

LE REMOUS du LAC GAGNON

December
2017



A WORD FROM MARC DUMOUCHEL, APLG BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear APLG Members,

Here are a number of topics that the APLG has been following in recent months.

- Zoning change proposals: At a public consultation held by the municipality last summer, the APLG voiced its opposition to two measures that would have allowed the use of docks on vacant lots and the use of steel containers as storage sheds. The consultation meeting was well attended by Duhamel residents and the Council decided to drop these two proposals.
- Mosquitos: We had received a number of requests to renew the program to spray for mosquitos in the region because they were so plentiful. At our annual meeting, members in attendance stated they did not want us to pursue this matter.
- New APLG Board member: We'd like to welcome Louis St-Hilaire to the Board of Directors and thank him for joining us.

OVERVIEW OF THE JULY 2, 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Board purchased a new computer to manage finances and perform various administrative tasks. It also plans to acquire a remote water level measuring device to facilitate posting this information on the web site.

Amendments to the Association's bylaws were approved. The changes may be found on our website, which was revamped in recent months. The Board is considering publishing the Remous in electronic format only.

Three APLG signs have been installed around the lake and a fourth will be installed at the intersection of chemin du lac Gagnon Ouest and chemin de la Grande Baie.

The municipality reached an agreement with Guy Poliquin so residents could continue to use the boat launch, however, the property will be closed at the end of the summer. The municipality has purchased a dock to be installed at the public boat launch. It was mentioned that access should be controlled to prevent people from launching boats on the lake that haven't been cleaned. The APLG wants to determine the GPS coordinates of the buoy locations to know exactly where to place them.

The lake water is tested three times each year. Lac Gagnon ranks among the best lakes in the province for its water quality.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Mayor Davis Pharand was re-elected by acclamation. The Council members are Marie-Céline Hébert, Gilles Payer, Gaëtan Lalande, Michel Longtin, Raymond Bisson and Noël Picard.

WATER TEST RESULTS

Drinking water analysis (July 2, 2017)

	Number of tests		
	Compliant	Non-compliant	Total
Artesian wells	6	0	6
Surface wells	2	1	3
Lake*	4	4	8
Total	12	5	17

* All lake water analyses for drinking purposes indicate that the locations are excellent for swimming.

Swimming water analyses (July 2 2017)

Nine swimming water analyses were conducted. All locations are of excellent quality, with results ranging between 0 and 8 fecal coliforms.

Swimming water analyses (July 31, 2017)

Thirty-nine samples were taken at various locations around the lake. Fecal coliform levels range from 0 to 16, which is excellent for swimming. These values are lower than in prior years (i.e. better water quality). This may be the result of the spring run-off and heavy precipitation this year (see the attached map).

Transparency and physico-chemical analysis

(by the Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs)

Year	Transparency (m)	Total phosphorus (µg/l)	Chlorophyll a (µg/l)	Organic carbon (mg/l)
2016	6.3	1.6 (low accumulation)	0.98 (very low)	3.7 (low)
2017	5.8	To come	To come	To come
Average 2008-2016	6.6	2.1	1.3	4.2

* There is little or no sign of eutrophication (enrichment of a water body with nutrients, usually with an excess amount of nutrients) in lac Gagnon.

EXOTIC, INVASIVE AQUATIC PLANTS

During the summer, a study of aquatic plants along the shores of lac Gagnon and other lakes near the Municipality of Duhamel was undertaken. The study was conducted at the request of the Municipality of Duhamel, carried out by the OBVRPNS and subsidized by the Papineau RCM. No invasive plants were detected, with the exception of purple loosestrife. While it may cause problems in some areas, it is under control at lac Gagnon. The final report will be published in 2018 and the Municipality will hold an information session.

The APLG Board would like to thank the volunteers who helped with this study.

FEEDING DEER

Feeding deer continues to contribute to road accidents. The increasing deer population also causes problems in the forest as they tend to feed on new growth, hampering the regeneration of various tree species. We strongly urge our members to stop feeding all wildlife around their properties.

The APLG has been lobbying the municipality to prohibit feeding wildlife.

The topic was discussed at the November Municipal Council meeting but no decision was reached.

MEMBERSHIP 2018 AND THE REMOUS

The work involved in producing and mailing paper copies of the Remous is time consuming and accounts for a significant portion of the annual expenses (about \$800 annually). We would greatly appreciate your giving us an email address when you renew your membership so we can reduce the time and cost of communicating with members via paper copies of the Remous.

We invite you to renew your membership as soon as possible. The higher the number of members we have, the greater our credibility and strength when we negotiate with the municipality or other bodies. Please go to the [Become a member or renew your membership](#) section of the APLG website to renew.

PUBLIC WORKS, EROSION AND NEW ROAD SURFACES

The roadwork is now finished along the western side of the lake. Chemin du lac Gagnon Ouest has been paved along two sections, however some stretches still

need to be done and are expected to be completed in the coming years.

Roadwork and erosion: The APLG had to intervene on a number of occasions to ensure that proper measures were taken to avoid erosion and prevent sediment from flowing into the lake during roadwork. It seems old habits are hard to break. We will continue to monitor future roadwork and invite you to contact us should you have any concerns.

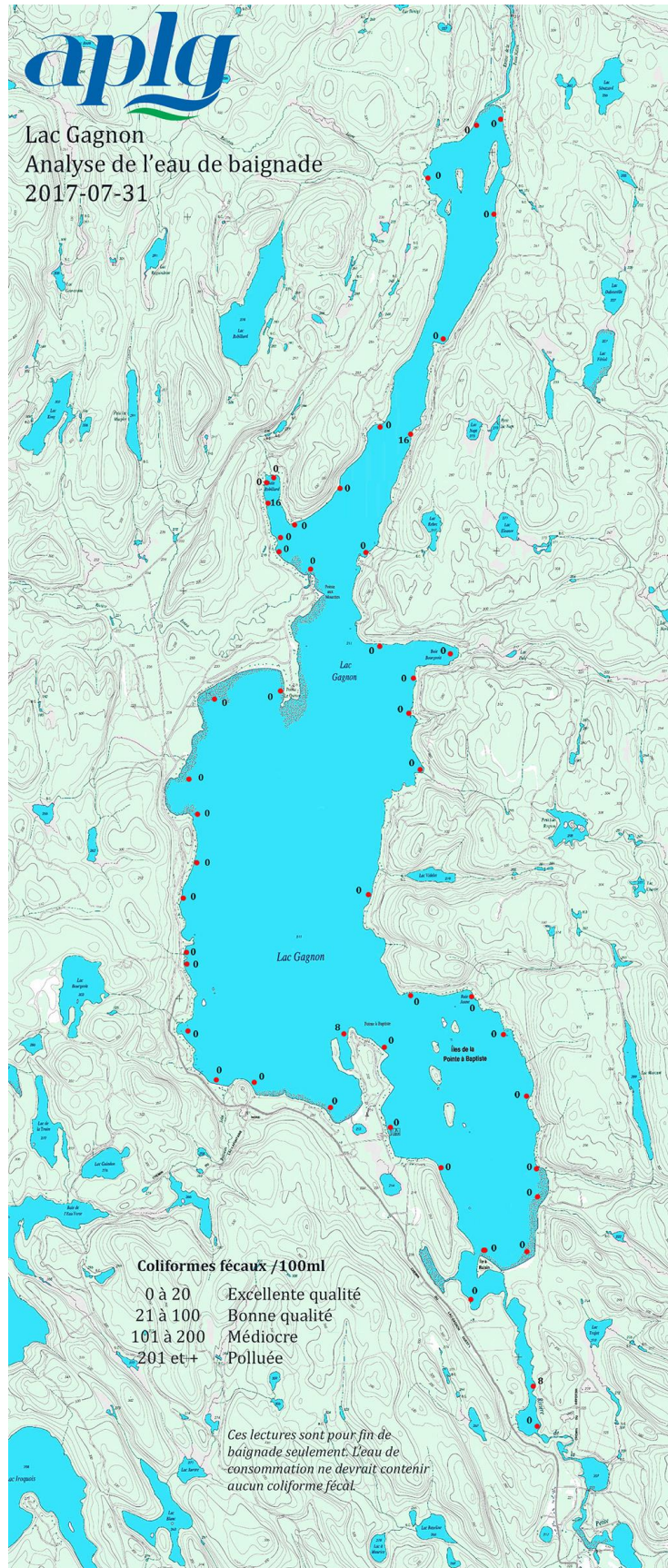


We wish you all a very happy Holiday Season.

The APLG Board Members



Lac Gagnon
Analyse de l'eau de baignade
2017-07-31



Coliformes fécaux /100ml

- 0 à 20 Excellente qualité
- 21 à 100 Bonne qualité
- 101 à 200 Médiocre
- 201 et+ Polluée

Ces lectures sont pour fin de baignade seulement. L'eau de consommation ne devrait contenir aucun coliforme fécal.