



CHEBACCO LAKE & WATERSHED ASSOCIATION *Newsletter*

A Quarterly Publication of the Chebacco Lake & Watershed Association

October 2007

From the CLWA President's Chair Reflecting On The Water

We just finished one of the best Septembers ever! But already some questions are coming up. Why is the lake lower this year than last year? Will the weeds come back? What are those beaver up to this fall? Who is supposed to be watching for reckless boaters with no life vests on, or no spotter watching the rider behind the boat? Who the devil is setting off fireworks all summer at 10 p.m.? Why is that guy across the lake dumping his weeds and leaves in the lake? How come some people cut their lawn right to the edge of the water, while others leave a natural buffer? What is an alewife?

OK, maybe you haven't asked these questions, but some of your neighbors have asked them. These are all concerns that each of us have if we value the special place we are lucky to live in. The Board of Directors of the Chebacco Lake Watershed Association wants you to ask these and any other questions you have for us at our Annual Meeting on October 23, at 7:00 p.m. We will do our best to help you with answers, information and assistance when we can.



We need you to talk to us, to complain to us, to call the Harbormaster when you see unsafe boating, to remind your neighbors that the lake is not a dumping ground, to consider sacrificing traditional landscaping and prevent nutrient run-off, and to be considerate of your friends, neighbors and the lake we all live on. Join us at the CLWA Annual Meeting on October 23, at the Legion Hall in Hamilton. We can talk some more then.

Look forward to seeing you,
Dave Kerr
President, Chebacco Lake & Watershed Association

Just a reminder

It is a State law that a life preserver must be worn when out in a canoe, kayak or rowboat between September 15 and May 15.

Annual Meeting

**Tuesday,
October 23, 7 p.m.**

American Legion Hall
School St., Hamilton

Business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Come meet your neighbors and get an update on the issues that have involved the CLWA this year. Peter Phippen will also share a presentation on "Greenscaping" with us.

Coffee, cider and dessert will be served. Doorprizes available.

Request for E-mail Addresses

It is really important for the CLWA to be able to communicate with watershed and lakeside people especially with all of the flooding and beaver situations. Mailings can be costly in both postage and printing and much slower.

We would really appreciate it if everyone could send in their e-mail address to dcksjl@comcast.net.

Thank you.

Sheri Lamkin Kerr

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Designing With Nature Landscaping for a Healthy Lake

Building a Gravel Walk or Driveway

It is great to see that many of the new construction projects around the lake these days involve replacing blacktop and concrete walks and driveways with more porous materials. We all know how critical it is to minimize impervious surfaces, especially blacktop.

One of the easiest and most cost-effective types of permeable surface is crushed stone. The secrets of having it function as a walk or driveway is proper installation. Here are a few tips to help you along with your installation.

1. You MUST provide a 6" – 8" base of gravel before you spread a final finished layer of peastone or crushed stone. Often that means you have to remove any existing materials (loam, sand, etc) first. Remember, if you are disturbing soil, try to minimize run-off into the lake.

2. COMPACTION - COMPACTION – COMPACTION – This makes all the difference. Rent a compactor or spend a few weeks driving over the gravel base before you spread the final layer of stone.

3. Do not spread more than 2" inches of crushed stone on top of the gravel base. It will move around too much. I prefer using 3/8" crushed bluestone or peastone as my final layer. The crushed bluestone has a cut edge so it tends to stay put. Spread this layer with a grading rake (or York rake) where possible.

4. Metal or aluminum edging installed around your drive or walk will help the top layer stay put. Granite cobbles serve the same purpose, but have a more formal look.

5. In the winter, remove snow with a tracked type snow blower set a little higher than you would for a blacktop drive. The same holds true for a truck plow. During initial installation of a typical lakeside small drive, you would probably only use two or three yards of finished stone to complete the 3/8" stone layer. You can top dress this final layer when needed a very minimal price.

6. Raking stone with a metal fan rake (spring rake) is a great stress reducer! It does not take much work to make the stone look great. *Very Zen* according to my help.

Robyn Kanter