

SPRING/SUMMER 2015

Clear Lake Newsletter

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PST! Don't Forget...
CLPOA A.G.M.

SUN. JULY 5TH

Registration:
9:30 AM

Important Numbers

Emergency – 911
(Know your Civic Address)
Ontario Provincial Police
888-310-1122
Huntsville Hospital
705-789-2311
Poison Info Centre
800-268-9017
Forest Fire Report
888-863-3473
Hydro (No Power)
800-461-6418
MNR Bear Report
866-514-2327



Clear Lake Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 271, Emsdale, ON, POA 1J0
www.clearlakepropertyowners.com
info@clearlakepropertyowners.com

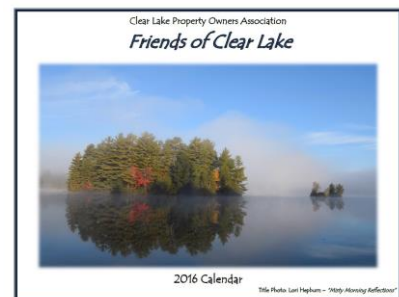
Clear Lake Calendars – Pre-Order Yours Now!

The CLPOA, with the help of various lake lovers that submitted their photos, have assembled the first ever Clear Lake Calendar.

The calendar runs from July 2015 to June 2016 and features 13 stunning images of our lovely lake!

Calendars will be available at the AGM on Sunday July 5th, 2015.

The cost will be \$12/each, all proceeds will go to the CLPOA to help fund future lake preservation initiatives. *Limited numbers available!*



Thank you to everyone that submitted photos! Unfortunately we had too many to choose from, but we hope to repeat this project in future so keep the cameras rolling!



Is Buster licensed?

The long Friday night trip up Highway 11 is over. You arrive at the cottage; exhausted but excited! The van doors fling open one by one, and before you know it – Woof! Woof! Buster is out chasing the kids around the front yard of the cottage. Fresh grass, fresh air, and – was that a squirrel? The excitement is too much for poor Buster, and he tears off into the woods after the tiny red squeaky toy...

Perry Township is the gateway to Northern Ontario – our wilderness is just that – wild. As such there are restrictions in place designed to provide pets with a safe experience when exploring nature.

Please take note of the following

highlights from By-Law 2006-1 (Re: Control of Dogs):

- All dogs must be licensed with the Township of Perry (this includes our seasonal four-legged friends)
- Dogs are not permitted to “run at large” at any time (meaning they must be leashed at *all* times)
- No residence may contain more than three (3) dogs older than three (3) months at any time (kennels are excluded from this restriction).
- All animal excrement must be promptly removed from all property (other than your own) – roads, etc.

For license information:

(705) 636-5941



Photo: Dillys Betts-Boniface

President's Message – Spring / Summer 2015

Hello Lake Lovers!

Clear Lake will continue to be the very corner stone of intricate and treasured family ties that bind through the generations.

On that note, it is fitting that we each truly respect our lake in that we have certainly acquired, achieved and learned so very much during our days, years and decades of living, laughing, loving and learning lakeside. It's time to pay it forward or pay for it later.

Our 2013 Golden Brown Algae Bloom followed by the 2014 BGA (Blue Green Algae) Bloom were both loud and visible wake up calls indicative of our need to change what we can.

The goal now is to determine what to change, where, how, when, how much and so on. Environmental factors such as global warming, wind, rain, etc. are well beyond our own control and rest with God or Mother Nature. Call it as you will – to each his own.

Rising phosphorous levels have continued for 4 years now. Phosphorous 'feeds' algae. Phosphorous is increased as a result of numerous causative factors including environment, septic failure, phosphates from soaps, fertilizers, shoreline erosion, large wake (which advances erosion and tears away or churns up precious

micro-organisms that form part of the lake food chain) and so on. We've been innocently ignorant en masse to some degree so it's now time to educate ourselves and abandon the 'he said, she said' or 'they did, so I did' mentalities so as to step up firmly and proudly to effect change.

I have faith in our ability and willingness to change. I hope that each Reader of this edition has the same confidence and is willing to embrace new opportunities, both individually and as part of a collective, to reverse our current conditions.

CLPOA sanctioned the creation of the CLPOA Lake Stewards Committee in 2014 and that group has been hard at work over the winter. **We will learn from the Committee during an informational meeting on Sunday May 17 at the Novar Hall by Hope's Foodland at 11:00 a.m.. Please attend.**

This is a good place to embark upon the mandatory journey of soul searching, system checking, shoreline assessing, septic reviewing, property inspecting and much more. **Recreational or commercial lake use that is reliant on the creation of large wake simply must cease – and it can.** I cannot think of a more

eloquent way to say this so there it is. Our lake is too small, and the shoreline is too soft, to tolerate the wake impact. We must stop the large wake or continue to suffer further consequences.

In closing, after three challenging years as your CLPOA President, I'd like to conclude my Director term with one particular thought; and, wish each and every single one of you my most sincere wishes for a spectacular summer lakeside.

Here it is:

Having the legal right to use/misuse/abuse Clear Lake as we choose to DOES NOT mean it is right – because it is NOT.

Thank you for your support!

– Debbie Dale,
CLPOA President



"Harrison's Inukshuk"

Zoning Violations – Check the laws before you cut!

Perry Township worked closely with CLPOA and other stakeholder groups to publish a Zoning Bylaw to protect Lakes like ours in the area and the environment overall.

You can find the Zoning By-Law here: <http://www.townshipofperry.ca/land.html>

Of very specific interest to The Lake is section 3.29 that calls for the preservation of the "Vegetative Buffer" along the shore.

Lake residents have recently reported several blatant violations of this bylaw. These have been reported to the Township, and the Township Bylaw officer will be investigating these gross violations of the legislation in place to protect our environment.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE make sure you understand and follow the by-laws before making ANY changes on your property - especially if those changes are within 30 metres (approximately 100 feet) of the shoreline.

The photo below shows an example of "clear-cutting" from another lake. Unfortunately we are starting to see this occur on lots on our lake - seemingly overnight. This is damaging to the surrounding environment on many levels.



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Basements
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Top Soil
Landscaping
Dozer Work
Road Building

Spring Closure (Highway 592)



The Spring on Highway 592 is closing. MTO retained engineers Morrison-Hershfield to perform an environmental Impact study required before the upcoming replacement of 4 bridges located on the Little East River. After some sadness over the loss of the spring, Town Councilors felt that restoring it following construction may lead to liability for water potability. Perry Township asked MTO to hold a public meeting about the spring.



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btachill2@netspectrum.ca

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Reminder – Fireworks are Forbidden!

Please be reminded that Fireworks are not permitted for unauthorized public use in the Township of Perry at any time. Canada Day, Labour Day, or any day that you think might be a good night to light off Fireworks – please reconsider, and leave them at home. Do not bring them to the cottage.

For more information on these restrictions, please visit online: www.townshipofperry.ca

Have a complaint about Fireworks in our area? Contact James Mahoney, Bylaw Enforcement Officer.

Phone: (705) 636-5941 / (705) 382-0503

Email: jmahoney@surenet.net

Fuel Safety – Treat fuel with care...

Gasoline is a common fuel around the home and at the cottage all year round. It powers our lawnmowers, snow blowers, chainsaws, boats and ATVs – just to name a few! But, despite its everyday use, it is important not to underestimate the dangers of gasoline.

When running a gas-powered engine:

- Keep a BC Class fire extinguisher handy. Water will only spread flames of a gasoline-based fire.
- Never work or idle in an enclosed space such as a garage, basement or tent.
- Allow equipment to cool down before refueling.

Storage:

Do not leave gasoline in the basement of your home or cottage. Store fuel only in approved containers in a detached garage or shed, and well away from heat sources including direct sunlight.



Filling Containers:

- Keep well away from sparks or ignition sources.
- Fill only to about 90% of capacity to allow some room for expansion.
- When filling, keep portable containers on the ground, with the dispensing nozzle in full contact with the container in order to prevent buildup and discharge of static electricity – a possible source of ignition.
- Never leave the container in the trunk of a car, or direct sunlight.

Disposal:

The best way to dispose of gasoline is to use it up. If gasoline must be discarded, be sure to take it to a hazardous waste disposal centre. Never pour gasoline onto the ground, down sewers or into drains.

James Zantingh

Mortgage Professional

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705-783-8067

BENTHIC MONITORING – New environmental testing for 2015!

CLPOA is participating in a new kind of environmental monitoring in 2015 – Benthic Monitoring. It is relatively inexpensive to complete but should yield some interesting information about our surrounding ecosystem. Here is a little information about the program:

Q: What is Biological Monitoring?

A: *Biological monitoring is examining biological specimens taken from the natural environment for identifying environmental changes and health risks. The District of Muskoka's Biomonitoring Technician focus on Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring.*



Q: What are "Benthic Macroinvertebrates"?

A: *Organisms that spend at least a portion of their lives on the bottom of freshwater streams, lakes or ponds –e.g. dragonfly nymphs, flat worms, freshwater snails, mosquito larvae.*

Q: Why study Benthic Macroinvertebrates?

A: *Benthic organisms are used as water quality indicators to determine the presence of any environmental stress.*

4-Season Cottage – Access to Clear Lake! – Only \$185,900!



Charming, cute and cozy would best describe this totally renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom cottage directly located across from and with access to Clear Lake on Highway 592. Sit back, relax and enjoy the private view from your covered deck. Open concept living area features pine throughout and boasts a modernized kitchen with farmhouse porcelain sink, wood counters and upgraded cabinetry. Living room features a Vermont Casting Propane Stove. *Move in ready!*

For more information or to arrange a private viewing, please contact:



Susi Schlenker, Royal LePage Lakes of Muskoka

Direct: 705-787-7444

Office: 705-789-9677 x 3364

Email: susi@royallepage.ca

Cyanobacteria (Blue-Green Algae) - Update

EXTRA COMPANY?

Too many guests and not enough space?

Call one of our great Clear Lake Resorts and check out their offerings before you send your overflow guests to Huntsville!

Algonquin Woods

(705) 636-5612

algonquinwoods.com

Allen's Landing

(705) 787-5324

allenslanding.ca

Booker's

(705) 636-5354

clearlakecottageresort.com

Clearview

(705) 636-1040

clearviewcottages.com

Cutter's Cove

(705) 636-5070

cutterscovecottages.ca

Maple Brae

(705) 636-5390

maplebraecottages.com

Journey's End Lodge

(705) 636-5505

Hope's Foodland (Novar)
(705) 789-1777

Mon-Thurs: 8:30 A-7:00 PM

Fri: 8:30 A-8:00 PM

Sat: 8:30 A-7:00 PM

Sun: 8:30 A-6:00 PM

The following is the most recent information received by Beth Morton, Township of Perry's Administrative Officer from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit with respect to the 2014 Blue-Green Algae advisory:

Mrs. Morton,

Hello,

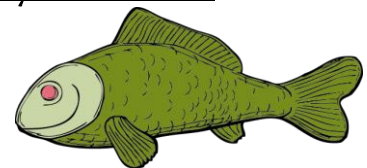
Thank you for your email. We have no update related to cyanobacteria (Blue-Green Algae) report in your area. Our previous advisory is still relevant. Currently, there is no report of a new bloom; the residents can enjoy recreational water activities as usual. The health concern is about skin contact, swallowing or inhaling water containing toxins. Once a bloom occurs, they are to avoid coming in direct contact with the bloom and to avoid any activity that may aerosolize such water.

With regard to drinking water, once we provide an advisory to the public, we do not lift it due to the complexity of the matter.

Time, location, sun, wind direction, cyanobacteria buoyancy are factors that make it difficult to predict the presence of toxins in a given water body. The absence of toxins in one location, at certain time, does not ensure that water is safe all over the lake. Therefore, neither the Health Unit nor the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change staff can know with certainty where/when is the water, from a lake that has history of bloom, safe to drink.

Thank you,

Robert A-Muhong, Program Manager,
Environmental Health, North Bay
Parry Sound District Health Unit
705-474-1400 x 2320
robert.a-muhong@nbpsdhu.ca
www.myhealthunit.ca



CLPOA Accepts E-transfers!



CLPOA is set up to receive online transfers for payment of membership dues and donations. Interac e-transfers can be sent to:

info@clearlakepropertyowners.com

Please be sure to send a separate email with the security question answer.

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