



Photo: Heather Lemieux

Crowe Lake Waterway Association, P.O. Box 192, Marmora, Ontario K0K 2M0 [www.clwa.ca](http://www.clwa.ca)

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## Member Question about Hydro One Plans to Use Herbicide

By Ritch Smith

On February 14, we received a question in our email ( [info@clwa.ca](mailto:info@clwa.ca) ) from one of our members:

"I was wondering what the CLWA was doing regarding the plan by Hydro One to use the Herbicide Garlon RTU in some areas along Marble Point Rd. As a cottage association member I would like to see the CLWA advocate on our behalf to say no to the use of any herbicide.

Is there any formal stance being put forward to the council and or Hydro One?

I am very concerned of the impact on our wildlife and ground water if this herbicide is used.

Please let me know if and what you are doing." The question started a lot of discussion and action by the CLWA Directors. This is what we have done and what we plan to do.

- We are sharing as much information as we have with all CLWA members and we are continuing to research and monitor the issue. We will do this for as long as necessary.

- On February 23, we sent an Email Alert to 180 CLWA members and others telling them about the Hydro One plans and providing them with a copy of the Hydro One letter to property owners.
- We posted the Hydro One letter to property owners on our website ( [www.clwa.ca](http://www.clwa.ca) ).
- This newsletter has an article about Herbicide Garlon RTU, Hydro One plans and how to contact Hydro One (Page 6).
- We contacted Marmora and Lake and the Crowe Lake Conservation Authority about the use of this herbicide in Marmora and Lake. Their response is an article in this Newsletter (Page 5).

Several Board Members contacted Hydro One and asked not to be part of the Herbicide Garlon RTU program. Hydro One agreed to their request and appears to be very cooperative. In 2013, the Redstone Lake Cottagers Association objected to the use of Garlon RTU and Hydro One did not apply the herbicide.

CLWA does not have a formal position on the Hydro One plans. We are anxious to hear from our members and, if there is continued concern or if there are problems with Hydro One or Marmora and Lake, we will address the issue at the AGM and develop a formal position.

Website:  
[www.clwa.ca](http://www.clwa.ca)

Email:  
[info@clwa.ca](mailto:info@clwa.ca)

## 2016 Lighted Boat Parade and Fireworks Update

By Bill Neill and Elinor White

Our Crowe Lake Waterway Lighted Boat Parade and Fireworks in 2015 was awesome thanks in part to the support of our members. Behind the scene, there were a number of issues out of our control that came close to derailing the display. After a thorough de-briefing by Bill Neill, the board looked at solutions and eventually passed a motion to take greater control of the event. This will be a two-year process.

See Boat Parade on page 3

Spring

Crowe Lake Matters

2016

## Words from the President

Spring is a great time of year. It's full of energy and promise. Nature wakes up and the leaves come back, the flowers reappear, and the squirrels and chipmunks are more active. The weather is still unpredictable but it also has the promise of summer to come. And the activity level on the CLWA Board moves up a couple notches. We've been planning and working all winter on some issues but now the number of issues increases and the amount of energy devoted to CLWA projects increases. Soon, like the new leaves, you'll see the 2016 CLWA Member signs and you'll see CLWA buoys on the lake.

Great progress has been made on our Fireworks investment plans and the associated Fireworks Fund-raising Program. Bill Neill and Elinor White authored an article to bring you up to date. Elinor, Dave Savournin and Norma Crofts are working on a corporate fund raising effort and we'll have more to report on that in the Summer newsletter. Remember - the Fireworks and Boat Parade are on Canada Day Friday 1 July this year.

We had an email from one of our members asking about Hydro One plans to use a pesticide as part of their vegetation control efforts. That generated a lot of discussion and research into what Hydro One plans to do and into the chemical they say they will be using.

There are two articles about that and I hope you find them helpful. This was a great example of a member bringing forward an issue that fits right in with the CLWA mission of stewardship for the waterway. We welcome your comments and concerns.

Vesa Koivusalo wrote a great article for us about Lake Planning. This is something that I think we need to do, along with a Lake Census, for the long-term benefit of the waterway. I could use some feedback from you. Should we do this? Should we invest the time and the effort? Can we get some members involved to work on it? I'd like to start with a Lake Census. Want to help me?

In the next few days you'll receive your 2016 Membership Renewal request. Please send it back quickly. We have significant financial outlays each spring because of our Fireworks and Membership programs and we rely on the early receipt of renewals to finance them.

*Enjoy the spring!*

*Ritch Smith*



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## Boat Parade *(continued from page 1)*

One of our increasing difficulties has been in securing the firing devices and the fireworks mortars (loading racks). When we do acquire them, they have not been in a timely manner to allow for installation of the display. With the board decision to detonate on July 1<sup>st</sup> for the next three years, securing these components from the fireworks distributors becomes even more costly, fragile and risky. This is due to the extremely high demand from larger shows for this equipment on the July 1<sup>st</sup> weekend. The board choice of July 1<sup>st</sup> is necessary for us to be considered for the Federal Government grant that makes up one third of our incoming money towards this event.

This spring we will pay to have three of our own people trained by outside technicians to be licensed detonators. They will apprentice in 2016 and they should be fully licensed by 2017 and will be able to provide support or back-up to our long standing very capable pyro team.

We will be purchasing and testing our own firing devices this spring to ensure we have the equipment to go with our fireworks purchase. All being well, in 2017 we will purchase the mortar components.

This is a bold step by your board but we did feel that the Lighted Parade and Fireworks are important to Crowe Lake Waterway Association and to Marmora & Lake. As previously shared, board members met with Terry Clemens, Tiffany Choinard and Ron Chittack from town late last summer. We were advised that Marmora and Lake will not be supporting any other fireworks event and will do what they can to enhance the opportunity for town people to enjoy our event. While our Federal Canada Day Grant request was jointly submitted with the municipality at the behest of the government, the boat parade and fireworks display will remain solely a Crowe Lake Waterway Association event. Crowe Lake Waterway Association grant money will be kept separate from the municipality July 1<sup>st</sup> events.

Our two-year financial commitment required to achieve control and enhance our event will exceed our usual budget. As a result, we will be looking for money by going out into the community, to our business leaders and to our members looking for your continued deep support.

So when you renew your membership this spring, please help ensure we continue this Lighted Boat Parade and Fireworks display on July 1<sup>st</sup> by supporting your lake association financially.

# Time to Renew

**Renewal notices for 2016 CLWA membership will be mailed out about the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. Please stay with CLWA. There are a number of issues facing the Crowe Lake waterway and your support will be critical to protecting our shared resource.**

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**Protecting our National Heritage**

**Page 3**



# What is Lake Planning?

By Vesa Koivusalo

Lake Planning - sounds like a job for the local municipal government or, perhaps the provincial Ministries of the Environment (MOE) and Natural Resources (MNR). As it turns out, this is no longer the case. Today, a Lake Plan should involve all community members, including permanent residents, cottagers, private business owners, and government. It should be a community-based plan, not one driven top-down by federal, provincial and municipal governments.

But, what is Lake Planning, and why should the Marmora and Lake community and the Crowe Lake Waterway Association consider proceeding with the creation of a Lake Plan? Lake Planning is a strategic process that engages all property owners and businesses in a given watershed, along with the three levels of government, in the creation and implementation of actions designed to maintain or improve the natural and social qualities of life on the lakes and rivers in the watershed.

The main purposes of the lake planning process are therefore to:

- Identify and protect lake values such as water quality, lake capacity, wildlife and fish habitats, etc.
- Promote discussion among all members of the local community.
- Educate the members of the local community.
- Set a vision for the lake.
- Set environmental and social targets.
- Recommend stewardship actions - for example, water sampling and promoting proper boating practices.
- Recommend land use policy, including a review of existing land use policies, both municipal and provincial.
- Create a baseline list of resources: fish, wildlife species and water quality, for example.
- Conduct a Lake Census to identify current land use around the lake including permanent residents, cottagers and crown land.

- Identify any historic sites in the area
- Identify any known issues and impact upon the watershed.

The end product of the lake planning process is a document, called the Lake Plan, effectively produced by members of the community. This Lake Plan would encompass and include all of the above recommendation and possibly more. It is not a legal document. However, it could prove valuable as a tool used to suggest new or amended land use policies or zoning bylaws for increased protection of the environment. This is why it is of the utmost importance



*The Sun Downer—Photo by Joe Canario*

to ensure that all members of the community are kept informed about the plan and that the majority of the community buys in to its creation. The Lake Plan should not be a document that sits on the shelves of the participants in its creation, but rather should be a living document that will change over time to address priority actions and recommendations for the Crowe watershed.

See Lake Planning on page 5

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# Lake Planning

(continued from page 4)

The size of the Lake Plan will depend upon the issues that exist to be addressed, the amount of detail desired and the resources available - mainly volunteers from the community. It can be anywhere from 20 to 200 pages in length.

How do we create a Lake Plan for the Crowe watershed? First of all, we have to decide that we want one. Perhaps this decision could be made at an Annual General Meeting of the CLWA. If we do wish to proceed, we must obtain buy-in from the community, put together a steering committee and enlist volunteers to help with the creation of the Lake Plan. The process can take a long time. The document itself could take several years to complete.

If we do wish to proceed, there exist examples of lake plans created by other lake associations, as well as a Lake Planning Handbook and resource kit available from the Federation Of Cottage Associations (FOCA). FOCA itself would likely be happy to offer assistance as well. Now, the question is: Do we wish to proceed with a Lake Plan for the Crowe Lake watershed? Think about it. The question is likely to come up.

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## Marmora & Lake and Crowe Valley Conservation Authority

From Ritch Smith

This was taken from an article by Margriet Kitchen: In response to a letter of concern received by Council, Hydro One representatives were invited to present information regarding their vegetation management. Chris Sayer, Brian Hill and Kerry Hinton from Hydro One gave a slide presentation on the company's brushing practices in rural areas.

After covering a description of the use of the herbicide Gardon RT1, they assured those in attendance that in the case of McCleary Road, herbicides will not be used without permission in respect of the health concerns of a resident with chemical sensitivity.

The application of Gardon RT1 is made only to ground level stumps after cutting and brushing is done to help control tall vegetation growth between scheduled clearances. The product, approved by Health Canada, is not water soluble, breaks down in a short period of time and is not airborne.

I asked the M&L Managers for the Roads, the Parks, and the Environment Departments about their use of herbicides and Garlon RTU in particular. The Clerk of Municipality of Marmora and Lake replied and said that M&L does not use any herbicides in Marmora.

I was told by Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) staff that Hydro One, as a Crown Corporation, is not subject to CVCA oversight and does not need CVCA authorization for their work plans and activities.


### To Contact CLWA

Website [www.clwa.ca](http://www.clwa.ca)

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# What is Hydro One Doing at Crowe Lake?

By Ritch Smith

(The sources for this article are the Hydro One Notification Letter, product description from Dow Chemical Agrosiences, Material Data Sheet (MDS) for Garlon RTU, information from Hydro One, and on-line sources such as Wikipedia.)

## Hydro One Plans for Vegetation Management

Hydro One regularly monitors the vegetation along their powerline right-of-way that can grow tall enough to compromise the safe operation of power. Keeping vegetation a safe distance from power lines is necessary to prevent tree related outages and for public safety.

Hydro One uses an integrated approach to vegetation management. The work will include the removal of brush as well as pruning branches away from power lines and removing any dead or hazardous trees that could interfere with the power line. In areas where there is a higher density of brush, mechanical cutters or grubbing machines may be used for brush removal.

This maintenance work is done on a 6 to 8 year cycle. To ensure the required clearance until the next maintenance cycle, herbicides such as Garlon RTU (Registration #29334) may be selectively applied to control the re-growth of vegetation.

The vegetation control work has started in Marmora and Lake and will continue into the summer. The Marmora and Lake municipal government was notified of the work and plans to use the herbicide Garlon RTU at a Council meeting on February 2, 2016.

## What is Herbicide Garlon RTU?

Garlon RTU herbicide is registered for use in Ontario for control of woody plants on pipelines, roadways, electrical power lines, military bases, forestry sites, airports, and storage sites. The active ingredient is Triclopyr BE ester. It is applied by spraying the herbicide on the cut surface of trees and brush to reduce or eliminate the occurrence of re-sprouting. It enters the plant's cellular transportation system and moves into stems and roots where it causes rapid cell growth and rupture of cell walls. It can be applied year-round.

**Garlon RTU in soil:** Garlon RTU active ingredient Triclopyr BE binds to soil particles and stays within 30 cm of the surface. In the soil, it is degraded by fungi, bacteria and sunlight. There is little risk of reaching groundwater and no significant hazard due to leaching (Dow Agro.) The use of this chemical may result in contamination of groundwater in areas where soils are permeable (e.g. sandy soil) and/or where the depth to the water table is shallow. (MDS)

**Garlon RTU in water:** Garlon RTU is not approved for application to water surfaces. If it reaches water, the active ingredient breaks down rapidly in sunlight (Dow Agro).

**Toxicity to birds and insects:** Long-term testing has produced no evidence that Triclopyr BE causes carcinogenic, mutagenic or teratogenic effects in mammals. If ingested, it does not accumulate in the body organs and is excreted with 3 days of intake (Dow Agro). There is slight toxicity to ducks and quail and no toxicity to bees (MDS) (Wikipedia).

**Toxicity to aquatic organisms:** Garlon RTU is not approved for application to water surfaces. Garlon RTU is toxic but in water it quickly breaks down into Triclopyr BE and then to Triclopyr acid, which is non-toxic to aquatic organism (Dow Agro) (MDS).

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## How to contact Hydro One

If the application of herbicide is required on your property, you will be notified directly by one of Hydro One's forestry technicians. If you have any questions regarding the planned work, contact Kerry Hinton at (613) 403-5552 or by email at [kerry.hinton@hydroone.com](mailto:kerry.hinton@hydroone.com).





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- Slow flushing toilets, sinks or drains
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- Lush green grass over the drain field, even during dry weather, often indicates that an excessive amount of liquid from the system is moving up through the soil instead of downward. While some upward movement of liquid from the drain field is good, too much could indicate major problems.
- Build-up of aquatic weeds or algae in lakes or ponds adjacent to your home. This may indicate that nutrient-rich septic system waste is leaching into the surface of the water.
- Unpleasant odors around your house.

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## 2016 New Members

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# February Ice Fishing Derby Cancelled



The unpredictable and unusual winter made itself felt in February when the Crowe Lake Pike Only Catch 'n Keep Ice Fishing Derby was cancelled.

Sandra Vanattan at Chris's Live Bait made the decision based on the water temperatures, the weather forecasts, and concern for safety of the ice fishing population.



Sandra said the Summer Fishing Derby will be on July 9. Details will be posted on the CLWA website and from Chris' Live Bait and in the CLWA Summer Newsletter.

## Microsoft Scam



There is a world-wide scam being played using Microsoft as the bait. The caller identifies themselves as from Microsoft and advising about a problem with the software. They want personal information and access to your computer. The Microsoft website has the following warning and advice.

The scam not only occurs by phone, but also by e-mail, instant messaging, regular mail and every way imaginable. Microsoft does not contact its users directly. Hang up or delete emails or messages, ignore mail or other contact from anyone claiming they are contacting you because they know information about your computer or want information from you to confirm your account so it won't be closed. They will ask for your user name and password and other personal information. Microsoft does NOT do this.

You can go to the Microsoft website for more information. Do not fall for this scam.



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## Did You Know That

...Bookkeeper is the only word that has three consecutive doubled letters.

...the 2011 Photo Contest was the first time entries could be submitted in digital format instead of as an actual photo. For the 2015 Photo Contest, all entries were submitted in digital format.

...the Timbit was introduced 40 years ago in 1976.

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# Got Squirrels in the Attic?

You've opened the cottage for the summer after a long hard winter and you hear strange noises in the attic. Daytime scratching noises could mean you have squirrels that spent the winter or moved in during the spring to raise a family.

Most rodent invaders are nocturnal but squirrels are active during the day and they are the most common nuisance-wildlife problem. They bite through plastic water pipes, gnaw at electric wires, and can eat through wallboard or ceiling tiles. How do you get rid of them?

There are no poisons registered for use on squirrels in Canada or North America. Squirrels that eat rat poison, an inadvertent poisoning, have a slow death and the squirrel may expire in the attic or somewhere else in the house. Sound makers, electromagnetic wave emitters, animal urine, and similar devices are of very questionable value.



Traps are not a solution. Mouse and rat traps are not big enough to kill a squirrel and catch-and-relocate traps are not legal in Ontario.

The best way to get rid of them is to find their entry and exit routes and take actions to keep them out.

Inspect the underside of the eaves, around vents and chimneys, and all other exterior surfaces. Look for golf-ball-size holes, signs of scratching or gnawing, teeth marks, and feces. The main entry point is usually marked by the greatest number of scratches and greatest amount of feces.

Cover all but the main entry with a steel or steel mesh. Set a one-way exclusion door over the remaining open access point. When all the squirrels are out, cover the last hole.

## To Contact CLWA

Website [www.clwa.ca](http://www.clwa.ca)

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## The National Bird Project (from Canadian Geographic, Jan/Feb 2015)



Osprey



Owl

There are more than 400 species of birds across Canada, but not one of them has been designated as the national bird. Canada Geographic wants to change that. The magazine is sponsoring a National Bird Project to help designate an official bird for Canada by 2017, the nation's sesquicentennial year.

Four candidates have been proposed – the osprey, the owl, the raven and the goose – and calls for support and votes for each are being made. You can find out more about each bird how you can participate in the National Bird Project by reading the magazine or visiting their online website at [nationalbird.cangeo.ca](http://nationalbird.cangeo.ca).



Raven



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Sunrise Over Marble Point—Photo by Josie Johnson



Peace And Quiet—Photo by Victoria Schnerch

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## Coming Events

### 2016

Apr 22	Earth Day
May 5	# 7 Classic Cruise Nite start, every Thursday evening to September 15
May 7	Tree Give-Away, Marmora Memorial Park, 9 AM until trees are gone
June 11	Hazardous Waste Collection, 19 Bursthall Street, 9 AM to 2 PM
July 1	Canada Day
July 1	CLWA World Famous Lighted Boat Parade and Fireworks on the Lake
July 9	Crowe Lake Pike Only Fishing Derby, see CLWA and Chris' Live Bait websites
July 16	CLWA AGM
July 30	Poker Run to benefit Historical Society, rain date July 31

## 2016 New Members

Can you recommend  
someone?

Membership Forms are  
on the CLWA website.

### Retirements in Marmora and Lake Municipal Office

Rosemary Pascoe has retired from her position as Municipal Treasurer. She has worked for M&L for 28 years. Her replacement will be Sandra Morton. Rosemary and her husband Gerry have been active supporters of CLWA for many years. They are Sign Captains and have put up membership signs in the High Shore Road area for years. Rosemary was also on the CLWA Board of Directors.

In other M&L news, Judy Barrons has retired as Tax and Billing Clerk after 24 years. Her replacement is Nancy Guennette. And, Dr Anne Muscat is leaving Marmora in the spring. Her practice will be taken over by Dr Melissa Holowaty.

#### To Contact CLWA

-  
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# Time to Renew

**Renewal notices for 2016 CLWA membership will be mailed out about the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. Please stay with CLWA. There are a number of issues facing the Crowe Lake waterway and your support will be critical to protecting our shared resource.**

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