

**Spring 2012**

**"News You Can Use"**

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**Meetings**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each  
month. Contact WWMC  
for venue.  
6:30 p.m.

# Lakescape

newsletter of the



## WABAMUN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

### What About the Fish?

Stephen Spencer, Area Fisheries Biologist for Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, will speak on the **State of Fisheries in Wabamun Lake** at the June 13 WWMC Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at 250 Diamond Avenue, Spruce Grove. All members welcome.

### The Invasion has Started - Weeds that is!!!

You might think weeds are just something to sneeze at, but that's not the case with some of the invasive weeds that are now starting to appear at our lake. In order to not be over-run by these aggressive plants we all need to work together to deal with them. To this end **the WWMC is organizing two Invasive Weed Workshops on June 16th**: one at the Wabamun Seniors Centre from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. and the other at the Seba Beach Heritage Pavilion from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. The Director of the Alberta Invasive Plant Council will present the main workshop focused on general awareness and identification, with the Supervisor of Agricultural Agronomics from Parkland County to explain what's being done locally to control invasive weeds.

So who are the big bad guys we are looking for?

1. **Purple Loosestrife**—a tall water loving plant with a spikes of reddish-purple flowers. Blooms throughout the growing season and one plant can produce over 1 million seeds. Can choke out wetlands and reed beds.
2. **Flowering Rush**—a cattail-like plant that produces a beautiful cluster of 20 to 40 pink through white flowers. It can quickly choke out water bodies affecting habitat for fish and wildlife not to mention making things difficult for boaters and swimmers.
3. **Himalayan Balsam**—often called "Poor Man's Orchid", this tall striking plant (up to 3 metres high) forms dense stands that shade out other native vegetation. Each plant can produce 700-800 seeds that are dispersed up to 5 metres from the parent plant.
4. **Common Tansy**—more of an upland plant, this aggressive plant spreads by seeds and roots. It is toxic to humans and animals if ingested though it is generally disliked by cattle. It is another high seed producer.
5. **Scentless Chamomile**—typically grows in disturbed areas and is tolerant of flooding and drought. White flowers with yellow centres appear on the plant all season—with one plant producing up to 1 million seeds.



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Make sure to come out to one of the workshops to learn how to identify these plants plus others and what to do once you've discovered some. The WWMC is also posting invasive weed fact sheets to their web site starting in June - see [www.wwmc.ca](http://www.wwmc.ca) and another good source of information is the Alberta Invasive Plant Council web site at [www.invasiveplants.ab.ca](http://www.invasiveplants.ab.ca) that will also soon include an on-line invasive plant reporting tool.

## Board of Directors

**Chair:** Kelly Aldridge, Seba Beach

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**Secretary/Treasurer:** Neil Fleming, Seba Beach

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Phil Sutton, boating community

Reg Wood, Betula Beach

James Wright, Stony Plain Fish & Game Association

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Volume 2, No. 2.

**Editor:** Don Meredith  
([wwmc@donmeredith.ca](mailto:wwmc@donmeredith.ca))

## Submissions

*Lakescape* welcomes contributions from WWMC members and others who wish to inform members about issues or events in the Wabamun area. Please keep submissions brief and to the point. All submissions are subject to editing for length and clarity. For more information, contact the editor: Don Meredith  
[wwmc@donmeredith.ca](mailto:wwmc@donmeredith.ca)

**Deadline for the summer edition is July 15, 2012.**

## WWMC Golf Tournament

Mark **Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar. That's when the Wabamun Watershed Management Council will hold its golf tournament fund raiser. For only \$100 per golfer enjoy a pleasant day of golfing on the beautiful Pine Ridge Golf Resort at Seba Beach, while supporting the WWMC. Tournament includes 9 holes of golf and steak supper. Prizes will be awarded for various scores and special events. Don't miss it! Go to [www.wwmc.ca](http://www.wwmc.ca) for registration information.

## Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars to attend the following WWMC events and activities:

- **June 13**—Fisheries Biologist, Stephen Spencer will speak at the next WWMC Board Meeting on the **State of Fisheries in Wabamun Lake**. The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. at 250 Diamond Avenue, Spruce Grove
- **June 16**—**Invasive Weed Workshops** at 1) Wabamun Seniors Hall from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 2) Seba Beach Heritage Pavilion from 2 to 3:30 p.m. (see story above)
- **June 30**—WWMC Booth at **Dragonfly Festival** at Village of Wabamun
- **July 7**—**I-R Secchi Disc Dip-in-Day** at Wabamun Lake and other lakes across Central Alberta (see story below)
- **August 4**—WWMC Booth at **Seba Beach Foot Races**
- **August 10**—**WWMC Golf Tournament** at Pineridge Golf Resort, Seba Beach (see story above)

If you would like to help with any of these events, or have questions, please contact the WWMC (contact information on the front page).

## I R Secchi Disc—Dip-in Day

Groups and individuals from the major recreational lakes in Central Alberta are signing up to take part in the IR Secchi Disc Alberta program where they do water clarity measurements throughout the open water season as a way to judge water quality. They have also teamed up this year with the Alberta Water Quality Awareness Day program that provides kits to test water temperature, pH and oxygen. **July 7<sup>th</sup>** is a special "Dip-in-Day" where everyone participating in the program is encouraged to go out to test their lake to provide a snapshot of water quality for all lakes on that day. Those who are doing this testing on Wabamun Lake will be submitting their data and then publicizing an overview of lake water quality in Central Alberta as an education and discussion piece. For more information visit the "What's New" page on the our web site - [www.wwmc.ca](http://www.wwmc.ca)



## Corporate Members

The following businesses and organizations have partnered with the WWMC as corporate members.



**Camp Oselia Society**  
**Derby's Lakeview General Store**  
**Kokanee Springs RV Park**  
**Seba Beach Ice Cream Stop**  
**Shoreside Management Ltd.**  
**The Fortunate Loonie**  
**Wabamun & District Seniors Centre**  
**Wabamun Lakeside Liquor**

If you own or represent a business or organization that is concerned about Wabamun Lake and would be willing to help maintain its health, become a corporate member of the WWMC for just \$100 a year. Corporate members will be acknowledged at WWMC functions, in each newsletter and elsewhere. For more information contact Kelly Aldridge by e-mail, [ktammaa@hotmail.com](mailto:ktammaa@hotmail.com) or telephone, (780) 953-2695.

If you are already a corporate member and would like to see your logo here, please send a digital copy to me at [wwmc@donmeredith.ca](mailto:wwmc@donmeredith.ca)

