

The Weekly Fishing Report



August 27, 2008

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Fall Colours



Orvis Says "Yes" - D'alton Gets Hot Again - Lake Trout Lakes in the Future

...by Alan Cheeseman



Scott McEnaney, [Orvis](#) Endorsed Lodge Representative recently visited our [Miminiska Lodge](#) in order to determine if the lodge could be one of a handful of destinations Orvis will endorse for Canadian fishing adventures. He was at the lodge during [Project Healing Waters](#) in late July. He has now reached his conclusion that we can indeed be one of only seven endorsed Canadian lodges, and the only one in Ontario to receive the endorsement status.

Scott flew on our planes and fished for Brook Trout, Northern Pike and Walleye during his stay, in which he also met our guides and staff. Orvis does NOT allow any lodge to receive this endorsement status without an on-sight visit inspection, in order to protect what they call their brand identity with quality.

Receiving the endorsement is a proud moment for Wilderness North.

Based in Vermont, the [Orvis](#) name has long been linked to quality products and fishing adventures, and we are honoured by the endorsement. In this week's [podcast](#), Scott talks about the endorsement process, and his recent trip to one of two of our Albany River lodges.



While you were fishing in the boreal forests the leaf bearing trees were working hard to keep you cool. To feed the shiny green leaves that make shade, trees use sunlight to convert water and carbon dioxide into sugar. This is called photosynthesis.

Now it's autumn, and those hardworking trees, on the other hand, need to take a break from all that photosynthesizing. When leaves change colour, from green to yellow, bright orange or red, you'll know trees are beginning their long winter's rest.

As the Earth makes its 365-day journey around the sun, some parts of the planet will get fewer hours of sunlight at certain times of the year. In those regions, the days become shorter and the nights grow longer. The temperature slowly drops. Autumn comes, and then winter.

Trees respond to the decreasing amount of sunlight by producing less and less chlorophyll. Eventually, a tree stops producing chlorophyll. When that happens, the colours already in the leaves can finally show through. The leaves

Starting in the 2009 season all of our lodges will also be allowed to have Orvis tackle shops on location. This will include [Miminiska](#), [Makokibatan](#), and [Striker's Point Lodge](#).

We are proud of our staff for this recognition, and are grateful to be listed in the Orvis publications and web pages endorsing our Ontario Fly In Fishing Adventures.

It is worth noting that Orvis also sees the Project Healing Waters organization as a worthy recipient of both cash and merchandise.

In other news, [D'alton Lake](#) has popped up again as a great destination for Walleye, Pike, and photography. Dr. Peaster and his three sons are mentioned in Krista's remote cabin destinations report, and we thank Noah for the great photographs.

Many of you recall conversations we have had in the past with [Wildlife Conservation Society of Canada](#)'s Jenni McDermid. Next week Jenni will be on the podcast with her initial report on Lake Trout fishing in the two lakes she is monitoring just west of Thunder Bay, and how one lake may be an early warning about global warming. By the way, Jenni believes that Emerald Lake ([last week's newsletter](#)) has that clear, yet green colour due to high levels of copper in the rocks around the lake.

Keep in touch. I welcome your phone calls and e-mails. You can [send one](#) now.

Alan

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Rotating Sunny and Rainy Days - Fall Looms in the Wings

...Professor Graham Saunders

I see a cloudy afternoon today, with light showers overnight. Showers continue into the morning with a good chance of thundershowers late Thursday and into Friday. Rain diminishes on late Friday with a nice weekend, sunny and warm, for Saturday and Sunday. By late Monday clouds move back in with showers overnight into next Tuesday.



It is true the days are getting a bit shorter - about two minutes - each day, and with less light the birch trees are turning yellow. So

become a bright rainbow of glowing yellows, sparkling oranges and warm browns.

The amount of rain in a year also affects autumn leaf colour. A severe drought can delay the arrival of fall colours by a few weeks.

A warm, wet period during fall will lower the intensity, or brightness, of autumn colours. A severe frost will kill the leaves, turning them brown and causing them to drop early. The best autumn colours come when there's been:

- * a warm, wet spring
- * a summer that's not too hot or dry, and
- * a fall with plenty of warm sunny days and cool nights.

Music From the Wilderness



although it seems early, this can be the onset of fall.

Did you know? - The changing of the colour in the leaves is more the absence of chlorophyll brought on by not only shorter days, but the lack of moisture and colder temps, and not Jack Frost and his legendary paintbrushes. I'll tell you more in my podcast - [Listen Now](#) - and read the sidebar on the left.

Graham Saunders, is professor of meteorology at Lakehead University here in Thunder Bay, and weather commentator for the Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal and for Wilderness North.

Master Anglers - D'alton - Musgrave - ZigZag

...by Krista Cheeseman

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, fishing success at our remote cabin adventure's [D'Alton Lake](#) is back in the headlines. The Dr. Peaster party of Bartlesville, OK, a dad and three sons (see photos in header) had a great trip. It seems good luck follows them from camp to camp and this year a 28in Walleye for Jonathan (right photo) was further proof. Their good fortune in seeing both woodland caribou and northern lights played right into the plans of Noah who brought along his camera. Thanks for the pics Noah.



The group that followed them into D'alton had equal luck. Green Bay, Wisconsin's Cindy Coy's 26in Walleye put her on the Master Angler list.

From [Musgrave Lake](#), a short portage takes anglers to Kilbarry Lake, and that is where Michigan's Jim Behring caught and released his 41in Pike.

[ZigZag](#), welcomed the Cliff Davis party, from Illinois with both a 26in Walleye and 40.5in Pike for Steve Yost to earn his Master Angler Pin.

More information on lakes and lures on my podcast - [Listen Now](#).

It's called "Music From the Wilderness" and has 15 cuts of relaxing piano, guitar and string music that captures the tranquility of the Canadian wilderness. It is the music you hear as backdrop on our podcasts and it is available now for just \$15 USD delivered to your door.

To learn more about "Music From the Wilderness" and to meet the composer and hear sample songs, [click here](#).

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Back "issues" of the Fishing Reports and Newsletters

If you would like to go back to check a story in one of our past e-mails of either a Fishing Report or a Wilderness North Newsletter you can do so in our [archive file](#).

Six More Trophies for Striker's Point

...Tyler Lancaster

It was a busy week at [Striker's Point Lodge](#) with ten boats on the water and 19 people in camp. We had the Gdanski family from London, Ontario with us as well as the McNeal group from Iowa. Most of the best fishing came early in the week as strong winds hindered the ability to get places later in the week.

I had the chance to guide the Gdanski's for a day and took them to the Grayson River area. It payed off for Kim Gdanski who ended up with a very hefty 42in Pike in her arms. (Bottom Photo) The lure of choice was once again a 5 inch Williams Whitefish (silver). It is sure a nice thing to see the excitement in someone's eyes when they are holding a creature of that magnitude. Congratulations Kim! I even had a chance to drop a jig with the Gdanski family and ended up netting a stocky 26in Walleye.

Upon returning to the lodge it was nice to hear that the McNeal group had been busy that day as well. Bill Dieckman (middle photo) covered both master categories with a 41in Pike and a 26in Walleye. Tony Wulf (top photo) had a fantastic day with a 25in, and a 28in Walleye. Let's not forget Adam Maurer's 41in, and also his 38in Pike that latched on to his stringer of Walleye. And Ken Ferris had a 26in Walleye.

We have now had very strong winds for four days straight and it has really hampered the fishing. With giant swells on the main lake, the only fishing option is in the river outflow. We all hope for some calmer days so our guests can continue to catch lots of fish and keep our Master Angler list growing.

