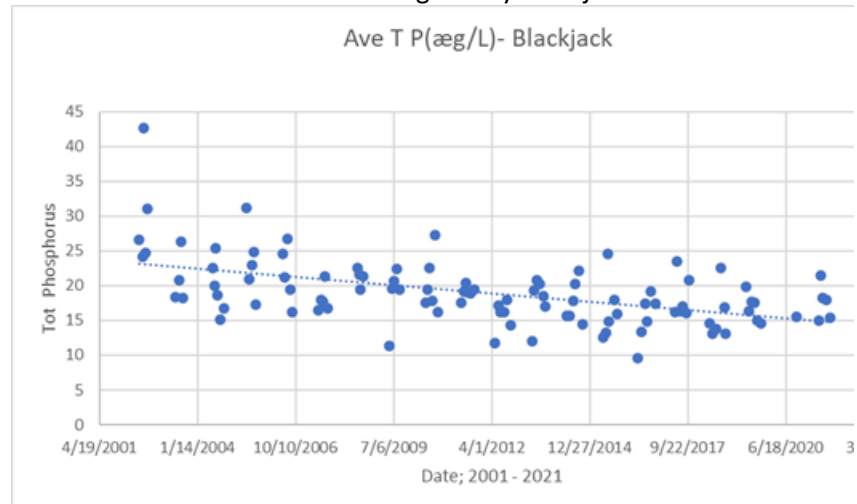
## LBLA FALL NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2023

Happy autumn to all of you in the Lower Beverley Lake community and greetings from me as new(ish) president of the LBLA. Though I know for us seasonal folks it's a bit of a wistful time as cottage season winds down, we've had a great summer, with our picnic, Bach on the Beverley and more.

My feeling at Thanksgiving includes giving thanks for having the lake in my life at all, so as the season draws in, I want to thank everyone who's a volunteer with the Association or a member and helps keep the Lake so special.

Our mission is that "The Lower Beverley Lake Association exists to help cottagers enjoy the lake to its fullest" and as I've discovered, it does so in so many ways, from shoal markers and water quality to social events, and obviously we couldn't do it without you. And if you're a member and not yet a volunteer, but want to pitch in some more, please contact me at [jr@johnrobson.ca](mailto:jr@johnrobson.ca) or 613-255-5491.

For instance, I'd like to share with you just a small sample of the work our water sampling volunteers do, and have been doing for decades. Courtesy of Dave Champagne, here's a chart of phosphorus levels in the water from the testing site by Blackjack Island:



It's actually getting better, which is good news and a tribute to all those who've been working on the issue of environmental quality. But we need to keep an eye on it, and some other numbers that may not be as encouraging and, again, if you want to help you know where to find me.

Oh, and as we get ready for winter, there are two final things I wanted to mention.

First, if those of you who are on the lake year-round notice any damage or danger to now-vacant properties (or occupied ones) please do let me know or, if it's urgent, the authorities. If there are things that aren't emergencies but are of concern, or just of interest,

we can post them on the website and on Facebook. And if you notice in the spring that someone's dock has wandered, again please let us know, with photos if possible, and we'll share that information. Second, speaking of docks, a number of people have "bubblers" to protect theirs from ice damage and I wanted to remind you that while the units themselves are not strictly regulated, man-made open water in winter is. Under the Criminal Code there are stringent requirements for markers and if someone were hurt, or worse, by falling in you'd feel terrible, and also face serious liability. Specifically, under Section 263 of the [Criminal Code of Canada](#) Article 263 ("Duty to safeguard opening in ice") subsection (1) says "Every one who makes or causes to be made an opening in ice that is open to or frequented by the public is under a legal duty to guard it in a manner that is adequate to prevent persons from falling in by accident and is adequate to warn them that the opening exists" and subsection (3) that "Every one who fails to perform a duty imposed by subsection (1)... is guilty of (a) manslaughter, if the death of any person results therefrom; (b) an offence under section 269, if bodily harm to any person results therefrom; or (c) an offence punishable on summary conviction."

It's a concern throughout cottage country, and various associations have been posting "Best Practices" items including pictures like this one from some folks up on Lake Muskoka:

But NB we're not giving legal advice here. If you have a bubbler, please read the rules, and if you're in doubt about "a manner that is adequate" please check with the local authorities for details and if in doubt consult a lawyer.

Let's all keep safe, and keep one another safe.

That's it from me until spring, unless something urgent comes up. I hope those of you on the lake year-round have a wonderful winter there, those who visit in the off-season and look forward to seeing the rest of you as soon as the ice is out.

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