

Bay Lake Property Owners Association Newsletter

www.baylakeontario.com



Winter...

...2006

NEW RECYCLE SYSTEM

Our Recycle Centre on Highway 592 (formerly and affectionately known as “The Dump”) has installed two new compacting units to handle recyclables, and has put in place new rules that should help make our recycling lives easier.

Now, you can sort your recyclable materials into just two bins – one for household metal, glass and plastic, and another for fibre or paper products.

Household metal, glass and plastic items include:

- **Cans** (aluminum, steel and tin); **bottles** (glass and plastic; clear and coloured); **aluminum foil**; **shopping bags**; **Styrofoam**; **plastic wrap**; all other **recyclable plastic**.

Household fibre products include:

- **Newspapers**; **flyers**; **cartons** (milk, juice and egg); **boxboard**; **catalogues**; **cardboard boxes** (broken down please); **magazines**; **phone books**; **fine paper**; **books**.

You can purchase additional blue boxes at the Recycling Centre for \$2.00 each. The recycling of the materials themselves is free.

Our Recycling Centre will continue to handle garbage the same way it has in the past. There is no charge for your first 6 bags of garbage

each month. Additional bags will cost \$1.00 per bag.

For items such as building materials, shingles, tires, appliances, scrap metal, furniture, etc., a tipping fee will be charged when they are dropped off.

The Recycling Centre is open from 9:00 until 4:00 daily, but is closed on Wednesdays and Thursdays.



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WRAFT

WRAFT continues to be active in the fight against inequities in Ontario's property tax system. You can help by writing to:

- Mr. Andre Marin, the Ontario Ombudsman (there is a link on the WRAFT website under Member Toolbox);
- Your MPP (there is a link on the WRAFT website under Email your MPP);
- Local newspapers.

WRAFT asks that you copy them on any correspondence you send. You can visit the WRAFT website at www.wraft.com or by going to the Bay Lake website and clicking on the WRAFT link.

PHOTO CONTEST

Just a reminder that the 2005 photo contest is currently underway. If you have a photo you think might be a winner, please submit it to Patti Tilley. The photo must be printed (this includes paper prints of digital photographs).

If yours is chosen as a winner, we will arrange to have your photo plaqued for you. Last year's entries can be found on our website.

LOCAL EVENTS

Huntsville's Winterfest 2006 kicks off on Friday, February 3rd at the Huntsville Centennial Centre. The festivities continue at various locations throughout the weekend. For more information, call 798-6421, ext. 34.

The Kearney Dog Sled races and other activities are being held again this year on February 10th through and 12th. The fun starts on the Friday evening, with races and other events being run throughout the rest of the weekend. Visit <http://www.kearneydogsled.com> for more information.

NATURE'S WAY

The MNR has launched a program for reporting illegal hunting and fishing activities through a toll-free phone number.

1-877-TIPS-MNR

This tip line will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, all year, so that people can report illegal activities such as:

- Fishing or hunting out of season;
- Taking more game than allowed;
- Night hunting;
- Unauthorized shoreline alterations.

If you are reporting a violation, be sure to provide as much information as possible, including the date, time and location of the offence and the violator's licence plate number and the make and model of the vehicle.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEWS

Departures:

Rick Smith and Janet McKay have moved off of Bay Lake and so are unable to continue in their role as members of the BLPOA Executive. We thank them for their participation this year.

This means that there are two openings on the Executive. If anyone is interested in joining this fun and worthwhile group, please contact Cheryl Stamper at 705-636-0222, or any member of the Executive.

Reduce Boating Signs:

Someone has been painting a "Reduce Boating" message on the sign boards at the Boat Ramp. This is not being done by, nor is it sanctioned by, the BLPOA Executive.

If you are the person painting these signs, please stop. If you see someone painting this message on public or BLPOA property, please report that person to a member of the Executive.

WINTER UPDATE

December and January so far have seen fairly steady snowfall, but not necessarily a lot of accumulation due to the mild spells that have occurred fairly frequently.

While there has been some machine and people traffic on the lake itself, weather conditions so far have not been favourable to creating safe ice. Please exercise caution if venturing out on (hopefully!) frozen water. If the ice at the shoreline is cracked or soft, stay off, and keep in mind that dark snow on the ice may be an indicator of a weak spot.

Snowmobilers may want to check trail conditions before planning a trip. The following websites provide details for surrounding areas:

Parry Sound www.pssd.ca
Muskoka www.msrsnowtrails.com
Near North www.nnta.net

If you are snowmobiling on Bay Lake and are using the boat ramp for access, please try to stay to off the ramp itself. Instead, go around it on the north side. The current thinking is that lots of winter traffic over the concrete causes heaving in the spring and we are hoping to avoid the resulting damage and repairs.

SAD PARTINGS

The Executive has made a policy decision on how news of the passing of people on Bay Lake will be handled. We will no longer take it upon ourselves to include such information in the newsletter. Instead, if you wish to have an item appear, please send the text to mail@baylakeontario.com, or mail it to the BLPOA at Site 4D, Box 0, Emsdale P0A 1J0, or give it to any member of the Executive. The

Newsletter Editor will then include it in the next issue, keeping the right to edit the material for content and/or space considerations.

In keeping with this new policy, the following article was submitted by Steve Munro:

Bay Lake has lost a dear friend and neighbour with the passing of Stan Stenoff of 249 North Bay Lake Road in early November. Stan was always willing to lend a hand or an ear if needed. He will be missed by all who knew him, especially the Cipparone and Munro families. Thank you, Stan, for all of the help and fun over the past 15-16 years.

HELPFUL HINTS

Many of us have generators that we run when there is a power outage. If you are one of those people, please be careful where you place the generator when you run it.

One couple on Bay Lake had used a generator for years – before they had a furnace installed. During the first power outage of the season, they set up the generator in its usual place under the deck. What they didn't realize was that it was now right next to the furnace intake. When they started feeling ill, they assumed they were coming down with the flu. They had just decided to go to bed and sleep it off when a nagging feeling made them check the carbon monoxide levels. You guessed it – the levels were through the roof!

So, check that your generator is in a safe location when it is running – and make sure you have carbon monoxide detectors and that they're working properly. The couple in this story had removed the batteries from their detector the night before after the power went out because the beeping was keeping them awake!

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Pancake Breakfast. This annual event is always held on the Sunday of the May long weekend at the Clear Lake / Bay Lake Hall. A host of volunteers is on hand to serve you a delicious breakfast, and there are opportunities to win some great prizes.

Fun Day. Kids and adults always enjoy this outing. It is your chance to spend an afternoon chowing down on hot dogs and playing games. Join us at the boat ramp on the Saturday of the July long weekend.

Poker Run. This is a great opportunity to get around the lake and meet some of your neighbours while at the same time putting yourself in the running for some big cash winnings! Make a date with lady luck on the Saturday of the August long weekend.

Annual General Meeting. This is our most important event and your participation is crucial. It is always held on the Sunday of the long weekend in August at the Clear Lake / Bay Lake Hall.

Corn Roast. This fall event is a great time to sit around a fire with your neighbours and enjoy great BBQ treats.

Your participation in these events is key, so please make plans to attend. And remember that renters and guests are always welcome at these events, too.

Buy and Sell on eBayLake

If you have items you would like to sell, or if you are looking for items to buy, visit our website and click the eBayLake link to see what's listed or to send an email to place an ad. Be sure to tell us your name and Bay Lake address; if the item is WANTED or FOR SALE; the name of the item; a brief description of the item; and the cost of the item (if selling).

THE COTTAGE DREAMS PROGRAM

Cottage Dreams is an organization that links up people who are willing to share their cottages with cancer survivors and their families. The goal is to provide time away to help bring families back together after cancer treatments to recover, reconnect and rebuild their lives in a natural setting.

The following is an article submitted by the Varty family, who donated their cottage through this program.

In the summer of 2005 we donated our cottage. The couple who used it thoroughly enjoyed their stay at Bay Lake and their cottage experience. This couple had not had a vacation in many years (something we cottage owners may take for granted).

Many of us don't use our cottages all year and so may find it easy to donate a week or more to Cottage Dreams. Our family met with the couple at the start of their vacation and spoke with them by phone at the end of their stay. They were sincerely appreciative of the opportunity we had provided to them. Knowing the enjoyment our cottage brought to this couple was extremely rewarding and far outweighed any effort required on our part.

We plan on donating again in 2006 and hope that other Bay Lakers will consider donating as well.

*The Varty's (Charon, Doug, Gregory and Stephanie)
555 North Bay Lake*

If you are interested in participating, a Cottage Dreams representative will visit your cottage and meet with you. Arrangements will be made with a local Property Management company to handle any problems that may arise during the week, and a cleaning service can be provided at the end of the stay. In addition, you could arrange to rent your cottage to Cottage Dreams for the week and then get a tax receipt when you donate the amount back. For more information call 705-457-9100 or visit their website at www.cottagedreams.org.