

## Rideau Lakes Watershed Plan – Goals and Objectives

**Overall Goal: To protect and enhance the health of the Rideau Lakes Watershed**

Topic Area	Issue	Objectives	Working Objectives
Surface Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water clarity/aesthetics</li> <li>• Bacteria</li> <li>• Nutrient loading</li> <li>• Chemical contamination</li> <li>• Not enough information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, Maintain and Improve water quality for all users</li> <li>• Protect, Maintain and Improve water quality of all tributaries to system</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquire baseline information for all lakes within watershed and identify hotspots</li> <li>• Acquire baseline information for all tributaries within watershed and identify hotspots</li> <li>• Determine impacts of industrial activities (including mines and dumps) on water quality</li> <li>• Acquire baseline data on benthos in watershed</li> <li>• Acquire baseline information on public perceptions of water quality</li> <li>• Investigate successful septic education, governance and alternative septic re-inspection programs and current obstacles to these programs in this region</li> <li>• Identify obstacles to re-inspection programs</li> <li>• Develop and deliver a septic re-inspection program</li> <li>• Educate municipalities on septic re-inspection program</li> </ul>
Water Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too high</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage surface water resources to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To educate the watershed community</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too low</li> <li>• Erosion</li> <li>• Ice scour</li> </ul>	meet current and future needs of all species including humans within sustainable limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on natural and managed water levels</li> <li>• Identify water quantity requirements for ecosystem needs</li> </ul>
Fisheries habitats/ populations, diversity, sustainability and role in economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declining populations</li> <li>• Loss of habitat</li> <li>• Perception of fish populations</li> <li>• Tourism and fishing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, maintain and enhance fish habitats and species biodiversity</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Aquatic habitats, species diversity, sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of information</li> <li>• Loss of habitat</li> <li>• Perceptions of populations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, maintain and enhance aquatic habitats and species biodiversity</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Groundwater resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contamination</li> <li>• Overuse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and manage vulnerable areas from contamination</li> <li>• Incorporate Source Water Protection strategies in groundwater management policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently no objective here addresses groundwater quantity</li> </ul>
Lakefront development and re-development, Lake Carrying Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overdevelopment</li> <li>• Water quality</li> <li>• Shoreline hardening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Biodiversity</li> <li>○ Loss of habitat</li> <li>○ Quality of habitat</li> <li>○ Erosion</li> <li>○ Loss of vegetation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Quality of life</li> <li>• Rural flavour</li> <li>• Cultural landscape/heritage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish and manage to the carrying capacity of the watershed</li> <li>• To encourage watershed community to undertake Best Management Practices</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine carrying capacity for light, noise, recreation and other human factors affecting watershed health</li> <li>• To educate watershed community on Best Management Practices</li> <li>•</li> </ul>

Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local impacts of climate change</li> <li>• Link people's actions to climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To minimize human impact on climate</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To educate watershed community on the human impacts on climate change and what people can do about it</li> </ul>
Aquatic Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excessive aquatic vegetation growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To manage aquatic vegetation to balance recreational needs wildlife needs and health of ecosystem</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To educate watershed community on the role of aquatic vegetation</li> </ul>
Invasive Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The introduction and spread of invasive species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect against the introduction and manage against the spreading of invasive species as it affects biodiversity, economy and watershed health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Terrestrial resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disease</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge</li> <li>• Threats to biodiversity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance terrestrial habitats</li> <li>• Protect and enhance riparian zone (Ribbon of Life) along all watercourses</li> <li>• Maintain/enhance diversity and linkages within and between habitats</li> <li>• Minimize impact of land use on terrestrial and riparian habitats</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To determine present state of terrestrial resources</li> </ul>
Education and Community Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apathy</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge</li> <li>• Lack of tools</li> <li>• Lack of understanding about what can be done to help</li> <li>• Lack of government funding, unity and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide educational opportunities for watershed users to identify ways to contribute to maintaining a healthy watershed environment/lifestyle</li> <li>• Encourage participation, co-operation and involvement of all stakeholders in achieving a healthy watershed</li> <li>• Develop and promote a sense of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce a conceptual model describing the watershed processes</li> <li>• Identify funding for long term education program</li> </ul>

	responsibility	respect and understanding for the watershed and its sustainability	
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of communication among stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage and promote open, co-ordinated, co-operative dialogue among stakeholders</li> <li>• Promote cultural change between agencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish linkages to allow stakeholders to work together</li> <li>• Identify communication strategy to relay the findings of the watershed plan and its implementation strategy</li> </ul>
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of coordination between governing agencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote an integrated and consistent approach to management of the watershed</li> <li>• Co-ordinate efforts and streamline the delivery of resource programs and services by all levels of government</li> <li>• Update and make consistent all OPs to ensure consistency in land management policies and practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate watershed community about roles and responsibilities of governing agencies</li> <li>• To ensure the enforcement of existing regulations</li> </ul>
Tourism and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More tourism and recreation in balance with environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and promote sustainable tourism and recreation</li> <li>• Protect the unique cultural, ecological and social character of the watershed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine the economic impact of tourism on the watershed</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economy in Balance with Environmental Health</li> <li>• Role of nature in economy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote a thriving local economy operating in balance with social and environmental needs</li> <li>• Promote a local economy which has regard for and respects the social and environmental health of the local ecosystem</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Implementation and Monitoring of the Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the plan is successful and implemented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure endorsement, commitment and support of the watershed plan and its principles by all government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

		<p>stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Secure commitment and support of the watershed plan and its principles by all watershed stakeholders</li><li>• Ensure an adaptive management approach/principle is adopted</li><li>• Ensure a coordinated approach by governing agencies to watershed plan implementation</li></ul>	
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