

Town of Ballston Sewer Project

Public Hearing

July 23, 2015



e Coli



Toxic algae



Lots of information located on :

www.ballstonsewers.org

Check out “FAQ”s



Project History

- Clean Water Committee formed – Summer 2013
- Committee reviews previous studies.....



This isn't new !

Multiple studies have come to the same conclusion :

- 2001 Watershed Protection and Management Plan
- 2005 C.T. Male report to Town of Ballston
- 2012 Bender stream study
- 20 + Years of BLIA data
- Recent year's stream coliform tests funded by Town

Too much phosphorus, poor geology for septic systems, high water table, many older residences

Sewers are the consistent recommendation

C.T. Male, 2005 Findings

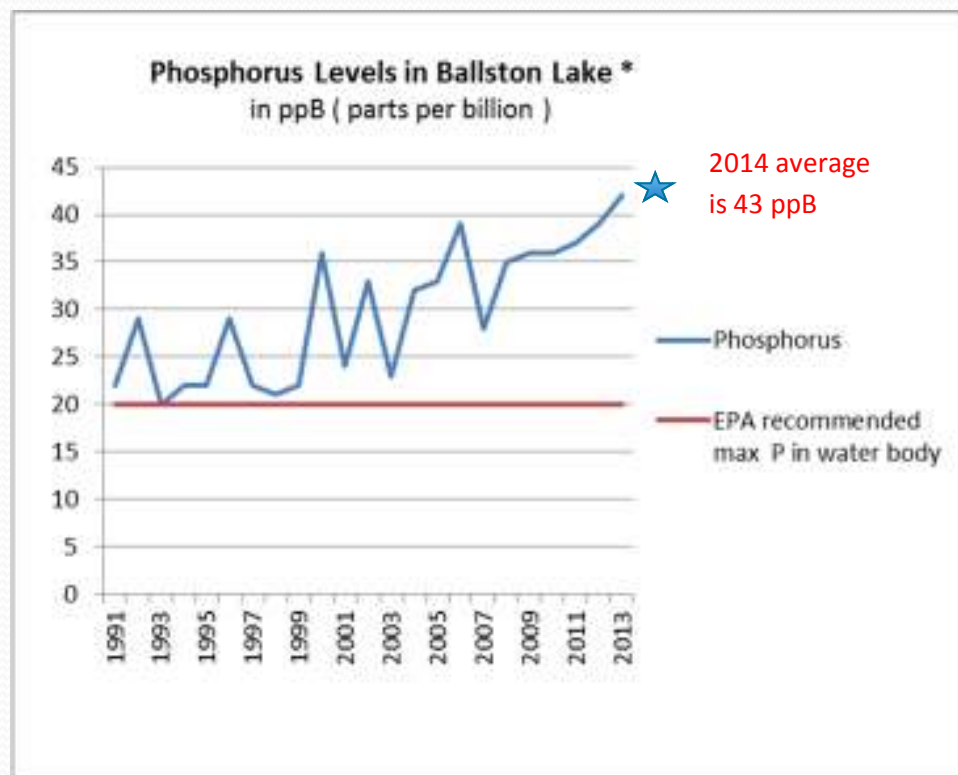
“Ballston Lake and its watershed are underlain with glacial till and impervious bedrock, while the soils have a wide variety of characteristics, most of which impede proper septic system function”

“The soils within the watershed tend to have high ground water tables; many parcels have groundwater levels of from 6” to 2’ below the surface. When the groundwater table is this high conventional septic systems will not function properly.”

“The potential for failing septic systems is a serious water quality and health threat”

A Lake in Crisis

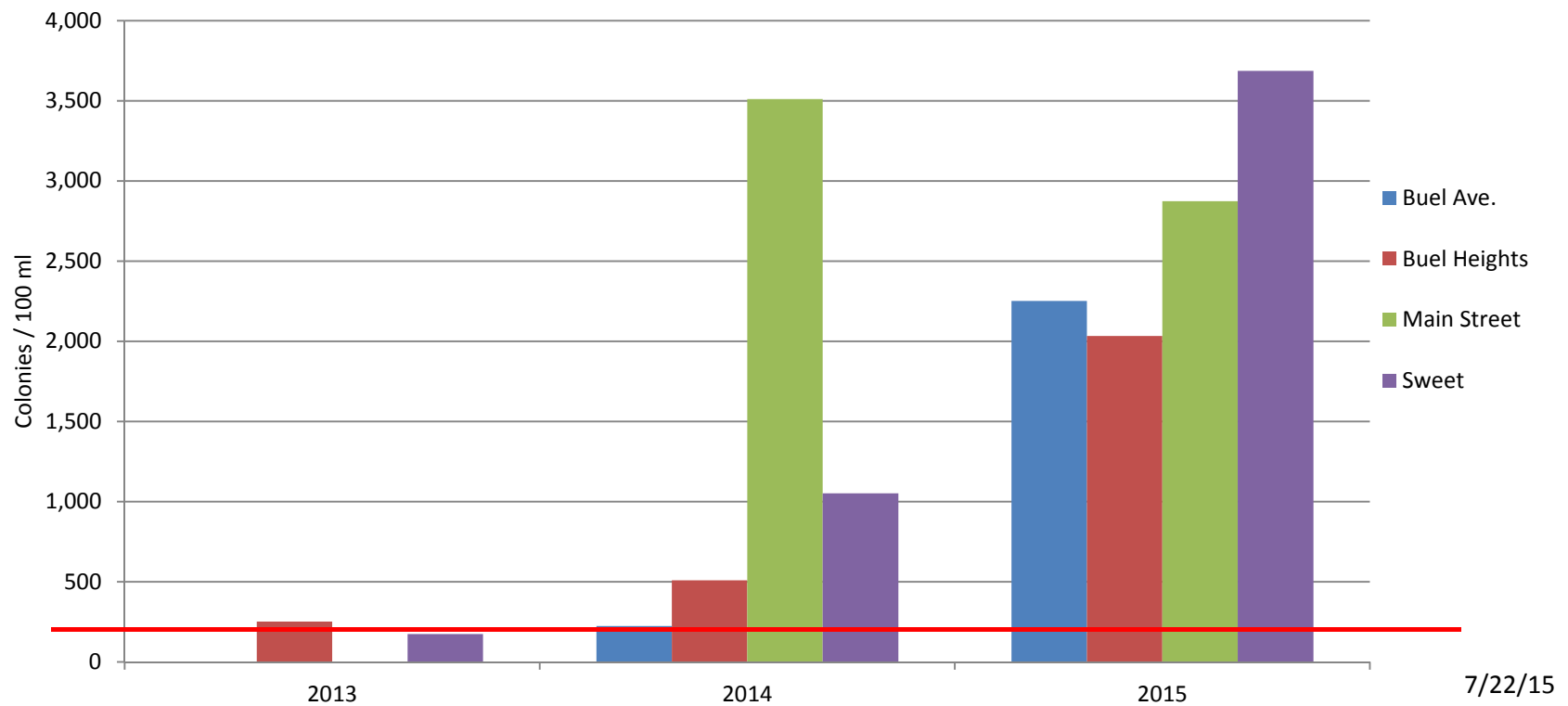
Lake Testing Shows Phosphorus Continues to Increase



Well above “eutrophic” (dying lake) threshold
(phosphorus is the “limiting” chemical in lake ecology)

Stream Testing Updated for 2015

Creek - Average Fecal Coliform



Many tests far exceed the maximum allowable number of 200 !

Why do septic systems fail ?

- **Poor geology** – this area is underlain with shale and has a high water table which means no septic system can work well !
- **Poor maintenance**
- **Age** – inevitable consequence of age, regardless of how well maintained,

Typical life expectancy ~ 30 years

Buell Heights was built in the 40's and 50's and some of the camps on Ballston Lake date back to the early 1900's



If a system is older than 30 years,
its a \$ 20,000 ticking time bomb !

A Community in Trouble

- The data shows we are facing both an environmental and public health crisis
- Toxic algae blooms the last 3 years
- In 2012 Ballston Lake was officially listed on the ENCON 303d list of “Impaired Water bodies”
- This means that under the Federal Clean Water Act, NYS is required to develop a plan to remediate.
- It’s not a question of “IF”, just “WHEN”

A Major contributor – failing septic systems, aggravated by storm runoff / erosion

Ballston Lake Sewer District

• Ballston Occupied EDUs	511
• Ballston Vacant EDUs	49
• Total Ballston EDUs	560
• Clifton Park Occupied EDUs	83
• Clifton Park Vacant EDUs	8
• Total Clifton Park EDUs	91
• Total Occupied EDUs	594
• Total Vacant EDUs	57
• Total EDUs	651
• ~69,500 LF of sewer lines	
• 1 Pump Station	



Ballston Lake Sewer District

- Total Project Cost Estimate
 - \$10,203,729
- Financing Assumptions
 - 1.84% for 30 years
 - Closing costs of 1.8% of principal
 - Net Level Debt
- Annual Debt Payment
 - \$445,634
- First Year Pump Station O&M
 - \$19,000
- Saratoga County Sewer District O&M
 - \$190/EDU

Ballston Lake Sewer District

- Annual Costs to Users

• Annual Debt Service per EDU	\$685
• Occupied EDU Pump Station O&M	\$32
• Occupied EDU SCSD O&M	\$190
• Total	\$907

• Vacant Debt Service per EDU	\$685
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- One Time Cost to Users - \$2,000 - \$10,000+ for household plumbing connection, grinder pump (if required), lateral and decommissioning of septic system.



Ballston Lake Sewer District

- Schedule
 - July 9, 2015 – Adoption of Map Plan and Report
 - July 23, 2015 – Public Hearing
 - August 2015 – SEQR and District Subject to Referendum and Office of State Comptroller (OSC) Review
 - September 2015 – Referendum and Submission to OSC
 - January 2016 – OSC Approval
 - February 2016 – Final Order to Establish District & Bond Resolution
 - March 2016 – Application for Financing
 - Summer 2016 – Summer 2017 - Design, permitting, etc.
 - Fall 2017 – Bidding & Construction Start
 - Winter 2017 – Winter 2019 - Construction



Questions ?