

Hi Charlene,

I was talking to my brother Neal last night about how important water quality is to Northern Bay Sands, Western Bay Falls and other remote waterways in Newfoundland and Labrador. Can you imagine telling your grand children or kids the water is nice to look at on Northern Bay Sands but don't touch it. Or once upon a time you could eat the trout in Western Bay Falls. Or you only have a 25% chance of getting a bad ear or throat infection if you swim in Northern Bay Sands. The first thing parents want to know, who comes from any urban centre, is the water safe. Not 75% or 80% safe but a 100%. You can't sell a park or Newfoundland's great outdoors unless it's safe. Cabin development, chemical toilets and human encroachment will only put doubts in water quality in the long term. I already feel uncomfortable about the long-term health of Clifty Pond. The next time you visit Northern Bay Sands just watch the kids having a great time in the fresh water pool, that is now safe. Now picture your grandchildren or relatives at the fresh water pool or beach 20 yrs from now. And picture a sign posted on the beach informing folks that there will be no swimming on Northern Bay Sands because of contamination up stream. I have seen enough beautiful places on the main land closed down because of contamination. By then it was too late. I don't believe for a minute you would allow your children to swim in contaminated water. Or get into a plane that was 80% safe. It's about quality control. It's that simple.

YOURS IN CONSERVATION TONY

Hi Jacqui and Charlene,

Thanks for the email. I am glad you guys contacted transportation officials. It means a lot.

ALL THE BEST TONY

Hi Charlene,

People have asked me how do you enforce the law on indiscriminate dumping and car wrecks. The environmental investigator issues a warning to the polluter. If the garbage and wrecks are not removed in due time, issue a fine like you would a fine for speeding or reckless driving. If that don't work remove his driving privileges. Safety is safety whether it is environmental or driving. You would not get in a plane that was 80% safe. Would you drink water that was 80% safe? Future generations need that assurance.

YOURS IN CONSERVATION TONY

Hi Charlene,

Lately I have been getting some interesting feedback from surrounding area and I can honestly see why we have a problem here with environmental issues. I got a phone call last night from Mr. X and I heard more Bull Shit and excuses than one could stomach. With this mentality it would be like living in Robin Hood Bay not Western Bay or Northern Bay. I am sick and tired of these people making excuses for indiscriminate dumping, on private and crown land or harming the character of the land. My objective is the long-term safety of our wild areas and the aesthetics of our landscapes. If quality control were left up to these individuals we would have car wrecks from St. John's to North Sydney. I have exhausted every diplomatic means of dealing with this on a local level. I am looking to government for resolve. Some people here want A FREE FOR ALL DUMP SITE. I have one in front of my house. It has been there for 15 yrs. Please give environmental investigators the tools they need to do their job. This issue is committed and meeting to death. I am finished discussing this issue with Mr. X and seriously hope he do not call the house any more. I am looking at other avenues to

deal with this hideous problem. I have been strung along long enough by these individuals. By the way, the best defense these individuals have for their actions is talking about Neals ponies and how they crap in the grass on Northern Bay Sands. The park is closed then in September. I can not believe I am still talking about these environmental issue yrs later. The writing is on the wall, all we have to do is read it. Lets not be timid about environmental health and safety. PLEASE.

YOURS IN CONSERVATION TONY

Hi Charlene,

I hope all is well. How are we progressing with the indiscriminate dumping and car wreck issue? I hope that we are getting some headway. There are dumpsites all over the North Shore and beyond. Some folks still don't get it. Western Bay falls could be compromised if we continue to let remote cabin development continue up stream from Western Bay falls. The water that feeds Western Bay falls is top quality. (Only because of it's remoteness). Like I said in my latest letter, we can not afford to treat our environment like a disposable diaper anymore. The dumpsite in front of my house is a perfect example. We need tougher laws for our environment protection, like we need tougher laws to protect our citizens from drunk drivers. People tend to forget that it is the quality of these ecosystems that give us our quality of life. Some folks still continue to use their yards like a scrap yard. Which would deplore any tourist with a environmental bone in there body. The science is there, we have nowhere to run once we poison this place. That's not legislating morality it's basic survival. I hope this year will set the foundation for a cleaner and healthier rural Newfoundland and Labrador. The time has come for us to treat our environment like a extension of ourselves. This is 2007; there is no excuse for the dumpsites that continue to pop up everywhere in rural Newfoundland. I can show you personally where to find this mess. The World is changing rapidly; I hope we can have some closure to these problems in the near future.

Yours in conservation  
Tony O'Leary