



2025 Newsletter

LAKE HUGHES
ASSOCIATION

A Message from the President

Dear Members of the Lake Hughes Community,

As the days grow longer and the shoreline comes alive once again, it's my pleasure to welcome you back to another season at Lake Hughes. Whether you're a weekend visitor or a full-summer resident, I hope the return to the water brings you peace, fun, and time with loved ones.

Our lake is more than just a destination – it's a shared treasure, and this year we are continuing our work to preserve and protect it. We've expanded our water quality monitoring efforts, introduced new shoreline protection guidelines, and partnered with local conservation groups to support native wildlife.

We also want to remind everyone to boat safely, respect quiet hours, and be mindful of fire bans and septic maintenance. These small actions help keep our lake clean, our community strong, and our summers unforgettable.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Lake Hughes and to each other. Let's make this season one to remember.

Warmest regards,
Mike Manconi

Environment

Attached to the newsletter is the Lake Hughes environmental bulletin. Thank you for your help in contributing to the health of our lake!

Here is some additional information :

Fireworks :

As beautiful as they are in the sky, fireworks are banned on and around Lake Hughes. They have a terrible impact on the environment especially when they end up at the bottom of the lake. Fireworks are toxic, a fire hazard, a major source of noise pollution and are detrimental to all animals and wildlife. Please continue to protect our beautiful lake and surroundings.

Dogs : Please use leashes and poop bags. Dog poop contains Phosphorus and coliforms - bad for the lake.

Light pollution : The excessive, poor use of artificial outdoor light can disrupt the natural patterns of wildlife, disrupt human sleep, and obscure the stars in the night sky. Please be considerate of your neighbors so that we can enjoy the stars!

The Lake Hughes Association would like to remind you that the \$35 annual dues are also used for environmental projects to protect the lake and consequently your property value. Thank you for paying your dues.

Environmental team:

Heather McCullough
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Bruno Estebeteguy
sfarago@sympatico.ca / 450-562-6889



LHA Executives & Directors

President: Patrick Doyon
Vice president : Jeff Lough
Secretary: Brigitte Lavoie
Treasurer: Mark Vandzura
Past President : Mike Manconi

Directors: Mike Berry, Lori Vandzura, Bruno Estebeteguy, Suzanne Farago, Daniel Leduc, Richard Lough, Heather McCullough, Rob Spencer & Caroline Gaudet.

Annual Membership (\$35)

Treasurer : Mark Vandzura

Cheque payable to : Lake Hughes Association

Mail : 412 Concord Dr, BEACONSFIELD, QC H9W 5S9

Delivery : 41 Lac-Hughes Rd (mailbox)

E-transfer : ctc064@bell.net

Summer Activities

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

June 22 @ 10am

Mille-Isle Community Center

5 to 7

July 5

40 Lake-Hughes Rd

Concert on the Lake

July 5

47 Horseshoe Rd - dock

Flotilla

Aperitif on the lake.

Stay tuned for the date !

Regatta

July 19

At Mannard's Beach

Corn Roast

August 23

47 Horseshoe Rd - empty lot

Bring your own chairs !

Contacts

Social media team at Lake Hughes :

Daniel Leduc & Caroline Gaudet.

Please keep your personal info up-to-date (address, cell, email).

Send changes to:

lakehughesqc@gmail.com



E-mail :

lakehughesqc@gmail.com



Facebook page :

Lac Hughes - Lake Hughes



Lake Hughes Association website :

www.lakehughes.ca

THE TWO MAIN THREATS TO THE LAKE ARE
PHOSPHORUS and INVASIVE SPECIES

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

The Phosphorus level in 2024 has increased by 29% from 2023. It is the highest that it has been since testing began in 2010. The stream testing in the Pte au Vent and Bonniebrook Inlet were at normal limits in 2024.

INVASIVE SPECIES NOTHING DETECTED AT LAKE HUGHES

The hot topic at every environmental conference is invasive species, mostly Eurasian Water-milfoil and recently the Chinese Mystery Snail. These very large invasive snails have been found in several lakes in the MRC Argenteuil.

Our “LAKE HUGHES – ONLY RESIDENTS’ BOATS” Policy is the best prevention. Visiting watercraft are unwelcome and residents are requested not to transfer their boats, fishing gear, etc.

LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY INVASIVE SPECIES
and
REPORT a SIGHTING (Sample & Photo)

WEBSITE: lakehughesquebec.ca
EMAIL: lakehughesqc@gmail.com

READ MORE:

- WATER QUALITY MONITORING - RSVL RESULTS
- INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES
- INVASIVE PLANTS
- HARMONIOUS LAKESIDE LIVING

CONFERENCE “Invasive Species”

Mat Madison

Saturday, June 21st 2025 9h30 – 12h00

Gore Community Centre

Presented by the Alliance of Gore Lake Associations

LAKE TROPHIC CLASSIFICATION

ULTRA-OLIGOTROPHIC	No signs of eutrophication /lake aging
OLIGOTROPHIC	Little or no signs of eutrophication
OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC	Some signs of eutrophication
MESOTROPHIC	Intermediate stage of eutrophication
MESO-EUTROPHIC	Advanced intermediate stage of eutrophication
EUTROPHIC	Significantly advanced stage of eutrophication

Phosphorus	Stimulates growth of plants & algae
Chlorophyll <i>a</i>	Algae measurement
Dissolved Organic Carbon	Water color having an impact on transparency
Transparency	Water clarity

WATER QUALITY MONITORING - LAKE HUGHES
RSVL RESULTS – SUMMARY 2010-2024

► RSVL PHOSPHORUS TEST RESULTS BEFORE 2018 ARE UNDER REVISION

LAKE HUGHES SAMPLING STATION: RSVL #571: at the deepest area of the lake (26,8 m)

	Phosphorus Total trace (µg/l)	Chlorophyll <i>a</i> (µg/l)	Dissolved Organic Carbon (mg/l)	Transparency (meters) No. measurements	COMBINED RESULTS TROPHIC LEVEL OF LAKE HUGHES
2010	6,2	3,2	5,9 (colored)	(11) 4,7 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2011	6	3,2	5,2 (colored)	(12) 4,6 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2012	3,4	3,8	5,3 (colored)	(12) 3,9 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2013				(4) 5 m	
2014				(4) 4,8 m	
2015				(5) 4,3 m	
2016	3,4	2,7	5 (colored)	(12) 4,7 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2017					
2018	4,7	2,6	4,7 (colored)	(13) 4,8 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2019	6,7	2,9	5,6 (colored)	(11) 4,3 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2020	4,8	3,0	4,8 (colored)	(11) 4,4 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2021	6,4	2,4	4,7 (colored)	(10) 4,6 m	OLIGOTROPHIC
2022	7,1	3,8	6,8 (very colored)	(11) 3,9 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2023	6,9	3,7	6,7 (very colored)	(11) 3,5 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC
2024	8,9	5,7	5,6 (colored)	(9) 4 m	OLIGO-MESOTROPHIC

The trophic status of a lake must be interpreted with caution – the monitoring must be done over time to establish a trend.

INFO & COMPLETE REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE RSVL & CRE LAURENTIDES (Atlas des lacs) WEBSITES
<https://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/Eau/rsvl/index.htm>
<https://crelaurentides.org/>

INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Learn to identify them, Report a sighting, Prevent their spread

CHINESE MYSTERY SNAIL / Vivipare chinoise

★ **PRESENT IN FOLLOWING LAKES:**

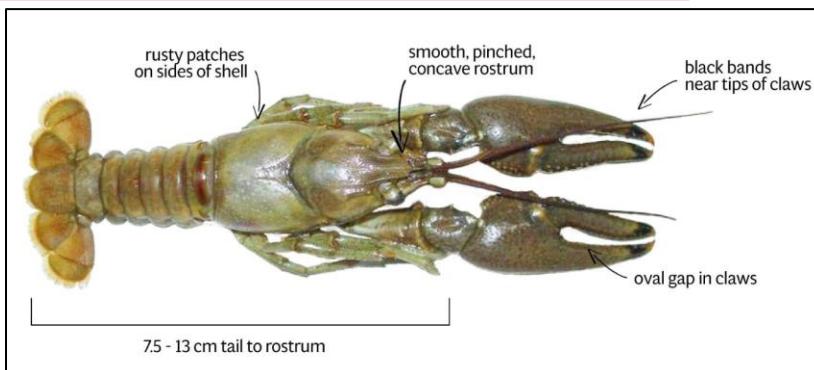
Louisa, Bixley, Grace, 4 Dunany lakes, Barron



LARGE INVASIVE SNAIL

- The adult can reach 7 cm (2¾ in) in length
- Live in depths 0.2-3 m (about 8 in - 10ft)
- Have been found in depths of 6 m (20 ft) in Lake Barron
- Adult olive green, greenish-brown, brown, reddish brown paler in color at juvenile stage – becomes darker as it grow
- Operculum (trapdoor) blocks the hole in the shell
- Can produce about 65 juveniles per year – measuring 3-5 mm
- Can be a vector for parasites and diseases

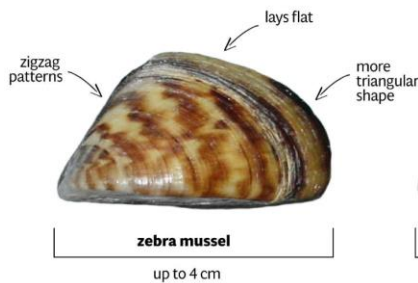
RUSTY CRAYFISH / Écrevisse à taches rouges



LARGE INVASIVE AGGRESSIVE CRAYFISH

- Body length 7.5-13 cm not including claws
- Blue-gray, grayish-green, dark greenish brown with reddish-brown claws
- Native species do not have rusty patches or black claw bands

ZEBRA MUSSEL / Moule zébrée



VERY SMALL INVASIVE MUSSELS

- 0.5-5 cm (average 2-2.5 cm)
- Triangular in shape
- Dark brown
- Generally has one or more white or beige zigzag stripes
- Attach to surfaces (rocks, docks, boats, motors)

FRESHWATER JELLYFISH / Méduse d'eau douce

INVASIVE JELLYFISH



- Measure 2-2.5 cm - gelatinous body of whitish or greenish color
- In their juvenile form live attached to rocks or plants at the bottom of lakes where they can remain and survive for several years.
- When the water temperature rises above 25° C, they transform into jellyfish and become visible to the naked eye. Generally hatch between Aug and Oct
- Every once in awhile, there is a bloom of free-floating adults just below the water's surface - usually late summer.
- The adult jellyfish only live for 1-2 weeks.
- There are no freshwater jellyfish native to Quebec
- Unlike saltwater jellyfish, this species is harmless to humans

SPINY WATER FLEA / Cladocère épineux



INVASIVE ZOOPLANKTON

- Tiny (1-1.5 cm) tail more than half of its size
- Translucent
- Moves deep in water during day – comes to surface at night
- Large colonies form clumps with black spots – looks & feels like gelatin
- Jelly-like globs get caught on fishing line and other fishing equipment

PLANTES - ENVAHISSANTES

INVASIVE PLANTS

Myriophylle à épis
EURASIAN WATER-MILFOIL
(SPIKED WATERMILFOIL)

“À SURVEILLER / TO WATCH OUT FOR”



PRÉSENT À GORE / PRESENT IN GORE

PHRAGMITES
Roseau Commun
COMMON REED



Renouée du Japon
JAPANESE KNOTWEED



Salicaire commune
PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE



HARMONIOUS LAKESIDE LIVING

The Lake Hughes Association and the residents have agreed on some measures and recommendations to protect our lake and promote peaceful and respectful community living.

We encourage all residents and visitors to respect the following guidelines.

WATERCRAFT

➤ **Only residents' watercraft are welcome on Lake Hughes.**

- All visiting watercraft such as kayaks, paddleboards, inflatables, etc. pose a threat.
- We also do not promote transferring watercraft from one lake to another.

The best way to protect our lake from invasive species such as Eurasian Water-Milfoil, is to prevent its arrival. Fishing gear should also not be transferred from one lake to another.

BOAT CLEANING PROCEDURE: Inspect, pressure wash, leave to dry for 5 days, inspect again
READ MORE ON THE WEBSITE: [EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL INFO SHEET](#)

- Only small electric motors are permitted – Maximum speed: 10 km/h (NO WAKE SPEED).
- Personal motorized watercraft are banned on the lake (eg. jet ski, see-doo, etc.)

FIREWORKS

- Fireworks are banned on and around Lake Hughes for the harmful effects they can have on the environment, including causing catastrophic wildfires.

OUTDOOR FIRES

- Before lighting a campfire, always check the SOPFEU roadside signs or consult the website to see if fires are permitted (blue-green zone). <https://sopfeu.qc.ca>
- Consult the Municipality for a permit if necessary.
- No outdoor fires in the 15 m shoreline protection zone (ashes contain phosphorus).

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

- Septic systems should always be used according to the capacity of the tank. Homeowners should always recognize the limits of their septic system and inform family/guests/renters on septic system operations and proper use.
- What can and cannot be disposed of – no sanitary products or excessive toilet paper – no grease down the kitchen sink, no parking on the weeping field, etc.

NOISE and OTHER DISTURBANCES

- Always remember that noise travels far and is amplified across water.
- Excessive night lighting can spoil the view of the night sky and have a negative impact on wildlife.

VARIA

COMPOSTING is highly recommended – community composters are available at the entrances to Lake Hughes and at the Municipality in Gore. Even compostable plastic bags are not to be used in our country composters.

DOGS should be on leash in public places, and we encourage responsible owners to pick up after their dogs. Poop contains phosphorus and bacteria (Coliforms) and could have an impact on the lake. *CONGRATULATIONS – there has been a noticeable improvement around the lake.*

Behaviour based on courtesy and common sense while being respectful and responsible will help promote peaceful cottage country living.