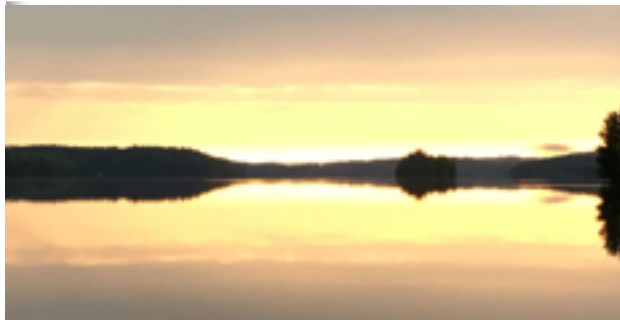




N e w s l e t t e r



The GLCA is a volunteer organization committed to representing the interests of the residents of Gull Lake.

"What's not to love about this lake", says Sugar Island cottager, Stephen Iley. He shares this glorious sunrise photo, taken in May 2017.

Board of Directors

President
Keith Kennedy

Treasurer
Nick Evans

Membership
Judy Ingram

Secretary
Jessica Allison

Lake Steward
Mike Thorne

Special Events & Merchandise
Brian Pinnock

Communications/Website
Carolyn Treadgold

Regatta Commodore
Will Rea

Director at Large
Tracey D'Alessio

Newsletter Editor
Sue Montgomery

Membership Assistant
Jane Robinson

Website
"New website coming..."

Past President
Kim Sharpe

www.glca.ca

President's Message

Although the summer weather did not co-operate as we planned, I trust everyone had a great time at Gull Lake with your family and friends. The fall showed up almost overnight and made up for the summer shortfall.....then again, how could any time, on our lake not be enjoyable.

As you are aware, the Association Board Members are all volunteers dedicated to Gull Lake and the surrounding community affecting Gull Lake. At the moment, we have nine members on the Board of Directors and are always looking for assistance. We will have upcoming openings in Communications and Finance. Please review the Director Descriptions later in the newsletter and let us know if you are willing to help. We are a very welcoming group! Over the summer, we held very successful events, and our thanks go out to the Board who organized the AGM, Sailing Race, Regatta, Golf Tournament, and Rock Bass Fishing Tournament. Our AGM, held at Kilcoo Camp in the spring featured several guest speakers and included updates on important initiatives. Our goal is to keep the AGM as information based as possible. Thank you to Kilcoo Camp, the University of Toronto Survey Camp, and Miners' Bay Lodge for making these events possible.

Further to our regular activities, the GLCA have interested groups in the Dam Portage, Fish Advisory Council, Minden Hills Council and over the next several months are developing an updated website. We will also be working on our Lake Plan, developing it, updating it and executing the action plan.

Don't forget to pay for your 2018 membership and encourage your lake neighbours to join as well. In addition to running the special events, the GLCA does extensive lake water monitoring, has created signage at the boat launches, keeps you informed of issues affecting all of us on the lake, and gives you a strong collective voice in addressing these issues. We are in the process of launching a new informative website to facilitate this work. This work is done voluntarily by your neighbours, but there are costs involved (e.g. Insurance, FOCA and CHA memberships, maintenance, website hosting, events, contingency funds), all funded by the nominal membership fee.

Reminder from our Lake Plan

Residents of Gull Lake have clearly indicated their support for maintaining the special nature of the lake. Residents and visitors value the peace and quiet that exists as well as other social amenities such as recreational activities and social events. Participants at the stakeholder workshop indicated that the most valued attributes of the lake are its diverse and beautiful natural shorelines, fish, wildlife and the tranquil serenity. Significant portions of the shorelines remain undeveloped, and these vegetated shorelines, bays, inlets, islands, wetlands and tree line contribute to the natural beauty of this area.

Boating is one of the most popular recreational activities on Gull Lake, after swimming. It is important for all of us to follow safe and courteous boating practices: Reduce Speed - operating a boat near shorelines are a threat to swimmers, kayaks, canoes and other small boats. The maximum legal speed to operate a boat within 30 meters (100 feet) of shore is 10 km/hr (6 mph). Minimize Boat Wakes - large wakes erode natural shorelines, disturb or destroy loon and duck nesting sites, and damage parked boats and floating docks. Courteous Use - PWC's, skiers, tubing and wake boarding activities please be aware and courteous that there are other cottagers who want to enjoy the tranquility of the lake. The Safe Boating Guide is available for download on the GLCA website.

Fishing is becoming more popular with the introduction of newly arrived species such as Pickerel, Musky and Pike. Fishing along the shoreline during the day can be intrusive to property owners. Be courteous of your location and particularly language, as the sound carries and is heard by all!

I hope you all stay warm and safe this winter, and look forward to seeing you all in the Spring.

New Board Member Tracey D'Alessio volunteers as Director at Large



What do you enjoy most about life at the cottage?

I enjoy getting away and being immersed in nature especially swimming, canoeing, kayaking and hiking. I also enjoy all the special times spent at our cottage with family and friends and sharing with them all the benefits of living the "cottage life".

What prompted your decision to volunteer for the Board?

My husband Vince and I purchased our cottage on Bedlington Lane in 2000 and together with our two daughters have enjoyed our many experiences on Gull Lake both during the Summer and Winter. We have participated in and enjoyed many of the events run by the GLCA over the last 17 years. I volunteer for many organizations in our home community of Burlington and felt it was time to do the same at our home away from home in Minden.



*Tracey D'Alessio at AGM,
holding Charlie Sado, son of Jessica Allison*

GLCA Directors Retiring

As we look for new board members to continue the vital work that we do on your behalf it is equally important to thank the directors that are retiring from their positions.

Don Drouillard served as our Lake Steward acting as a liaison between cottagers and the GLCA directors. With the help of outside experts such as MNRF, FOCA and the CHA he determines what factors are most important in assessing the health of our lake.

- Don was a member of the Gull Lake Plan Steering Committee and was instrumental in introducing the Love Your Lake program.

Richard Newman served on our board as VP Lake Plan Implementation and Merchandise Director. Richard was instrumental in the creation of the Lake Plan. Richard was also responsible for the Gull Lake Swag made available to our members at the AGM and the Regatta.

- Richard's high energy had him involved with the Regatta, Events, Rock Bass Tournament and was best known for his ability to engage people. His contribution to the board will be missed.

Don and Richard will be missed on the board and we offer our thanks for many contributions.

The following board of director positions are open for a volunteer opportunity.

Communications:

The communications director oversees all Gull Lake Cottage Association information between the board and membership, including announcements, updates, alerts and newsletters.

Also responsible for updating the website and Facebook. Is an active role on the board of directors.

Duties

- Distribute executive messages to the GLCA membership.
- Update Facebook
- Maintain website
- Monitor the Gull Lake Cottagers' Association email regularly.
- Distribute membership inquiries to the board for response.
- Keep records of all newsletters
- Generally represent our organization to membership and interested parties.

Requirements

Preferably have strong written and oral communications skills and a comfort level with technology. Research and proofreading skills to ensure all materials are high quality and accurate.

Treasurer:

Key Responsibilities

- Pay for any expenses.
- Track the money coming in and out of the bank account.
- Do a 10 minute presentation on the financials at the Annual General Meeting in May.
- Attend the 4-5 Board meetings a year.

You don't need to be a financial expert, just someone who can manage household financials and track it on an excel spreadsheet. Nick, the current Treasurer, will transition with you over the course of the summer so that you will know everything you need to know.

Membership Update

By Judy Ingram, Membership Director

I would like to thank you for renewing your 2017 membership, your continued support is appreciated. We currently have 260 Primary Members and 75 Associate Members!

Sadly, some of our long time members have passed on, and/or given up the family cottage. We are sorry to see them go. However, this translates to NEW owners on Gull Lake. I'm sure all of you welcome your new neighbours, and help them with their questions and provide cottager tips, like joining the GLCA. Please let the GLCA know if there is someone new on your road. We would like to welcome them to the lake too! We will provide them with a GLCA Gift Bag filled with useful information, booklets and pamphlets from the MNRF and the OPP, Gull Lake Swag, and a NEW OWNER Membership Form. You and your new neighbour could be featured in the next newsletter.

We have SIX NEW owners this year, that I have been made aware of. I have only managed to make contact with 4 of the 6.

Let's give a shout out to Dave Parr, who welcomed Lisa Bagshaw and her family to Gull Lake. Dave told Lisa about the GLCA, and she went online and joined up right away. Welcome Lisa and family.

We also welcomed Robert Kleyson and Rick Pereira, and they have received their Welcome to the Lake Bag from the GLCA. We're sure they have enjoyed their first summer on Gull Lake.

Nolan Banasco and Caroline Cunningham



Nolan and Caroline have purchased Nolan's grandfather's cottage on Serenity Lane. They have already completed many renovations to make this lovely cottage more current. It is also available for rent! I know many of you have reached out to the GLCA about rental cottages for family and friends.

John and Cindy Posta



John and Cindy Posta have enjoyed Gull Lake for many years, and this past summer purchased her family cottage. They are officially welcomed by friend and board member, Brian Pinnock.

Don't forget to print the attached Membership Form and send in your Membership Fees for 2018!

Annual Rock Bass Derby



The annual Rock Bass Derby was held on August 12, 2017 at Miners' Bay Lodge. As always, Miners' Bay was most gracious in hosting this event and all participants were awarded for their efforts.

Due in part to some of the new predators in the lake, a smaller number of Rock Bass were captured and weighed in this year's tournament. In the spirit of friendship and life at the cottage, the individual boys and girls combined into teams so that all competitors could take part and enjoy the morning. The weather held out long enough for another Gull Lake event to be enjoyed by parents and kids alike.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year! Good Fishing.

Thank you to the following families who Donated Funds to the GLCA in 2017!

Allison, Mark & May
 Anderson, Lorna & William
 Bailey, Richard & Anne
 Ball, Mike & Laura
 Beale/Wilkings, Colin & Judy
 Beamish, Bob & Marilyn
 Bell, Donald & Nadine
 Black, Renate & Doug
 Boggs, Kirk & Joanne
 Chapman/Law, Alan & Fiona
 Cihra, George & Mary
 Colby, Lee & Julie
 Cresswell, William
 Cummins, Rodger & Nancy
 Czerwinski, Allen
 Ecclestone, Peter & Kate
 Elliott, David & Deborah
 Emery, Geoffrey & Natalie
 Fabricius, Rolf & Tania
 Fuller/Schwab, Julia & Eric
 Gibbs, Trevor & Suzanne
 Gillies, Barbara & Cam
 Gracey/Harris, Melissa & David
 Hoare/Lang, Marshall & Amy
 Hutchison, Linda
 Hutchison/Farrell, Rob & Shannon
 Hutchison/Musil, Meg & Robert
 Kennedy, Marie
 Lett, William & Patricia
 MacDonnell/Brewer, Ian & Carol
 Miners' Bay Lodge
 Palermo, Alice & Eligio
 Pannell, Kelly & Dylan
 Patten, Donald & Dale
 Pinnock, Ross & Helene
 Sainsbury, Sandy
 Seeley, Rita & Terry
 Simon, Charles & Evelyn
 Sonnenberg, Gary & Helga
 Sward, Jim & Gail
 Sward, Paul & Julia
 Tastad, Mary
 White, Diane & Ron

95th Regatta Day

Sailing Race Awards: July 29, 2017

Regatta Race Awards: August 5, 2017

Although this year's regatta was a very rainy event, the turnout was strong and the day's events went ahead. The morning activity was well attended and the kids enjoyed themselves before hot dogs for lunch. The rain came and went during the afternoon activities but did not deter competition.

Alas, a casualty of the rain was our record of award winners. At the end of the very wet day, the papers were a sopping, unreadable mess. We are working on improved plans for recording, to ensure this doesn't happen again.

Congratulations to all competitors and see you next year!

Keith Kennedy

Congratulations to all our award winners!



GLCA Photo Contest

In 2017 we ran the third annual GLCA Photo Contest and the number of entries has grown. Each winner was able to choose a \$25 gift certificate from one of the businesses in Minden that had sponsored any of our GLCA events. This way we were able to put \$125 back into the community as a thank you. The winners for each category, as chosen by our volunteer judge Patty Aziz, are as follows.



NATURE: "Loon and Loon" photographed by Manfred End who received a \$25 gift card for Summerkiss. Judge's comment: "Whoever gets that close to a loon...and her chick... and has camera, well, you win!"



LANDSCAPE: "Sunset" photographed by Matt Ketcheson who selected a \$25 gift card for Summerkiss. Judge's comments: "The sky held the torch here, but the silhouette of the outboard and the colours cast on the rock face, won me over."



LIFE AT THE COTTAGE: "Canada 150" by Manfred End who selected a \$25 gift card from Summerkiss. Judge's comment: "This shot has a quiet compelling patriotic theme that caught my attention, and using the flag as a filter is brilliant."

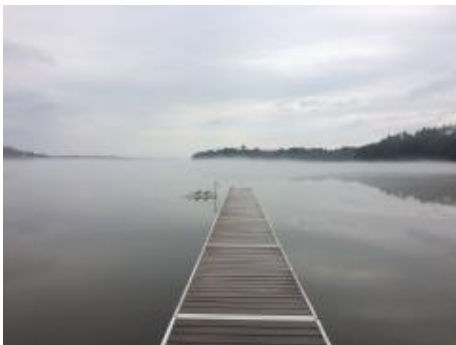


PHOTO BY KIDS (15 or younger): "Dock" photographed by Janette Ytsma who selected a \$25 gift card from the Miners' Bay Lodge gift shop. Judge's comment: "I could feel the cool mist and appreciated the simplicity of the composition."



ACTION: "Dive" photographed by Manoj Ravindran who selected a \$25 gift card for Up River Trading Company. Judge's comment: "I returned to this shot a few times. The photographer nailed it, and it's not an easy one to capture."

Special Events Update

by Brian Pinnock - Special Events

This summer saw the addition of a new social event for GLCA members. A scramble format nine hole golf tournament was held August 19th at The Links at Monck's Landing Golf Course in Norland. Based on participants' feedback, the morning golf and BBQ lunch, was a great success and we will plan to do it again next year. Mark your calendars for Saturday August 18th, 2018 !!

For those interested, GLCA merchandise will be available for purchase at the annual general meeting in May and the regatta in August.

The Captain of the Winning Foursome



GLCA members mingling on the patio



Group Photos



Lake Steward's Report

By Mike Thorne

Hi fellow cottagers, this is my first attempt at explaining the water quality in our lake based on some recent sampling. On August 20, 2017 Don Drouillard and I completed the annual lake sampling which consists of sampling for E. coli-an indicator of bacterial pollution from warm blooded folks like us, Total Phosphorus which is an indicator of potential algae blooms and pH which is an indicator of loss of alkalinity in the lake at five sites around the lake. We have been sampling at these same 5 sites for a number of years now which gives us a good snapshot of Water Quality in the lake over time. We also take Secchi disc readings at each location which gives us an indication of whether water clarity in the lake is deteriorating or improving over time.

Samples are taken at roughly the same location each year at 1. Inlet 2. Gull Rock 3. Deep Bay 4. Miners' Bay and 5. Lake outlet. A 6th location is sampled off Rackety for Total Phosphorus as part of the Lake Partners Program-no results yet.

It was a calm day that had been preceded in days previous by heavy rainfall and strong winds. Overall, the following results were representative of previous years, with no indication that we are undergoing any negative trends in Lake Water Quality.

E. COLI

All areas sampled on the lake were within safe swimming levels of 20 cfu /100 ml. Considering the amount of rain we had this summer the E. coli levels were low being 2 cfu/100ml or less except for the inlet to the lake and opposite Rackety which were 12 and 6 cfu/ 100ml respectively which is to be expected as the water moves from the inlet to the outlet.

TOTAL PHOSPHORUS

The Total Phosphorus levels were consistent with other years ranging from a high of 9.5 ug/l (or parts per billion) at the inlet to 4.9 ug/l at the outlet. These levels are below what is considered problematic for algae to become prolific due to excess phosphorus in the water. If a lake has levels below 15 ug/l it is in good shape. However some lakes have experienced algae blooms at below 15 ug/l so we will keep a close watch on trends in the future. Our sampling results indicated phosphorus levels between 9.5 ug/l at the inlet to 4.9 at the outlet. As expected the water at the mouth of the lake has higher readings which diminish as the water flows south to the outlet due to dilution. Also we noted much more algae growth at the inlet area likely due to the higher concentrations of phosphorus.

pH

pH readings give us an indication of the amount of alkalinity or buffer we have to combat things like acid rain. Ontario Provincial Water Quality Objectives for surface water indicates that lakes with pH readings between 6.8 and 8.5 is acceptable. However it is desirable to be on the basic side with pH between 7.1 and 8.0. Recent samples had our pH ranging from 7.3 to 7.6 which is good and consistent with past results.

SECCHI DISC

Secchi disc readings give us an indication of the clarity of the water and readings less than 4.0m is an indication of excess turbidity (cloudiness) in the water which can be a result of excess algae in the water. A certain amount of algae is healthy because among other things that is what fish etc. eat to survive and grow. Our sampling results indicated Secchi disc readings between 3.1m at the inlet to 4.0m off Rackety 4.7m at Gull Rock and 5.1-5.5m in the rest of the lake. The low reading at the inlet is partially due to the amount of rainfall we have received and the higher than normal water flows in Gull River which increases the amount of sediment in suspension at the inlet. Overall the secchi disc readings indicate we have good water clarity in our lake.

Love Your Lake, Shoreline Assessment Project Update

By Judy Ingram, Love Your Lake Coordinator

The number one concern of cottagers and full time residents on Gull Lake is Lake Health. The GLCA's goal is to educate and be proactive with respect to Lake Health. The Love Your Lake initiative is making a difference! The connection between Lake Health and Natural Shorelines is apparent.

Shoreline Re naturalization is a simple step in contributing to cleaner, healthier lakes for wildlife and future generations.

Did you know that Council is in the process of drafting a "Shoreline Protection By Law"? This new by law will replace the current tree cutting by law. This is a direct result of the Love Your Lake project. Council is also discussing ways to protect the natural shoreline we have remaining and to encourage re naturalization.

75 percent of the shoreline of a lake needs to be in a natural state in order to protect lake health. This project has surveyed 47 lakes. Of the 47 lakes, 92 percent did not meet the 75 percent minimum! Only FOUR lakes are at or above 75 percent natural. I'm very pleased to report that Gull Lake is one of the four. That's outstanding! But as properties are severed and more lots are cleared, our 75 percent will drop if we do not take the necessary steps to re naturalize as much shoreline as we can.

There are 550 properties on Gull Lake, with 440 unique owners (as of 2015 Tax Roll). Only 261 reports were ordered for Gull Lake.

Your report contains a summary of the features observed on your property, with voluntary recommended actions you can take to protect or restore your shoreline. There is also additional information and contacts on a variety of topics including erosion, docks, septic systems and more.

You can be proactive and reach out to the many Shoreline Re naturalization Designers on the CHA website, COHPOA.org, under the **SHORELINE HEALTH** tab. Our own Paul Carey, a long time supporter of the GLCA, from Carey's Garden Centre in Minden, is available to consult with you on your shoreline. Each property is unique, it's best to have someone come out and consult with you. He can provide a variety of solutions for every budget.

If you have not received (or misplaced) your Access Code to download your report, or you are a new owner that would like to see your shoreline report, please send an email to Heather Murphy, her email address is murphy@watersheds.ca She can provide you with your Access Code(s).

Next steps in Lake Health? Septic Inspection. Municipalities have been mandated by the province to create septic re-inspection programs. On October 12th, 2017 during a Committee-of-the-whole meeting, the Township of Minden Hills will create a Type 4 inspection program that will include a lid-off inspection, and then a second inspection after the tank has been pumped out. This is by far, the most comprehensive of the four types. I encourage ALL cottage owners, new and seasoned, to watch the video "The Poop Talk" about septic systems. There is also a wealth of information on the CHA Website. www.cohpoa.org

The Poop Talk – It's All About the Water

(<https://vimeo.com/63522168>)

Algae & Algal Blooms

How Can I Identify a Blue-Green Algae Bloom?

There has been a dramatic increase in blue green algae blooms in Ontario in recent years. As a result many lakefront property owners are very concerned when they see blooms or floating masses which they think could be a bloom.

Blue-green algae will have a shimmering, blue-green colour. It may also have a foamy sheen-like appearance, which looks like spilled paint floating on top of the water. Heavy blooms appear like a solid shimmering blue-green sheen across the water's surface, or have an appearance and consistency similar to pea soup.

(source: [Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture](#))



Image Source: University of Alberta

What To Do If You Spot A Blue Green Algae Bloom

- Notify the Ministry of the Environment Spills Action Centre at 1-800-268-6060
- Notify your Lake Association so that your Association can let all the members on the lake know
- Do Not
 - Swim in the lake
 - Let pets or any animals swim or drink from the lake
- Do Not allow water from the lake to enter your house/ cottage
 - Most water treatment systems will not safely treat water with a blue green algae bloom
 - Boiling or chlorinating the water can release toxins into the air
 - Even UV filters will not safely treat water which contains a blue green algae bloom
- Stop using the water and seek medical attention if symptoms such as skin, eye or throat irritation, allergic reactions or breathing difficulties occur while in contact with untreated surface waters.
- Do not eat the liver, kidneys and other organs of fish caught in the water body. Be cautious about eating fish caught in water where blue-green algae blooms occur.

Where to get more information:

- [Blue-green algae \(Cyanobacteria\) and their Toxins](#) (Health Canada)
- [Blue-green algae](#) (Ontario Ministry of the Environment)
- Visit the Algae section on our [Resources](#) page

Tips to Avoid Cottage Break-ins!

Why are cottages targeted?

Cottages have become more modern and extravagant as of late making them more appealing to criminals, according to the OPP. Thieves have more time to break-in and look around for items with almost no worry that owners will be returning soon. With cottages on remote lakes, thieves use boats which don't leave tire tracks for police to use as evidence.

What are they looking for?

Thieves are looking for big-ticket items such as generators, pumps, chainsaws, power tools, electronics, ATVs and boat motors. Criminals may also be looking for guns; never leave firearms at your cottage when you aren't there. If they are at the cottage, ensure they are locked according to law.

What can you do to help prevent thefts?

- Confirm that you can't see expensive electronic items from the windows.
- Close the curtains when you are away or keep expensive items out of sight.
- Consider taking big-ticket items home if you plan to be away for a long period of time.
- Lock everything up. When you leave, even for short periods of time, ensure that everything is locked up inside the cottage or in the shed.
- Take ladders home or put them in storage. Criminals use them to get into second-storey windows that may be kept unlocked.
- Outdoor furniture, picnic tables and benches should also be stored away so they can't be used to enter the building through a window.
- Put outdoor lights on a timer or on a motion sensor.
- Many older cabins and cottages have flimsy doors and simple windows that are easily forced open. Exterior doors should be fitted with solid dead bolts. Windows can be boarded up for the off season. Sliding doors should have a piece of wood placed in the track so they can't be opened.

What can you do to help police?

- Engrave your tools and equipment with the same number – your phone number or other unique identifier. Keep a log of serial numbers.
- Install trail cams and check them regularly for vehicles and people who don't belong.
- If you see any vehicles or people that look out of place or are suspicious, report them immediately to police.
- If you have been a victim of theft or break and enter report it immediately to police and don't touch anything. The sooner the investigation begins, the greater chance police have of locating the suspects.
- Leave a note for thieves. Advise them that all of your items have been marked or removed from the property. Leave the note where it can be easily seen from outside. They may decide that your place isn't worth breaking in to.

How a Septic System Works:

In urban and suburban areas, there are sewers to carry household waste to municipal wastewater treatment plants. But in rural areas, the functions of sewers and treatment plants are fulfilled by each residence's own septic tank system.

All household drainage waste is disposed of through the septic system. The quantity and composition of waste generated in the home varies according to the number of residents, their personal water usage and the water-using appliances in the home.



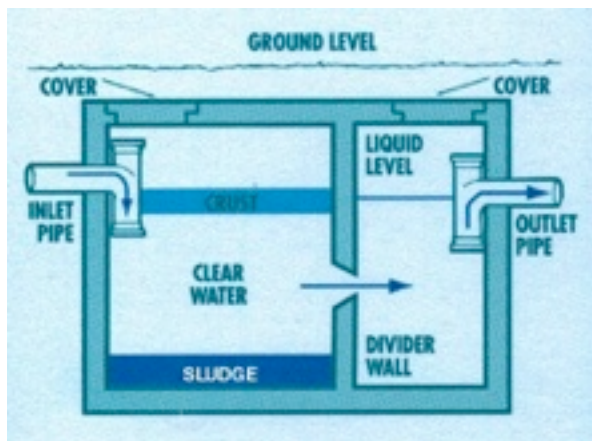
Home Waste Percentages

Your septic system is actually a small, on-site sewage treatment and disposal system buried in the ground.

The system comprises two parts: The septic tank and the soil absorption area.

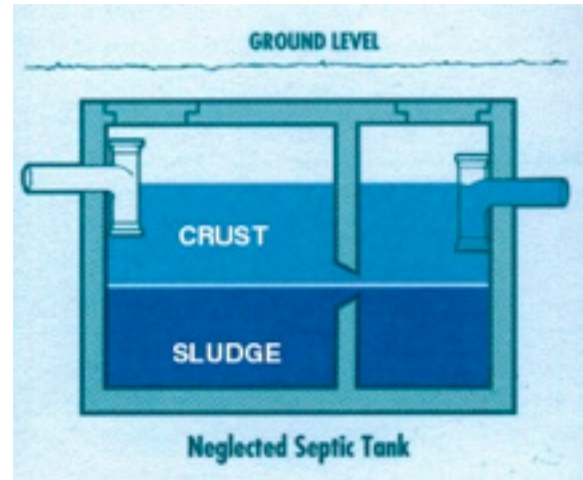
The Septic Tank

The modern septic tank is a watertight box divided into two compartments and usually made of pre-cast concrete, concrete blocks or plastic. When household waste drains into the box, several things take place.



- Organic solid material floats to the surface and forms a layer called the "crust". Bacteria in the septic tank biologically convert this material to liquid.
- Inorganic or inert solid materials and the by-products of the bacterial digestion sink to the bottom of the tank and form a layer called "sludge".
- Only fairly clear water should exist between the crust and sludge layers. This clear water -and only this clear water should overflow into the second compartment and then out to the soil absorption area.

Septic Tank Bacteria



Working Septic Tank Bacteria must be present in the septic tank to digest the organic solids.

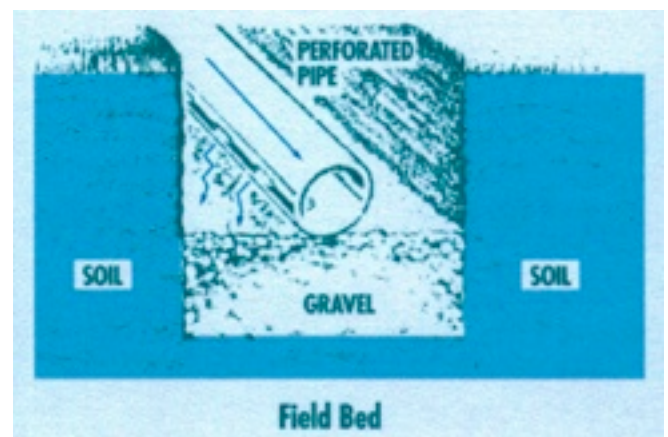
Normal household waste provides enough bacteria to keep the digestive process working properly. A faulty system is the result of solid material overflowing into the second compartment.

It is the solids overflow that clogs soil pores and causes septic systems to fail. Two main factors cause solid material to build up to the point of overflow:

- Bacterial Deficiency
- Lack of Pumping

Septic System Soil Absorption Area

Septic field beds generally consist of a network of perforated pipes running through layers of sand and crushed stone. They may be constructed above or below ground. If solids are allowed to clog the pipe perforations or the sand, drainage will begin to slow and eventually stop.

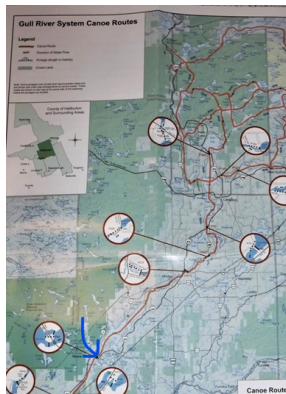
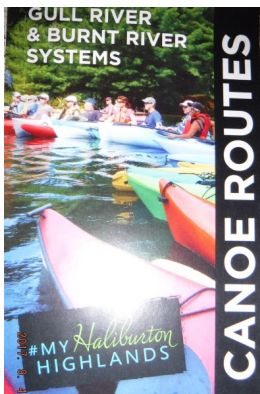


An Update on the Gull Lake to Moore Lake Portage

By Nick Evans

Back in the spring of 2015, Parks Canada removed the rollers and blocked access to the portage between Gull Lake and Moore Lake; this was done as part of implementing new safety guidelines within the Trent-Severn Waterway. Since then, efforts have been made to engage stakeholders in finding a safe solution that would enable people to portage across the dam without having to cross highway 35. This summer there was a renewed effort to bring awareness to this issue and it has resulted in bringing together the right groups to discuss possible solutions.

As background, Gull Lake to Moore Lake has been a heritage portage enabling cottagers and trippers to traverse between the two lakes either by canoe or tin boat. Kilcoo Camp continues to send trips along the Gull River canoe route. I have memories of using the portage as an 11 year old boy on a canoe trip from Balsam Lake back to Onondaga Camp. With the introduction of a new single safety boom, which replaced two sets of safety booms, it is no longer possible to access the path between the dam and the overflow chute where the water by-passes the dam.



On August 17th, an event was organized involving cottagers from Gull Lake, Moore Lake and Black Lake, and 50 campers from Camp Kilcoo, to raise awareness of the risks of having to now portage across highway 35. The event was captured on the front page of the Highlander Newspaper. The request is for Parks Canada and MTO to work with us to develop a plan that enables a safe route between the two lakes. Ideally the solution might not only solve for canoes and tin boats, but perhaps hikers and recreational vehicles. The key is it needs to be safe. Historically there was a fatal boating incident at this dam site. My understanding is that it was not related to using the portage but does reinforce the importance of developing a safe solution. One long term idea is for a passage under highway 35 well off to the side of the dam.

Since the summer, Pam Sayne (our local councillor), Jamie Schmale (provincial MPP), and representatives from Gull Lake and Camp Kilcoo had a meeting with MTO and Parks Canada to outline the issue. MTO and Parks Canada shared that they are currently planning only for repairs and maintenance to the Moore Lake dam and not a major upgrade. However, they are willing to continue to meet to consider possible short term and longer term solutions. As an initial step MTO has placed portage signs on highway 35 at the bridge. The next step is a second meeting in November. Thank you to Neil Ross Hutchings from Black Lake who spearheaded the August 17th event and to Irene Murphy who continues to be involved in this initiative on behalf of the GLCA.



The concrete path still exists but can not be accessed because the new single yellow safety boom blocks access.

A set of rollers used to sit on the concrete path so you could pull your tin boat across



Don't Feed the Deer!



Once the snow starts to fall, some well-meaning residents begin thinking about putting out food for the deer. Unfortunately, that does more harm than good, both to the deer and their habitat. Deer have been surviving the Canadian winter for thousands of years without the help of humans, by consuming high quality food in the fall, and having the availability of softwood cover during the snow season. They store body fat for the winter, and reduce their activity and lower their metabolism during that time period. By February, they are eating about fifty per cent less food per day than they did in September.

Energy is conserved as they travel less, and their dietary system adapts to consuming twigs and branches. A sudden change of feed can cause bloating and severe discomfort, making the deer weaker and more vulnerable to predators. Harmful bacteria from feeding stations or from bird feeders that attract deer can spread. Deer may actually die from eating too much supplemental food at one time. The deer also use up energy traveling to the feed site. This causes the deer to stay in the same area, making the spread of disease easier, and leading to more inbreeding. Wintering deer that are not fed disperse over an area large enough to reduce competition for food and avoid the danger of predators.

Attracting deer to feeding sites changes their natural behavior. Dominant adult animals fill their bellies first at these sites, while the smaller and weaker individuals waste valuable energy travelling there, where they may get little feed. More deer competing for the same food supply can lead to over-browsing and degradation of the area around the feeding site, as well as wreaking havoc on homeowners' gardens and plantings, as well as the trees and shrubs of their neighbors.

The attraction to urban areas presented by these feeding sites also increases the risk of deer/vehicle collisions, as well as dogs chasing and killing deer. Winter deer feeding can be expensive, about sixty dollars per animal over the season. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry advises people not to feed the deer, and the omnibus bill, passed at Queens Park in December 2009, contains an amendment which grants the Minister of Natural Resources the power to make regulations regarding the feeding of wildlife in Ontario. Many municipalities and several American states have made it illegal to feed game animals.

Live at the Lake – Launch a Business – Help from *Launch Pad*



Unlike many rural communities, Haliburton County's population is growing. It's not a baby boom; it's people ages 45-65 making the transition from seasonal to full-time residents.

This trend has been followed closely by the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC), a local, not-for-profit organization focused on supporting local businesses and creating jobs. In a recent interview Andy Campbell, HCDC's executive director noted that, "This influx of people, with a lifetime of professional experience, presents a unique opportunity for our community. They bring new ideas and energy and, for some, an interest in moving their business here or starting a new enterprise. This is where we come in. HCDC has been on the ground in Haliburton County for 30 years providing a launch pad for new businesses."

Andria Cowan Molyneaux is using the resources of HCDC to help plan for and manage the growth of her new business, ACM Designs. Andria grew up in Highlands but left to pursue a career in policing. She never imagined she would move back.

"I took early retirement and started an interior design company with a goal to move out of Toronto. My husband's work allows for flexibility, but I had to make sure that my business could be successful outside of the city. I started marketing in cottage country and demand took off in Haliburton County. We already had a foot in the area with family and a cottage. We jumped in with both feet and bought a house in Haliburton village in 2016. I approached HCDC for help and, just like that, I had a support team providing me with advice and professional connections and helping me find funding to support business expansion."

Jim Love accessed HCDC's resources to launch a new digital media business, Amazing Agency, in Haliburton. Jim and his wife Linda were living in Toronto, running a successful IT company. Now they live year-round near Miners' Bay, co-ordinating their IT business from their lakeside home and working with the local team at the Amazing Agency.

Jim shared the following story. "I was born and raised in Northern Ontario. Like many kids I couldn't wait to leave and go to the big city. But I missed it, especially living on a lake; so we bought a cottage. As we met more people and became part of this very creative Haliburton County community, we were drawn to living and working here. In the process I also found a talented group of people to form the nucleus of a new business. We sold our house in Toronto and moved north. We couldn't have launched our new business in Haliburton without HCDC. The funding we received allowed us to keep a staff team in place as we built up the business. With HCDC's support - both with funding and space in the business incubator - we have been able to grow the business and thrive."

If you are considering starting a business in Haliburton County visit Haliburton LaunchPad – HCDC's services for new businesses. www.haliburtoncdc.ca/launchpad.



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2018 GLCA Membership Renewal Form

Please Print

Cottage Address: _____

Primary Member:

Name (first & last): _____

Spouse (first & last): _____

Cottage Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

2nd Email (optional): _____

Home Address: _____

City, Province/State: _____

Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Primary Membership:

There is one Primary Membership per cottage. Primary Membership includes spouse and children who are still pursuing their education.

Associate Membership:

Associate Memberships are for individuals and families who cottage on Gull Lake but are not the Primary Member. Associate Memberships include spouse and children.

Benefits:

Both Primary and Associate Memberships entitle you to attend all events, receive newsletters and communication, and benefit from having Association volunteers work on your behalf to enhance the enjoyment and health of the lake. Only the Primary Member for your cottage can vote on motions.

Website: GLCA.CA

Contact: info@GLCA.CA

Associate Member:

Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Cottage Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

2nd Email (optional): _____

Home Address: _____

City, Province/State: _____

Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Primary Membership (only one per cottage) \$40 _____

Hard copy of newsletter \$10 _____

Associate Membership (for each Associate membership) \$10 _____

Hard copy of newsletter (for each Associate membership) \$10 _____

Details for additional Associate Members may be written on back

Donation (any amount appreciated) \$ _____

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*Optional - renew for 2 years (double the 1 year total) \$ _____

Please make out cheque to "GLCA Treasurer"

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