



*To Enhance, Preserve & Protect  
Pigeon Lake & Its Watershed*

## **FLASH - STATE OF THE WATERSHED REPORT**

**August 2008**

The Pigeon Lake Watershed Association released the Pigeon Lake State of the Watershed Report prepared by Aquality Environmental Consulting Ltd.

The Report was commissioned to bring together current environmental information and to identify strategies to enhance, preserve and protect Pigeon Lake and its watershed.

Pigeon Lake has experienced a “perfect storm” of conditions contributing to significant algae blooms over the last two summers. External nutrient loading has increased as a result of agricultural and residential development, extensive shoreline modifications and the resulting impact on water quality.

The Report identified five areas of concern and associated responsibilities. It contains a number of recommendations involving planning, stewardship and, reclamation and restoration. It also identifies twelve priorities as next steps.

Critical to protecting and enhancing Pigeon Lake and its watershed are stewardship and education. The Pigeon Lake Watershed Association sponsors a number of programs to assist permanent and seasonal residents and other recreational users of the lake to reduce their impact on the watershed. The cumulative effect of these actions can make a significant difference on the health of the lake.

The Association is currently addressing a number of the priorities in the report including conducting a shoreline assessment, completing annual water quality monitoring, sponsoring educational activities and the development best practices for watershed management.

The State of the Watershed Report will be presented to members at the Association’s Annual General Meeting by Jay White of Aquality Environmental Consulting Ltd. on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am at Vasa Lodge. The report can be used as a basis by stakeholders for future watershed management planning. The Association will be working with stakeholders to discuss the recommendations in the report and to identify next steps to address issues faced by Pigeon Lake and the watershed.

The State of the Watershed Report and information about the Association’s stewardship and other activities can be found on the Association’s website at: <http://www.pigeonlakewatershedassociation.com>.