

**LLAPS Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 10th, 2010**

Doug called the meeting to order at 7:12. Doug and Ann reminded people that Craig Barlow, from the MOE would meet interested people to discuss fish rearing enhancement in Langford Lake and any feeder streams. People should meet at the Ed Nixon trail head Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00

Deb Epps was introduced. She gave updates on our three local lakes and aerator “health” was the main topic. When MOE does their water sampling 4 times a year, they pay particular attention to oxygen levels, nutrients, metals, temperature and water clarity. As a result of their readings, the Glenlake aerator was rebuilt in 2005 and it seems to be doing a good job increasing the amount of fish friendly habitat in the lake.

Ken Ashley (sp?), an aerator consultant is making recommendations as to the type of aerator that should be installed in Langford Lake. Deb says that the water sampling indicates that the zone of livable fish habitat (ideal temperature and oxygen levels) is extremely narrow in Langford Lake with the existing system – it just isn’t working well.

While aerators do make a difference, Deb mentioned some interesting findings. In Glenlake in 2008, for some reason the aerator wasn’t turned on until July, yet there was a greater suitable fish range that year than in 2009, most likely because of high summer water temperatures in 2009.

She indicated that each aerator costs approximately \$10,000 annually to operate and maintain. Initial installation costs varied depending on location and type of pump required. She indicated that the City of Langford is aware of the need for a new aerator and would try to incorporate the cost when allocating their Parks Dept. budget. Deb said her conversations with fishery people suggested they were confident that a new aerator would result in a healthier fishery, and funding sources were being investigated.

Deb did not have many encouraging words for the health of Florence Lake. Sampling showed there is essentially no range of suitable fish habitat as the lake is either too hot or, with organic decay, there is insufficient oxygen for a healthy fish population. Unfortunately the lake is too shallow for an aerator to have any effect. She did agree that flushing the lake by diverting some of the creeks or streams to their original courses would be of considerable benefit. Unfortunately, unless some of the phosphorous rich silt is removed, there is little hope for improved lake health, though eliminating septic leakage is a positive step in slowing down the process.

Deb is required to file an official MOE report on Langford Lake and it should be available on-line in August.

Evan Murray reviewed his thesis proposal. One of his objectives was to make suggestions for controlling phosphorous runoff into Langford Lake. Evan did a good job of making a very technical report understandable to we lay people in attendance. For those who are up to the challenge, his thesis is on line at:

<http://dspace.royalroads.ca/docs/bitstream/handle/10170/362/Murray%20%20Evan.pdf?sequence=1>

One of Evan's key recommendations was that there must be monitoring of the runoff from new developments such as Westhills. Langford Lake already is precariously nutrient rich and any fertilizer or sewage would be most unwelcome. In fact, pumped water from the bottom of the lake would apparently make for ideal lawn fertilizer!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Just a reminder that will be no meetings in July or August and that our next scheduled meeting is Thursday September 23<sup>rd</sup>.