



SUSTAINABLE WATER BODY ACCESS MANAGEMENT POLICY



Ville de
MONT-TREMBLANT



A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Mont-Tremblant is known for its beautiful natural environment and bodies of water. The region has 16 lakes and roughly 300 km of waterways that help shape the identity of our city and define its unique character. These bodies of water provide us with a range of services, such as the water we drink, as well as tourist attractions and activities for both residents and visitors alike.

In order to monitor usage, facilitate access and preserve these spaces we are so proud of, you will find our *Sustainable Water Body Access Management Policy* on the following pages.

In 2010, we adopted our first *Waterway Access and Use Management Policy*, and now we are pleased to share this new version with you. We believe that regularly reviewing policy documents is important to ensure that we continue to follow best practices and meet the needs of our residents. This document, stemming from the *2019-2023 Strategic Plan / Destination 2030*, is also a way for us to reiterate the importance of protecting and showcasing these invaluable resources.

I would like to highlight that this policy is the result of a public consultation and close collaboration with relevant partners, including the lake associations. It is in line with the *Organisme de bassins versants (OBV) des rivières Rouge, Petite Nation et Saumon's Master Plan for Water (MPW)* and the guidelines of the *Conseil régional de l'environnement des Laurentides' Bleu Laurentides* program.

Lastly, this policy is also intended to be a comprehensive source of information for the general public. So, I would like to invite all Tremblant residents to familiarize themselves with our new policy.

Happy reading!

Luc Brisebois
Mayor



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WHY IS A SUSTAINABLE WATER BODY ACCESS MANAGEMENT POLICY NECESSARY?

In 2010, the City of Mont-Tremblant developed the original version of this policy, back then called the *Waterway Access and Use Management Policy for the City of Mont-Tremblant*.

With the aim of demystifying the legislative framework surrounding this resource and the very little leeway that municipalities are given in sound water body management, a strategic framework was developed with two working guidelines: resource sustainability management and conflict mitigation. With the community's support, this policy was intended to serve as a reference for the City of Mont-Tremblant's priority areas for managing bodies of water in the region. A decade after it was enacted, there was proof of the policy's success, with new codes of ethics, signage in certain lake areas and river shoreline revegetation.

As the second most populated city in the Laurentians RCM, the City of Mont-Tremblant has experienced strong population growth in recent years and has become a popular tourist destination with all the cultural, tourist, sports and resort activities offered. The 16 lakes and 300 kilometres of waterways crisscrossing the municipality are a major economic driver for the region. In order to continue the efforts of the last ten years in preserving water bodies and facilitating access for different users, the City of Mont-Tremblant decided to update its *Waterway Access and Use Management Policy*. This endeavour also aligns with the 4th guideline of the *2019-2023 Strategic Plan | Destination 2030* and its objective of ensuring the sound development of lakes, rivers, visual corridors and natural heritage.

A public consultation was held in May 2021 to gather feedback for this document. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the consultation was held virtually using an online questionnaire made available to residents.





BACKGROUND

VACATION DESTINATION: MONT-TREMBLANT'S REALITY

Nestled in the heart of Laurentians region, Mont-Tremblant welcomes millions of tourists every year from all around the world. It is also home to approximately 10,000 permanent residents and about the same number of cottagers. Rich in wildlife, vegetation and exceptional landscapes, the local economy relies primarily on two drivers: the tourism industry and real estate development. For the City of Mont-Tremblant, maintaining its authenticity is of the utmost importance, and this includes protecting its valuable natural resources.

The pristine nature in the Tremblant area, particularly the many bodies of water, makes it possible to offer a wide range of services, tourist attractions and activities for a diverse clientele (residents, cottagers and tourists). Some of the activities offered include hiking, swimming, water activities and fishing. Vacation and recreational areas account for a significant part of the region.





WATERWAYS

The City of Mont-Tremblant is located in the Diable River watershed, which springs from the Mont-Tremblant National Park. The Diable is a 114-km long river that drains an area of 1,206 km² and empties into the Rouge River in the municipality of Brébeuf. Its meandering course, owing to the sandy nature of the substrate, and its five shoreline access points to the 23-km canoe route make it one of the most popular rivers for canoeing and kayaking.

Of its 36 main tributaries, 14 are located in Mont-Tremblant. The two largest are Clair Creek and Noir Creek. The Noir Creek watershed is approximately 57 km² and comes from two separate sources in the municipality of Lac-Supérieur. Clair Creek drains an area of nearly 34 km² and originates in the municipality of Mont-Blanc, before joining the Diable River near Mont-Tremblant City Hall.





LAKES

The Mont-Tremblant region includes 16 major bodies of water, 3 of which are over 1 km², 3 others are between 0.5 and 1 km² and the remaining 10 are less than 0.5 km².

The largest of these is Tremblant Lake, which covers an area of 9.67 km², followed by Ouimet (1.58 km²) and Mercier (1.23 km²) Lakes.

Almost all of the lakes present positive data on water quality, except for Maskinongé Lake, which is meso-eutrophic. The other lakes fall into the ultra-oligotrophic, oligotrophic and oligo-mesotrophic categories. This means that Mont-Tremblant's lakes are in a relatively good state and that premature aging is not very advanced at this stage. This is favourable to water and boating activities, which must be managed accordingly to limit conflict between users.

In addition, certain invasive alien aquatic plants, particularly Eurasian water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), have been detected in some of Mont-Tremblant's water bodies. Cyanobacteria blooms are also occasionally observed. It is therefore essential that we protect these water bodies to limit the spread of invasive alien species.





LEGAL FRAMEWORK

WHILE A NUMBER OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERN WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN CANADA, THE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT EACH HAVE THEIR OWN JURISDICTION.

FEDERAL

The federal government's responsibility spans a variety of jurisdictions, including fisheries through the *Fisheries Act*. The Federal Minister is also responsible for decisions that are enforced in Quebec, including the regulation of navigation on water bodies under the *Canada Shipping Act*. The actions arising from these laws are subsequently enshrined in the *Federal Water Policy* and have two main goals, namely the preservation and enhancement of water quality, and the rational and efficient management and use of water (Government of Canada, 2020).


Only Transport Canada can regulate motorboat traffic on lakes, speed and anchoring.

Any boat can legally anchor on a body of water as long as it does not interfere with navigation.



PROVINCIAL

The beds of water bodies and waterways are owned by the provincial government. The *Act to affirm the collective nature of water resources and to promote better governance of water and associated environments* stipulates that water is a common good belonging to the collective heritage of Quebec, while the *Environmental Quality Act* provides a framework for authorized shoreline activities. The *Land Use Planning and Development Act* helps reinforce the protection of areas of ecological interest, shorelines and areas of site-specific constraints. The *Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs*, through the *Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife*, is responsible for the legal supervision of fishing activities, including fish stocking in water bodies.

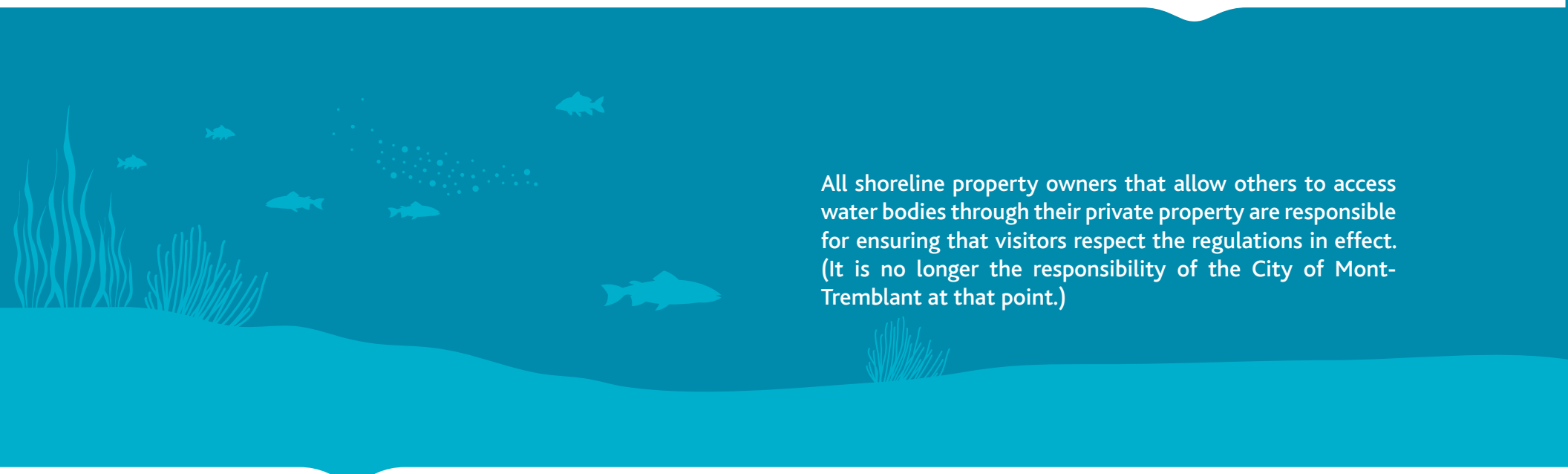


Mooring is a provincial responsibility governed by the *Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques*, which issues installation permits.



REGIONAL AND MUNICIPAL

Through their land use development plans, the Regional County Municipalities (RCMs) set out regulatory applications related to the protection of water and associated environments, which may subsequently be found in the municipal bylaws. However, the City of Mont-Tremblant's real power to take action lies in its urban planning bylaws, which impose a set of standards – sometimes stricter than those of the RCM – to preserve its bodies of water.



All shoreline property owners that allow others to access water bodies through their private property are responsible for ensuring that visitors respect the regulations in effect. (It is no longer the responsibility of the City of Mont-Tremblant at that point.)



AREAS COVERED

This policy applies to all lakes in the Mont-Tremblant region. However, certain aspects of the policy are specific to certain bodies of water.

In order to achieve our objectives, certain measures have been established according to the size of the water body, its capacity and the expectations of shoreline residents.

Priority areas have been developed based on three categories, which are determined by the size of the lake:

- Larger than 1 km²
- Between 0.5 km² and 1 km²
- Smaller than 0.5 km²

This classification was established to support water body sustainability. Since a lake's capacity to tolerate recreational activities varies according to its size and the intensity of the activities, priority areas and concrete actions have been developed with a special focus on small bodies of water to protect them from the constraints and stresses that certain activities or uses could create. The smaller the body of water, the less able it is to withstand pressures in the medium and long term.

Large lakes, on the other hand, have fewer physical constraints for infrastructure development, since they can handle a greater number of users. Also, from a social point of view, a local community's peace and quiet is less disturbed on large bodies of water because a range of activities (tourist and commercial) are usually already taking place there. From an environmental standpoint, several elements must be taken into consideration, such as the level of eutrophication. This may require adapted actions to better manage lakes that are exhibiting signs of accelerated aging.




This policy is not intended to impede new developments or projects of public interest, but rather to ensure that they are managed properly according to their environment.



MONT-TREMBLANT'S BODIES OF WATER



LEGEND

-  Waterway
-  Lake
-  Municipal boundaries

SOURCES

Hydrographic network: MELCC (2018)

Municipal boundaries: MAMH (2018)

Projection: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM 18N

Prepared: 2021





OVERVIEW OF EACH LAKE

	DESCRIPTION	TREMBLANT	OUMET	MERCIER	MASKINONGÉ
LAKE SPECIFICATIONS	Surface area (km ²)	9.67	1.59	1.23	0.96
	Length (km)	11 km including 7.6 km in Mont-Tremblant	2.1	2.5	1.6
	Trophic status (RSVL) ¹	Oligotrophic (2020)	Mesotrophic (2018) ²	Oligotrophic (2018) ²	Meso-eutrophic (2020)
	Presence of invasive alien aquatic plants	No	Eurasian water-milfoil	Eurasian water-milfoil	Eurasian water-milfoil
REGULATIONS	Federal regulations	Speed limit 10 km/hr <60 m from shoreline 55 km/hr >60 m from shoreline	Prohibited: mechanically propelled boats, electric powered boats with max. power >7.5 kW	No	No
	Municipal regulations – launch ramp	No	No	Yes	No
	Municipal regulations – watercraft washing	Motorboats: mandatory for all bodies of water Non-motorized boats: washing recommended			
TYPE OF WATERCRAFT	Authorized watercraft under boating code of ethics	All	Electric only with 7.5 kW max. power	All	All
	Jet skis	Prohibited throughout the region under the boating code of ethics			
	Watercraft speed and minimum distance from shoreline	10 km/hr at less than 60 m from the shoreline under the boating code of ethics	10 km/hr maximum over the entire water body	10 km/hr at less than 60 m from the shoreline under the boating code of ethics	10 km/hr at less than 60 m from the shoreline under the boating code of ethics
ACTIVITIES	Municipal beach	No	No	Yes	No
	Launch ramp	Yes, for residents only (private ramp)	No	Yes	No
	Municipal waterfront land	Yes (no water access)	No	Yes	Yes (no water access)
	Marina	Yes, for Mont-Tremblant residents only	No	No	No
	Lake association	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

¹ The data presented in the table are from the last year when monitoring was carried out as part of the Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs (RSVL - Volunteer lake monitoring network). Note that the trophic status of lakes is subject to variation over the years.

² The data come from a five-year monitoring of lakes by the City.



OVERVIEW OF EACH LAKE

	DESCRIPTION	DESMARAIS	DUHAMEL	GAUTHIER	GÉLINAS
LAKE SPECIFICATIONS	Surface area (km ²)	0.89	0.53	0.45	0.39
	Length (km)	1.6	1.9	0.94	1.1
	Trophic status (RSVL) ¹	Oligotrophic (2020)	Oligotrophic (2019)	Oligotrophic (2019)	Oligotrophic (2020)
	Presence of invasive alien aquatic plants	No	Eurasian water-milfoil	No	No
REGULATIONS	Federal regulations	No	No	No	No
	Municipal regulations – launch ramp	No	No	No	No
	Municipal regulations – watercraft washing	Motorboats: mandatory for all bodies of water Non-motorized boats: washing recommended			
TYPE OF WATERCRAFT	Authorized watercraft under boating code of ethics	Electric only	All	Electric only	Electric only
	Jet skis	Prohibited throughout the region under the boating code of ethics			
	Watercraft speed and minimum distance from shoreline	10 km/hr maximum over the entire water body	10 km/hr at <60 m from the shoreline and 30 km/hr at >60 m from the shoreline	10 km/hr maximum over the entire water body	10 km/hr maximum over the entire water body
ACTIVITIES	Municipal beach	No	No	No	No
	Launch ramp	No	No	Yes	Yes
	Municipal waterfront land	Yes (light watercraft)	No	Yes (no parking)	Yes (light watercraft)
	Marina	No	No	No	No
	Lake association	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

¹The data presented in the table are from the last year when monitoring was carried out as part of the Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs (RSVL - Volunteer lake monitoring network). Note that the trophic status of lakes is subject to variation over the years.

² The data come from a five-year monitoring of lakes by the City.



OVERVIEW OF EACH LAKE

	DESCRIPTION	FORTIER	FORGET	BESSETTE	DUFOUR
LAKE SPECIFICATIONS	Surface area (km ²)	0.31	0.27	0.18	0.18
	Length (km)	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.6
	Trophic status (RSVL) ¹	Oligotrophic (2019) ²	Oligo.-meso. (2019)	Oligotrophic (2020)	Mesotrophic (2018)
	Presence of invasive alien aquatic plants	No	No	No	No
REGULATIONS	Federal regulations	No	No	No	No
	Municipal regulations – launch ramp	No	No	No	No
	Municipal regulations – watercraft washing	Motorboats: mandatory for all bodies of water Non-motorized boats: washing recommended			
TYPE OF WATERCRAFT	Authorized watercraft under boating code of ethics	Electric only	Electric only	Electric only	Electric only
	Jet skis	Prohibited throughout the region under the boating code of ethics			
	Watercraft speed and minimum distance from shoreline	10 km/hr maximum over the entire water body	10 km/hr maximum over the entire water body	10 km/hr at less than 60 m from the shoreline under the boating code of ethics	10 km/hr at less than 60 m from the shoreline under the boating code of ethics
ACTIVITIES	Municipal beach	No	No	No	No
	Launch ramp	No	No	No	No
	Municipal waterfront land	Yes (stairs)	No	No	No
	Marina	No	No	No	No
	Lake association	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

¹The data presented in the table are from the last year when monitoring was carried out as part of the Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs (RSVL - Volunteer lake monitoring network). Note that the trophic status of lakes is subject to variation over the years.

² The data come from a five-year monitoring of lakes by the City.



OVERVIEW OF EACH LAKE

	DESCRIPTION	LAMOUREUX	MOORE	DE L'AQUEDUC	BEAUVALLON
LAKE SPECIFICATIONS	Surface area (km ²)	0.16	0.14	0.08	0.05
	Length (km)	0.79	0.78	0.44	0.31
	Trophic status (RSVL) ¹	Oligo.-meso. (2019)	Mesotrophic (2018)	n/a	n/a
	Presence of invasive alien aquatic plants	No	No	No	No
REGULATIONS	Federal regulations	No	No	No	No
	Municipal regulations – launch ramp	No	No	No	No
	Municipal regulations – watercraft washing	Motorboats: mandatory for all bodies of water Non-motorized boats: washing recommended			
TYPE OF WATERCRAFT	Authorized watercraft under boating code of ethics	Electric only	Electric only	N/A	N/A
	Jet skis	Prohibited throughout the region under the boating code of ethics			
	Watercraft speed and minimum distance from shoreline	10 km/hr maximum over the entire water body	10 km/hr maximum over the entire water body	N/A	N/A
ACTIVITIES	Municipal beach	No	No	No	No
	Launch ramp	No	No	No	No
	Municipal waterfront land	No	Yes (no water access)	Yes (no water access)	No
	Marina	No	No	No	No
	Lake association	Yes	No	No	No

¹The data presented in the table are from the last year when monitoring was carried out as part of the Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs (RSVL - Volunteer lake monitoring network). Note that the trophic status of lakes is subject to variation over the years.

² The data come from a five-year monitoring of lakes by the City.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Lakes and waterways are an asset that the City of Mont-Tremblant and its residents wish to protect and enhance. This desire to protect these resources is most often expressed by local residents' associations and can occasionally lead to conflicts of use between the various users.

To simultaneously control activities that may be considered problematic and to protect the environments concerned, it is essential for the City of Mont-Tremblant to respond to the concerns of residents and the public regarding access to water bodies. To this end, several actions have been taken in the past, some of which are presented on the following page.





ACTIONS TO PROTECT WATER BODIES



- Establishing regulations restricting boating on certain lakes
- Contacting Transport Canada regarding the *Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations (VORR)* on Duhamel Lake
- Installing a separate sewer system in downtown Mont-Tremblant to limit overflows into the Diable River
- Adopting a municipal bylaw on boat washing
- Establishing a boating lane in the south bay of Tremblant Lake
- Installing 32 speed limit buoys on Tremblant Lake

- An agreement was reached with *Préservation Lac-Tremblant-Nord (PLTN)* to centralize the launching of boats on Tremblant Lake
- Reducing the number of boats moored in the south bay of Tremblant Lake (from 105 to 78)
- Parking spaces added at the public entrances to Desmarais Lake and Gélinas Lake, limiting the maximum number of vehicles that can park there to eight
- Adding a public park with a dock on Moore Lake
- Improving the public park at Gauthier Lake
- Developing trails, rest areas and public parking at Aqueduc Lake

ACTIONS REGARDING ACCESS TO WATER BODIES





KNOWLEDGE ACQUISITION



- Reimbursing the associations for costs related to the RSVL (*Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs* or Volunteer Lake Monitoring Network)
- Classifying aquatic plants and periphytons in herbariums
- Following up on lake water quality every five years
- Preparing bathymetric maps of 12 lakes
- Annual water quality monitoring of the Diable River and its tributaries
- Monitoring riparian buffer protection measures
- Ensuring septic system compliance



- Creating a canoe route on the Diable River in partnership with the *Alliance pour une Gestion Intégrée et Responsable du bassin versant de la rivière du Diable (AGIR pour la Diable)*
- Adding a new access point to the canoe network on Montée Ryan equipped with a composting toilet
- Creating an area just for fly fishing with trails and welcome stations
- Improving the Mercier Lake municipal beach
- Using buoys to mark off a swimming lane for training from Parc-plage to Tremblant Lake
- Maintaining a boat launch at Mercier Lake

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES





ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS



- Financing signage to clearly indicate which lakes are affected by Eurasian water-milfoil
- Memorandum of understanding with golf courses to protect the Diable River water quality
- A significant increase in the frequency of water patrols by *Sûreté du Québec* officers

ONGOING SUPPORT FOR LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

- Annual meetings with the lake associations
- Participating in the associations' annual general meetings
- Maintaining the Municipal Lake Committee





GUIDELINES

Develop a policy based on the principles of sustainable development that includes environmental, social and economic components. The long-term goals are to meet current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

AS PER THE GUIDELINE ABOVE, THIS POLICY HAS THREE OBJECTIVES ROOTED IN THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

- Safeguard our bodies of water and waterways
- Facilitate public access to bodies of water and waterways
- Limit conflicts of use

In 2007, the City of Mont-Tremblant adopted a water policy that addresses four main topics: water governance, impacts of human activities on water, emissions management and development of water-related activities. The City of Mont-Tremblant also stated its intention to “Maintain the sound development of lakes, rivers, visual corridors and natural heritage” in Guideline 4, Objective 4 of the *2019-2023 Strategic Plan*. This policy is therefore a continuation of efforts to further the objectives of these two documents.

The City wishes to focus its efforts on addressing the expectations and needs of the various stakeholders in the region and believes it is essential that the results of the public consultation highlighting public concerns be taken into consideration.



SAFEGUARDING OUR BODIES OF WATER AND WATERWAYS

There are many parameters that can affect the state of a waterway or lake, which may be defined by its trophic status, in other words the biological activity in a body of water that can signal a state of enrichment or aging. Data from scientific studies can be used to properly manage each body of water and implement local actions to meet its specific needs.

Many factors can have an impact on the natural environment, such as the specifications of each lake, the watershed or even human activity.

MAIN FACTORS THAT PROMOTE WATER QUALITY IN LAKES AND WATERWAYS

- Width of the riparian buffer strip (10 m in urban areas, 20 m on Desmarais and Tremblant Lakes, and 15 m in the rest of the region).
- Septic systems: ensuring that remote residence septic systems are compliant with the regulations and emptied regularly, as prescribed by Law, can help reduce the risk of contaminating bodies of water.
- Monitoring factors with a direct or indirect impact on bodies of water: gas engines, seaplanes or invasive alien aquatic species potentially contaminating the water.
- Stormwater or snowmelt runoff into water bodies should be kept to a minimum at all times for conservation purposes.
- Boat washing: this is the primary measure being used to limit the spreading of invasive alien aquatic species, such as Eurasian water-milfoil.

Eurasian water-milfoil has invasive characteristics that can threaten native species. A fragment from a single stalk can be enough to establish a new colony.

However, while it is a good idea to wash motorized watercraft at a certified wash station to dislodge any Eurasian water-milfoil fragments lodged in the motor, careful visual inspection of canoes, kayaks and other non-motorized watercraft is usually enough to avoid contaminating a body of water. However, these watercraft must be washed at home.



FACILITATING PUBLIC ACCESS TO BODIES OF WATER AND WATERWAYS

The *2018-2030 Quebec Water Strategy*, arising from the *Act to affirm the collective nature of water resources and to promote better governance of water and associated environments*, specifies that water management is fundamental and that everyone must be able to use this valuable resource.

In addition to the five canoe launches along the Diable River, the City of Mont-Tremblant currently has eight lake access points, plus the city-run beach at Raynaud Lake in Domaine St-Bernard.

To facilitate public access to these bodies of water, there could be different types of public access points installed for swimming, motorboating and launching light watercraft (canoes, kayaks, etc.). Therefore, new boat launches will be installed along the Diable River and a maximum of one public access point per lake (where there currently are none) in order to spread out the potential influx of local users and cottagers. Depending on the locations selected, access from Mont-Tremblant's main hubs will be assessed based on the feasibility of building new parking lots or the potential of implementing a public transit system. With regards to regulating site access, a fee system will be put into place for visitors. Holders of the *Accès Mont-Tremblant* or *Lac-Tremblant-Nord* card will be able to access the sites free of charge. The plan is to eventually have four lakes using the fee system, namely those with larger-scale access and beaches (Tremblant Lake, Mercier Lake, Ouimet Lake and Maskinongé Lake). Smaller bodies of water with a light watercraft landing (canoes and kayaks) and limited parking will remain free of charge. The developed sites will be maintained by the City of Mont-Tremblant.





LIMITING CONFLICTS OF USE

A conflict of use can be defined as a rivalry between users over the use or management of a single resource, and can affect many spheres.

With regards to bodies of water, the use of motorized watercraft, compared to other possible uses, is undoubtedly one of the most commonly identified conflicts of use. The difficulty in regulating these uses stems from the fact that the only body with the authority to legislate on the matter is Transport Canada, through the *Canada Shipping Act*. The City of Mont-Tremblant therefore has no power to regulate motorized watercraft traffic or the number of vessels in any body of water. All lake associations in the region have boating codes of ethics and they are responsible for enforcing them in their respective waters. Shoreline residents are invited to join an existing lake association to take part in discussions on current codes.

Although it is not within the City's mandate to enforce boating codes of ethics, the City of Mont-Tremblant is being particularly proactive in the management of its bodies of water. The City supports lake associations in their efforts to raise awareness among non-shoreline resident users (local residents or cottagers), who are often unaware of the best practices to protect water quality and, in some cases, to safeguard the peace and quiet of shoreline residents.

As noise pollution travels much further over water than over land, it can be a problem for shoreline residences. The City of Mont-Tremblant has a noise pollution bylaw to protect the peace and quiet of local residents. In the event of non-compliance, a complaint can be made to the *Sûreté du Québec*, which provides police services in the Mont-Tremblant and Lac-Tremblant-Nord regions.





PRIORITY AREAS

WITH THIS POLICY, THE CITY OF MONT-TREMBLANT AIMS TO TAKE ACTION IN SEVERAL PRIORITY AREAS, AS OUTLINED IN THE TABLE BELOW.

PRIORITY AREAS	ACTIONS
LEGAL TOOLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue implementing town planning and the associated bylaws
PROTECTION OF THE RIPARIAN BUFFER STRIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue monitoring the riparian buffer strip around lakes and waterways to conduct a review every three to four years• Increase the width of the riparian buffer strip in certain urban zoning areas from 10 m to 15 m, taking into account existing buildings and the vulnerability of the natural environment• Establish a revegetation program that ensures that native plants are used in the region
SEPTIC SYSTEM COMPLIANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carry out an additional inspection of septic systems for residences in remote areas
PROTECTING BODIES OF WATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a bylaw that prohibits gutter runoff onto impermeable surfaces• Continue to develop adapted infrastructure (green parking lots, vegetated swales, etc.) on municipal lands and rights-of-way• Continue fundraising activities with lake associations to install buoys on lakes affected by Eurasian water-milfoil• Continue to implement a snow removal management policy to limit road de-icing agents and abrasives from entering water bodies and waterways (Resident proposal)• Develop a strategy to monitor real estate development near bodies of water (Resident proposal)



PRIORITY AREAS

PRIORITY AREAS	ACTIONS
WATER BODY ACCESSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add public access to the existing network, notably at Tremblant Lake, Ouimet Lake and Maskinongé Lake, while maintaining beach access at Mercier Lake• Maintain existing access points to the Diable River and create new ones• Maintain access points to smaller lakes for canoeing, kayaking and paddleboarding• Develop three new fee-based access points at Tremblant Lake and Ouimet Lake, with beaches and non-motorized watercraft launches. Assess the feasibility of adding an access point at Maskinongé Lake in the medium term. These access points will have restrooms and a waste management program.
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue sharing the results of different programs related to lake and waterway protection• Continue raising awareness on best boating practices and boat washing (mandatory washing with a sticker for motorized watercraft and washing without a sticker for non-motorized watercraft)• Raise awareness among the various waterway and lake users on their rights and responsibilities (high water marks, private and public property, etc.)• Implement an awareness campaign for seaplane owners (Resident proposal)

CONCLUSION

This policy targets the priority areas that the City of Mont-Tremblant would like to focus on in the coming years, with the goal of ensuring the sound management of water body access and use in the region. These priority areas address the current main environmental threats, which are challenges facing both current and future generations.

With this ambitious yet realistic approach, working in collaboration with the residents of Mont-Tremblant, the City's goal is to pave the path to excellence in environmental preservation and sustainable development. This document is a concrete example of how the City will be working towards protecting its invaluable natural environment, responding to resident requests and encouraging proper water use and management.

To this end, the *Comité des lacs de Mont-Tremblant* will be responsible for ensuring that the lake associations it represents are following the policy and reporting back to the Municipal Council.

In conclusion, the City of Mont-Tremblant is counting on the participation of the entire local and cottager population to help it better protect the quality of its water bodies.

