

Lac de L'Original Homeowners Association (LOHA)

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Guide for new residents – November 2022

Welcome

On behalf of the members of the Board of Directors of the lac de l'Original Homeowners Association, I would like to welcome you as a new owner. To facilitate your integration, we have prepared this compilation of useful information. I encourage you to become a member of the Facebook page called "L'Echo du lac de l'Original" to find out the latest information about our activities. Hope to meet you soon!

Jean Côté
President of the Board of Directors

Code of ethics and good practices for lac de l'Original

Lac de l'Original is a popular destination for vacationers due to its proximity to the city and quality of its water. To preserve the lake, it is essential that lakeside owners, boaters and other users adopt environmentally respectful behaviours because water is a collective heritage and it is our obligation to protect it.

Rivers and lakes are rich ecosystems where life abounds. Water is vital to the survival of all species and many, (such as fish, amphibians, insects, and certain mammals), depend directly on a healthy aquatic ecosystem to survive. These environments are also shared with vacationers and users who look to benefit from the wonderful resources they have to offer. However, the balance between occupants and users of bodies of water is often weakened by inappropriate behaviours.

Why a code of ethics?

To frame water-based activities, the goal of this code of ethics is to agree upon sound practices that are respectful of the environment and of other users of the body of water. Our lake's health is proportional to the commitment that each of us is willing to offer. The aim of this code is to raise our awareness of potentially harmful activities as well as behaviours to adopt for a better quality of life. Therefore, the code exists and we encourage you to share it with your visitors, renters, and those to whom you lend your cottage.

Protecting Water Quality



According to water quality analysis parameters, lakes are classified based on their eutrophication level. This is the natural aging phenomenon of lakes and waterways and can be accelerated by human activity. To slow the eutrophication process of lakes and waterways, **it is important to:**

- Empty your septic tank as required by municipal bylaw, (every two years for permanent residents, and every four years for seasonal residents, or as required if sooner);
- Avoid soaps and products that contain phosphorus / phosphates in favor of biodegradable and eco-friendly products;
- Wash your watercraft and trailer **before putting them in the water**. Beware of the spreading of exotic invasive species; there is a free washing station at the Val-des-Bois city hall.



- When filling the gas tank, avoid overflow and spillage of any pollutant into the water (e.g., gas, oil);
- Electric motors and four-stroke engines for your boat are preferred (cleaner technology);
- Do not throw garbage into the water;

Limit noise, and garbage



Sounds are a source of noise pollution when too loud. Noise disrupts the calm and peaceful environment that many waterside residents and vacationers look for. While performing your various activities, **it is important to:**

- Respect the area's natural sounds and the quality of life of your neighbours by avoiding unnecessary noises and music that is excessively loud;
- Favour quiet or electric boat motors;

- Avoid unnecessary and repetitive noises while on your watercraft (tight turns, wave jumping, acrobatics, overtaking, splashing maneuvers);
- Use your warning systems (sirens and horns) in emergencies only;
- Keep your property clean and free of all garbage accumulation.

Reduce watercraft speeds



All watercrafts must travel at speeds that ensure the safety of its passengers and other users of the body of water as well as limit their impact on the environment, which occurs, among other ways by generating waves that erode shorelines. When using your watercraft, **it is important to:**

- Navigate counter clockwise: drivers of motorised watercraft must travel with the closest shore of the body of water **ON THEIR RIGHT**;
- Navigate at lower speeds (less than 10 km/h) when less than 30 metres from shore;
- Reduce the watercraft's speed, particularly when arriving or departing shore;
- Arriving or departing perpendicular to the shore is preferred;
- Reduce speeds in bays;
- Turn the motor off when in water that is less than 1 metre deep;
- Operate your watercraft in a way that respects other users and the environment (careful for waves, capsizing, encirclements, spills, etc.);
- Use watercraft with shallow draft et spread the weight in the vessel;
- Navigate in deep waters when using seadoos, wake boats, big boats, and rapid watercraft.

Favour good behaviour!



To respect others, we must all adopt healthy practices. On board your watercraft, **it is important to:**

- Allow priority passage for swimmers and non-motorised watercraft;
- Travel as far as possible (at least 50 metres) from swimmers, those fishing, and non-motorised watercraft;
- Adjust your driving to the level of lake activity. Be courteous and prudent;
- Avoid aggressive, uncontrolled driving;
- Make sure your watercraft is in good condition and has all the required safety equipment;
- Respect safe boating rules;
- Have your pleasure craft operator's permit;

IMPORTANT : This code of ethics does not replace the laws and regulations related to watercraft and water safety. It is conceived to promote and inspire behaviours that are harmonious with the environment and other users of our lakes and rivers.

Prevent Forest Fires

Verify signboards before making open-air fires: right hand column at www.val-des-bois.ca/avis/#contn or the Société de Protection contre le feu, <https://sopfeu.qc.ca>

Let's protect our lake...and our investment. Let's stay informed on the risks to our lake!

Invasive exotic species: 5 steps to protect your lake

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cw_j5Gd362E&list=UUKuVHFbFGX8LPBS_uBAkjiw&index=47

Guide to Eurasian watermilfoil

<https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/invasive-species/meet-the-species/invasive-aquatic-plants/eurasian-water-milfoil/>

Guide to Blue-Green Algae

<https://www.cobali.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Does-your-lake-have-the-%C2%ABblues%C2%BB.pdf>

Le Comité du bassin versant de la rivière du Lièvre

<https://www.cobali.org/>

Le Conseil régional de l'environnement des Laurentides

<https://crelaurentides.org/documentation/>

Le Regroupement des organismes de bassins versants du Québec (ROBVQ)

<https://robvq.qc.ca/>

General Information

Municipality of Val-des-Bois
<https://val-des-bois.ca/>

Regional Municipality of Papineau
<https://mrcpapineau.com/>

List of contractors and service providers

Need some work done at your cottage? Here is a list of contractors and service providers that have been used by members of the association in the past.

(The LOHA does not endorse any specific contractors or service providers)

Electrical work	Marc Bertrand 364 Route 309 Entrepreneur électrique depuis plus de 40 ans. 450-712-7463
Snow Removal	Déneigement Denis Denis Martel 819-767-2186 (Home) 819-767-7257 (Cell)
Septic Tank Pumping	Les Pompages DM David Boucher et Mylène Beausoleil 819-454-2454
Earth delivery	Excavation sablière Lauzon Henri Lauzon 819 230-1343 819 454-2667 info.exc.sablierelauzon@gmail.com