

KLCA Newsletter - Fall 2019
"Preserve the Heritage"



Kawagama and Bear Lakes Calendars!



Hey everyone, Great news... The 2020 Kawagama & Bear Lakes calendar has officially come to life! Thanks for all your support in making it happen. I've spoken with both [Moorelands Kids](#) and the KLCA, and we're all systems go! You can click on the link below to visit the Compassion Gallery website and place your order.

As previously noted, the cost is \$25 per calendar + HST. 100% of all profits will be donated to help children, both locally and globally. 50% will be donated to

Moorelands Kids here on Kawagama, and the other 50% will go to help build a children's home for 21 orphaned children in India (which I visit each year).

Calendar size is 13.5" x 24" (opened)... so if you're a person that likes to write things down, this should work great. The more calendar orders we get, the cheaper we can get them for (which means the more we can donate)... so please consider them for Christmas presents!

[https://compassion.gallery/kawagama/?](https://compassion.gallery/kawagama/)

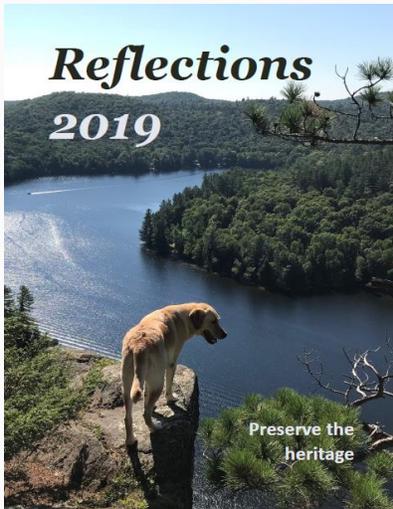
Reflections 2020

We hope you enjoyed the summer. Did you do anything that you'd like to share?

- Did you create something new?
- Did you have any adventures?
- Did you learn something about the history of our lakes?
- Did you make any great recipes?
- Did you meet someone interesting?
- Did you discover a great day trip in the area?

It's the contributions of KLCA members like you that make *Reflections* such a popular publication.

You can email text and photos to reflections@klca.org at any time.



Got a hot tub? Here's how to safely (and legally) drain it.



In most provinces, hot tub water is classified as grey water, which means that the regulations for safe disposal are governed by either provincial building codes or health regulations. So, check with your local building authority or public health unit before you dump your water.

Water from hot tubs often contains high levels of chlorine, bromine, and copper. It is also very corrosive due to low pH levels and may contain organic matter. If you discharge untreated hot tub water into your property or the lake, you can damage vegetation and kill fish and aquatic life. Don't dump chlorinated water into your lake!

It's never safe to drain straight into the lake, and in some provinces, it's illegal to discharge grey water directly onto your property—it must be disposed of through a sewage system. But loading up your septic tank with 1,700 litres of water at once is going to flush out the bacteria that keep the system functioning.

Instead, one week before you intend to drain the tub, stop adding chemicals and leave the cover off. Chlorine and bromine, the most common sanitizers in tub water, evaporate when they're exposed to air. You can help expedite this process by turning off the heater and running the jets for a few hours.

Once the chlorine or bromine levels are close to zero, you can start pumping out the water into your septic system in small batches over a few days.

(Article reproduced from: Cottage Life June 12, 2017) Brayden Alexander)

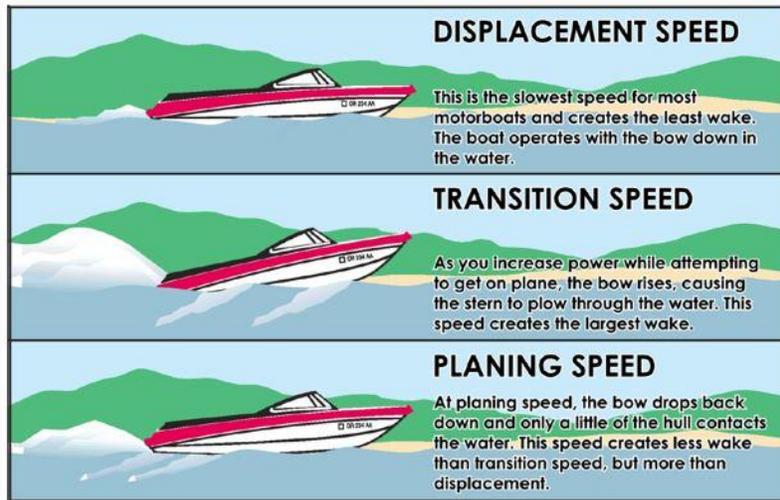
<https://cottagelife.com/design-diy/got-a-hot-tub-heres-how-to-safely-and-legally-drain-it/>

KLCA Navigation and Boating Safety Report

NIMBY is an acronym for the phrase **Not In My Back Yard**. NIMBY is used as a characterization of opposition to “something” that can have a negative affect on your general environment or simply just your back yard. In cottage country, we don't hang out in our back yards, but we do hang out on our front docks and shorelines.

After numerous hours of deep thought, I tried to create an acronym for **Not In Front Of My Dock Or Shoreline** – “**NIFOMDOS**”. Cottagers fear of **NIFOMDOS** is expressed through their concern for loon nests, fish habitat, eroding shorelines, damaged docks and children swimming in Kawagama and Bear Lake. **NIFOMDOS** syndrome can be brought on by a boat's wake and wash. All types of boats can cause **NIFOMDOS**; sometimes unknowingly and

sometimes intentionally. Unknowingly, this is primarily caused when boats are in the Transition Speed as indicated below.



Intentionally, the **NIFOMDOS** syndrome is caused when boating as shown in the picture below near our cottages.



Common courtesy is key to wakesurfers getting along with traditional boaters. (Photo: Jason Lee/Nautique)

As your KLCA Navigation and Safe Boating Director, I have had numerous conversations and received many emails and texts regarding the **NIFOMDOS** outbreak this year. Trees are falling into the lake, shorelines are eroding, and docks are being pulled off their hardware. At this point, all I can say to these people is to have a friendly conversation with their neighbour and let them know the cause and effects of **NIFOMDOS**.

However, in many cases, people suffering from **NIFOMDOS** syndrome live in the calmer waters of Kawagama or Bear Lake's back bays and don't know where the boats have come from. They can't have a friendly conversation if they don't know

who to talk to. I need your help. We need your help. Our lake needs you help. I have received numerous complaints from cottagers who don't even recognize the boats that bring on the **NIFOMDOS** rash.

Please share this note of concern with anyone about the CAUSE and EFFECT of the **NIFOMDOS** syndrome on Kawagama and Bear Lakes. Ask them to send in suggestions to the KLCA website as to how we can reduce the number of NIFOMDOS cases for next year. We are hoping to hear from both sides. We understand the nature of wakeboarding and wakesurfing is to create the biggest wake possible while having a lot of fun with your friends and family. We also understand the nature of cottaging is to be good stewards of the lake while having a lot of fun on their dock!

Creating the acronym of **Not In Front Of My Dock Or Shoreline** is a plea for suggestions and solutions.

It is a plea to answer the following question: **HOW CAN WE ALL HAVE THE MOST FUN ON KAWAGAMA AND BEAR LAKES, WHILE BEING GOOD LAKE STEWARDS AT THE SAME TIME?**

In a future newsletter, we intend on sharing many of your comments and suggestions.

(P.S. I am open for a better name and acronym suggestion for NIFOMDOS!)

Safe and fun boatingDoug Middlebrook.

January Renewal Reminder!

Don't forget, all memberships expire on December 31st of this year. To make this easier to remember, we now offer automatic renewals that you will receive in January! Save money and never miss out on receiving your Reflections Magazine!



News

Shoreline Gardens

Your shoreline can be natural but also beautiful, while maintaining access to the lake and great lake views. Attract butterflies and pollinators. Help your lake's fish habitats and water quality. Deter nuisance geese. Increase privacy...All while supporting our healthy ecosystems for future generations. For more information, to attend a workshop or pick up a starter kit, please click on the link below.

<https://www.thelandbetween.ca/design-your-own-shoreline-garden/>



Watersheds

C A N A D A

Your Lakes. Your Rivers. Your Future.

Bathing in the Lake: It's okay if I use biodegradable soap right?

Actually, no.

Many cottagers and lake associations struggle with the issue of people lathering up and jumping in the lake. While many of these offenders try to minimize the environmental impact by using biodegradable soap, water quality degradation can still result.

Even if a soap is biodegradable, it is not safe to put that soap directly into the water. All soap, whether biodegradable or not, affects lake chemistry in a detrimental fashion. It can also have a negative impact on fish and other aquatic organisms.

What does biodegradable actually mean?

A material is considered biodegradable if it is capable of being decomposed by biological agents like bacteria. More specifically, materials are usually deemed biodegradable if they break down to at least 90% water, carbon dioxide and biomass within six months, although some materials may take years to biodegrade.

When you think about it, most products can be considered biodegradable; it's just a matter of time.

A few things to keep in mind when using biodegradable soaps and cleaners include:

- *How quickly the product breaks down* – as noted above, some product biodegrade within days while others may take years.
- *What conditions are necessary for breakdown to occur* – a product that is broken down by bacteria in the soil will not biodegrade in water.

- *What by-products are left behind* – even the natural elements left behind from biodegradable products are additives which were not previously present in water and can reduce the purity and quality of our water and harm aquatic life. Keep in mind that biodegradability doesn't necessarily mean environmentally friendly.

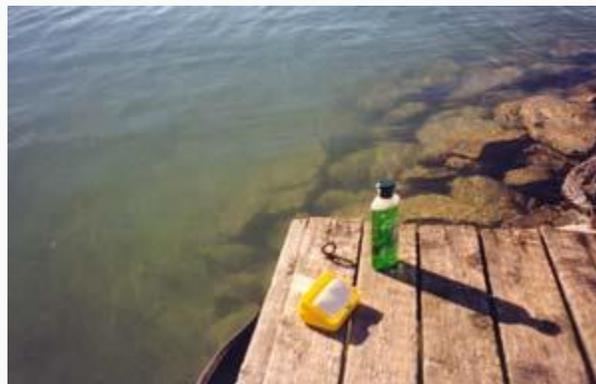
Many soaps also contain surfactants, which are often toxic to life in the lake, especially microorganisms and invertebrates.

If you are going to bathe in the great outdoors, instead of using soap to get yourself clean, just use a washcloth and scrub. Water is an excellent solvent that attaches to dirt and mud and washes it away. Soap only helps to suspend the dirt that water attaches to and rinses it away more quickly and easily.

If you must wash with soap out of doors, use one that is biodegradable and phosphate-free and use it sparingly. Do all your washing, bathing or cleaning at least 30 metres from any water sources and dispose of your soapy wash and rinse water in a hole six inches deep to allow bacteria in the soil to completely biodegrade the soap.

For many people, our lakes and rivers are a source of drinking water. Please don't add anything to the water that you wouldn't want to drink yourself.

(Reprinted from: <https://www.muskokawatershed.org/blog/bathing-in-the-lake/>
Posted on [August 10, 2016](#))





www.cohpoa.org

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. To alleviate unnecessary concerns and to share important information The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations is providing this fact sheet on how to identify blue green algae blooms and what to do if you do suspect one (info on reverse of this page)

What is it? *Info from MOECP*

Blue-green algae are microscopic, plant-like organisms that occur naturally in ponds, rivers, lakes and streams. Although often blue-green, they can also be olive-green or red.

How to recognize it

Blue-green algae are not normally visible in the water, but populations can rapidly increase to form a large mass or scum called a bloom when conditions are favourable.

Blooms most commonly occur in late summer and early fall. They thrive in areas where the water is shallow, slow moving and warm, but they may be present in deeper, cooler water.

Dense blue-green algae blooms may make the water look bluish-green, or like green pea soup or turquoise paint. Very dense blooms may form solid-looking clumps.

Fresh blooms often smell like newly mown grass, while older blooms may smell like rotting garbage.

Pic and table below from HKPR

Blue-Green Algae: Get to Know its True Colours



Category 1



Category 2



Category 3

When it comes to Blue-Green Algae –
Know the Facts, Reduce Your Risk

Blue Green Algae Blooms

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Appearance	The water appears cloudy, but you can still see through it. Particle density can vary greatly in the water column	The water colour appears changed. Algae may be in clusters or balls or flakes in the water, like a pea purée	This is a dense bloom; it may resemble a paint spill and the surface of the water may form a scum. Algae is easily swept by the wind and deposited near the shore
Swimming Precautions	It is unsafe to swim or to allow children to play in water with any dense algal bloom if you cannot see into the water. Wait until the bloom has subsided and the water is clear.	Do not swim in a Category 2 or 3 algal bloom, or any bloom which obscures your view into the water. Even if it is not blue-green algae, it is unsafe to swim or to allow children to play in any dense algal bloom, since you cannot see into the water. Wait 24 hours after the bloom has disappeared and the water is clear.	
	Health effects are not expected at this stage.	Individuals may develop mild symptoms of skin rash or eye irritation	Individuals may develop mild symptoms of skin rash or eye irritation

What To Do If You Suspect A Blue Green Algae Bloom



www.cohpoa.org

What To Do If You Suspect a Blue Green Algae Bloom

1. Take pictures
2. Notify MOECP Peterborough office directly - Chris Johnston | [Senior Environmental Officer](mailto:Senior.Environmental.Officer@ontario.ca) | 705-927-7809 | chris.johnston@ontario.ca
 - a. Or the general tip line at 1-866-663-8477
3. Notify your Lake Association so that your Association can let all the members on the lake know
4. Notify your municipal government
5. Tell your neighbours
6. **Do Not**
 - a. Swim in the lake
 - b. Let pets or any animals swim or drink from the lake
7. **Do Not** allow water from the lake to enter your house/cottage
 - i. Most water treatment systems will not safely treat water with a blue green algae bloom
 - ii. Boiling or chlorinating the water can release toxins into the air
 - iii. Even UV filters will not safely treat water which contains a blue green algae bloom
8. 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.
9. Do not eat fish caught in the water body.

Where to get more information:

- Ontario Ministry of Environment - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/blue-green-algae>
- Haliburton Kawartha Health Unit - <http://www.hkpr.on.ca/Portals/0/PDF%20Files%20-%20Environ/pamphlet2.pdf>

Fireworks Donations - August 2020!

To all who enjoyed the August long weekend fireworks show on Kawagama. Donations for the show are less than 50%. We need your donations in order to run another show for August 2020. So, if you would like this show to continue, please go to: www.klca.org and click the "Make a Donation" button. Thanks to those who have already donated!



Our mailing address is:

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