



Fall Newsletter 2012

Issue Date October 03, 2012

Message from President

by Glen Vey

Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 Fall Update
- 3 The Nature Nut - Lets Talk Turkey
- 4 Sky Gazing
- 4 In the Neighbourhood

The Association is working for you by:

- comprehensive water testing (e.g. e-coli, phosphorous, clarity)
- Benthic testing (ensuring our mix of aquatic creatures are beneficial to our lake)
- liaising with the MNR, MoE, and Perry Township when relevant issues arise
- promoting our community with annual events
- communications
 - Newsletters and website
 - www.baylakeontario.ca

Greetings everyone,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Executive, our volunteers, and our paid membership for your contribution to ensuring another successful year on Bay Lake.

Although our Executive is smaller in number this year, together with our volunteers we still plan to provide you with our regular communications, events and meet the environmental needs of the lake. New Executive Members are both needed and welcome.

If you are interested in becoming part of the team just contact me at :

president@baylakeontario.ca

While the Association remains financially strong, we continue to rely on your support and remind you that Membership fees for 2012/2013 are now due. You can pay by PayPal on our website or send your cheque to the address listed below.

Your membership fees allow us to continue to function effectively, and to fund the water-testing to monitor the quality of our lake water. This is critically important and we must be vigilant in light of the recent blue-green algae bloom which have appeared and are adversely affecting the quality of life on some of the surrounding lakes.

Should you have other concerns or issues which have prevented you from supporting us in the past or present, I would be pleased to address these concerns at president@baylakeontario.ca or by mail to Bay Lake Property Owners Association, P.O. Box 120, Novar, Ontario. P0A 1R0

"Support your lake and have a voice in your Community"

Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving Weekend!

Glen Vey



A full colour version of this newsletter is posted to our website at: www.baylakeontario.ca

Unless otherwise noted photos are provided by J. Paterson

Note to activate links - hold cursor over link, press control and click

Fall Update

Gravel for North Bay Lake Rd - Update

Dave Creaser, the roads superintendent for the Township of Perry, recently advised 6 inches of "A" type gravel will be put down on North Bay Lake road at the end of October or the beginning of November. The timing of the work has been scheduled to minimize the nuisance of dust to residents and cottagers of the road before snow falls and removes the problem. In preparation for the work, the town workman have enlarged the turn-around at the end of the assumed roadway to accommodate the large bottom spread vehicles which will be spreading the gravel. Our thanks to the township for their prompt response to the concerns of the residents of North Bay Lake Road.

Clearing of Leaves

Just a reminder not to put leaves or branches into the ditches along the roads around our lake. The ditches can easily clog and prevent drainage resulting the flooding of the road surface.

MTO Improvement to HWY 592

In case you didn't notice, we were pleased to see the MTO crew that installed a large new culvert in the area of Hwy 592 that has been prone to flooding in the spring rains. Hopefully, this installation will eliminate the problem.

No Parking in the Turn Around areas /Leave Room to Pass / Check your 911 number

We expect snow on our roads before our next newsletter, so we would like remind property owners and visitors, that the township's new larger snow plow needs lots of room to pass and turn around. Vehicles are not allowed to park in the turn around area. Vehicles parked on the road that do not leave sufficient room for the plow to pass could be towed. Also, please take a quick check of your 911 number - the blue and white number assigned to your property - to be sure it is not obstructed .

Discouraging Visits from Bears to Your Property

Please wait until after we have had frost temperatures and perhaps until we have snow before putting up winter bird feeders. You want to be sure that our neighbourhood bears have gone into hibernation before providing bird seed snacks.

Visit the [Bears](#) tab on our website for more information on how to avoid attracting bears, and what to do if confronted by a bear.



Female Monarch Butterfly on Asters



North Bay Lake Rd in Fall Colours



Little East River

MNR Bear Wise - Report a Problem Bear site:

http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Bearwise/2ColumnSubPage/STEL02_167690.html

The Nature Nut.

by Janice Paterson



Male Wild Turkey

MNR photo

Wild Turkey Management Plan for Ontario, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

Go to:

<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/stdprodconsume/groups/lr/@mnr/@fw/documents/document/200271.pdf>



Raccoon eating eggs

Google image

For Information on Wild Turkey Hunting go to:
[Ontario Hunting Regulations](#)

Then select: Wild Turkey

Lets Talk Turkey

Summer is over, the leaves are changing, days are getting colder and many of us are looking forward to gathering family together to celebrate thanksgiving. What would thanksgiving be without the turkey? The domestic turkey at the center of attention on your dinner table is a descendant of a Mexican subspecies of turkey identified by its whitish or pale buffy tips on the upper tail covers and tip of tail. The wild turkey very closely resembles the domestic bird except that these feathers on a wild turkey are a rusty or chestnut colour. Since we now have at least one flock of wild turkeys resident in the woods around our lake, you may get a chance to check the feathers yourself.

Wild turkeys that once flourished in Ontario's deciduous forests were listed as extirpated in Ontario (the term means removed or destroyed completely) since 1902. These birds were once very common in Southern Ontario, and as far north as Simcoe County. Severe winters in the past, often took a heavy toll on wild turkeys, but it was primarily the destruction of habitat -clearing forest for farmlands and urban development, combined with uncontrolled hunting, that wiped out the wild population.

The wild turkey in Ontario is making a come back, thanks to programs that began in 1984, reintroducing wild birds from birds captured in the United States.

The male, or gobbler, weighs in at around 20 lbs. (9.7 kg) and the hen at about half that weight. Wild turkeys breed in the spring but do not build a nest, instead, they use a shallow depression in the ground to lay 10-12 pale buff eggs, spotted with purplish grey. The hen sits on her eggs for 26-28 days. Hungry foxes, raccoons, owls and even snakes can chase her from the nest and destroy her eggs, or prey on the young. If you approach a turkey hen on her nest, she will often abandon the nest. Once the eggs hatch, the hen stays on the ground with her hatchlings, called poults, until they are old enough to fly up into the trees, where turkeys roost at night. Wild turkeys eat acorns, seeds, berries insects and snails.

Milder winters and less snow depth have helped the birds winter survival rate and allowed them to expand further north. As the population of the reintroduced wild turkeys grew and spread, the Ontario Government was able to introduce regulations to allow the hunting of wild turkeys without the risk of over harvesting.

For hunting information see the link to the left.



Jupiter

Google image

Sky Gazing

Dark Skies Cooler weather will make skies clear for star viewing. The best nights will be when there is no moon brightening the sky. The dates for a new moon fall on Oct 15, Nov 13th and Dec 13th.

Jupiter at Opposition December 3 Jupiter will be at its closest to earth on this date and so will be easiest to view. Look low on the eastern horizon for the brightest star as twilight fades.

Geminid Meteor Showers December 13-14: These meteor showers are caused by the earth passing through a debris cloud of the sand sized remains of comet Phaethon. These meteorites move slower across the sky than the Perseid meteorites and often can display in different colours. The peak for these showers should be just after midnight on December 14th . Look to the constellation Gemini to the south, about 45 degrees up from the horizon.



Cranberry Harvest

Google image

In The Neighbourhood - a few of many events...

Muskoka Harvest Thanksgiving Dinner Buffet, at Deerhurst Resort, Sunday October 7th - lots of mouth watering delights on this menu. Reservations required. www.deerhurstresort.com/thanksgiving

Bala Cranberry Festival October 12, 13, 14. 9.00 am - 500 pm

The entire town of Bala becomes a shopper's mecca. There will be live entertain, a midway, petting zoo and trips to local cranberry farms. Something for everyone. www.balacranberryfestival.on.ca

Great Pumpkin Trail Wednesday, October 31st, 5-8pm. Muskoka Heritage Place - Trick or Treating with no traffic. \$3.00 per child or \$10 per family. Pioneer buildings will be decorated. www.muskokaheritageplace.org

Girlfriends Getaway Weekend, Huntsville, November 9, 10, 11 Ladies, get your mother, daughters, aunts, and girlfriends together -this weekend is all about the girls. Huntsville is pulling out all the stops for you. Special adventures in shopping, pampering, entertainment, and culinary delights await all girlfriends in downtown Huntsville!

<http://www.huntsvilleadventures.com/article-archive.html?docid=36>

Portage Flyer Christmas, Saturday December 22, 2012, 5-8.00 pm. Muskoka Heritage Place - \$5.00 per person. An evening of magic with lights and seasonal celebration.

www.muskokaheritageplace.org

