

COMING EVENTS

Shrubs sale:

Spring time is coming. It's an ideal time to improve your landscaping with a few shrubs. Why not take this opportunity to bring back a more natural look to your shoreline or simply embellish that cherished corner of your property. The APLG will again offer some shrubs at an attractive price to its members next May.

Water tests:

In addition to our usual testing of water quality for swimming, during the summer season, we will offer tap water tests at a bargain price. Sterilized bottles will be available at the association annual meeting. Samples will have to be returned to dropping points on that same weekend. We will take care of the delivery to the laboratory. The results will be mailed directly to you from the laboratory.

Méchoui:

We will renew the tradition of friendly get together at the beach at the south end of the lake. Remember the 2006 méchoui? We will have another one, with the same caterer, on **Saturday, July 24 2010**, at lunch time. Don't forget to include this event in your agenda.

More detailed information about these events will be available on our web site at www.aplg.ca, and in the forthcoming issues of *Le Remous*. Don't forget that these activities are available only to APLG members. Another good reason to send us your \$15 annual membership fee.

INTERNET

High speed internet service is now available from the new tower at the public wharf. This new tower should provide a signal to residents located on the east side of Lac Gagnon, in the Bay Robillard, and in the north-east part of the lake. A clear line of sight between the tower and your antenna is required to get a strong enough signal. For more information consult the [Xittel website](#), or contact their local representative, Alain Paré, at 819-790-9021.

BEAVER DAMS

Some beaver dams around Lac Gagnon present a threat to our infrastructure (roads, culverts), and to the health of our lake. When these dams give way, the sudden flow of large amounts of water brings sediments to the lake which releases phosphorus. The surplus of phosphorus promotes the growth of vegetation at the mouth of creeks.

Further to a suggestion from an APLG member, we have proposed to the municipality a partnership to address this problem in an environmentally friendly and more efficient way than with the repeated use of heavy machinery. The idea is to insert through the dam a pipe protected at the end with a cage made of iron rods. With the help of nearby volunteers, the association would ensure that the pipe is kept clean to enable a regular flow of water and to keep the water at an acceptable level. We think that a pilot project along these lines could lessen the maintenance costs by the Municipality, while ensuring a better protection of our lake.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(in dollars)

	2008	2009
Revenues:		
Dues	5,800	5,437
Revenues from events		2,540
Subsidies	475	433
Total revenues	6,275	8,410
Expenses:		
Water tests	1,633	1,715
Liability insurance	667	667
Office expenses	296	265
Event costs	39	2,761
Mailings	1,346	1,081
Bank charges	141	158
Inscriptions, associations	354	210
Bouys, beach	72	411
Internet site	116	116
Taxes and permits	32	32
Total expenses	4,696	7,416
Surplus	1,579	994
Cash as at December 31	10,989	11,983

Note: Expenses are now accounted for in the year in which they were incurred. This affects the insurance entry for 2008. Subsidies are shown as revenues instead of as a reduced expense.

LE REMOUS
du
LAC GAGNON

February
2010



APLG

Association des propriétaires
du lac Gagnon

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Membership

We encourage all property owners at Lac Gagnon to join the APLG by mailing us their membership form with the \$15 annual fee, a bargain.

We thank those that have already sent in their payment. If a membership form is included, it means we had not yet received your payment at the time of publishing.

We need the continuous support of a majority of residents to help us maintain a good quality of life at our lake

FISHING

Both the ACPTA and the Ministry of Natural Resources (MRNF) have stopped stocking the lake some years ago. Some members are wondering if the APLG should not stock the lake to make fishing a little more interesting. It is always nice to make a run toward the end of the day, but it is even more rewarding to return with a nice trout, which is now the exception rather than the rule, even for serious fishermen.

We have consulted experts to see if such intervention would be appropriate this year. Two factors would have contributed to lower catches in the early 2000s: overfishing in previous years and the introduction of landlocked salmon, a fish that feeds on lake trout. To replenish stocks, the MRNF added 40,000 lake trouts in Lac Gagnon between 2000 and 2004. Fortunately, the lake trout population now appears to reproduce itself naturally. The size of the catch should therefore increase. Additional stocking of lake trout at this time would be superfluous. Moreover, given the situation of the lake, it is not recommended to stock the lake with walleye or speckled trout.

However, it might be appropriate to stock speckled trout in the Petite-Nation River, south of Lac Gagnon. But we are advised to first check the oxygen level in the water to assess if the young trout could survive through the winter. We will explore this possibility with the support of the MRNF later this year.

Your comments on this topic would be appreciated.

LOGGING

Logging around Lac Gagnon is regulated by an agreement between the APLG and Lauzon, a logging company, the only beneficiary of stumpage rights who had requested the needed authorizations to do logging in this area during the 2008-2013 five year plan. However the Ministry of Natural Resources (MRNF) has now modified its policies in a way that could allow other operators to undertake logging operations around Lac Gagnon. We are negotiating with the MRNF and the foresters to ensure that our agreement will continue to apply to all foresters until 2013.

For the 2010 season, Lauzon is not planning to do logging near Lac Gagnon, except in a strip west of route 6, in the extreme northern portion of the lake.

This new policy of the MRNF provides an opportunity for the Municipality of Duhamel to renegotiate an agreement covering its territory. We hope that all parties will agree to better protect our lakes, rivers and trails. It is also hoped that logging trucks will be directed to the least busy roads.

CONGRATULATION

The "organisme de bassin versant AGIR pour la Diable" has awarded a prize to a longtime Lac Gagnon resident in recognition of his efforts to preserve the shoreline. We join "AGIR pour la Diable" in congratulating **Louis and Sylvia Gravel** who have maintained well the natural state of their shoreline.

It is possible to enjoy life at Lac Gagnon while preserving the natural look of its shoreline

BRIDGE

You may have noticed the deplorable state of the bridge crossing the Ernest Creek, at the entrance of the Papineau-Labelle Reserve. The guardrail is broken and the bridge platform has holes in it.

We are informed that the bridge will be fixed this Spring by the logging company M.C. Forêt Inc. Not only the deck, but the whole structure of the bridge will be replaced as well. The \$86,000 project will be totally financed by subsidies, provided mostly by the Quebec Government, and to a small extent by the Municipality of Duhamel.

At the request of the association, the Municipality has made some temporary repairs to the platform which should make the bridge more secure.

HELICOPTER

Thanks to all the members who have forwarded us their views about the use of wharfs as helipads at Lac Gagnon. An overwhelming majority of lakeshore owners have expressed their opposition to such usage.

Given this support, the association has asked the Municipality to intervene through some regulation. We have met representatives of the Municipality. Means of intervention are under consideration. Other meetings are expected. We hope that measures will be taken within a reasonable time to ensure that residents at the lake will not be disturbed by helicopter landings during the summer season.