

Excerpt from Resident recommending more sanding

Dear Linda

I am very concerned about the future of Whimsical Lake. Although many have stated that the lake has been ruined by encroachment and pollution, I think continuing the toxic practices is unwise. Many new people live in the area and overlook this lovely small lake.

The path between Inverness and Joyce has been salted with several inches of salt - making the lake toxic to fish. The end of Inverness is also caked with several inches of salt - now likely washed away by tonight's rain - but - toxic all the same. It looks like it is spread by machine - and goes all around the dead end of Inverness. Can we stop this practice? It is so harmful - being less than 2 feet from the lake.

Thank you for your help in this important matter.

Excerpt from Resident recommending more salting

Dear Ms. Mosher:

First of all, may I wish you a speedy recovery after your recent operation. I am raising an old issue in the hope that in your absence you can ask the appropriate person to review this matter.

Whimsical Lake Crescent continues to receive an abundant amount of gravel during the winter. Last year you informed me that HRM staff try to protect lakes within the municipality by avoiding the use of salt and using gravel instead. I could not disagree with the concept. However, in the twenty years or so that salt was used on Whimsical Lake Crescent prior to the introduction of gravel, the lake did not show any stress. Salt is not a problem with this lake. The lake has shown the impact of sediment deposition over the years which causes the lake to be shallower accelerating the process of eutrophication. The further loading of sediment from the application of fine gravel to Whimsical Lake Crescent only adds to the stress on the lake. There is no one formula for protecting a lake. One-fits-all does not work. A sensible amount of salt and no gravel would be a much more appropriate way to protect the lake.

In addition to raising the wrong approach to the protection of the lake, I would also like to ask you to consider the following:

If one were to assume that restricting salty runoff from Whimsical Lake Crescent is the right approach for Whimsical Lake, which it is not, why is it that gravel is applied only to Whimsical Lake Crescent and the remaining area is receiving salt?

- Most of the runoff from Inverness Avenue goes to the lake, and yet salt is used on this street.
- The runoff from Mabou Avenue goes directly into the lake. The bottom of Mabou Avenue basically meets the northern end of Whimsical Lake and the runoff discharges into it.
- The pathwalk that joins Inverness Avenue with Joyce Avenue is barely three feet from the lake. Yet, salt is being used.
- The extension of Joyce Avenue is right on top of the southern end of the lake and most of its runoff goes directly into the lake. Yet, salt is being used.

In addition to the approach being wrong, the gravel on Whimsical Lake Crescent finds its way onto sidewalks and into the houses causing property damage, eg., damage to hardwood floors and carpets.

May I request that you work with HRM staff to stop the use of gravel on Whimsical Lake Crescent and to go back to using a sensible amount of salt for addressing icing conditions in the winter.