

DOCK TALK

Dock Talk is a publication of the Healey Lake Property Owners Association (HLPOA)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

-- David Latter --

THE 2020 COTTAGE SEASON

The next month or two look like they will be a very trying for Canada and the rest of the world. The ice went out on Healey Lake this year about April 6, but a [recent announcement from Premier Ford](#) will allow Marinas to begin preparations for the season by servicing and placing boats in the water, but still may not open to the public.

Please read links to information bulletins from the [Township of the Archipelago](#) and other government organizations elsewhere in Dock Talk.

As new information on the opening of Healey Lake becomes available it will be communicated to members of the HLPOA on the Website or by email.

At the September 2019 Meeting, I was proposing that we have a membership vote on whether or not to keep holding a second Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the fall. Our Constitution requires one AGM but tradition has established two – in May and again in September. A motion was put forward to defer any such decision to the Spring 2020 and give members a chance to think about whether to continue with a second meeting. Given the COVID-19 situation, it is quite possible that September may be the only meeting we have this year!

Depending on how long we are advised to restrict contact with anyone other than immediate family, many or maybe all of the normal Association activities on the lake may have to be cancelled or postponed. Information about lakeside events will be posted on our website.

There were far too few good winter weekends this year. After Christmas, a thaw and flash freeze provided that rare occasion when one could skate anywhere on Healey Lake.

Alas, it only lasted a day before more rain and snow ruined the ice for skating. It was a lot of fun while it lasted. You can cover a lot territory on skates in a short period of time.

COTTAGE WATCH UPDATE

There were a few weekends with good snowmobiling but the conditions were ideal for far too few days. When you do arrive at your cottage, you should find a tag to say that you were visited by Cottage Watch. Thanks to Brad Philips and his team for their efforts in checking your cottage.

FOCA

HLPOA is a member of the Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations (FOCA). This Association has many benefits for our members both collectively and individually. See the overview in this edition of Dock Talk and links to their main website. Help for septic questions, insurance, estate planning for cottagers and many other topics are all conveniently located in one place.



IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the President	1-2
Councillor's Corner & Tennis Club	5
Fire Restriction	7-8
Our Common Loon	10
Membership Update	12
FOCA Update	18

Stay Connected: Visit www.healeylake.org for the latest news and updates!



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

-- David Latter --

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC)

2020 is the year for establishing the value for property tax assessments for the next 4 years. To see what the MPAC value is for your property and comparable properties, please go to the MPAC site at <https://www.mpac.ca/> and then log into about my property. If you want to appeal your assessment, make sure you file on time.

Invasive Species

The Executive is looking into a monitoring program with the aim of preventing invasive species from both entering Healey Lake and getting into land surrounding the lake.

The first step in the process would be to establish an inventory of fish and plant species in the lake. Then volunteers will be needed to monitor their area of the lake for the introduction of new species, mainly plants.

See stories and pictures in this Dock Talk that describes the problems many lakes including Lake Simcoe and the Trent canal lakes are having with Eurasian Milfoil and Starry Stonewort. It is very important to monitor for these species and eradicate them before they gain a foothold in our lake.

Phragmites are also a big problem on land. You could be part of the control solution by reporting any Phragmites you see in the vicinity of Healey Lake (or anywhere else for that matter). A description of the plant and the number to call to report its location is at the following web site.

<http://www.invadingspecies.com/invasive-phragmites/>

TOWNSHIP RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Grant Walker has been very helpful in passing along Township information on the Coronavirus. The linkages are on our website and for local information on managing the outbreak of the virus, you are encouraged to visit the Township's website:

<http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/p/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-information>

TRAILER PARK BESIDE THE TENNIS COURTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!

At previous AGMs and through various Dock Talk write-ups, our Counsellor Grant Walker has been working with our Association to clean up the trailer park area located beside the tennis courts. This has been an ongoing effort for the past 2 years.

The Association has plans to provide a much-needed storage unit on a part of the site for Regatta storage. We had hoped to do this last year but the site was not yet cleared. We do not want to waste another year waiting and need your help to identify all items in that yard.

All trailers, boats or any other items situated in that area should by now, have been tagged with waterproof tags that identify the owner's name, phone number and address.

Although some owners have complied, there are still numerous items including trailers or remnants of trailers, some boats, and at least one automobile that remain in that spot. There should be no cars or trucks parked in that area at any time. It is only for trailers.

The Township, with the encouragement and support of the HLPOA, proposed last year to move all items that remain untagged, to an area behind the Municipal gravel yard.

Where ownership of the items can be traced, the Township is likely to charge individuals for the cost of such a move.

Tagging of all items and the removal of untagged items, remains our priority for 2020.

If you know that item(s) are yours and you do not want them, please remove them yourself by May 30 or when the covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

If you know that item(s) are yours and you want to keep them, please Tag them by May 30 or when the covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

The trailer site must be cleaned up and the brush growing through many of the old trailers needs to be removed to make way for some fresh gravel and a new storage. This can be a really functional area for trailer storage and a Regatta storage unit but nothing can happen until it is cleared of unwanted or abandoned items.

Lastly, in my relatively short time on the lake, there seems to have been quite a turnover of cottages on the lake with a few new and re-builds. If you have a new neighbour, please tell about our Healey Lake Property Owners Association and direct them either to our website (www.healeylake.org) or to Sharon Tosswill, our Membership Exec.

If there are any issues on particular concerns that need the attention of the Executive, please feel free to email me at dlatter@bellnet.ca or call my cell at 416-407-4965.

David Latter

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JOHNSTON & DANIEL

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In 2018 our cottage listings sold for more money and sold faster by a significant factor!*

If you are considering selling your Healey Lake cottage - call us to learn more.

Here's what our clients say:

"Rainer and I were so blessed to have met Gord and Tracy in our search for a real estate agent for the sale of our cherished Muskoka waterfront home! After 25 years of fulltime living on beautiful Kapikog Lake it was regrettably time for a lifestyle change. We could not have selected a better duo to help us through our challenging transition. Gord and Tracy were caring and helpful in making our listing as successful as it was. Their expertise and utilization of technology was an asset in the positive outcome of our sale. Their professionalism, sincerity, and consideration of our interests and needs were more like those of caring family than real estate agents. We cannot recommend Gord and Tracy enough!"

Carol & Rainer C.

"We are so fortunate to have had Tracy & Gord as agents to sell our Kapikog island property. Their hi-tech approach was instrumental in getting the right market exposure that led to a quick sell above our asking price. Tracy & Gord are truly professionals, so easy to work with and down to earth. Most notably, their efforts far surpassed our expectations and their responsibilities. Evident passion for what they do, complemented by their skills with hi-tech and talents in negotiations, make Tracy & Gord an ideal team to work with whether buying or selling a property. You won't find better realtors anywhere!"

Eric & Lyne P.

"Your service was amazing from beginning to end. I was shocked at how easy you made it for us. You were 100% there for us from the cleaning up, storing items, and staging of our cottage. It was more than we expected! The sale went quickly and smoothly, and you were very easy and thoughtful to deal with. I would highly recommend you and Tracy without hesitation."

Suzanne & Michael M.



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COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

-- Grant Walker | Ward 6 --

SPRING 2020

I hope everyone is keeping well. I will try to bring you up to date without repeating federal and provincial things that have been shared and communicated many times recently.

The township is operating as close to normal as possible. Offices and facilitators are closed but you may contact staff by phone (705.746-4243) or if it's more convenient, by e-mail at info@thearchipelago.on.ca. You may get proper info from the web site www.thearchipelago.on.ca.

Marinas stores and restaurants are closed by the province till the province says they may open except if you need them to assess your PERMANENT RESIDENCE. It's not very clear but I think owners may work on their own preparing for when they are allowed to open. I know this is disappointing but please don't pressure your marina the penalty to them is serious.

This week we will be having our first meeting using the new method and the allowed format. There will be checks and balances and everything will be open to the public. No doubt there will be decisions made and as I said they will be open to the public. I will forward changes you will want to know about through your associations or directly if you forward me your e-mail. Please let your friends and neighbors who do not take advantage of the associations communication services know.

Thank you keep well and stay together by staying apart.

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions please contact me at grant@olresources.ca or +1 705 720 2244 days or +1 705 739 3675 nights or weekends.

Grant Walker



WALL 2 WALL PAINTING & SERVICES

On behalf of Wall-2-Wall Painting, I would like to thank **Healey Laker Cottagers** for being such loyal customers.

It has been my pleasure serving you over the years and as we look forward to whatever the 2020 summer season may hold, I would like to say **Thank You** for your continued and ongoing support over the years. I've enjoyed meeting wonderful new people and reconnecting with past clients.

Your support and loyalty has been overwhelming and I hope that am able to continue providing you with interior and exterior painting services for years to come.

Wall-2Wall Painting is committed to providing customers with only the **highest quality service**, delivered through impeccable attention to detail. For those who were a part of the **2020 spring pre-booking special**, please contact me at **(905) 830-8900** so we can make arrangements and discuss details of your 2020 cottage painting projects.

Thank You for your business and the ongoing support. I look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Darlene Jones

Wall-2-Wall Painting

info@wall2wallpainting.ca

www.wall2wallpainting.ca

HEALEY LAKE TENNIS CLUB

-- John Green --

As 2019 was a fantastic year at the Healey Lake Tennis Club, we are hopeful that Provincial guidelines on the COVID-19 situation will allow us to capitalize on continued interest and active participation during the 2020 summer season.

Rates for 2020 remained the same at;

Hourly Court Fees: \$10.00

Yearly Memberships: \$100.00

For those looking for a game we will put a list together as conditions and regulations permit. Please forward your contact info and level of play and we will get a list out. Send to jmccreen@gmail.com

Same day bookings and the court key, as always, will be at Mariners Cove Marina. Many thanks to them!

As always, we are looking for volunteers to help out.

Thank-you,

John Green

Stay Connected: Visit www.healeylake.org for the latest news and updates!

911 PRINTABLE INSTRUCTION SHEET

-- Grant Walker | Ward 6 --

My Civic/911 address is: _____



911



WHEN CALLING **911** BE PREPARED TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

- **What is your emergency?** (categorize the nature of the emergency briefly: my wife fell, vehicle collision, chimney fire, etc)
- **What is the location of the emergency?**
Including your Civic Address, Town/Municipality, Apartment/Access Code Information, Closest Major Intersection (Make sure guests and visitors know the address by posting this information in your cottage or home in high traffic areas!)
- **Provide the phone number you are calling from.**
(in case we need to call you back for more information or we get disconnected)

Be prepared to stay on the line to answer questions and follow the direction/advice/information being provided to you by the Communications Officer. Help is being dispatched simultaneously as more information is being collected.



Ambulance Communication Service

Did You Know.....

- The OPP are mandated to respond to every 911 call they receive
- Up to 80% of these calls are unfounded, which means they were misdials/pocket dials/children playing on the phone
- Please do not allow your children to play with any old cellphones, if it has a battery, it is capable of dialing 911!
- 1-888-310-1122 is the toll free number to contact OPP province wide



Did You Know.....

Homeowners are responsible to:

- Identify your home or cottage with an easily visible Civic Address Number
- Make sure your Civic Number or House Number is correct and that family members and guests know the number; especially important for cell phone and voip (voice over internet protocol) callers
- Place the number where it is easily seen from the road, or if you are water access, place the number on the end of your dock
- Ensure vegetation or snow does not obscure the sign visibility



Use 511 for Road Conditions & Closures and Traffic Information



Chris Cuthbertson, Director
Aviation, Forest Fire and
Emergency Services

Chris Cuthbertson, directeur
Services d'urgence, d'aviation et de
lutte contre les feux de forêt

70 Foster Drive, Suite 400
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Téléc. : 705 945 5785



MEMO

To: Ontario Municipalities
Date: April 2, 2020
From: Chris Cuthbertson, Director
Subject: Restricted Fire Zone Declaration due to COVID-19

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has implemented a Restricted Fire Zone (RFZ) across the entire legislated fire region of Ontario due to impacts related to the COVID-19 outbreak. This is a proactive action by the Ministry to reduce the number of preventable human-caused wildfires to ensure that emergency response capacity is maintained. Minimizing wildfires will ensure the province is able to address any emergency fire situations as well as will reduce necessary contact among staff, and between staff and the public.

This RFZ is effective **April 3, 2020** and will be in effect until such time that the MNRF can determine that emergency response capacity will not be impacted by COVID-19. This RFZ will help reduce demands on the emergency response system while the hiring and training of seasonal fire staff is completed. This is the first time that MNRF has implemented a provincial RFZ at the onset of the fire season (April 1) where heightened wildland fire hazard has not existed.

It is important to note that an RFZ applies to all Crown and private land within a municipality, as well as provincial parks and conservation areas inside the regulated fire region.

Below is a summary of the restrictions that are in place during an RFZ.

- No open fires are allowed unless the fire is for cooking or warmth and is in a stove or installation prescribed in the Outdoor Fires Regulation (O.Reg. 207/96); or a fire permit is issued by a Fire Officer.

- Campfires are not allowed. There are some exceptions to this for organized campgrounds if they meet certain criteria in section 8.4 of O.Reg. 207/96.
- Portable stoves must use liquid or gas fuel and have a shutoff valve.
- A charcoal barbeque can be used if they are permanent structures or portable and within 100 metres of a dwelling you occupy.
- Outdoor wood burning stoves or furnaces must be completely enclosed with solid material and be within 100 metres of a dwelling you occupy.
- During an RFZ, fire permits may be issued by a Fire Officer to allow outdoor fires for a ceremonial event or because of special circumstances.
- If a person is willing to obtain a permit, one can be issued with appropriate conditions in place such as, a responsible person on site, proper tools to extinguish the fire, etc.

For more information on when a restriction is in place, please visit our website:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/outdoor-fire-restrictions>

The implementation of an RFZ may not dictate a shutdown of forestry or industrial operations. The requirement for work restrictions or modifications for industrial operations is determined by separate protocols and guidelines.

The *Forest Fires Prevention Act* (FFPA) allows municipalities to pass by-laws pertaining to open-air burning. If your municipality has open-air burning by-laws in place, the most restrictive provision (act, regulation, or by-law) prevails. This ensures compliance with all applicable provincial legislation or municipal by-law.

More information can be found in the FFPA and Outdoor Fires Regulation 207/96, or by contacting your local Fire Management Headquarters.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Chris Cuthbertson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chris Cuthbertson
Director
Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services



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OUR COMMON LOON

-- Nancy Gilchrist --

Loons are named for their clumsy, awkward appearance when they walk on land. They are migratory birds which breed in "northern" North America in lakes and large ponds. Loons can live approx. 30 years in the wild. They grow to approximately 2 to 3 feet when full grown and they can weigh anywhere between 7 to 15 pounds. They feed mostly on fish and invertebrates.

The loon does not mate for life and can have more than one partner if they are not successful in nesting. The loons' bond is with their territory. They migrate in the winter singly as well. The male might migrate in the Gulf of Mexico while his mate in North Carolina and they just meet up for the summer.

They are not social birds. Through the day you usually find them by themselves. At night they might get together in "groups" called flocks while they sleep. When they migrate, they typically fly alone, though some will join a group for a short time during their journey.

Loons typically sleep in the water. They take short naps (15 minutes in duration on average). To sleep a loon turns its neck and folds its head down to rest on its back. During the nesting period, loons may sleep while incubating.

The male is the one who chooses the nest location each year. A male that returns to one territory learns where the "best nest sites" are as some are safe and others are raided by racoons and other predators. Small islands are usually the safest for the loon nesting site. The female loon usually lays 1-2 eggs and hatch 1-2 chicks. It is very rare to have three eggs or chicks. They incubate their eggs from 27 to 30 days. Hatchlings leave the nest on their first day of life and usually are able to fly about 11 weeks after they hatch. Thereafter they are on their parent's back or under their wing until they are more independent in the water.

Their predators are other birds like gulls and crows; fish such as pike and land animals such as racoons, weasels and skunks.

Eager loon watchers should use binoculars and telephoto cameras. If the adult comes toward you with wings spread or the tremolo call (crazy laugh) you are too close to the nest or the family.

We all love to see the loons returning to our lake each year. Please always keep in mind these safe boating practices and remind other cottagers/guests as well.

- Slow your boat where loons nest (nests can be flooded by wakes)
- Don't kayak or canoe near the nest (slow moving craft may alarm loon and it may abandon the nest)
- Steer clear of loons and chicks while boating
- Retrieve fishing line and tackle (loons become entangled leading to death)
- Use lead-free tackle (loons ingest small pebbles to digest food and mistake lead sinkers for pebbles. **LEAD POISONS!!!** Request lead-free alternative)

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE for helping protect our loons and other wildlife on Healey Lake!!!

The different loon calls:

The "Wail": is the most common call. It is used for long distance communication between mated pairs of loons. Pairs may also wail to one another as they begin to engage with an intruding loon. When the loon is stressed such as when there is a "threat" to its' nest or chicks you will hear a more frantic sounding wail. They may combine the wail with a tremolo or yodel. Usually the wail is heard most frequently at night.

The "Hoot": a short call that is used for "short range" communication between the pair and their chicks. One of the "pair" may give a "harsher sounding hoot", called a "toot" after a disturbance.

The "Tremolo": known as the "crazy laugh". It is a response usually to a perceived threat of other "intruding loons, humans or predators. Tremolos can be heard during an interaction with other loons or during night chorusing. Loons can also "tremolo when flying over lake territories occupied by other loons.

The "Yodel": Only the male loon will yodel. It may be heard whenever a male loon feels threatened when other predators are nearby including other male loons and when humans get too close to the loon chicks or their nest. Male loons will extend their necks flat over the surface of the water when yodeling to "project" their call. They may also "yodel" when their territory is threatened and they may rise out of the water with it's neck extended forward and its wings arched toward the rival.

Nancy

Stay Connected: Visit www.healeylake.org for the latest news and updates!

LOON UPDATE

-- Missy Mandel --

Thanks to all of you who took the time to reach out with loon and chick sightings last season. We had two successful pairs on the lake. Each ending the season with one chick. On a lake our size, that is the bare minimum to call our lake successful by Birds Studies Canada. The third pair did not have a successful nesting season. It is undetermined why they were not successful but I observed the loon slip off her nest several times when a kayak or paddle board got too close to the shoreline. There were no eggs on the nest, so the pair could have been experimenting and not fully matured. Let's hope that was the case and they are successful this year! The pair closer to the Marina started with two healthy chicks for lost one within the first two weeks sadly.

Protecting nesting loons from paddlers and stand up paddle boards (SUP) inadvertently getting too close is on my radar. If you see a nesting pair please reach out immediately so we can work on a plan to mark off the area until the eggs hatch. All sightings are necessary and appreciated. You can text or call in sightings to 416 804-5667 or email them to missy@missymandel.ca

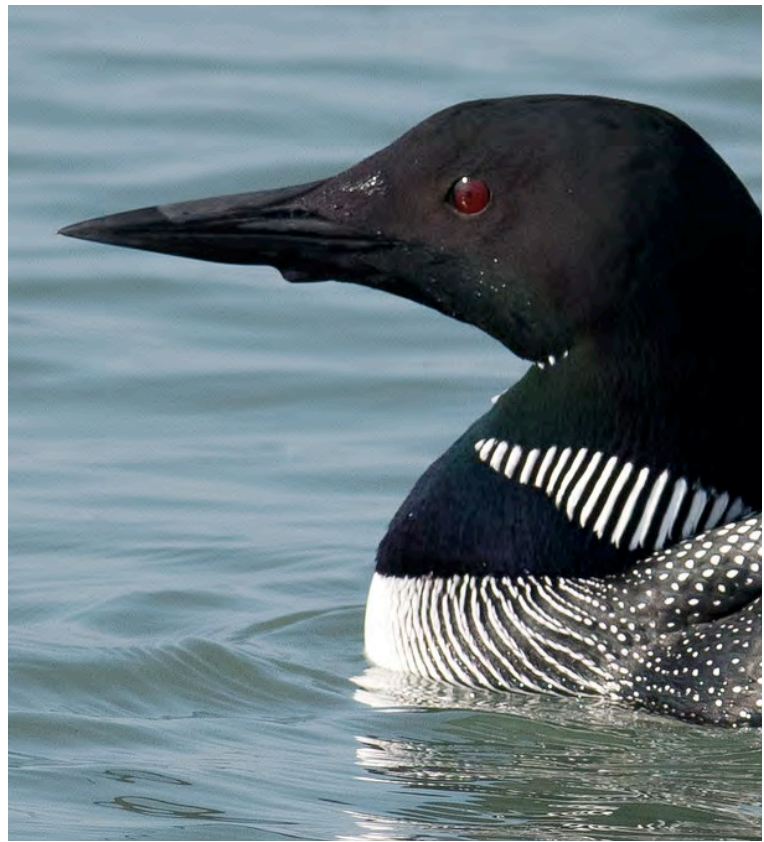


PHOTO CONTEST

-- David Latter --

The Healey Lake 1st annual Photo Contest – or our second try at it - celebrating the beauty of our lake!

There are 4 Categories

- 1) “Kids Eye View” a special category for photographers 12 and under only
- 2) Healey Nature: Landscapes
- 3) Healey Nature: Wildlife, Flora and Fauna
- 4) Life on Healey (people and the good times)

Each entrant can submit up to 3 photos in any combination

Please submit high-resolution images to;

missy@missymandel.ca

Include the full name of the photographer, (and the age if under 12) and the category & title of each image

You can email one at a time or all three together if your email provider allows.

You can put them into a folder and use a free service called WETRANSFER <https://wettransfer.com>

Or you can send by DropBox if you have one

Rules

The contest runs from today until 4:00 PM, July 20, 2020

The images will be judged by Missy, Andy and another camera club judge.

Prizes and certificates of participation will be awarded at the regatta Aug 3rd, 2020 (provincial regulations permitting)

The Contest is coordinated by Missy Mandel and Andy Zeltkalns - follow them on Instagram for some inspiration

Andy - [@activeinmuskoka](https://www.instagram.com/activeinmuskoka)

Missy - [@missymandel_photography](https://www.instagram.com/missymandel_photography)

Please forward any questions to missy@missymandel.ca

Stay Connected: Visit www.healeylake.org for the latest news and updates!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

-- Sharon Tosswill --

I think spring is approaching. Can hardly wait to return to the lake. Hope you had a great winter and are ready for some sun and fun. I am processing the membership renewals as they arrive and will have an up-to-date count in time for the AGM in May.

Just a reminder that the Executive would prefer that your membership payments be made once a year rather than once covering multiple years out. This way, we are better able to manage our finances and keep your contact information up to date. Thank you for your co-operation.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again. If you have a new cottage neighbour, please let me know and I will be over to meet them with a welcome package.

Sharon Tosswill

As a reminder, the Association provides a range of services and facilitates a number of events for the full and part-time residents of Healey Lake. Some of the things we do through the collection of the \$40.00 Healey Lake Property Owners Association fees include:

- Maintain the public dock by the marinas and 3 additional landing areas (Fox Back, Pine Bay and Kapikog Bay) for boat loading unloading and parking for cars
- Maintain 10 fire pumps around the lake
- Maintain the hydro light by the marinas
- Provide space for trailer parking
- Monitor of the dam and advocacy for the required maintenance, repair & upkeep, a task critical to maintaining the water level
- Maintain the public dock by the marinas and 3 additional landing areas (Fox Back, Pine Bay and Kapikog Bay) for boat loading unloading and parking for cars

- Host Annual General Meetings to keep everyone informed of events, provide a forum to express ideas, and bring in outside expertise for select issues such as Boating Safety, Fire Safety, Wildlife, By-Laws, and general information for cottagers.

In an effort to increase membership and our operating budget, an email reminder recently went out to former members who have allowed their membership to lapse and where possible, to new potential members who have recently joined our community.

Membership can be renewed in two ways.

- 1) Visit our website at healeylake.org where you will find an online membership form on the Home page. Complete it and you can use PayPal to make a payment.



- 2) Complete the accompanying Membership form and mail to Sharon Tosswill, c/o HLPOA Membership, 37 Alissa Trail, Brampton, L6R 0Y8.

Cheques are payable to Healey Lake Property Owners Association.

We hope you have been enjoying your time on the lake this summer and very much look forward to your renewing a relationship with HLPOA.

We need your support this and every year.

Sharon Tosswill - Membership HLPOA

Contact at sharon_tosswill@hotmail.com

If you have a new neighbor please let me know and we will ensure efforts are made to meet them and present them with a welcome package.



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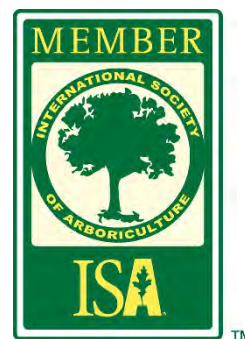
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Call Joe Racco



SYLVAN



Hi, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Tyler Slade and my family has been Muskoka bound since 1973. I reside all year round on Crane Lake, for the past 6 years.

In 2012, while helping rebuild the family cottage, I had the opportunity to watch a man take down two huge trees. I was absolutely fascinated by this event. I knew then, that was what I wanted to do as a career! In 2013, I started working in Muskoka for a tree service company and learned everything I could about becoming an arborist. The more I did, the more I loved every aspect of arboriculture. I have worked full time for 6 years now in Muskoka, Simcoe County and Parry Sound Districts. I also attended and graduated with Honours from Humber College, and now, I have my own company.

While 2018 was MDA's first year, my crew and I were thrilled at the opportunities and successes we had. I am also happy to be giving back to my trade by taking on my first apprentice.

We are looking forward to 2020 and would appreciate an opportunity to give you, a family member or a friend a free quote regarding any of these services,

Specialty Tree Removals
Hazardous/Dangerous Tree Removals
Emergency Services
Pruning
Water access only / Barge debris removal
Chipping and Ground Clearing

Lot Clearing
Tree Health Care
Disease Analysis
Tree Preservation
Cabling and Bracing
Split Aged Firewood

My company is fully insured. I am a member of the International Society of Arboriculture, both International Chapter and the Ontario Chapter. I can present Insurance Documents upon request.

With Spring finally here, my season has started up and my team and I are eager to keep busy.

Please feel free to call, text or email me for a free estimate, or even just an opinion.

Sincerely

Tyler Slade

Show me this letter for the Friends of Muskoka discount.

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NATURALIZING YOUR SHORELINE

-- Nancy Gilchrist --

In 2015, Healey Lake cottagers had our assessments completed from Love your Lake project. This project was designed to engage individual cottagers or residents and associations, by providing information on how to protect their shorelines and improve the water quality in their lakes.

In order to naturalize your shoreline it involves people like you to develop at least a 10 foot ribbon of natural vegetation along the shoreline in order to mitigate runoff and pollution issues and to provide a natural habitat for small creatures that prefer to live near the lake.

- A shoreline rich in vegetation has so many benefits, not the least of which are minimal maintenance, cost-effectiveness and the chance to design something unique.
- A natural shoreline is the best defense against erosion, as the roots will help hold the soil in place and filter the runoff that flows into the lake.
- If you have a grassy shoreline, try not to mow it. Short grass acts as a hard surface that allows polluted rainwater to flow straight into the lake.

Why are natural shorelines important:

Throughout their lifetimes, over 90% of wildlife species use these land/water interfaces for food, shelter, breeding and rearing areas.

Shorelines protect your property from erosion, and prevent harmful substances getting into your lake. The less human effects, the less likelihood you get algae blooms too.

Native shoreline plants search link to assist in choosing what plants you like and what plants are right for your property:

<https://watersheds.ca/plant-database/>

NEED HELP NATURALIZING YOUR SHORELINE?

A natural shoreline can be one of the easiest ways to ensure the health of both your lake and property. The Natural Edge program has partner organizations in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta who can assist you in the naturalization of your shoreline. They are currently working on expanding further across Canada to help as many landowners as possible. When you call for help, they will determine if you qualify for a site visit. If they visit your property, they would conduct a shoreline assessment and work with you to create a personalized planning plan to best suit your property, taking into account areas of concern, access points, seating areas and personal preferences. Once you approve the planting plan they will schedule a planting date and come fully equipped with everything needed to complete the naturalization.

Nancy

Their specialists create planting plans based on land characteristics (soil type, moisture level, etc.) and landowner's preferences (sight lines, heights, flowering vs non flowering, etc.) doing their best to customize it to your needs. For information about The Natural Edge program, contact Watersheds Canada (program coordinator) at 613-264-1244 or visit www.Watersheds.ca

Or the Muskoka Watershed Council: Watershed planning technician: Rebecca Willison, 70 Pine Street, Bracebridge, Ontario P1L 1N3

Resources information (picture below) courtesy of Watersheds Canada and Love your Lake.

Post Script (by Dave Latter)

I also contacted Delaina Arnold who is our Association contact for the Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve (GBBR) with an office located in Parry Sound. The GBBR undertook the Love Your Lake Assessments for Healey Lake in 2015 and the HLPOA has been a member since then. The naturalized shoreline message is one the GBBR has strongly promoted and continues to share. Delaina indicates that one of the important messages for our area is that sometimes a natural shoreline doesn't include native plants; it is bare rock which can make it very challenging.

The Biosphere has 2 resources that can also help you with shoreline naturalization:

1. The Life on the Bay Guide - designed as a self-assessment tool for property owners, it covers a range of activities and stewardship options including shorelines
2. Native Plant Guide - includes latin names, growing conditions, etc. pages 12-15 of Memengwanh, The Monarch Butterfly: A Guide for Eastern Georgian Bay.

Both of these resources can be found here:

<https://www.gbbr.ca/conservation-guides/>

GBBR also coordinates a Native Plant Sale Fundraiser each spring. They are working out the details of how that might work with social distancing, but please keep an eye on their newsletter and social media for details.

David Latter

Stay Connected: Visit www.healeylake.org for the latest news and updates!

NATURALIZING YOUR SHORELINE

-- Nancy Gilchrist --

Vegetated Shorelines...

Require little to no maintenance work; buffer noise and provide privacy

Protect water quality by absorbing nutrients and contaminants

Provide bank stability – prevent erosion and hold soils in place

Shorelines With Limited Vegetation...

Require ongoing maintenance

Remove important areas of wildlife habitat

Reduce natural filtering by allowing runoff to enter directly into the waterway

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SPRING TIME IS COTTAGE LISTING TIME!

It's been a long and snowy winter up here in cottage country, let's hope Spring is just around the corner. We at ROYAL LePage just finished doing the Cottage Life Show at the International Centre in Toronto and we are excited by the enthusiastic responses we got from prospective Buyers. With interest rates creeping up, and the uncertainty of the economy, both nationally and internationally, this is a good window of opportunity to think about selling your cottage property at the best possible price. Please feel free to call me if you'd like a free estimate on your property. I have been in the real estate business for 52 years and have the means and equipment to service properties everywhere.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Gary R. Jennings

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Our Association is part of FOCA!

foca.on.ca/benefits



Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

for thriving & sustainable waterfronts, for over 55 years

FEDERATION OF ONTARIO COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION (FOCA) UPDATE

-- Contributed --

FOCA – YES, THE HLPOA IS A MEMBER!

Healey Lake Property Owners Association is a long-time member of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) and that means all of us can also access FOCA member benefits. But what does that mean?

For more than 55 years, FOCA has been the voice of waterfront Ontario. In 1963, a small group of cottage owners united as a provincial organization that has grown to represent more than 500 lake associations with 50,000 families across the province. Our united voice carries weight on the issues that matter. The issues evolved over time, but the motivation remains the same: to protect the sustainability of Ontario waterfronts and freshwater resources for our kids, and their kids after them.

Over the years, FOCA has played an important advocacy role on environmental and policy concerns. In the 1980s FOCA fought hard for government action on the issue of acid rain, and lobbied to stop the use of toxic Dombind as a road-dust suppressant. FOCA secured your right to vote at the cottage in Ontario municipal elections as second-home owners. FOCA's Lake Stewards are at the core of the Lake Partner

Program of volunteer water quality monitoring to inform scientific and policy decision-making in the face of a changing climate.

Over the past decade, FOCA has gone to Parliament Hill and Queen's Park to speak out against federal and provincial omnibus bills that gutted protection for our fisheries and fish habitat. FOCA worked with partners to secure land owners' rights during claim-staking after years of behind-the-scenes work on the Mining Act, and FOCA continues to sit as a stakeholder at the table for discussions about the Algonquin Land Claim.

FOCA has lobbied hard in recent years for reforms to water management planning and continues to work to ensure that land use planning is responsible and accountable to community interests. In 2017, after more than 18 months of FOCA's advocacy efforts on the issue of dock permits, the province of Ontario confirmed certain occupations of public land would be enabled without an MNRF permit, (subject to conditions, and only where allowed by municipal bylaw or Federal statute).

Stay Connected: Visit www.healeylake.org for the latest news and updates!

FOCA UPDATES

-- Contributed --

ENERGY UPDATE

FOCA holds intervenor status on the Ontario Energy Board and, on behalf of members across the province, has most recently been lobbying hard against proposed changes to the Seasonal Class of Hydro One customers, that would see many member's annual electricity bills rise by \$1,000! A final decision is pending; watch for updates in the FOCA Elert (e-newsletter). Sign up for free, here:

<http://bit.ly/FOCAElertSubscribe>.

INSURANCE UPDATE

FOCA assembled the most comprehensive risk-management program for volunteers in rural environmental groups, through the FOCA Insurance Program. The program insures nearly 400 lake associations across Ontario, to protect volunteer boards with cost-effective liability insurance. Each of you can also access CottageFirst, the first group insurance program for cottage owners, available exclusively to FOCA members through Cade Associates Insurance Brokers. Find out more: <http://cadeinsurance.com/cottagefirst/>.

FOCA RESOURCES

Got a cottage-country question? FOCA publishes a wealth of information online for members.

Find fact sheets and brochures about invasive species, climate change concerns, municipal engagement, healthy waterfronts and so much more, here:

<https://foca.on.ca/resources/>.

MEMBER BENEFITS

While you're at it, check out all the offers, discounts and other benefits available to you, because of our association's annual membership in FOCA:

<https://foca.on.ca/member-services/benefits/>.

FOCA LEADING THE WAY

Lake associations across the province benefit from FOCA's ongoing research, information, and advocacy. FOCA is here to help our association, and to help make continued progress on the issues most important to waterfront residents. The work continues, and FOCA is leading the way toward a sustainable freshwater future for Ontario.



"THE LAKE-ED CHEF"

-- Ron Hutzul --

PAPPARDELLE WITH WHITE RAGU

Cook Time: 75-90 minutes | Serves 8

INGREDIENTS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 tbsp butter | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 ½ cups whole milk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 tbsp olive oil | <input type="checkbox"/> Pinch ground cloves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 onion, peeled and grated | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt & Fresh Ground Pepper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 sage leaves | <input type="checkbox"/> ¼ cup 18% MF cream |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 tsp chopped rosemary | <input type="checkbox"/> Pinch freshly grated nutmeg |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 slices prosciutto, chopped | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 lb Fresh Pappardelle Pasta |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 oz ground pork | <input type="checkbox"/> Parmesan cheese to garnish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 cup dry white wine | |

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat butter and oil in a large skillet (one with a tight-fitting lid) over medium heat. Once butter is foaming, add onion, sage and half the rosemary. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is translucent.
2. Add the prosciutto, stir to break apart and cook for 1 minute. Crumble pork into pan and cook until no longer pink, breaking up the meat with a wooden spoon, about 5 minutes. Add wine, bring to a boil and reduce until most liquid has cooked off. Pour milk over, stir in clove and season with salt and pepper. Cover, reduce heat to low, and simmer for 1 hour.
3. Remove lid (milk will have separated and may appear to be curdled – that's ok). If most of the liquid remains, continue cooking until it has reduced to about a third of the original amount. Stir in cream, nutmeg and reserved rosemary. Check for seasoning and add salt & pepper to taste if necessary. Remove from heat & leave covered.
4. Cook pappardelle in plenty of salted boiling water until al dente. Just before draining, return sauce to medium heat; drain pasta and add to skillet. Toss to coat several times, cooking the sauce and pasta together for about 1 minute. Divide between bowls and top each with a dusting of Parmesan.
5. Sprinkle with parsley and serve with lemon wedges.



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