

NEWS You Can Use! - Fall 2008

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WABAMUN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Summer Activities - 2008

Nutrient Reduction Targeted

The WWMC was very active over the summer, especially at the Seba Beach end of the lake where they tested many aspects of their Nutrient Reduction Strategy. One important part of the Strategy is the "Living by Water - Homesite Consultation Program" that was offered through the WWMC in cooperation with the Federation of Alberta Naturalists and the Alberta Conservation Team. A total of 22 homeowners took advantage of the opportunity to walk through their property with a trained consultant who pointed out simple changes to property or practices that would lessen their impact to the lake. The WWMC is planning to expand this program to other communities around the lake in 2009.

Overall, the WWMC is advocating for everyone to help reduce the amount of nutrients entering the lake, since this will be the key to maintaining a clear, clean lake. To this end, the Council focused on providing materials to boaters, homeowners and municipalities regarding what they can do. Several informative brochures, a bookmark and eye-catching posters were produced and distributed around the lake this summer through various venues and events. To view these products, visit the "What's New" page at www.wwmc.ca.

Work will continue this winter with a focus on what farmers/ranchers, industry and Government can do to help address this issue.

Water Quality Research

It was a busy year for water quality investigations at Wabamun Lake and its watershed as well. Alberta Environment continued its long-term water quality testing of lake water during the ice-free season. Alberta Environment also undertook some additional research, looking at the levels and sources of nutrient loading to the lake, as well as a study to determine levels and sources of *E. coli* in the lake. For more information on long-term water quality, please visit <http://environment.alberta.ca/2024.html> and for more information on the nutrient and *E. coli* research, please visit www.wwmc.ca, see "What's New" page.



What can you do?

- Stay informed about the work of the WWMC by visiting their web site at www.wwmc.ca.
- Ask to be put on the WWMC mailing list by emailing info@wwmc.ca or using the form on the web site.
- Volunteer to help with WWMC education and awareness programs in the watershed.