

## Donald Smith

I have lived on Benton Lake since 1981. At that time the Waste Water Treatment plant discharged into holding ponds and released them twice a year. Water quality in Benton Lake was good there was excellent weed growth and fish. In the not for sure the date. MPCA upgraded the plant and discharged daily, at that time the weed growth started to disappear within two years all of the weed growth was gone. And to this day the weed growth is not coming back. Carp Solutions has removed over 12,000 carp from the lake so at this time the biomass of the carp is as low as possible. The weed growth is still not coming back. Pencil weeds grew thru out the lake prior to the daliy discharge. Last year was a drought and Meuwissen Lake did not feed into Benton Lake. So the ditch between the two lakes by Meuwissen Lake pencil weeds are now coming back. THE DISCHARGE FROM THE TREATMENT PLANT DOES NOT MIGRATE THAT WAY. ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DISCHARGE FROM THE TREATMENT PLANT THAT GOES INTO BENTON LAKE, NO PENCIL WEEDS EXIST. Our Benton Lake Watershed Conservancy has stocked over 10,000 sunfish, crappies ,and bass and they are not surviving. THE OXYGEN LEVELS ARE MONITORED MONTHLY, WITH EXCELLENT OXYGEN LEVELS THROUGH OUT THE YEAR. Oxyen levels are not the problem, food in the lake is not a problem. So what is? All the BLWC wants to to have clean water that fish, birds and animals can exist.