

Lakes & Rivers

Greater Sudbury's hundreds of lakes are important to us. They need our protection. Several groups and agencies, along with the City, play a role in protecting our lake and river resources.

The Cooperative Freshwater Ecology Unit, located in the Living With Lakes Centre, has been monitoring and studying our lakes and training young researchers for decades. They've found that our lakes are improving greatly compared to the old days. They've also identified remaining challenges. For example, lakes within the barren areas are still being held back from being even healthier by a lack of organic matter from fallen leaves, tree trunks and woody debris in the water. These elements greatly increase the food and shelter for aquatic organisms, including several fish species.

As a result of these findings, the City's Regreening Program will focus on increasing tree density within a 100-metre belt around lakes. In time, these trees will add leaves, branches and trunks to the water's aquatic system.

The City's Lake Water Quality Program, along with other groups and agencies, will continue to promote best-practices for waterfront residents. This includes protecting or re-planting a wide vegetation buffer along the water's edge.

Although shoreline stewardship is crucial, a lake's ecosystem and water quality are also highly dependent on the land that drains into it.



Lake Ramsey – the drinking water source for nearly half of the Greater Sudbury residents