

Rick Gales

I'm writing to you in support of Vancouver Lake where I have been rowing on the lake since 1993. It's become a well used by recreational and competitive folks over the past 25 years, but it has also seen a decline in overall health.

We have raw sewage from homeless camps, milfoil and explosions of blue green algae that finally stopped me from enjoying the lake this past summer.

The lake is growing in popularity, but it has become a health hazard to those who frequent the lake. It's a backwater that needs attention by more than the sailing and rowing club. Efforts in the past have been well intended, but fall short of anything supporting a long term solution.

I urge you to move Vancouver Lake to a high priority so our region can enjoy clean and healthy water for recreation.

The photos attached were from an overnight bloom this past summer.