

Bluewater Shoreline Residents' Association



GMB 411, RR 1
Zurich ON, N0M 2T0

2007 June 20

Deb Shewfelt, Warden
1 Court House Square
Goderich ON N7A 1M2

Dear Warden Shewfelt:

The Board members of the Bluewater Shoreline Residents' Association, from the Municipality of Bluewater, wish to draw the enclosed "Water Quality Report" to your attention. We request that your councillors and administrators read our report and respond to us.

Our organization is an umbrella group made up of 54 associations of permanent and seasonal residents along Lake Huron in the Municipality of Bluewater. In recent years, our members have become very concerned about the pollution of the surface water, both in the near-shore waters of Lake Huron and in the many short streams that flow into the Lake in our area. Our deeply felt concerns have frequently focused on the number of days that the beaches on Lake Huron are unsafe for swimming. Last summer, there was a manure spill into one of the streams which resulted in a significant fish kill, and made the visible level of pollutants flowing into the lake very obvious. This event served as a catalyst for the alarm of local residents and tourists, and caused our organization to intensify our work on the enclosed report. We have consulted many people in the process of refining this paper. We continue to believe the situation is urgent and that our attached paper merits your attention and more action on the part of all levels of government.

We recognize that there are many environmental issues facing County Council (as well as provincial, federal, and municipal government). We also recognize that the causes of surface water pollution can vary from one area to another. But we strongly believe that this issue must be addressed at all levels of government, and that the time has come when much more effective and coordinated effort must be placed in correcting the problems.

Many federal and provincial departments will have to be involved in solving the problems. But so will the county and municipalities. The time for action is now. Our recommendations, which we believe are actually quite modest relative to the size of

the problems, are listed on pages 5 and 6 of our paper. Please ask the appropriate administrators in Huron County to report back to us. We await Council's response to this paper and its vigorous action on helping to clean up Lake Huron.

Thank you.

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Enclosure: Water Quality Report (www.bsra.ca/wq_report_ref_doc/20070527_BSRA_W_Q_Spill_Report.pdf)

c: Larry C. Adams, Chief Administrative Officer
Beth Henning, Medical Officer of Health
Penny Nelligan, Executive Director of Health