



DOCK TALK

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

-- FALL 2023 --

ANOTHER GREAT SEASON!!

This summer we experienced the Camelot effect. Not too hot and not too cold with lots of rain from mid-June on. The rain certainly kept the trees and vegetation healthy but mostly at night so we could enjoy many sunny days.

The Executive were active over the summer with a few new initiatives. A porta potty was installed at the Main Landing. This year was a trial to see if it was well "maintained" by both the provider company and by our fellow Healey Lakers. We know the Marinas appreciated having one but I can't say we have heard a lot from our Members. The costs are in the order of \$1400 of your Membership fees, so if you have an opinion and would like to see one installed again next year, please let us know.

Two new lending library boxes were constructed and installed at Pine Bay and the Main Landing. They will be there year-round. The libraries were initially stocked with donated adult books but after two months of operation, there now appear to be a good selection of books for all ages. If there is further demand, we could provide others at Fox Back and Kapikog landings.

REGATTA UPDATE

A huge thank you to everyone involved in making the Regatta such a success. The weather cooperated, it was well attended and thanks to the good use of the beer tent and a remarkable number of donations to the silent auction, the Regatta generated a healthy income. Thanks to Michelle Burandt and George Youngberg, and many volunteers for keeping the tradition alive and thriving. Lots of entertainment for the children and exciting prizes for participants. We are very lucky to have such dedicated volunteers for the Regatta.

The sweatshirts and the shirts were a big hit and almost sold out on the day of the regatta. Thanks to Symantha Rush and Zoran Vukasinovic for taking over this program and producing popular designs and styles.

Shelley and Ben Ramolla of Lakeshore Marina and Cabins once again provided the ideal setting.

FIRE PUMPS UPDATE

The majority of the fire pumps have now been taken off the lake for winter storage, thanks to John Mendicino. A sure sign for us that winter is on its way. Four pumps are left out all year and these are located at:

- **139** Healey Lake Water (C. Smith)
- **317** Healey Lake Rd/Mariner's Cove Marina (P. Hintze)
- **395** Healey Lake Water (G. Partchenko)
- **89** Fox Back Rd (D. MacLeod)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Archipelago is updating the by-laws concerning SITE ALTERATION AND TREE PRESERVATION. Visit the linked site for the October 16, 2022, [report by J.L. Richards](#).

This report provides an outline for by-law changes to control alterations to the landscape and removal of trees. A copy of the draft by-law is expected to be available soon. A notice will be sent to all HLPOA members as soon as it is posted on the TOA website.

All residents will be able to comment on the proposals at a public meeting or online early in the new year. You may provide feedback to your councillor at any time.

DAM UPDATE

The Ministry of Natural Resources promised that the improvements would be completed this past summer. It didn't happen. Maybe next year.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

-- DAVID LATTER --

LAKE SERVICES & IMPROVEMENTS

We are open to suggestions from our members for any other investments that would maintain or improve the Healey Lake community.

We encourage all our members to support our advertising sponsors, the local businesses and especially the 2 Marinas on the lake. They strengthen the economy of the local area and contribute to the enjoyment of the lake by all cottagers.

VACANT POSITIONS

As indicated previously, it is my intention to resign the post of President at the end of our fiscal year (Feb 28, 2024).

The last 7 years as President have been both incredibly rewarding and admittedly challenging at times, but it is time for a change. Please rest assured that there are other committed volunteers who work well as a team and will continue to support all Association activities. While we've approached a few very capable members, thus far no one has committed to taking over the President's role or even to assume the long-vacant Vice President's position.

It would be ideal to fill both roles at the same time – securing both a new President and Vice President to take on leading the organization, which will help establish some continuity as we work through the transition.

I will be available to assist with the transition of duties.

Please get in touch with me if you are interested as I would be more than happy to review the responsibilities with you.

GET IN TOUCH

If there are any ideas, issues or concerns that need the attention of the Executive, please email me at dlatter1712@gmail.com or call my cell at [+1 416 407-4965](tel:+14164074965).

Have a safe winter. See you in the Spring.

David Latter

WINTER BUBBLERS

-- CONTRIBUTED --

SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR BUBBLER USE

Also known as "ICE-AWAYS" these technologies are used to prevent property damage by inhibiting the formation of ice around docks, boathouses and shorelines,

At Healey Lake, we are regulated Federally, Provincially, and Municipally. At present, each jurisdiction has a bit of legislation pertinent to bubblers, but for now, there are no comprehensive, general guidelines or regulations. We believe that the vast majority of property owners are unaware of what the use of a bubbler system is doing by unnaturally creating open water, nor are they aware of the DANGER TO THE PUBLIC AND THE LEGAL REPERCUSSIONS.

Section 236 (1), Ontario Criminal Code.

"Every one who makes or causes to be made an opening in ice...is under a legal duty to guard it in a manner that is adequate to prevent persons from falling in by accident and is adequate to warn them that the opening exists."

Unlike Muskoka, Healey Lake does not have many man-made structures in the water, except for docks. We believe that a cooperative local effort is the preferred approach to meeting everyone's needs and providing local leadership for this issue.

At a minimum, residents who use bubblers should be advised of and adhere to the following guidelines.

- **Do not turn the bubbler on too early; most places do not need bubbling action until late in the winter.**
- Install a timer so the bubbler is only running part time, like at night during the green energy cycle.
- For safety, the water should not be open further than 4-10 feet around a boathouse or dock.
- A steady or pulsing amber light is suggested as it shows well and can't be confused with a taillight. Strobe lights are not only annoying, but they also cause severe light trespass issues.
- ALWAYS prominently display a large sign reading, WARNING OPEN WATER.
- Bubbler functions should be checked weekly.



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COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

-- DAN MACLEOD --

I hope the summer was a safe and enjoyable one, some rain but oh those hot spells.

I have a report on the dam. The MNR&F has come down with the following - there was an apparent "miscommunication" in that there was an engineering report done, plans to construct structures downstream and upstream to improve the integrity and this was to be done this summer and this fall. The MNR&F is conducting Hydro test and calculations. While there is no plans as yet for this construction, we are very much on their radar. I will continue to monitor and enquire as to any change in status.

Just a reminder, that if you see a fire, do not call 911, please call 310 FIRE to report.

Residents will be receiving a questionnaire asking for your input regarding site alteration. This bylaw is in the planning stages and your thoughts and opinions are important to the creation of said bylaw. Please take the time to comment.

Come spring, there will be two speed signs, while these signs do not take pictures and issue tickets, they do collect data on volume and speeds. These signs are needed as Healey Lake Road has seen speeds as high as 110 kph.

Our abandoned dock program was a huge success and will be repeated next year, if required. Many thanks to all involved.

The Township is talking to Massassauga Park to have sufficient parking for their campers and keep camper's cars out of Pine Bay lot.

That's it for now, take care and if there are any concerns or questions, please contact me



GET IN TOUCH

As always, if there are any questions or concerns with the above subject matter or any Township issues, please contact me. You can reach out directly via email dmacleod@thearchipelago.ca or [+1 647-549-5474](tel:+16475495474).

Dan MacLeod

THE LIONS CLUB HELPS THE COMMUNITY

You are now able to leave your 'empties' inside special sheds built and maintained by the Lions Club. Located at the Crane Lake, Healey Lake and Woods Bay transfer stations, the Lions Club collects any deposit carrying liquor bottles and beer cans from these sheds. Monies generated from the return of these 'empties' is then donated back by the Lions Club to area charities and organizations.

TRANSFER STATION WINTER SEASON

After Thanksgiving Day through Victoria Day

HEALEY LAKE TRANSFER STATION

(169 HEALEY LAKE RD)

- **Sunday** 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
- **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday**
Closed
- **Thursday** 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- **Holidays**
Family Day, Easter Monday
9:00 AM to 9:00 PM
Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's & Good Friday
Closed

WOODS BAY TRANSFER STATION

(718 HEALEY LAKE RD).

- **Sunday & Wednesday** 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
- **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday**
Closed
- **Holidays**
Family Day, Easter Monday
9:00 AM to 9:00 PM
Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's & Good Friday
Closed

SOUTH ARCHIPELAGO WASTE DISPOSAL PAGE

- <https://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/p/south-archipelago---facilities-and-hours-of-operation>

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LOON UPDATE

-- Missy Mandel --

A SUCCESSFUL SUMMER FOR LOONS ON HEALEY

As summer turns to fall, (and we await the arrival of winter) and we prepare to bid adieu to the serene days at our cherished cottages and to our resident loons. With a late start I was unsure of the reproductive success we would have on our lake. There were less sightings, less courting, calling and territory battles this season but I am so happy to report that two out of the three pairs of loons had two chicks each. The pair near the marinas didn't nest for the first time in 5 summers since I have been reporting. While both pairs did lose one chick along the way, the good news is that both remaining loon chicks have now made it to migration, marking a significant achievement in our wildlife conservation efforts.

The successful breeding and migration of these loon families are not just heartening but also a testament to the beauty of the ecosystem we are privileged to share.

GOOD SIGNS FOR LOONS ON HEALEY LAKE

Canadian Lakes Loon Survey monitoring of loon reproductive success has proven effective for monitoring broader lake health. In fact, survival of loon chicks is a good indicator of the impact of lake acidification and other water conditions on fish stocks and aquatic life.

Birds Canada states the loon population has been decreasing over the years. This has been determined from data gathered for over 30 years from the Annual Loon Survey across Canada. We continue to participate in the loon survey annually.

BIRDS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT

You can read the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey report by clicking the link below

<https://www.birdscanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/CLLS-40-yr-report-FINAL-EN.pdf>

Human disturbance and development are ongoing threats to loons. There are many things that are detrimental to loons, including: disturbance of nesting sites, entanglement in discarded debris, lead poisoning, nest predation and displacement of loons through habitat loss.

We had an issue with an adult loon demonstrating the behaviour indicative of lead poisoning. This loon stayed bobbing at the rocky waters edge for hours, going in and out of sleep. This behaviour can be seen from molting loons too, however, this loon was only just beginning his molt. Unfortunately by the time the representative from Bird Studies came to investigate the situation, we could not find the loon again.

Lead is dull and grey in colour. It will leave a mark when scratched on paper. Lead is invisible to wildlife! Lead tackle is ingested by loons and other aquatic birds in different ways. Loons intentionally swallow small stones to help digest their food, and small lead sinkers and split shot, lost by anglers on lake bottoms look just like natural pebbles, except they're poisonous.

Your commitment to preserving our environment and wildlife is truly appreciated - Please take a moment to go through your old tackle boxes and remove any lead tackle for a cleaner and safer lake.



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2023 HLPOA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

-- SHARON TOSSWILL --

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We would like to extend a welcome to all new cottage or property owners on Healey Lake!! We encourage you and your guests to consider joining the **Healey Lake Property Owners Association** – various membership options are available. Membership information is available at:

<https://healeylake.org/community/#membership>

WE'VE GONE DIGITAL

The Association is no longer mailing out hard copy Membership Renewal Forms other than on an exception basis. We initiated email renewals in March 2022, but some Members were not aware of this change and were waiting to receive mailed information.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Email renewals were sent in the Spring – if you have not already done so, please visit www.healeylake.org to complete the online Membership Renewal form.

This ensures we always have your current contact information. If you have moved or changed your email address, please update your contact information for next year. We will need your updated contact info in the event our Cottage Watch Volunteers find a issue or concern.

You have 3 easy and convenient ways to pay annual dues

- 1) Pay Pal – available through the website
<https://healeylake.org/>
- 2) E-transfer to Treasurer@healeylake.org
Include your 911/lot number in the cover email.
- 3) By cheque / cash which can be mailed to:
HLPOA | PO Box 132
MacTier, ON POC 1H0

FYI: The bank requires checks to be made out to:
"Healey Lake Property Owner's Association"

The abbreviation HLPOA CANNOT be accepted

If you do not have an email address or would still prefer to receive a hard copy Membership Notice, please contact:

Sharon Tosswill, Membership Coordinator

647-217-6834 or sharon_tosswill@hotmail.com

MACTIER FOODBANK DONATION

-- Symantha Rush & Zoran Vukasinovic --

Your Generous Support of the Healey Lake Hat Sales Raised \$500 for the MacTier Food Bank

This past September the HLPOA held a Thanksgiving Fundraiser for the MacTier Food Bank by selling our lake swag inventory to raise funds for food. The sale was a huge success and we are pleased to announce that we sold all our toques and raised \$500 that was donated towards food for those in need in our community.



MACTIER FOODBANK

Donna Jordan of the MacTier Food Bank sent us all a little message of thank you:

"On behalf of the community and the MacTier Food Bank I would like to thank you very much for your Thanksgiving donation. It will go a long ways to help our Food Bank."

If you missed this drive and would still like to donate, all you have to do is go into Foodland and speak to any cashier – they can add your donation directly onto the account of the MacTier Food Bank.

Our Team and the HLPOA thanks you all for your support of this special holiday drive.

Symantha & Zoran

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CONTACT:

Adam Smith 705-627-9070
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WINTER FIRE SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS

-- CONTRIBUTED--

MUNICIPAL FIRE PREVENTION & BY-LAWS

<http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/p/fire-prevention>

FIRE RATINGS

<http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/p/fire-rating>

The HLPOA website (www.healeylake.org) shows a fire icon in top right corner. Click on the icon for a current fire rating.

HEALEY LAKE FIRE PROTECTION

The Township of the Archipelago and other nearby municipalities do not provide fire protection of any kind for the Healey Lake area. Although there is a fire station in MacTier, this is operated by the Township of Georgian Bay and cottagers should not expect them to respond to a fire on Healey Lake.

The Healey Lake Property Owners Association does not offer a firefighting service; however, we have made available 11 gasoline powered, high pressure water pumps at various locations on the lake. These 11 courtesy pumps may be accessed and used by cottage members or their representatives to assist in fighting fires at their own risk.

Please be aware that the water pumps and associated equipment are provided on a "best efforts" basis and the Association assumes no responsibility for their reliability or for injuries to anyone using this equipment.

The pumps are stored in boxes that contain the pumps, hoses and a set of operating instructions. The Association occasionally puts on an annual demonstration of the use of the pumps at the Regatta or an Annual General Meeting.

The water pumps may be borrowed from the end of April to late October when they are removed for winter storage.

FOUR OF THE PUMPS ARE IN PLACE YEAR ROUND

To the best of our ability, we try to make sure all our pumps are gassed up and ready for use when needed. After a fire pump has been used, it is important to notify John Mendicino at [705-321-2203](tel:705-321-2203) or john.mendico@gmail.com

FIRE PUMP LOCATIONS

Below is a list of the fire pumps currently deployed around Healey Lake – you can reference a map of these locations on the page following this one, or on the HLPOA website.

YEAR-ROUND USE (FIREBOX INCLUDES AUGER)

- 139 Healey Lake Water (C. Smith)
- 317 Healey Lake Rd/Mariner's Cove Marina (P. Hintze)
- 395 Healey Lake Water (G. Partchenko)
- 89 Fox Back Rd (D. MacLeod)

SEASONAL USE – MID APRIL TO LATE OCTOBER

- 409 Healey Lake Water (P. Hayley)
- 427 Healey Lake Water (A. Gilks)
- HLPOA Fire House on Main Channel
- 80 Healey Lake Water/Kapikog Bay (T. Szambor)
- 433 Healey Lake Rd/Dollard Bay (D. Ricci)
- 63 Earl's Rd (R. Martin)
- 314 Healey Lake Water (D. McNamara)

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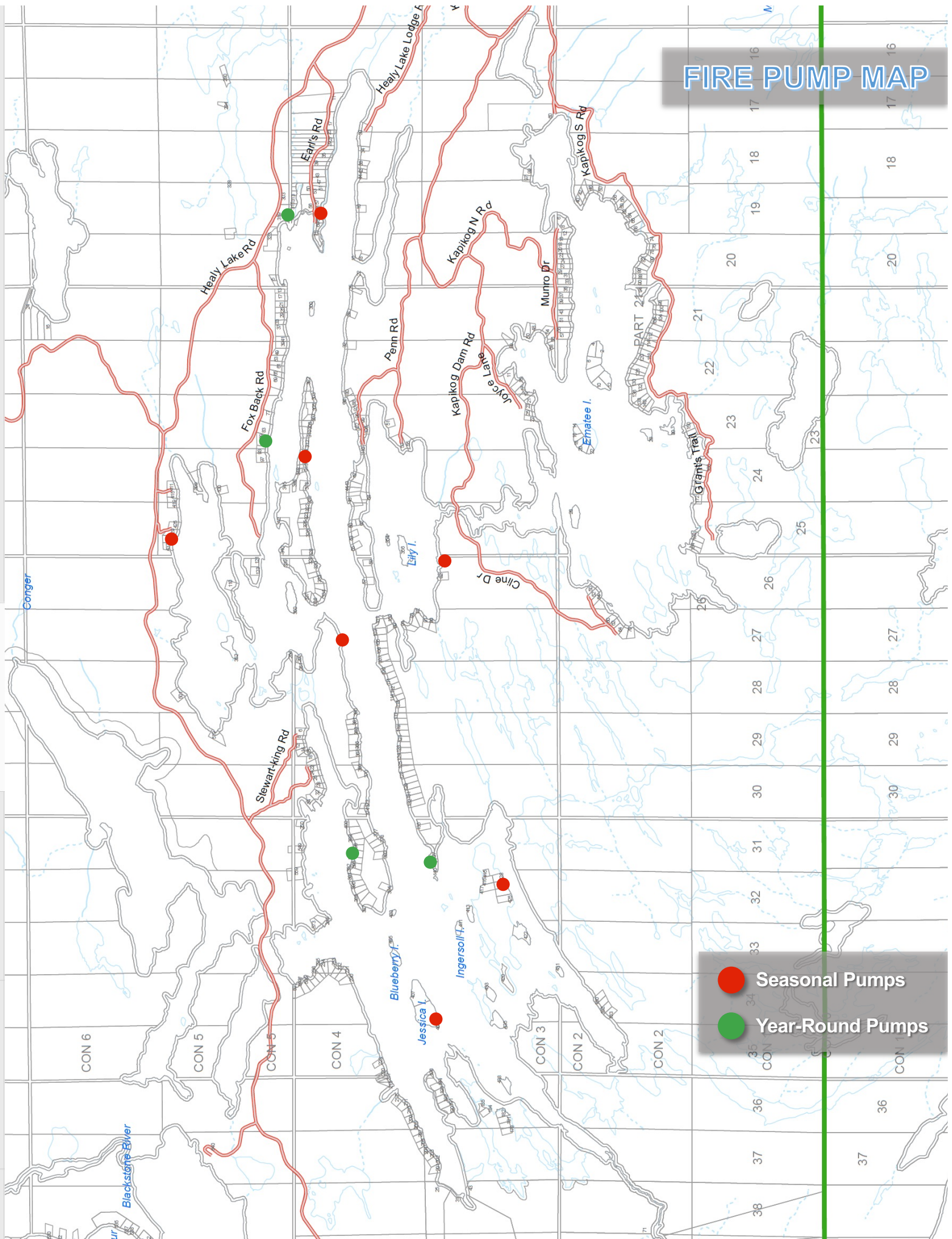
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EMAIL: irondesignwelding@gmail.com

WEBSITE: irondesignwelding.com

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FIRE PUMP MAP



Seasonal Pumps

Year-Round Pumps

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WINTER ON HEALEY LAKE

-- DAN MACLEOD --

LIVING AT HEALEY LAKE ALL YEAR ROUND

When you tell people you live at the lake all year round, you get quizzical looks often accompanied by exclamations,

"How is that even possible?"

or

"How do you put up with the cold and the snow that long?"

The answer is it's easy with the right mindset!

Granted, we do enjoy the luxury of a "drive-to" property, which makes getting here during the winter season a lot easier than it is for some others on the lake. We also have a generator, (which has been coming in handy a little more frequently of late) and of course, we consider ourselves to be "from hearty stock" and admittedly, have developed a healthy appetite for winter.

Imagine if you will, waking up in the morning to a fresh blanket of newly fallen, crisp white snow - that stays white for more than a day – then imagine watching as all these new animal tracks; from rabbits, coyotes, deer and the wily fox appear before you. Think of the excitement that having a toboggan run outside your front door brings! It's an incredible experience to take walks on the lake, forging a path without barriers and making it as long a trek as you decide you'd like it to be that time around!

SOCIAL LIFE IN THE WINTER

If you have, (or are lucky enough to have access to) a snow machine, sled or snowmobile – there are countless trails to travel and explore – and there's always the option to swing by the neighbours for a visit. Each year we are graced by more and more brave, curious and adventurous Healey Lakers who are starting to experience the joy of spending more time up here and embracing all that winter offers.

There are plenty of opportunities and gatherings for social time including the holidays, New Year's Eve, (when we celebrate) New Year's Day (when we recover) and the famous "Meet & Greet" in Pine Bay in February. I always marvel at the number of snowmobiles gathered on the ice. It's great to see friends coming together, new friendships being kindled, the kids playing tag in the snow, and family pets being spoiled by everybody.

If weather permits, there's the famous "Swamp Party", another fun and exciting gathering of HLPOA members (both old and new) and residents of the "Healey Lake Winter Clan"

As I said year round cottage life is easy, as long as you dress for it and like the cold fresh air in your lungs – it is not only tolerable, but a lot of fun, and very social!

That is what winter on Healey Lake means to me

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PHOTOS FROM HEALEY LAKE

-- ANDY ZELTKALNS --



THE LAKED CHEF

-- RON HUTZUL --

GUINNESS & WHISKEY STEW

Prep Time: 15 Minutes | Cook Time: 2 hours | Serves 4-6

This dish is hearty and full of rich flavours – perfect after chopping wood or a day spent sledding out on the trails!

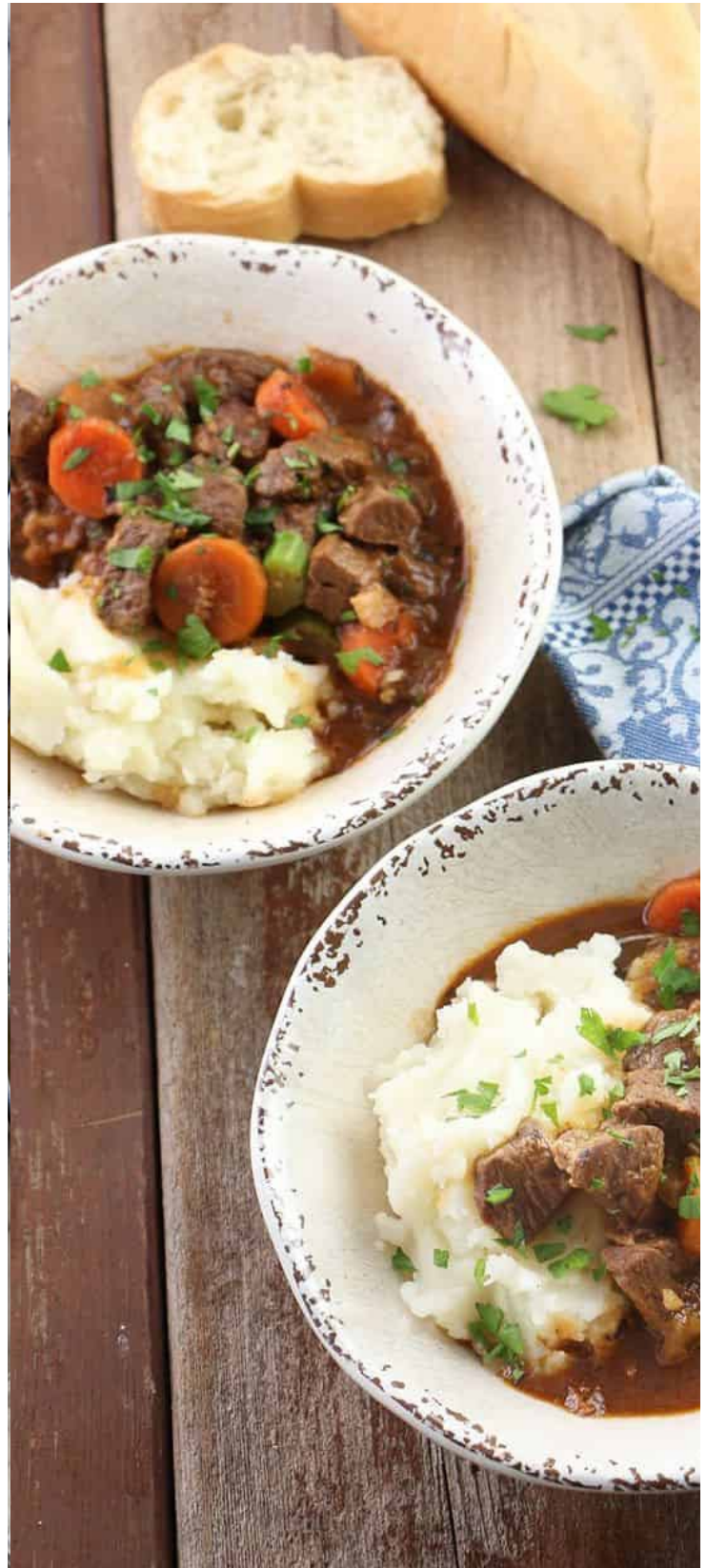
INGREDIENTS

- ☐ 2–½ lb Beef Blade Steak or Blade Pot Roast
- ☐ 1 large sweet onion, diced
- ☐ 4 strips bacon, diced
- ☐ 2 Tbsp minced garlic
- ☐ 4 carrots, peeled and sliced into 1/2-inch pieces
- ☐ 3 stalks of celery, sliced into 1/2-inch pieces
- ☐ 4 Tbsp all-purpose flour
- ☐ 2 cans Guinness Stout (500mL)
- ☐ ½ cup Irish Whiskey
- ☐ 2 cups beef broth
- ☐ 2 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- ☐ 3 Tbsp tomato paste
- ☐ ½ tsp dried thyme
- ☐ 2 bay leaves
- ☐ Olive Oil, Salt & Pepper

DIRECTIONS

- 1) Preheat oven to 325°F. Cut meat into bite-sized cubes. Pat dry and season with salt and pepper.
- 2) Heat 2 tbsp of the oil in a heavy Dutch oven or stock pot over medium-high heat. Add cubed beef in batches and brown well on all sides. Remove each batch to a plate.
- 3) Lower heat to medium and add oil to just coat the pan. Add onions and cook for 2 minutes. Add bacon and cook until bacon is browned and onions are soft and golden. Add garlic, cook for one minute (stir constantly to prevent burning). Add carrot and celery. Sprinkle flour over top of the veggies, then stir for 2-3 minutes until flour is cooked off (it'll stick to the veggies).
- 4) Stir in Guinness, Whiskey, beef broth, Worcestershire, tomato paste and bay leaves; scrape up any browned bits at the bottom of the pot. Return beef and any accumulated juices to the pot (note: liquid level should just cover the beef and vegetables).
- 5) Cover and cook in the preheated oven for 2 hours, until beef is fork-tender. Skim off any fat on the surface, if desired. Adjust salt and pepper to taste. Remove bay leaves.

I serve this with fluffy mashed potatoes, (lots of butter and cream) but it works well over extra broad egg noodles. Be sure to have bread available to sop up the gravy!!



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