

FOCA Elert - November 2018



FOCA Fall Seminar 2018 - event recap Cottage Country: What's Coming & How to Prepare for it

We had a full house for our latest FOCA member event on Saturday, October 27th in Toronto. The theme was emergency preparedness and extreme weather in cottage country. Sessions included:

- the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction on property damages noted across the Canadian landscape in recent years
- a discussion session among members, leading to the creation of a tip sheet with ideas for personal & lake association preparedness
- a presentation about the ways a natural shoreline can enhance your property's resilience in the face of these climate changes
- water sampling under the Lake Partner Program
- FOCA's project with partners to investigate septic maintenance programs across the province
- an update on FOCA's 2018 work, including an overview of benchmarked survey results about trends in our member associations, as part of FOCA's strategic planning process.



FOCA Board President Marlin Horst led the day's events



EVENT SUMMARY: Members can download the full event summary, including links to all the day's presentations, here: <https://foca.on.ca/fall-seminar-2018/>.

Note: you will need your Member Web Login to access this info;

[contact us](#) for assistance!

Special thanks to our Event Sponsor: **Travelers Canada**, underwriters of the [CottageFirst](#) group insurance program, available exclusively to FOCA members. Thanks also to our Lunch Sponsor: **Yamaha Motor Canada**, and our Refreshment Sponsor: **Cottage Life**.

FOCA's Gold-level Sponsors



Sponsors support our work. Please, support them!

Policy Updates & Government Affairs

Your Call-to-Action: write to the Minister!

At the 2018 FOCA Fall Seminar, Board President Marlin Horst issued a **call-to-action for all FOCA members**, to write to the Hon. Rod Phillips, Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks, in support of the ongoing efforts of the **Lake Partner Program**. Get details, and a link to draft wording for your own letter, here: <https://foca.on.ca/lake-partner-program-overview/>



Environmental Protection Report

November 13, 2018 - Dr. Dianne Saxe, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, released the 2018 **Environmental Protection Report**, titled **Back to Basics**, in a series of 4 sub-reports on clean water, respecting the public's voice on the environment, wildlife & wilderness, and Southern Ontario wetlands & forests. Find the reports here: <https://eco.on.ca/our-reports/environmental-protection/>.



The ECO's press release, accompanying the reports, spoke keenly to us:

"It is unbelievable that in 2018, the government allows this much filth into our lakes and rivers," said Saxe. "These are the places Ontarians spend time with their families, where they swim and fish. These shorelines and waters are home to Ontario's rich biodiversity, and to us."

Ontario Municipal Vote - Recap

Vote for your Future

FOCA congratulates everyone who participated in municipal elections this October by voting, spreading the word, or even by running for office. We have already been made aware of some FOCA members who were successful in their bids to join their rural councils; please [let us know](#) about any in your area!

Looking for municipal results? Consult the link to AMO election results, on FOCA's webpage:

<https://foca.on.ca/vote-for-your-future-2018-municipal-elections/>.



2014 Election Statistics

43%	WITH 389
VOTER TURNOUT	MUNICIPALITIES REPORTING
46%	24%
NEW	FEMALE CANDIDATES

Take the FOCA Vote Survey

Did you vote in the Ontario Municipal elections? Or not? Either way, we'd like your feedback in our post-election survey, the final effort of FOCA's "**Vote for your Future campaign**" this year.

Click to link to the 2-minute survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FOCA_2018_post_vote

**click here to
take the survey**

Calls for Nominations

FOCA Achievement Award



Apply **by November 30th, 2018** on behalf of your great Association for the annual **FOCA Achievement Award**, a celebration of our members' successes. Activities or achievements should be current, although they can be long-standing programs, and should relate to at least one of the following categories:

last year's Award presentation to the Skootamatta District Ratepayers Association

- environmental stewardship
- land use planning initiatives
- research and/or education
- political involvement
- other innovations or successes in line with FOCA's mission, *"To protect thriving and sustainable waterfronts across Ontario."*

More information and the nomination form is here:

<https://foca.on.ca/member-services/foca-achievement-award/>

Rural Entrepreneurship

The **Rural Ontario Institute (ROI)** wants to hear your stories of successful rural entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship programs. The intent is to profile a range of approaches to programming that can respond to the needs of current or aspiring rural entrepreneurs. Share your suggestions at:

<http://www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca/programs/entrepreneurshipcasestudies>



FOCA's Silver-level Sponsors

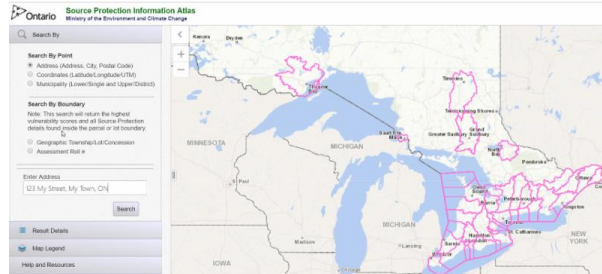


Lake Environments

Source Water Protection Areas

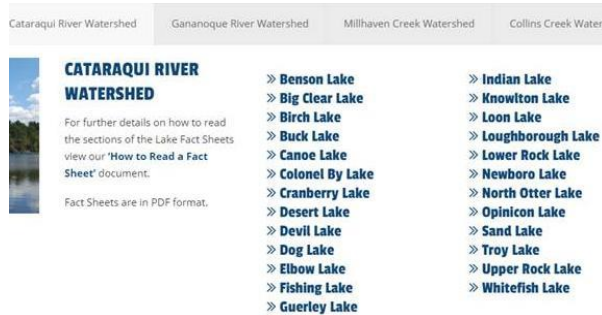
At the 2018 FOCA Fall Seminar, speaker Anne Egan of the Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association mentioned that property owners can check whether they are in a **source water protection area**.

Find lots of resources on the topic of source water protection from [Conservation Ontario](#), including a link to the [searchable map](#) by property address.



Cataraqui Region Lake Reports

The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) has posted a series of useful reports on area lake assessments. [Visit CRCA's website](#) to explore listings by watershed, and download your lake's individual report. Many FOCA member lakes are included! (What a handy reference for starting your own lake plan...)



Invasive Species Corner

The Big, Bad, and Ugly Asian Carp Exhibit at the Toronto Zoo

Want to learn more about Asian carps this off season? Check out the The Big, Bad, and Ugly [Asian Carp Exhibit at the Toronto Zoo](#). Preventing Asian carps from entering the great lakes is the best way to prevent harm to Ontario's native fish populations.

Find out more about the exhibit, and what you can do to prevent the spread of Asian carps, here: <https://foca.on.ca/asian-carp/>



<https://asiancarp.ca/Toronto-Zoo-Exhibit>

FOCA's Bronze-level Sponsors



Recent Events

Lake Links Workshop

Saturday, October 20, 2018 - Perth.

FOCA was pleased to once again be a Supporting Partner for this annual event. The 17th **Lake Links Workshop** was titled, "*Our Lake, My Responsibility - Our Reward.*" The day-long workshop brought together individuals and scientists to discuss freshwater issues.



Lake Links 2018, by Watersheds Canada

Latonnell Conservation Symposium

November 13-15, 2018 - Alliston,

Ontario. FOCA's Membership and Programs Coordinator, Deanna Panitz, presented at the first day of this annual science symposium, as part of a session about education, monitoring and management of priority invasives at the community level across Ontario.

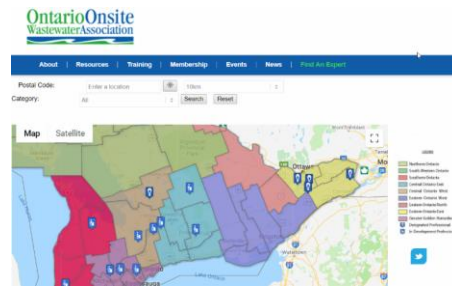
See: <http://www.latonnell.ca/program/2018-program/>



Waterfront Living

Septic Systems

The off-season is prime-time to plan next Spring's priorities for your waterfront property. If you are in the market for a septic system installation or maintenance professional, you could start your search here, with the Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association's "Find an expert" online interactive map tool:



<https://oowa.org/oowa2/interactive-directory-map/>

Safety & Preparedness

Coroner's Inquest Completed

November 1, 2018 - A coroner's inquest into the June 2013 fatal boating accident and 911 response at Lake Wanapitei has finally been completed. The jury made 27 recommendations, including that the province should create an independent body to provide oversight to all 911 operations to investigate, respond to, and resolve complaints. Read more, [from CBC News](#).

> see background, including FOCA's 2014 letter calling for an inquest, here:

<https://foca.on.ca/emergency-response-in-remote-areas/>

Carbon Monoxide Safety

As the cold weather settles in, and we come to rely upon gas or oil furnaces, or wood-burning appliances, FOCA reminds everyone to become aware of



carbon monoxide and all its many sources. There is no off-season for your family's safety. Get info here: <https://foca.on.ca/beat-the-silent-killer-co-safety/>

Woodstove Safety Tips

Looking for an article for your Association's winter newsletter? Thanks to our friends at Cade Associates Insurance Brokers, your work is already done!

Download this article on [Woodstove Safety](#) (PDF, 1 page), including usage notes and important "Do's" and "Don'ts" - or [contact FOCA](#) for a text version.

WOODSTOVE SAFETY TIPS



Association Peer Sharing

Local Planning Appeal Tribunal

As [FOCA reported in Spring 2018](#), the Ontario Municipal Board has been replaced with the **Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT)** appeal process for decisions related to the Planning Act.

Has your association had first-hand experience yet, with the new LPAT process? FOCA wants to hear about it.

[Contact us.](#)



Get Social with FOCA

Have you connected with us on Facebook, yet?

Did you see and share our October 19th Facebook re-post of a Center for Limnology message, about the lakes we love, and finding local lake associations? Follow FOCA, here: <https://www.facebook.com/foca.on.ca>



FOCA - Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations shared a post.

Published by Michelle A. Lewin [?] · October 19 at 9:41 AM · 🌐

If you want to help save lakes, and the first step (below) is to "find one to love", then FOCA suggests the next step is to GET CONNECTED WITH THE OTHER PEOPLE AT THE LAKE WHO LOVE IT TOO! If you're in Ontario, you can start your search for your local lake association here: <https://foca.on.ca/list-of-associations/>



Center for Limnology

October 18 at 12:24 PM · 🌐

👍 Like Page

Want to help save lakes? First, find one to love. We explore advice from Dan Egan's "Go Big Read" talk and find a cool story map that help people share their own lake memories.

<http://blog.limnology.wisc.edu/want-to-save-our-lakes-firs.../>



BLOG.LIMNOLOGY.WISC.EDU

Want to Save Our Lakes? First, Find One to Love.

The question wasn't all that surprising - "What can we, as individuals, ...

FOCA is the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations,
the voice of the waterfront for over 50 years

info@foca.on.ca | 705-749-3622 | <https://foca.on.ca>