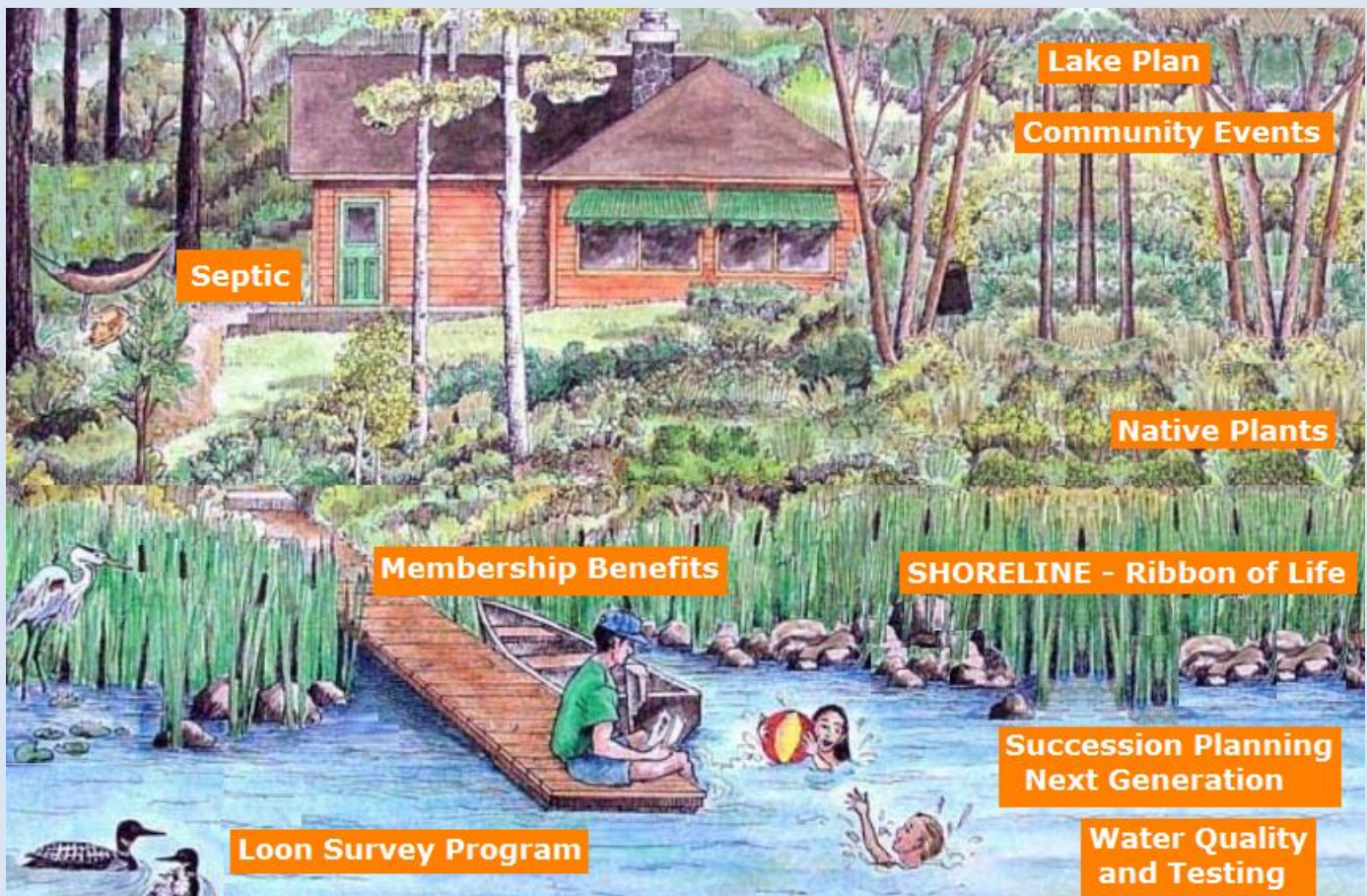


WHAT A LAKE ASSOCIATION DOES FOR A COTTAGE OWNER



Community Events: Hosted yearly by the SDLCA are the Canada Day Weekend Fireworks, Concert by the Lake, Canoe Race and Kids Games and SDLCA community meetings. Each event is an opportunity to meet other Salerno Lake Cottagers and create synergy and strengthen in our lake community. [Mark the dates](#) in your calendar and plan to attend the events.

Lake Plan: The purpose of the Lake Plan is to provide information on the Salerno Lake Community and recommendations to assist in maintaining, sustaining and improving the things we value as residents of the Salerno Lake Community.

In October 2012, the Salerno Lake Shoreline Inventory Project was undertaken through U-Links, and a report was completed by a Trent University student. The purpose of the shoreline inventory is to aid in the continued efforts supporting shoreline preservation and management. On July 27th, 2013, a Public Meeting and Vision Statement Workshop was held to develop a Vision statement:

To sustain, enhance and promote Salerno Lake’s natural heritage for generations through preserving water quality, tranquility, natural environment and viewscape; sharing a balance between human activity and the environment with respect and dignity.

A second open house and workshop was held on Saturday July 5th, 2014 to review the draft Lake Plan and provide further comments and feedback. Following the workshop, a final draft has been completed and has being presented to the Salerno Lake Community for approval at a Public Session on August 2nd, 2014. The Salerno Lake Plan is posted on our [website](#).

Loon Survey Program: Get involved and help us better understand the health of the Common Loon and other water bird populations by participating in the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey. Other programs include the Aquatic Invasive Species and water testing. Thank you to the Pepper family for volunteering to help with this program.

Member Benefits: Have you renewed your SDLCA membership? If yes then [these discounts](#) are available to you because the SDLCA is affiliated with FOCA.

Native Plants: We need them, we want them and they provide a beautiful, hardy, drought resistant, low maintenance landscape while benefiting the environment. Native plants, once established, save time and money by eliminating the need for fertilizers, pesticides, water and lawn maintenance. It is to the benefit of our local ecosystems, and the plants and animals in them, to use native plants in all areas of the landscape. A complete list of native plants can be found under “Your Property” on our [www.SDLCA.ca](#) website.

Septic: Did you know? Septic systems are the single largest polluter of our lakes. All systems pollute, but those not working well pollute much more. The 2 secrets to septic health and minimizing lake pollution are: Bacteria and Time.

Bacteria - Never let anything go down the drain that kills the good bacteria in your system, like: Bleach, Anti-Bacterial Products, Dishwasher Detergent containing bleach and phosphates, Dishwasher Rinse Aids (use lemon juice instead), Cream Cleaners (most have bleach), Drain Cleaners (use Eco Ethic Septic Treatment instead), Automatic Toilet Bowl Cleaners (blue is not green). Your system needs as much time as you can give it to digest the waste you put in before the next load of water arrives.

Time - Remember one drop in = one drop out of your system. Give your system time by minimizing water use and spreading it out over time. Educating and learning more about septic systems is one of SDLCA’s top initiatives for 2014.

Shoreline - known as Ribbon of Life is a sophisticated ecosystem that serves as the "glue" holding a shoreline together, through roots and foliage. It’s also a zone where contaminants from land can be filtered, where fish can lay their eggs and where smaller critters can hide out. The great thing about nature is its ability to heal itself. It’s never too late to restore an altered shoreline to its natural state, by replanting native shrubs and grasses, removing break walls and switching to shore-friendly docks. All you have to do then is recline into your hammock, put your feet up, and let Mother Nature do her thing.

Ensuring water quality and sustaining the lake's watershed/ecosystem(s) preserves and sustains the value of Salerno Lake properties. As the SDLCA takes on most of these initiatives, it is working to preserve your property values. A healthy lake means property values will be sustained and not decrease. Educating our community about how to improve our Ribbon of Life is another top initiative for the SDLCA.

Succession Planning – Next Generation: Due to changes in tax law, handing down the cottage to the kids is not the simple matter it once was. FOCA's popular Cottage Succession Seminar Series encourages everyone to consider how they plan to "Keep the 'Family' in the Family Cottage." These sessions are free to SDLCA members – see <http://www.foca.on.ca/Cottage-Succession>.

Water Quality and Testing: Salerno Lake is part of a province wide, volunteer-base, water quality monitoring program called [Lake Partner Program](#). Over 600 volunteers monitor nutrients and water clarity at almost 800 lakes. Our testing kits arrive via Canada Post each year. Testing is performed in 3 locations on Salerno Lake in the summer months between May to October.