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KLCA Newsletter - August 2019
"Preserve the Heritage"



Update on the McClintock Lagoon

The KLCA Directors are continuing to closely monitor municipal plans to expand the McClintock sewage lagoon located less than 1km from Kawagama Lake's Fletcher Bay.

After the Township of Algonquin Highlands released a notice to taxpayers that part of the taxation revenue was earmarked for the lagoon expansion, I called both the Township of Algonquin Highlands and the consultant doing the environmental studies necessary to get an update on plans.

I was informed that township consultants, Cambium Inc, have submitted a plan to initiate the environmental assessment process required prior to starting construction on such as project. This was submitted to the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks in late 2018. The purpose of the submission was to determine if the Ministry would allow the lagoon expansion

after completion of an environmental assessment. To date, the Ministry has not responded, and as a result no efforts have been made by the Township or their consultants to initiate the environmental assessment process.

The lack of response from the Ministry could signal that the Ministry is developing new provincial guidelines or regulations on how septic waste should be managed, particularly in light of recent federal regulations that require all waste being sent to oceans or other water bodies be highly treated. However, it could also mean the Ministry is too busy to look at this issue at this time.

So, everything is on hold for now until the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks responds to the Township and their consultants regarding the feasibility of getting such an expansion approved, even after an environmental assessment process. Your KLCA continues to follow this issue closely.

Kathleen Hedley
President, KLCA

Highlights from the KLCA Regatta!





Land, Water, Air: The Story of Invasive Species

It is my hope that, as a community, we all love to bask in the glory of the natural world which surrounds us. It is also my hope that these areas remain natural - and with any luck native- for generations to come. Unfortunately, the rapid spread of invasive species across Ontario does pose some serious threats to my hopes.

Invasive species refer to species which are not native to Ontario and are harming or are likely to harm the natural environment and associated economic and social benefits. This may include species of plants, animals or micro-organisms (e.g., a virus). Invasive species are spread through pathways. Pathways range from anthropogenic (e.g. global trade and people) to natural (e.g. air, water and other animals). In Ontario, there is already an estimated 441 invasive species, higher than any other province in Canada.

Don't get me wrong, invasive species can be beautiful to look at. Take for example the blanket of periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) pictured in this article. The problem with invasive species though is all the things we can't see. Vast blankets or stands of a single plant species impact the entire ecosystem by reducing biodiversity and limiting food sources for native species (like bees,

butterflies, birds and mammals). Sticking with the example of pretty periwinkle; did you know that the leaves of the plant are toxic (to things like bunnies, deer and your pets) and the seeds are too small for most birds to consume?

Hopefully you're now thinking "What can I do to protect the biodiversity of our community?". As with most things, when it comes to invasive species an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Below are some simple actions and considerations that you can take to ensure Kawagama remains natural, native and our little slice of nirvana!

<p style="text-align: center;">In the Garden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always choose native or non-invasive species for your garden. See the "Grow Me Instead Booklet" for ideas! • Never transplant non-native species. If transplanting native species, be sure to rinse away/remove ALL of the soil from the roots. Invasive seeds, pathogens and other organisms may spread through the soil. • Dispose of invasive properly and never in the compost or natural areas! A burn bin (when local fire restrictions allow) or a black garbage bag left in the sun for 5 days is recommended. • Never transport wood. Buy or source locally. 	<p style="text-align: center;">On the Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never release aquatic plant or animal species into lakes and rivers. • Live bait must be disposed of a minimum of 30m from any water. This is the law. • Follow the CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY. method when taking your watercrafts into and out of water bodies. • Avoid driving through areas of aquatic vegetation. • If you have a pond or water feature, use only native plant and animal species within them to prevent spread to adjacent waterbodies.
<p style="text-align: center;">On the Trail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay on the path. If invasive species are already present, this could prevent further spread. • Clean your gear! Mud, soil, seeds and plant fragments can all result in 	<p style="text-align: center;">Check, Report, Educate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before heading to the cottage, a camping trip or a day hike, check and clean your gear, including boats, trailers, watercrafts, cars,

<p>the introduction of invasive species to new areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Groom your pet! Brush off any soil, mud, plants or seeds before leaving to prevent invasive species from ‘hitching a ride’	<p>ATVs, pets, bikes, furniture and boots!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report all sightings of invasive plants and animals.• Educate yourself on how to manage and treat invasive species to prevent further spread!
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To report a suspected siting of an invasive species please visit:

<https://www.eddmaps.org/ontario/>

More information on invasive species and what you can do can be found at the resources below:

<https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/default.aspx>

<https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/>

<http://www.invadingspecies.com/>

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-ontario>

<https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/resources/best-management-practices/>



Kaitlyn McGlade

Chair, Lake Partners Program, KLCA

Thank You!!!

To all the **DONORS** of raffle prizes for the annual, KLCA Regatta! Thank you to; Algonquin Fudge Factory, Baucher Construction, CAA-Clarkson, Terry Cully, Chetolah Pottery, Cookhouse Saloon, Erika's Bakery, Grand Touring Automobile Toronto, Hartford Manning, Henrietta's, Lake of Bays Garden Centre, Len Lock Tree Service, Mark's Muskoka Maple Syrup, Mountain Trout House Marina, Muskoka Dips, Pizza on Earth, Pharma Plus, Rave Contracting, Robinson's, Totoka Spa, Tower Hill Marina, Yummies in a Jar, Wesco Distribution.



To all the **VOLUNTEERS** who helped with the KLCA Regatta. We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks to; Kim Daries, Robert Lynch, Alisa VanDerToorn, James VanDerToorn, Kate VanDerToorn, Mary Smith, Jen Watson, Adam Pifko, Iwona Pifko, Adrian McInerney, Sandy Raskopf, Lee Ross, Byron Boothby, Kathleen Lawrynuik-Hedley, Dave Cook, Peter Evans, Beth Donkersley, Carolyn Watson, Ellen Wiley, Bill Wiley, Will Boake, Christine Stock, Tom Mulhull, Carolyn Mulhull, Aiden Mulhull, Rick Bain, Pam Bain, Craig Richardson, Drew Gabura, Debbie Gabura, Shelly McEwan, Brenda Norfolk, Claude Norfolk, Barb Lucas Townes, Melissa Hillier, Nancy Hutchison, Lori Gillespie, Steve Lawrynuik-Hedley, Claus Prinzen, Sue Campbell, Pete Vogel,

Julie Vogel, Chris Newell, Andrea Daries, Alex Vos, Jasmine Hedley, Zack Mino, Heather Fletcher, Adam Whitehouse, Jeff Grant, Karen Ibscher, Hartford Manning, Michael Fletcher, Kim Lukasik, Rob Walisser, Sasha Einwechter, Todd Einwechter.



Safe Quiet Lakes

The results of the "Your Lake, Your Views" survey, is now available at: http://safequiet.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/2017_Survey_Full-Report-Final.pdf. Check it out!

BOATER CODE

Respectful boating guidelines from Safe Quik

1. I will never operate my boat beyond the level of my skill.
2. I will be aware of and obey all laws and regulations governing the operation of my boat.
3. I will operate my boat with caution and courtesy to other boaters at all times.
4. I will minimize my wake impact on shorelines, docks, structures, and people.
5. I will always steer well clear of other boats, swimmers and divers.
6. I will set a speed and heading that is safe and comfortable for my passengers and others on the water.
7. I will provide safety instructions and offer appropriate life jackets or PFDs to everyone who travels in my boat.
8. I will carry all equipment necessary to operate my boat safely and within the law.
9. I will not consume alcohol in my boat or allow my boat to be operated by anyone who is impaired.
10. I understand that boating is a shared experience and I will not create excessive noise or operate my boat in a manner that disrupts the peaceful enjoyment of the lake by others.



For more information, please go to; www.safequiet.ca

The OPP wants to hear from the community about dangerous boating or boats without mufflers.

Call 1-888-310-1122

Cell Tower Light Update.

The KLCA has been monitoring and working directly with Rogers Communications during the construction of the new tower on the south shore, and after it was activated. As many have noticed, the light was unexpected. It was quickly determined that as all communication towers fall under Federal jurisdiction, it is Transport Canada who determines if and when a light is required, only after the tower has been constructed.

After several direct phone calls and emails and with the help of several members on the Kawagama and Bear Lake Facebook page, the matter was elevated, and Rogers has agreed to place a shield around the light to direct it upwards and not outwards. Although this may not completely eliminate the light (e.g. on foggy or cloudy days/nights), it should be a vast improvement to our dark-sky friendly community.

We will continue to monitor the project.

Stefan Szczerbak

Director of Development and Municipal Affairs, KLCA



Photo courtesy of Rogers Communications

Karin's Kawagama Swim for Moorelands Camp!

If you haven't already donated to this worthy cause, please click on the link below! Karin's has swam almost 3/4 of the perimeter of Kawagama Lake so far in an effort to raise money for Moorelands Camp.

https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/karins-kawagama-lake-swim-for-moorelands-camp/?fbclid=IwAR1K-j6MGBKGldD97s2AWcHF-hu0v3rxv72EM_LM4Hj4qA1x22TW_Fo5cSY



Check out her Facebook page here to see her daily updates. https://www.facebook.com/Karins-Kawagama-Swim-for-Moorelands-Kids-538426976684406/?_tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARCN5bfNAA5NP2xD31wXl-3qpVE06Kwo4a6h52txA7b8IRcQhjdhiidVMQ4_cAht5iTA85vXHRuTXeA

Message from the Fire Chief - Algonquin Highlands

On March 20, 2019, the Township of Algonquin Highlands updated the Open Air Burning By-Law, 2019-31.

Open Air Fire refers to any fire or burning practice, either flaming or

smouldering, conducted outside a building.

It is necessary for all property owners, tenants and guests to be aware of and adhere to the By-Law as the Fire Services has adopted a zero tolerance approach to unlawful burning.

Kindly see below the, *Burning in Algonquin Highlands* Postcard.

BURNING IN ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS

ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT:
705-766-0010 OR 705-489-2379



“OPEN AIR FIRE” means any fire or burning practice, either flaming or smouldering, conducted outside a building. This includes but is not limited to a campfire, bonfire, charcoal barbecue, fires in burn barrels, an incinerator or a recreational fireplace, an outside wood burning furnace or stove.

Open Air Fires for Cooking or Warmth may be set between the hours of 7am-7pm, between the dates of April 1st to October 31st within the following provisions:

- smaller than .6 metres in diameter,
- must comply with all conditions of this By-law,
- must be confined within a fire pit or appliance,
- must be completely extinguished when cooking is complete,
- fires for cooking and warmth are not permitted during a fire ban.

Open Air Fires shall comply with the following conditions:

- a responsible person is available and in attendance at all times until the fire is completely extinguished,
- the material is burned in a single pile that is less than (2) metres in diameter and less than two (2) metres high,
- only wood or by-products of wood.

During a Fire Ban, Open Air Fires are not allowed - All permits are suspended. If a fire response is required, charges will apply.

For full details of the Open Fire By-law No. 2019-31, please visit our website or our office.

No Day Time Burning (7am-7pm) between April 1st to October 31st, a permit is required.

More fun times at this years Regatta!

