

Birchcliff Property Owners Association

Oct 22, 2024

Ms. Lois Wallace
Shoreline Conservation Committee
Environment Council for Clear, Ston(e)y and White Lakes

Dear Lois,

As you know, the BPOA is an association of property owners on Birchview Road and feeder roads that stretches from Highway 28 to McCracken's Landing. There are more than 200 properties along this road, and we have approximately 80 active members. BPOA has long supported the work done by the Environment Council.

Maintaining healthy shorelines is crucial to the health of our lakes, maintaining water quality and protecting habitat for aquatic and land-based wildlife. In recent years, we have seen an increase in both invasive aquatic plants and algae. Unfortunately, we have even experienced toxic algae blooms (blue-green algae) which is a frightening situation. We are quite concerned by the number of lakefront property owners who are altering their shorelines in a negative way and we encourage our members to work with shoreline naturalization projects and we need more people to participate.

With increasing development along our shoreline, it is crucial that local and municipalities take an active role in implementing and managing a shoreline protection policy. This would involve setting policy to restrict shoreline changes, including protection of trees and vegetation on property close to the shoreline.

We are happy to support you in your delegation to Douro-Dummer on this timely and crucial topic. In a recent membership survey this spring BPOA members identified shoreline protection as one of the two most important areas of concern.

Please let us know if there is anything further that we can do to assist you in this area.

On behalf of the BPOA membership,

Murray Miskin
President, BPOA

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