

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association



Mission



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

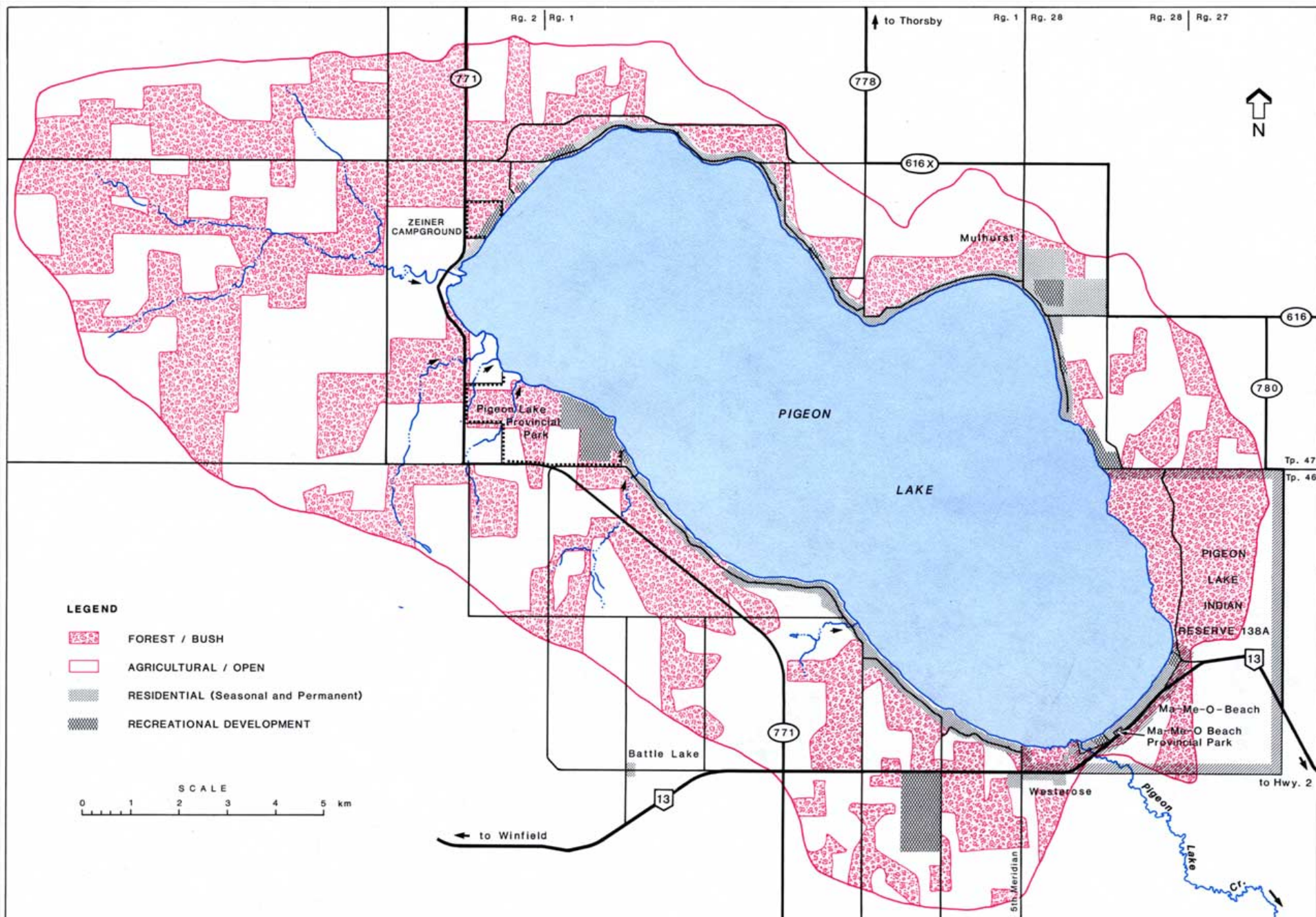


Figure 1. Features of the drainage basin of Pigeon Lake.

SOURCES: Alta Envir. n.d [c]; En. Mines Resour. Can. 1974; 1975. Updated with 1987 aerial photos.

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association History

- Founded 2007
- Merged Organizations
 - Environmental Society
 - Cottagers' Association
- Major Algae Blooms – 2006 & 2007
- 1st Annual General Meeting, 2007, Speaker - Dr. David Schindler
- Water Quality Testing & Report
- 2nd AGM, 2008, Speaker – Jay White - State of Watershed Report
- Reviewed Technical Solutions
- About 1,700 Members
- Includes: Acreage, Cottage & Business Owners, Farmers & Ranchers, Professional Community, Seniors & Non Residents
- 3rd AGM, 2009 – Open House & Membership Feedback

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association Structure

- Committees
 - Communications
 - Finance & Fund Raising
 - Fisheries Management
 - Government Liaison & Advocacy
 - Membership
 - Nominating
 - Stewardship
 - Technical & Research
- Officers
 - President, Trudy Flesher (Jim Stevens)
 - Vice-President, Bryan Kickham
 - Treasurer, Doug Bell (Bill Grace)

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association Processes

- Registered Society
- Charitable Status
- Membership Register
- Annual Renewal & AGM Notice
- PLWA Web Site & E-Mail
- Quarterly Newsletter & Annual Report
- Regional News Paper Advertisements
- Flash & Green Alerts
- Stewardship Is Top Operational Priority
- Regional Wastewater System Is Top Advocacy Priority

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association Challenges

- Water Quality & Level
- Provincial Parks
- Shoreline Degradation & Habitat Loss
- Multiple Governments
 - 10 Summer Villages, 2 Counties & 4 First Nations
 - Provincial & Federal
- Residential Development
- Oil & Gas Operations
- Volunteer Recruitment
- Board Engagement
- Adopting Best Environmental Practices

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association Successes

- Regional Wastewater System Expansion
- MEC Application To Withdraw Fresh Water
- Environmental Law Centre Review
- Shoreline Videography
- Guide To Holding Tanks
- Membership Recruitment
- Significant Fund Raising
- Board Game Plan Developed
- Stewardship Events & Programs
- Conferences & Workshops

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association

Key Relationships

- Municipal - Summer Villages, Counties & First Nations
- Regional Wastewater System Steering Committee
- Province
 - MLA – Diana McQueen
 - Alberta Environment
 - Sustainable Resource Development
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Alberta Tourism, Parks & Recreation
 - Health Regions
- Federal
 - MP – Blaine Calkins
 - Fisheries and Oceans
- APLM, FAN, BRWA, ASN, AFPC, Synergy, ALMS, C of C, C & F

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association Stewardship Events

- Shoreline Cleanups – Spring & Fall
- Farmers' Markets, Fairs & Picnics
- Environmental Stewardship Workshops
 - Shoreline 101
 - Working Well Workshops
 - Environmental Farm Plan Workshops
 - Shelter Belt Workshops
- Information Meetings – Province & Health Regions
- PLWA Open House
- Summer Village – Annual Information Meetings

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association Stewardship Programs

- Home Site Consultations
- Environmental Workshops
- Love The Lake Pledge
- Christmas Creature Count
- Ten Small Things
- Water Quality Testing
- Tree Planting
- Habitat Restoration

How your Commitment to the Lake in the following ways:

- protect the shoreline by retaining indigenous aquatic plant growth and plant native vegetation in the riparian (shoreline) area
- increase tree and shrub density on your property
- properly compost biodegradable waste
- limit fertilizer use** to container gardening
- eliminate the **use of insecticides, herbicides and/or fungicides**
- store all chemicals safely away from drainage areas
- use phosphate free detergents (dish, laundry, shampoo)
- use proper techniques when fueling equipment like lawnmowers and boats to eliminate contamination of the lake
- use proper sewage disposal and maintenance of sewage containment
- ensure appropriate disposal of animal waste
- practice water conservation techniques to reduce waste water production
- increase your knowledge by attending programs such as the Alberta Environmental Farm Plan workshop or PLWA sponsored events
- Talk to your friends and neighbours- let them know how you are helping the lake and encourage them to do the same!

Agricultural Users Can Help Save the Lake

- increase native plant growth and trees along natural drainage areas and streams
- limit use of herbicides, fungicides and insecticides
 - protect riparian areas from animal use
 - adopt zero till or reduced tillage systems
 - test soil and fertilize only as needed
 - dispose of all animal waste properly

Contact Don at 780.586.2710 or e-mail: lovethelake@telus.net

STOP FEEDING THE LAKE! –

Please don't contribute to the nutrient "overload" that promotes blue-green algae growth.

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association County Stewardship Programs

- Riparian Health Assessments
- Environmental Farm Plan Workshops
- On-Farm Water Quality Testing
- Agricultural Growing Forward Initiatives
- Water Management
- Horticulture Advice

Communications of Programs & Events

- Post on website events calendar
- E-Mail to members, for whom PLWA has addresses
- Surface Mail to other PLWA members
- Advertise in local print media
- Provide to counties and summer villages to e-mail and post on their websites
- Post posters around the lake
- Framers' Markets & Fairs



Upcoming Events & Programs

1.Lakedell Farmers' Market – Every Friday at 4:30 pm

2.Homesite Consultations – Free confidential on-site review of cottage properties to advise owners how to reduce impacts on the lake water quality and habitat. Call Jim Stevens at 780.586.0710 to register

3.Environmental Workshops – Fun and interactive “*Healthy Shorelines 101*” for all ages, 10 am to Noon on Saturday July 18th at the Lakedell Small Hall, on Saturday, July 25th at the Ma-Me-O Hall, on Saturday, August 8 at the Sandholm Hall and on Saturday, August 15 at the Mulhurst Bay Craft Room Contact Jenna at the Federation of Alberta Naturalists at 780.427.8124 or at Jennac@fanweb.ca to register, Copy of *Living on the Edge* provided to new and current PLWA members, one/family

4.Love The Lake Pledge – Contact Don Davidson at 780.586-2710 or at lovethelake@telus.net

1.Riparian Health Assessments, Environmental Farm Plan Workshops, On-Farm Water Quality Testing, Agricultural Growing Forward Initiatives, Stewardship Programs and Water Management – Agricultural residents can participate in these programs sponsored by the Counties of Leduc and Wetaskiwin, contact Robbin Nikiforuk at 780.387.6182

2.Horticulture - The Counties of Leduc and Wetaskiwin share a horticulturist position that deals with *shelterbelt planning, tree orders, tree and plant disease, insects and pruning* – for inquiries contact Heather Dickau at 780.955.3555 ext. 3287 or in Wetaskiwin at 780.352.3321 ext. 270

3.Annual General Meeting – Come to Lakedell Hall at 10 am August 22 to give us your feedback about the initiatives for this year and provide your input on future activities. Starting at 9 am organizations interested in helping people to help the environment will have displays up, ready to answer your questions. All Members are invited to stay for a BBQ lunch (RSVP to help Trudy to estimate attendees at 780.467.5127)

See our website for details

www.pigeonlakewatershedassociation.com

Contact the PLWA at: info@pigeonlakewatershedassociation.com

For more information call 780.586.0710

Pigeon Lake Watershed Association

What's Next

- Best Practice Development
 - Environmental Law Centre
- Land Use
 - Province – Land Use Framework
 - Wetaskiwin – Municipal Development Plan and Bylaw Review
 - Leduc – Regional Area Structure Plan
- Fisheries Management Plan Implementation
- Shoreline Demonstration Site
- Integrated Watershed Management Plan Development
- Water Balance Study
- Regional Economic Impact Study

Lessons Learned - Successes

- Burning Platform
- Fund Raising
- Key Note Speakers
- Cooperative Approach
- Key Stakeholders
- Partnerships
- Regular Communications
- Small Core Group
- On The Ground
- Develop “Brand”
- Passionate Directors
- Special Interests
- Learn The “Industry”
- Network/Network
- Conferences
- Written Reports
- Use Technology
- Feed Them!

Lessons Learned - Opportunities

- Know Your Membership
- Use Volunteers
- Lead By Example
- Diversity Of Directors
- Board Size & Renewal
- Spread The Workload
- Develop Successors
- Two Way Feedback
- Objectives & By-Laws
- Annual Retreat
- Board Game Plan
- Budget & Reporting
- Charitable Status
- Grants
- Policy Approach
- Shared Files

Contact Information

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