

Letter to the Editor,

In your editorial two weeks ago you talked about the visit of DNR Secretary Griffin and you stated that it is unfair for lake property owners to pay for erosion control, since the State owns the land and the buffer strip. I wholeheartedly agree.

I've been studying lake issues for a few years now and I would like to bring up a couple of other points that the State constantly asserts, but are incorrect. They talk, over and over, again about the natural condition of the lake and let nature do it's thing. If that were the case, the lake will become a swamp. It is NOT a natural lake. It's a man-made lake! DNR has to stock the lake and streams around us with fish!

In the buy-down process, the State fixed the boundaries of the lake, as if they were made of concrete. Then they declared a buffer strip of 25 ft. Suppose you did not protect the shore and nature eroded away those 25 ft. and into your property. Who is then responsible for what?

The title of your editorial "He Got an Earful..." is true. Secretary Griffin got an earful from a small group of people that had the whole show orchestrated, with pamphlets on each chair, people planted throughout the hall, and "great?" drama. Given the real facts, I doubt that most people would share their viewpoint! Secretary Griffin is to be congratulated for his patience and tolerating the group to speak.

Coves, by their very nature, are shallow, and have always been shallow, particularly in areas where the slopes of dry land are gradual. Sedimentation does take place; it's nature's way of dealing with a manmade artifact. In the feverish heights of the real estate market, property was bought and built on what should not have been built on, and DNR should not have authorized dock permits where there was clearly insufficient water depth.

The geese are definitely a problem. They form a health hazard. These are not transient or migrating geese. They're here year around! They should be eradicated. Cook them, and send them to the food-bank.

I also wholeheartedly agree that there must be a different approach to managing the lake. This is made difficult because two powerful State agencies have a role here, and neither wants to let go of its golden egg.

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