

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Estérel, August 6, 2019 – Some of you have probably heard of the article on TVA Nouvelles on August 3rd entitled: "Find out if a lake near you is dying". Lac Dupuis was mentioned with reference to a 2009 study by the Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs, a network testing lake water.

Lake Eutrophication is a natural aging phenomenon that affects all lakes, especially shallow lakes such as Lac Dupuis. There is however a second type of eutrophication aptly called cultural eutrophication, referring to human activity. Our presence can lead to major ecological changes in lakes, primarily because of phosphorus, which is found in fertilizers and raw sewage. Lack of vegetation and wave action contributing to soil erosion also causes eutrophication.

The city of Estérel has been monitoring our lakes since 2007 and analyzes the evolution of the water quality of the lakes with the guidance of Group Hemispheres. The annual reports are positive and available for consultation at City Hall. The Ministry of the Environment (MELCC) recommends measures to limit the intake of nutrients from human activity. Actions to delay this phenomenon are regularly discussed in the communiqués issued by our Environment Committee (CCE). You can consult our website www.villedesterel.com/environment but here are the main recommendations:

- Protect the shoreline for a distance of 10 to 15 meters depending on the slope of the land and continue to vegetate this zone.
- Prevent shoreline erosion, especially on Lac Dupuis, by limiting the speed of boats to 6 km/h at 60 meters from the shore and respecting the wake-surf regulations of 150 meters from shore and in the designated areas of Lac Masson and Lac du Nord.
- Maintain your septic systems; empty tanks every four years for vacationers and every two years for permanent residents.

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- Focus on the health of our lakes rather than the beauty of our lawns, avoiding fertilizers. New regulations will address fertilizers and promote grasscycling, an environmental alternative of leaving cut grass and mowed leaves on the ground. This produces a natural fertilizer on lawns and preserves soil moisture, reducing the frequency (or even need) of watering. Your lawn will be more resistant to drought and disease. Grasscycling also reduces the emission of greenhouse gases associated with landfill and transportation.

Be assured that we continue to monitor the state of health of our lakes for the value of our properties and the protection of our environment. It is a collective and continuous work that concerns us all.

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