

White Lake Campground Expansion Rallies Concerned Residents

2nd Public Meeting Scheduled for April 5th

MEDIA INVITED TO COVER



March 21, 2016 – White Lake, Mississippi Mills: The proposed expansion of the White Lake Campground has raised major environmental concerns among White Lake residents. The White Lake Preservation Project (WLPP), which represents more than 200 individuals, has taken the lead in proposing a compromise that would balance development and environmental protection.

The original development proposal for the Hayes Bay campground, which is located in a shallow isolated bay of White Lake, is to increase the number of trailer sites from 33 to between 150 and 200.

In light of the recent algae blooms, one of which was toxic, WLPP is recommending that the municipality live by its own by-laws as they were written to protect the lake. The developers, in contrast, want to amend these laws and replace the small, old, temporary trailers with much larger, permanent residential trailers. Their push to add upwards of 200 residential trailers – above the current allowance of 100 vacation trailers – has triggered the concern of residents who are worried about the health of the lake. The developer has also requested 150 boat slips, which would put an additional burden on the already challenged Environmental Protection Zone, which is also a Provincially Significant Wetland.

The meeting, scheduled for April 5, will provide an opportunity for the public to present their points of view. Residents are not suggesting that development be banned but rather that the developers scale it down so that the lake will not only provide family fun but also remain the wildlife habitat that it's come to be known for.

The Township has recommended that to be sure not to miss the start of the public meeting, interested parties should be there by 6 pm. The public meeting will start immediately following the Council Meeting which is at 6 pm.

The meeting will take place at the Town Hall 3131 Old Perth Road, Almonte.

For additional information, email wlpmail@gmail.com