



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.

*"ice out" April 13th,
photo by Pat Jeffries*

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www.glca.ca

President's Message,

It's funny how the cottage is such a part of so many things that influence our lives.

By the end of fall some of us have had enough cottage and family to last an eternity, however with the arrival of the first day of spring each year, it seems there is natural uplifting in our spirits and outlook as we anticipate the return to Gull Lake and that same family. The jobs list around the cottage never decreases in volume and as we get older they become more challenging. Funny how all the teenagers arrive in time for beef but not work.

It is what we wait for, and look forward to each winter, as we distract ourselves with other activities. Those fortunate enough to live year round on Gull witness the beauty of the spring thaw.

Pictures posted on our Gull Lake Facebook website followed the progress of the ice melting, which has spread spring fever to open up the cottage!

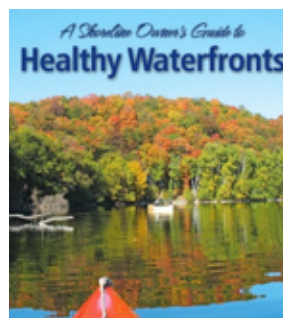
The AGM is just around the corner on May 22nd, at Kilcoo camp and I look forward to seeing you there.

This year we have a guest speaker Paul MacInnes – (CHA) to offer an empowering presentation about Shoreline Rehabilitation. We were fortunate to get Paul's time as he is booked for the balance of the year.

Please come out to meet the new board, fellow cottagers, and get an update on the issues that your board has been working on, including shoreline assessment.

Be safe and respectful on the water and enjoy yourself.

Keith Kennedy



Please open <http://foca.on.ca/shoreline-owners-guide-to-healthy-waterfronts-2011-edition/> to view a FOCA document on shoreline restoration.

Shoreline restoration is one of the main action items to improve or maintain a healthy lake. There is lots of useful information contained within. More information will accompany each newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Nick Evans, GLCA Treasurer

The Gull Lake Cottagers Association remains in good financial shape. From a broad perspective, we are bringing in enough revenue to run all of our annual events and programs and maintain a small surplus of one or two thousand dollars. The challenge going forward is to continue to grow our membership base beyond our historical level of a third of the cottagers on the lake. This will enable us to make key investments each year and replenish our Contingency Fund. Recently we have made investments in order to create the Lake Plan, rebuild the GLCA Website on a new platform and update the Membership Directory. This year we are focusing on the Love Your Lake Project.

Lake Plan Action Plan – Love Your Lake Project

In 2016 we are moving forward with the Love Your Lake program. We have been on the waiting list for two years. The program, run in partnership with the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Association (CHA), will enable us to assess the natural state of the shoreline. More details are outlined in the Lake Steward's Report. Given the generous government donations, student involvement, and work of the CHA, the costs to the GLCA to participate will be \$2,000. We have also budgeted for an additional \$2,000 in related costs. We previously set up reserves in 2013 and 2014 that will cover 100% of these costs. So for the equivalent of \$7 a property, every cottager will receive a confidential report with ideas on how, if they wish, they can improve the overall health of their shoreline and our lake. As an association, we will also get an overall assessment of the Gull Lake Shoreline and an opportunity to reach out to non members and encourage them to join the GLCA.

Contingency Fund – Scrap Yard Rezoning

In 2016, we have tapped into our contingency fund to obtain legal counsel regarding the GLCA's concern about a re-zoning application to allow a scrap yard on the Hunter Creek watershed. The Board approved a \$2,000 retainer to be paid to Frank Zechner, the environmental lawyer, who is supporting the GLCA submissions to Minden Hills Council. At the end of 2015, the contingency fund was sitting at over \$20K. Our long term goal is to maintain a contingency fund of \$35K to be able to provide an initial response to any significant environmental or development threats to the lake.

Membership Update

by Judy Ingram, Membership Director

Once again, I would like to thank everyone for becoming a member of the Gull Lake Cottagers' Association. Many of you have opted for the two year payment, which shows us you are committed to the health and well being of Gull Lake for the long term.

2016 will be an exciting year for the GLCA as we launch the Love Your Lake Program. Every property owner on the lake will receive communication from the GLCA telling them about the program. We will also be giving them the opportunity to join the GLCA. A membership form will be included in the information package being sent out. Ideally we would like every property owner on the lake to be a member of the GLCA. This will give us a strong voice when protecting our lake. Please take the opportunity this spring to chat with your neighbours, and encourage them to join the association.

It would be extremely helpful if you could renew your membership as soon as possible. Whether you prefer Snail Mail, or would rather do it online, please be sure to do so as early as possible.

Many of you like to do this at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), on the Sunday of the Long Weekend in May, however, it does create a bit of a bottle neck at the door, and may eat into your socializing time with your fellow members. If you can find the time, please take care of membership fees as soon as possible.

The 2015 Financial Numbers

For those interested here are the numbers: In 2015, our membership revenue was down, as expected, by about \$2,400 as we reduced the primary membership fees from \$50 to \$40. Given that this was planned, our expenses were managed accordingly. We spent a little more on the AGM which was well received and better attended, and the Regatta was well run by our team of volunteers and cost less than \$400. The rest of the programs came in line with previous years. We ended up with a surplus of \$2,600 of which \$1,000 is still earmarked for website security and capability upgrades but was not spent by the end of 2015.

Gull Lake Cottagers Association Statement of Profit and Loss January 1, 2015 to December 31 2015

REVENUE

Membership	\$ 9,889
Donations to GLCA	\$ 920
Newsletter	\$ 170
Merchandise	\$ 366
Regatta	\$ 1,460
Advertising	<u>\$ 350</u>
Total	\$13,155

EXPENSES

Member Recognition	\$ 375
Newsletter and Website	\$ 1,077
Donations to Community	\$ 650
AGM	\$ 2,018
Regatta	\$ 1,829
Lake Plan	\$ 447
Water Testing	\$ 255
Member Directory	\$ 0
Association Fees	\$ 955
Insurance	\$ 2,035
Office expenses	\$ 708
Misc	<u>\$ 206</u>
Total	\$10,553

2015 Revenue less Expenses
\$ 2,602

Coming to Gull Lake this Summer- Love Your Lake Project

An exciting new project will be taking place on Gull Lake this summer! The GLCA Association working with the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations (CHA) will be evaluating the natural state of the shoreline on Gull Lake starting May 24, 2016.

Shorelines are often referred to as "the ribbon of life", due to the number of species that depend on them for food and habitat. Did you know that 80% to 90% of all life on Gull Lake depends on the shoreline? In addition to providing wildlife habitat, shorelines play a key role in maintaining good water quality. They do an amazing job of slowing runoff from roads, driveways and buildings, help filter sediment and contaminants (e.g. from septic) entering the lake and help keep water temperatures cooler in the summer.

Scientific studies have proven that in order to maintain water quality, 75% of the shoreline must be kept in a natural state for a minimum of 100 feet. **If there is significantly less than 75%, water quality will seriously degrade over time.** This would not only affect wildlife on Gull Lake, but it would also affect property values and our social enjoyment of the lake. With increasing introductions of invasive species into Ontario and a changing climate, it is becoming even more necessary to ensure our lakes are in good shape so they can be more resilient to future changes.

In May, two Trent University environmental science students, who have successfully completed an intensive shoreline assessment course, will be assessing the entire shoreline of Gull Lake. After the shoreline assessment is complete, each individual landowner will be given a comprehensive report about the state of their shoreline and what they can do to make their shoreline better if they choose to do so. There are no regulatory obligations to make any changes – this is completely voluntary. The CHA is preparing a list of resources (e.g. reference materials, consultants, contractors, nurseries, etc.) that may be of assistance to you.

All shoreline assessments will be done by boat, so students will not have to access any landowner's property. ALL information collected will be kept private. The only people who will know the results of the individual shoreline assessments will be the students and that property owner. (The students will sign a confidentiality agreement.) The GLCA will receive an overall report, which will provide only a broad overview of the results. No names, addresses or details will be published or provided to the GLCA. **Please note that this project is non regulatory, and the information will not be shared with any government or regulatory agency.**

Why do this assessment? The benefit is that once the shoreline assessment is complete, the GLCA will know what percentage of the shoreline is natural. This will help the GLCA prioritize future projects, in order to help maintain water quality and ensure we all continue to enjoy our lake surroundings. This will also provide an opportunity for cottagers to learn what they can do, if they wish, to protect and enhance the health of the lake.

Participation is voluntary, and you may opt out of the survey if you wish. If you do not want your property to be included in the assessment, please notify us. This program has already been completed on a number of lakes in Haliburton County. Out of the 2,486 properties that have already been surveyed, only six property owners chose to opt out. As a landowner, you don't need to do anything, and you don't need to be a member of the GLCA to take part in this important project. All costs are being covered by the GLCA, with the assistance of grant money already obtained.

The shoreline classification project will take place between May 24th and June 15th, 2016. Property assessments will only take place between Monday and Friday.

Would you like to help? We need volunteers!

Billeting

We need volunteers to billet the students from May 23rd to June 16th, 2016. Landowners can offer to billet students for one week or longer. Students are responsible for their own food, and they will have their own vehicles. It is preferable to host billets in locations with wifi accessibility. The billets MUST have access to High Speed Internet as they will be uploading pictures and documents relevant to the assessments.

Boat Transportation

We need volunteer boat drivers (with a valid boat operator's license and insurance) who are willing to use their boat (preferably pontoon boat) to take students along the shoreline while they complete the assessments. Boat drivers can volunteer to take a student out for one day or more.

The GLCA has a budget for boat gas, and boat drivers will be reimbursed for their fuel costs. Out of a 5 day work week, the students will spend approximately three days on the water doing the assessments and two days per week on data entry, weather depending.

Please note that the boat drivers will not have access to the information that the students are collecting, or the names and addresses of the property owners. If you would like to volunteer for billeting or boating, please contact us at LYLGull@Outlook.com.

For more information on the "Love Your Lake" project, visit their website at:

www.loveyourlake.ca and the CHA website at: www.cohpoa.org. Two excellent videos have been prepared by the CHA about the Ribbon of Life and the simple steps that can be taken to improve it

1. Ribbon of Life: <https://vimeo.com/channels/lakeprotectors/90929405>
2. A Beginner's Guide to Shoreline Stewardship: <https://vimeo.com/channels/lakeprotectors/91079466>

Thank you so much for your support!

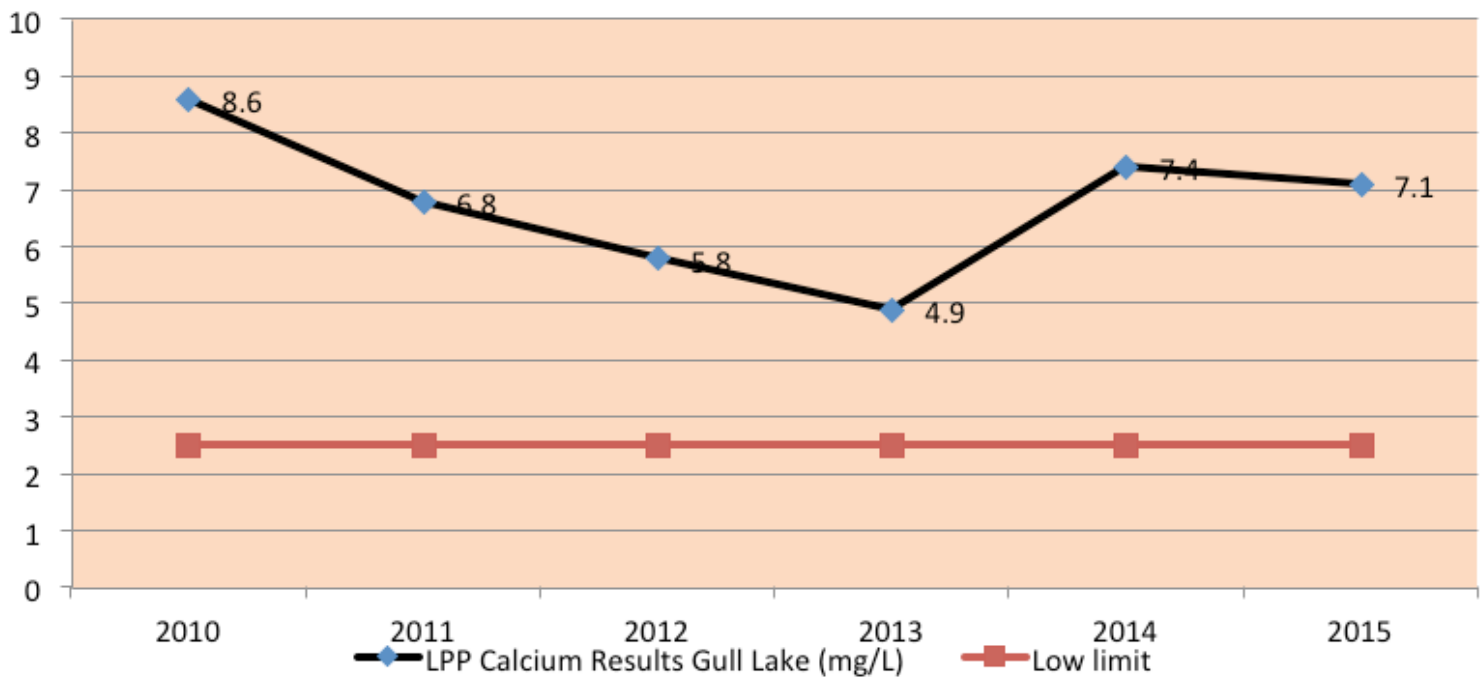
Also, Paul MacInnes, Chair of the CHA will be our keynote speaker at the AGM and will make a presentation on 'Love Your Shoreline'. Paul is a very dedicated and tireless proponent of preservation of Haliburton Lakes and will be glad to provide you with answers to any of your questions.

Lake Stewards Report - Spring 2016

The results are in from the Lake Partners Plan (LPP). This is the annual sampling at mid lake off Rackety Creek. This is the once a year sample that is submitted to the Ministry of Environment (MOE) lab in Dorset. They do analysis of Total Phosphorous, Calcium and record our results on Secchi Disc readings. (water clarity). The results on phosphorous (our key water quality indicator) are also used to compare results with the other lab to whom we send additional sampling areas (Trent University-Dorset). We are in close agreement on duplicate samples sent to both. All samples indicate very low Total Phosphorous results consistent with an oligotrophic or pristine lake.

This year the MOE allowed us to send additional samples for analysis because of our concern of declining trend in calcium results. It appears that we do not need to be concerned with the lower calcium trend line we were seeing in the past few years (probably due to sampling or analytical error). Results are well above the minimum requirement and are consistent with previous values.

LPP CALCIUM LEVELS ON GULL LAKE



Update on funding for Shoreline Re naturalization Demo

The C.H.A. is applying to Fisheries and Oceans Canada for funding to re naturalize what will be a Canadian Record number of properties. The funding program (with details) was supposed to have been announced some months ago but has not yet been announced. C.H.A. Exec member Jim McHardy is watching daily and is ready to apply as soon as the application becomes available.

We suspect the delay is due to the change in the Federal Government.

The response from our members and their property owner members has been nothing short of phenomenal – much better than in other areas such as Muskoka etc.

A few of our lake associations have almost 10% of all properties on their lakes wanting to be demo sites for re naturalization.

Remember as the program is not yet announced we do not have answers to your questions re amounts etc.

Due to the delay one problem and one opportunity

The **problem** is that funding may not arrive in time for work this summer

The **opportunity** is that if you have not yet lined up properties and let us know number of properties for each of the next 3 years you have a little more time – but keep in mind as soon as the application process goes live we will be applying for the numbers we have at that point – so act as fast as you can

The GLCA has guaranteed 1 site for each of this year and next year. There will be more information available once funding has been secured.

Update on Rezoning Application to allow Scrap Yard on Hunter Creek Water Shed

A subcommittee consisting of Keith Kennedy, Judy Ingram, and Don Drouillard from your GLCA executive and volunteers Irene and Larry Murphy has been formed to address our concerns with council regarding this zoning application.

Together, we have,

- Voiced our concerns to council concerning:
 - Our fear of a negative impact on Hunter Creek water quality which feeds into our lake and downstream
 - Concern of how it may impact ground water to nearby homeowners on well water
 - Impact on fish, wildlife and on the habitat of the threatened Blanding Turtle known to be found in this watershed
 - Shared concern with the residents of Hunter's Creek Estate, the impact of noise, property values, and traffic in the area
 - Taken part in a rally organized by Hunter's Creek Estates at the Legion
 - Have had our concerns heard and publicized in the local newspapers
 - Questioned the validity of the application by someone other than the property owner
 - Questioned the preparedness of the township to monitor activities at a scrap yard. (the Township does not have bylaws in place for monitoring scrap yards)
 - Consultation with MNR, OFHA, FOCA, MOE
 - Organized a petition of our membership and Moore Lake Cottagers. Results are posted separately in this newsletter. If you have not yet responded please do so. Only one response per person but other family members can also respond.
 - Hunter's Creek Estate also organized their own petition and canvassed local residents and obtained signatures at local establishments and Beer Store
 - Council postponed their decision to re-zone based on completion of an environmental assessment at the expense of the applicant
 - We have retained (\$2000) Frank Zechner (environmental Lawyer) to present our concerns formally to council on May 12th, 2016 and to demand a Level 2 Environmental Assessment (includes ground water assessment). Frank will guide us to complete some of the other work ourselves and to cover all the bases. All concerns must be presented to council soon. If we should be unhappy with the decision of council we do have the option to appeal to the OMB but cannot bring forward any new concerns at that time.

We have found in previous analysis of the streams entering Gull Lake that water from Hunter Creek has a much higher conductivity than any other entering the Lake (10x higher than most). This is only an indicator that the water from here is different and it could be due to natural causes or some form of pollution. We suspect but cannot confirm that this may be due to a former dump site on the creek. Once safe to do so, I will read the conductivity upstream and downstream of the former dump site. If the readings confirm that the dump site is the reason for the higher readings, we will do a detailed analysis of the water to determine what the issue is. This could be a very important factor in demonstrating to council the potential impact.

Request for Volunteers once again!

We would also like to begin record keeping on ice on and ice off dates on the lake. This is important to assess the effects of climate change. ***If anybody has kept any history in the past ice in and ice out dates, I would appreciate if they could share this information. Also I would request one or more volunteers that live on the lake to take part in recording this information in the future. If interested in helping please, notify me for further instruction.***

Calling all dedicated Lake Trout Fisherman

As discussed at the AGM, and as an action item in the Gull Lake Plan, we are requesting serious and experienced Lake Trout Fisherman (summer and/or winter) to report their catches from Gull Lake. It is important that we have regular seasoned Lake Trout Fisherman and not the occasional novice fisherman for the data to be meaningful. The MNR (Minden) will receive the collected data from the dedicated anglers and will analyse the information to determine the relative population of the natural producing Lake Trout in our lake (Gull Lake is not stocked). It will take at least 3-4 years to collect sufficient data but this information is crucial. Without this knowledge, no further action can be taken to change regulations or other measures to protect the species. If you would like to participate or know of someone else that could help us out by participating, please contact me and I will send them an information package on how to record their catches. It is not important for the participant to be a member of the GLCA or even to own a property on the lake). The only requirement is that they fish regularly for Lake Trout on Gull Lake.

Many thanks to all members for their continued support!

Don Drouillard
Lake Steward

Upcoming Events!

Annual General Meeting/Cottage Opening - Social/Lunch Sunday, May 22nd - 11:15 am Kilcoo Camp

July 23 – Sailing race - Meet at Gull Rock
Rain date is July 24

July 30 – Regatta - Meet at University of Toronto Survey Camp

August 16 – Rock Bass Derby - weigh in 12:30 - 1:30 pm at Miners Bay

August Social – details to follow

September 5 – Last day for Photo Day Contest Submissions

We are once again planning to hold a summer social in the latter part of August. In recent years, an appetizer/refreshments event has been held at SummerKiss Restaurant, however this year your board is considering other possibilities, and we certainly welcome any suggestions from the membership. Feel free to contact Brian Pinnock at brianp@rogers.com

Volunteering on Gull Lake

There are a number of opportunities for people to get involved in a small way or a more substantial way with activities on the Lake.

If you are interested, please email us at info@glca.ca

High School Students Looking for Volunteer Hours

There are a number of opportunities for high school students to gain their volunteer hours.

1. Manage the new lost and found and classifieds section of the website
2. Help with set up and clean up at the May AGM
3. Work at the membership table during the AGM and/or Regatta
4. Help out at the Regatta e.g. kids races, food, clean up

Summer living is easy.
Choosing just one art
course is hard.

This year's summer program features over 300 courses, including 70 new classes to explore: Woodcarving, Celtic Design & Monograms, Digital Explorations & Collage, Landscape Art Alternatives, Makeup FX & Character Design, and Contemporary Sculpture, to name a few.

So whether you are enrolling for the first time, or you come back every year, we have courses for your interests, abilities and talent.

The Haliburton School of Art + Design is a wonderful place to learn, grow and create and we hope you can take some time for yourself this summer to explore fresh possibilities.



Haliburton School
of Art + Design
Fleming College

For more information, and to register:
hsad.ca or 705.457.1680

152ND HALIBURTON COUNTY FAIR

Saturday, June 11th, 2016

DEMONSTRATIONS & ENTERTAINMENT

Throughout the day Saturday.

- ★ Aviation & Forest Fire Emergency Services Fire Prevention Unit
- ★ Wood Processing & Sawmill Demonstrations
- ★ Rope Maker Hands-on Demonstrations
- ★ OPP Canine Unit
- ★ Antique Milk Wagon Rides
- ★ Ploughing Match (Registration starts at 9:00am)
- ★ Jocelyn Donaldson and Alyssa Bogardis Mounted Games

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 9:00am | Fair Opens |
| 9:00am - 5:00pm | Vendor Booths & Artisans Market Open |
| 9:00am - 5:00pm | Exhibit Building Open (Quonset Hut) |
| 9:00am - 4:00pm | Meet the Animals |
| 9:00am - 5:00pm | Learn Animals Sounds with Tree |
| 10:00am - 3:00pm | Sheep Show / Goat Show / Cow Show |
| 10:00am - 5:00pm | Classic Car Show |
| 11:00am | Pony Pull |
| 11:00am | Mutt Show |
| 11am/12:30pm/2pm | Sheep Shearing Demonstrations |
| 11:30am | Opening Ceremonies |
| Noon | Beer Tent Opens |
| Noon | Horseshoe Tournament |
| 1:00pm | Lawnmower Pull |
| 11am/1pm/3pm | Randy Bird Equine Show |
| 3:00pm | Auction Begins |
| 3:30pm | LeRoy Nesbitt Memorial Championship Horse Pull |
| 5:00pm | 50/50 and Raffle Draw |

ONE PRICE ADMISSION

Once inside the gate, all attractions* are free!

Friday Night Beef BBQ and Music Show featuring
Todd Nolan and Friends @ SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena:
Adults \$23, Kids 12 & Under \$13, Kids 6 & Under FREE

Friday Night Music Show Only: \$15

Saturday Fair Admission: Adults \$10, Kids 12 & Under \$7

Saturday Family Fair Admission: \$25 (2 Adults + 2 Kids)

Early Bird Rough Camping *** on Thursday/Friday/Saturday:
One time flat rate \$20

Regular Rate Rough Camping *** on Friday/Saturday:
One time flat rate \$40

GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 12:00pm | Rhythmfoot
(the Leahy Family) |
| 2:30pm | Stockdale Central & Guests,
Wendy Connelly
& Linda Robertson |
| 5:00pm - Close | Carl Dixon & Band |



KIDS & YOUTHS EVENTS

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 9:00am - 4:00pm | Haliburton County Library |
| 9:00am - 5:00pm | Checkers Face Painting |
| 9:00am - 6:00pm | Laser Tag |
| 9:00am - 6:00pm | Hamster Balls |
| 10:00am - 3:00pm | Participation Events
(Tug of War, Roll the Hay Bale, Throw the Hay,
Nail Driving, Potato Sack Race, Lollipop Pull) |
| 10:00am - 2:00pm | Stage Events
(Little Buckaroos Show, Balloon Artist, Library
Crafts, Bean Bag Toss, Bucket Ball) |
| 12:30pm | Pedal Tractor Pull |
| Opens @ 1:00pm | Dunk Tank |
| 2:45pm | Marshmallow & Egg
Drop Challenge |
| 4:00pm | Pie Eating Contest |



2016 GLCA Photo Contest

Submit your best pictures taken in 2016 for our 2nd Annual Gull Lake Association Photo Contest!

Enter by emailing the pictures to info@GLCA.CA by Labour Day Monday. No more than 5 pictures can be submitted by any individual. With each picture identify which category (Action, Cottage Life, Landscape, Nature, Photo's by Kids) and one sentence describing why you love the picture.

One Winner in each category will receive \$25 prize and their picture will be submitted to the Cottage Life National photo contest. Any photography enthusiasts who are willing to be judges please contact Nick at nickevans@rogers.com

By submitting your picture for the contest you are also giving the Gull Lake Association permission to display it on the website GLCA.ca.

Drink a Glass of Water – Thank a Wetland



If you used water today to brush your teeth, cook or quench your thirst, you should probably thank a wetland! If you're wondering why you should care, consider what wetlands do for us.

From providing ecological services such as flood control and carbon storage to food production, wetlands play a vital role in our day-to-day lives.

Wetlands are good for your health. They play a key role in removing sediments, excess nutrients and even bacteria from drinking water. Over two-thirds of Canadians get their drinking water from lakes, rivers and reservoirs, and the quality of that water depends on the health of the watershed, including wetlands. Like giant sponges, wetlands also absorb and replenish water to buffer our communities from flood and drought risks.

Wetlands are vital nesting and feeding grounds for waterfowl, they provide nursery habitat for fishes and are one of Canada's most diverse ecosystems. At least half of our wildlife species rely on wetlands for at least part of their lifecycle.

Canada is home to 25 percent of the world's wetlands; more than any other country. However, our wetlands are disappearing due to infrastructure development such as roads and cities or drainage for agricultural production. This loss of wetlands is especially high in southern Canada.

C.H.A. Note - The Haliburton Highlands has more than 20,000 wetlands but has lost 1000's more. Every wetland we have left is important – let's protect them!

Wetlands are among the Nature Conservancy of Canada's most important habitats we are working to conserve. We also restore wetlands that have been degraded, to improve these natural spaces for migratory birds, amphibians, fishes and other wildlife.

In addition to their importance for nature, many of the Nature Conservancy of Canada's wetland areas provide recreational opportunities such as walking, hiking, fishing, wildlife viewing and canoeing, along with educational opportunities for people of all ages to learn and explore.

Canada is well positioned to make a difference on a global scale by protecting our wetlands so that they can continue to trap and store large amounts of carbon. Our wetlands are also important to help nature and local communities adapt to the impacts of climate change by protecting us from storm surges, drought and flooding.

Adapted from an article by Dan Kraus - Nature Conservancy of Canada

Article provided by



www.cohpoa.org

Beware of this thistle, says a survivor!



"Last September I had a sore leg. It has healed completely except for redness of the skin which may eventually heal. The cause of the sore is now known. Word has come from the Health authorities in Madoc east of Havelock. The culprit is Wild Parsnip: a huge thistle (ours was about 7 feet high) which has been creeping west from the East Coast for some years now. Extremely toxic. Do not burn it or the poison will spread in the wind. Cut it, put in plastic bags, set in direct sun for a few days till it is 'cooked'. Carefully double and triple bag it then take to the dump and tell the dump officials what it is so that the next disposal steps can be taken. Throw away gloves that have been used.

Wild parsnip is not well known to the health authorities in Toronto yet. Certainly Sunnybrook and Women's College were/are mystified.

William Rea, the guy who survived!

Minden Hills Broadband Expansion Project

Minden Hills council supported an agreement with Bell to bring or improve high-speed, broadband Internet to a number of public buildings in the county. While it is not a residential fibre project, the local paper indicates that the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus is working on trying to close the gaps in Internet service and that Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) is working on a rural analysis.

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Jamie Schmale visited Minden Hills councillors Feb. 11 where he supported expansion of this access and mentioned it as one of his priorities.

We had a chance to speak with him briefly about the need for rural residential access. He said there is a need to fix the 'internet gaps' and his comment was that future access is based on demand so anyone interested in it should make it known. His suggestion was to let Bell know and to copy his office, or let his Lindsay office know where your need exists. (His web page is <http://jamieschmale.ca/>).

You can call Bell at 1-877-852-8227 and let them know you are interested in broadband service so that they can track requests for it. (IE. Not Mobility).

Article provided by  www.cohpoa.org

WANTED!
FAMILY DOCTORS
IN KINMOUNT

**A rewarding opportunity,
professionally, financially, lifestyle
705-488-2646**

Did you know?

From April to September 2015 Thrift Warehouse Haliburton,

- Diverted 30,780 cubic feet or the equivalent of over 20 shipping containers (20') from landfill
- Diverted 7 tons of metal and e-waste recycling from the landfills
- Employed 10 people and increased the income of 9 more Registered Workers.

Thrift Warehouse takes furniture, electronics, lighting, housewares, building supplies and much more. The Warehouse is a social enterprise of SIRCH. (C.H.A. Charity of the year a few years ago)

Thrift Warehouse helps keep people employed, provides low-cost items to those who need them, and any profits go to help other SIRCH programs (like food security programs, grief supports and school readiness).

Haliburton Warehouse - 128 Mallard Rd in Industrial Park, Haliburton 1-844-847-4381

Article provided by



www.cohpoa.org

No Problems With My Septic – It's Working Well – Right?

- When I flush the toilet everything goes away
- I have not had any back-ups
- There are no visible signs of pooling water by my tank or tile bed
- No bad odours

So my system is working well – isn't it?

Not necessarily! While one function of your septic system is to get the waste out of your cottage or house, there is another function that is **equally critical**: Your system needs to **treat the waste** before it goes back into the water table and in many cases back into your lake. Remember a drop into your system means a drop out of the system.

How do you know if your septic system is properly treating your waste water to protect your lake?

In a municipality near Lake Huron almost every septic system in the area, many hundreds of *systems*, has been inspected over the last 8 years. Almost half of those systems (47%) were not working properly!

Many lakefront property owners here in the Highlands have voluntarily had their systems professionally inspected with a proper, lid-off inspection. Once again a high % of systems were not working properly including systems which were very new.

So how do you protect your lake, your family's health, your septic investment and your property value?

The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations has been studying this issue for years. Here are some steps recommended by C.H.A. and available on our website www.cohpoa.org.

1. Have your septic system inspected by a licensed septic inspector. This summer The C.H.A. will be providing a list of inspectors who are recognized under the Lake Protectors Service Provider program on our website.
 - a. *We also hope to have a list of Septic Pumpers under our Lake Protectors Service Provider program by mid-summer*
2. Follow the C.H.A.'s **Septic Tips**.
3. Watch **Poop Talk – It's All About The Water** – the Made in Haliburton, entertaining video that has been seen over all North American and Australia on our website.

Ensuring that your septic system is healthy is one of the 2 most important things you can do to protect your lake!

Author Paul MacInnes, Chair of the C.H.A., is a *Passionate Lake Protector*

Article provided by



www.cohpoa.org

Is My Dog at Risk of Lyme Disease in the Highlands?

We are getting more and more calls at the Minden Animal Hospital asking about ticks, owners wondering what the risks are to their dogs, what prevention they should be using and worried about their dog contracting Lyme disease.

Ticks are relatively new to our area, and every year we are seeing more and more of them. There's a good explanation for this – they are a hardy species and once they have migrated into an area, they are here to stay. Migration occurs by being carried on an animal – domestic or wild mammal or birds. Ticks have exceptional reproductive capacity, with the females laying up to 2000 eggs at once! Adults survive the winter, males remaining on their host and females will bury themselves under leaves and debris, so even our coldest winters don't deter them.

Without going into all the details of the life cycle, the basics include the eggs hatching into larvae, which feed on a small host, the larvae then falls off and molts into a nymph (think teenager with less hormones), which feeds on a slightly bigger host, falls off and then molts into an adult. This transformation takes approximately 2 years. Adults come out of "hibernation" to feed around 5°C, meaning there's often still snow on the ground! This is the time you need to start thinking about tick prevention.

It is helpful to know where Lyme disease comes from in order to understand how your dog can become infected. Lyme disease is transmitted by a tick called *Ixodes scapularis*, commonly known as the **deer tick**. The larvae or nymph stages become infected when they feed off of an infected white-footed mouse. The areas where Lyme disease are endemic, are the areas the infection is endemic in the mouse population. When the infected tick bites your dog (or you), it injects an anti-coagulant into them, so that the blood doesn't clot, and it can continue feeding. It is at this time, when they will regurgitate the Lyme bacteria into your dog. The good news is that **it takes at least 48 hours for this to occur**; therefore, this is our key window for prevention.

Last summer Minden Animal Hospital participated in a research study performed by Dr. Christine James from the University of Guelph, Ontario Veterinary College. Of the 17 ticks that results were in from this area (240 results pending), none of them were carriers of Lyme disease. Approximately 50% of the ticks submitted were deer ticks. From the survey, it was determined that dogs that tested positive for Lyme disease, had a history of travel through a Lyme endemic area. *To see a Map of where Lyme disease is prevalent in Ontario visit <http://mindenanimalhospital.com/>*

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium, known as a spirochete, because of its shape. It can change its outer proteins, and it is these outer proteins that our immune system relies on to identify invaders and destroy them. It is also what scientists rely on to differentiate bacteria from each other when testing or creating vaccines. Because of this, *Lyme* bacterium is called as a master of disguise. As well, once infected, the animal or human is infected for life.

There are some important differences regarding infection in people versus dogs. Infected people have an **80%** chance of developing clinical signs. Symptoms include; a red target like lesion, flu-like illness, followed by joint pain, occasionally neurological signs and rarely heart arrhythmias. In people clinical signs usually present within the first few weeks of being bitten by the tick.

Dogs only have a **10%** chance of becoming ill after being infected. The majority of dogs will never show signs of illness, although will remain *infected* (the bacteria present in their system), usually for life. The dogs that do become ill, however, take weeks to months before showing symptoms. Signs mainly include fever for a few days or intermittent arthritis. Neurological signs or heart issues are very rare. In some dogs, a more serious illness occurs that is associated with the kidneys. Immune-mediated complexes (clumps of antibodies) get lodged in the kidneys and cause damage. It often takes months to years for this to occur, which makes it difficult to treat and hard to associate to Lyme disease.

Some people have wondered if their dog gave them Lyme disease. This is very unlikely, and what typically happens is co-infection. When walking your dog through the bush, both of you get bitten by ticks that are both carrying Lyme disease (in endemic areas, it is very common for numerous ticks to be carrying the bacteria).

Treatment in dogs can be relatively easy and typically consists of a month of antibiotics. The challenging aspect is determining which dogs need to be treated. Arthritis is the most common clinical sign, but shows up months after being bitten by a tick and is often associated with aging, rather than Lyme disease. By the time kidney disease shows up years later, the thought of a tick bite (if known) is a distant memory.

Prevention of ticks is the best course of action to protect your dog. Ticks can cause painful or irritating swelling at the insertion site. If removed improperly, the mouthparts of the tick can create an abscess. Some ticks are small and we may never notice them, but can still infect your pet with diseases. Although Lyme disease, or other tick-borne illnesses, are not endemic in our area at this time, the environment is constantly changing and chances are high that we will be affected one day.

Checking you and your dogs each day and removing any ticks immediately is the best prevention. At Minden Animal Hospital we have several products that can aid in killing ticks and we recommend their use from March through until November as an added measure of protection.

To see a Map of where Lyme disease is prevalent in Ontario visit <http://mindenanimalhospital.com/>

Written by Dr. Jennifer Morrow Article provided by



CEWF Update on the Parks Canada Capital Program in the Reservoir Lakes Area (Feb 2016)

In the summer of 2015, the government announced a major capital program to refurbish and replace capital assets in the Trent Severn Waterway including in the reservoir lakes. CEWF reported this announcement in detail on our website and at our September 2015 annual meeting. (For details on the announced funding see link posted on the CEWF website (CEWF.ca) on June 19, 2015)

The purpose of this report is to bring our lake association members up to date on the progress being made on the capital program in the reservoir lakes area based on CEWF's ongoing communication with Parks Canada (TSW) officials.

Capital work underway 2014 -2016

The most significant major project undertaken over the last two years has been the replacement of the **Kennisis Lake Dam**. We are pleased to report that the dam construction is now complete, and the new dam has recently been commissioned and is operational. The diversion channel is being decommissioned and the final site cleanup is planned to be completed in April. From all reports, this project has been completed without any major impacts on normal water level ranges in the lake, and the community was kept informed regarding the project.

The replacement dam at Kennisis Lake, commissioned February 2016



Over the winter of 2015-2016, the dam at **Little Bob Lake** is being rehabilitated. The work is ongoing and expected to be completed in March with final site cleanup in April.

In Winter 2014-2015, the dam at **Bob Lake** was rehabilitated and that work including all site work is now complete.

Other major projects announced in Summer 2015

Along with supplementary funding for the Kennisis project discussed above, three specific new capital projects were announced, Mississagua Dam, Horseshoe Dam, and Coboconk Dam.

Within the last month, planning for the **Mississagua Dam** work has proceeded to the point that the decision has been made that the dam will be replaced with a new structure immediately downstream of the existing dam with construction expected to begin in summer 2016. Detailed design work is now underway and the local community will be engaged as details become available. It is notable that the Mississagua Lake chain is the largest single storage reservoir in the TSW.

The Mississagua dam to be replaced beginning in summer 2016



The conceptual studies of work to be done on the **Horseshoe Lake Dam** are well advanced, and it is expected that details of planned work will be shared with the community by early spring with construction probably being initiated this summer.

The conceptual work is also underway regarding work on the **Coboconk Dam**. It is expected that details on the planned work will be made public before the summer with construction possible by late summer.

Other Projects Expected to be Undertaken in the next 5 years.

As part of the capital funding announcement, a sum of \$10 million was announced for concrete repair work at various sites in the reservoir lakes area (the Haliburton Sector of TSW).

Studies have been ongoing at a number of sites. The detailed planning is underway for specific projects and the actual timing of the work will be announced as plans are completed. It is anticipated that all these projects will be completed within the already announced funding, and within the 5 year timeframe announced last summer. At this point, it is expected that the following 15 sites will have concrete repair work undertaken within the five year timeframe.

Halls Lake Dam

Big Hawk Lake Dam

Little Brother Lake Dam

Gull Lake Dams 1 and 2 (Moore Falls)

Drag Lake North and South Dams

Loon Lake Dam

White Lake Dam

Percy Lake Dam

Gooderham Lake Dam

Oblong Lake Dam

Redstone Lake East Dam

Norland Dam (Moore Lake)

Jack's Lake Dam

Eagle Lake Dam

Scott's Mills Dam on Mississagua River (public safety work only)

CEWF is in regular communication with TSW staff. We are providing to the TSW contact information of our member lake association representatives where work is being planned. Parks Canada (TSW) staff will provide additional information directly to impacted communities as it becomes available.

Prepared by Ted Spence, CEWF Chair, February 16, 2016



2016 GLCA Membership Renewal Form

Please Print

Cottage Address: _____

Primary Member Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Cottage Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Optional 2nd Email: _____

Home Address: _____

City, Province/State _____

Postal Code: _____

Associate Member Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Cottage Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Optional 2nd Email: _____

Home Address: _____

City, Province/State _____

Postal Code: _____

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

Primary Membership	\$40	__ (only one per cottage)
Hard copy of newsletter	\$10	__
Associate Membership	\$10	__ (for each Associate membership)
Hard copy of newsletter	\$10	__ (for each Associate membership)

Donation (any amount appreciated) __

Total dues for 2016 __

Option to renew for 2016 & 2017 __ (double the one year total)

Please make out cheque to "GLCA Treasurer"
Mail to 10 Shortland Crescent, Etobicoke, Ontario M9R 2T3

This form is not required to renew online through our website GLCA.ca