



Greater Sudbury
Watershed Alliance

Who is the Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance (GSWA)?

- An association of 16 lake, creek, and river stewardship groups
- Committed to protecting and improving watersheds in Greater Sudbury since 2009



GSWA Current Members

- Fairbank Lake
- Grant Lake
- Junction Creek
- Lake Panache
- Lake Ramsey
- Lake Wanapitei
- Long Lake
- McCrea Lake
- McFarlane Lake
- Minnow Lake
- Richard Lake
- Simon Lake
- Silver Lake
- St. Charles Lake
- Vermillion River
- Whitewater Lake-(Azilda CAN)

What We Do

Advocate for:

- Healthy Watersheds
- Best Management Practices



Natural Shoreline Buffers

- An effective filter for stormwater run-off



How We Do It

- Successful fundraising events in 2012 & 2014



GSWA Concerns

- Pollution
- Cyanobacteria
- Filamentous Algae
- Spiny Water Flea
- Eurasian Milfoil
- Ineffective Septic Systems
- Rail Safety



GSWA Partners with City



- **Milfoil Abatement Program**
- **Education & Outreach**
- **Watershed Advisory Panel**

Past and Current GSWA Initiatives

- **Phosphorus Bylaw**

- A restriction on the use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus on established lawns

- **Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) abatement**

- A collaboration with the City of Greater Sudbury to reduce the invasive aquatic plant via weevil stocking

- **Annual Public Educational Events**

- A collaboration with many partners



Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM)

- EWM is in 18 Sudbury area lakes & spreading
- Three-year abatement project had some success
- Monitoring and collaboration continue.
- Education and awareness events continue.



Spiny Water Flea

- Identified in Lake Panache & Lake Nepahwin
- Eats up to three times as much food as other zooplankton & reproduce quickly
- Threatens food web & can disrupt water intakes
- No methods to eradicate it
- Prevention is key to stopping its spread



Boat Washing Events

- Boat washing is effective at reducing the spread of both EWM and the Spiny Water Flea



Prevention - Next Steps

Continued Signage Project
At Boat Launches

EWM Abatement
Monitoring/New Ideas



Railway Safety



Wanapitei River, 2013: Wheel bearing failure sends 2 containers to river bottom and 5 floating

○ GSWA Rail Report

Sudbury Area Derailments



Spanish River Derailment, 2015

3 locomotives and 8 loaded cars of slurry derailed



Gogama Derailments, 2015

More than 1 million litres of crude oil and petroleum distillates leaked into waterways

Next Steps:



- Lobby for more robust rail safety measures

GSWA continues to advocate for:

- **Climate Resilience:**

- Wetland protection to protect habitat and prevent flooding
- Green Infrastructure to prevent flooding and reduce pollution reaching our waterways



- **Wastewater and Stormwater Upgrades**

- Ending inflow and infiltration of stormwater into Wastewater Treatment Facilities
- Ending bypassing of untreated & undertreated sewage into our lakes and rivers

In Conclusion...

- GSWA is dedicated to the protection and improvement of our waterways
 - We Applaud CGS for advancing Watershed Studies
- Our future looks bright as we continue to find productive ways to work together!

