

To Whom It May Concern,

Let me start by saying that I am a firm believer that one should not rely on others to better their situation when they may have the ability to do it themselves. With that being said we as a population may have the ability to aerate our lake ourselves without investing in a very high priced system that we as a group do not have the money for. Please allow me to explain. We have a very stagnant lake simply due to the geographic layout of the area. Due to this issue our Lake Association was looking into an aeration system to alleviate the issues that have developed. Some of us have taken steps to try to alleviate the issues ourselves. I as well as some other people have installed personal aeration systems in front of our cottages. These systems are relatively cheap and simple to install, run, and maintain.

Let me first go by the numbers. In calculating the volume of our lake I had to use the fact that it is about 782 acres with an average depth of 17.4 feet. When I calculate the acre feet (782×17.4) I get 13,606.8 acre feet. An acre foot is a unit of volume equal to the volume of a sheet of water one acre in area one foot deep. I then converted acre feet to gallons and calculated that our lake contains roughly 4,433,795,263 gallons. I think my calculations are correct but if anyone out there knows the correct amount then please let me know.

Now that we know the gallons we have to deal with let us look at the systems capabilities. I have listed several possibilities below that a person could easily use. If we use an easy number of 5000 gallons per hour and infer that an individual would run their system ten hours a day then the typical system could turn over 50,000 gallons a day. I know that this does not sound like a lot but when you figure the number of people that could put one in then the numbers increase tremendously. If we figure that out of the 1500 or so cottages around the two lakes that about half of them are on Waneta then we should have somewhere near 750 cottages. If everyone put in a system that would mean that we could turn about 37,500,000 gallons a day. Since we all know that not everyone will or can put in a system for whatever reason let us figure it differently. If we could get one out of every five cottages to install a system that would be about 150 systems turning over 7,500,000 gallons per day. This would allow a group of people to absorb the added cost if need be.

I fully understand that this is not the quick fix answer that everyone is looking for. I also understand that it requires the individual cottage owner to do the work instead of relying on the Association to do it for us. Our Association is lacking the funds to do both weed control and aeration so we need to step up either in personal effort or financially put in more. I personally prefer personal effort as I view it as my/our lake. We enjoy its views from our cottage, floating on its peaceful rolling waves, swimming in its refreshing waters, and the greatest of all is the companionship of the other lake people. We are a slightly different breed of people that enjoy the peaceful simple things in life. I find that most of us are hard working independent people that are not afraid to get their hands dirty. I view us as our own community, a "Wanetaville" if you will. A place where people help each other when needed and are willing to do everything they can to protect this great place.

I would love to see a large number of bubbling fountains in front of cottages this year. We enjoy just looking at ours and I enjoy creating different spray patterns on mine. I even have a neighbor that

has fixed a colored light to theirs so that it glows different colors at night. Why don't we try to fix the problem ourselves, before we bring in outside people to do it for us. Maybe it will work, and maybe it won't, but at least we will have tried. I know that I and the people who I have visited that use the same type of system that I do have noticed an improvement.

If you choose to put one in front of your cottage there are a few things you will need to know. First of all the pump will need to be some form of a sewage or trash pump. This will allow it to chop up some of the solids that it will suck in. Please notice the gallons per hour and the size of solids it can take before plugging. You then will need to decide how to get electricity to it. I ran a heavy extension cord to mine the first year or so to see if it was going to work and now I will be putting electricity out to that area. You will also may need to install a longer cord onto the unit so that the plug is not near the water. Other than that you will just want to keep it off the bottom and figure out what type of visual display you want.

Here are just a few examples of pumps that will work:

Home Depot

½ HP Sewage pump	\$139.95	5700 GPH	handles 2" solids
0.6 HP Sewage Pump	\$298	9910 GPH	handles 2" solids

Harbor Freight

1 HP Dirty water Pump	\$54.95	2910 GPH	handles 5/8 solids
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(not much flow and clogs easy but better than nothing)

½ HP Sewage pump	\$114.99	4500 GPH	handles 2" solids
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Lowe's

½ HP Sewage pump	\$277	7200 GPH	handles 2" solids
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Thanks for reading this and I hope we all can fix our problem one way or the other.

Jay White

North End

Waukegan Lake