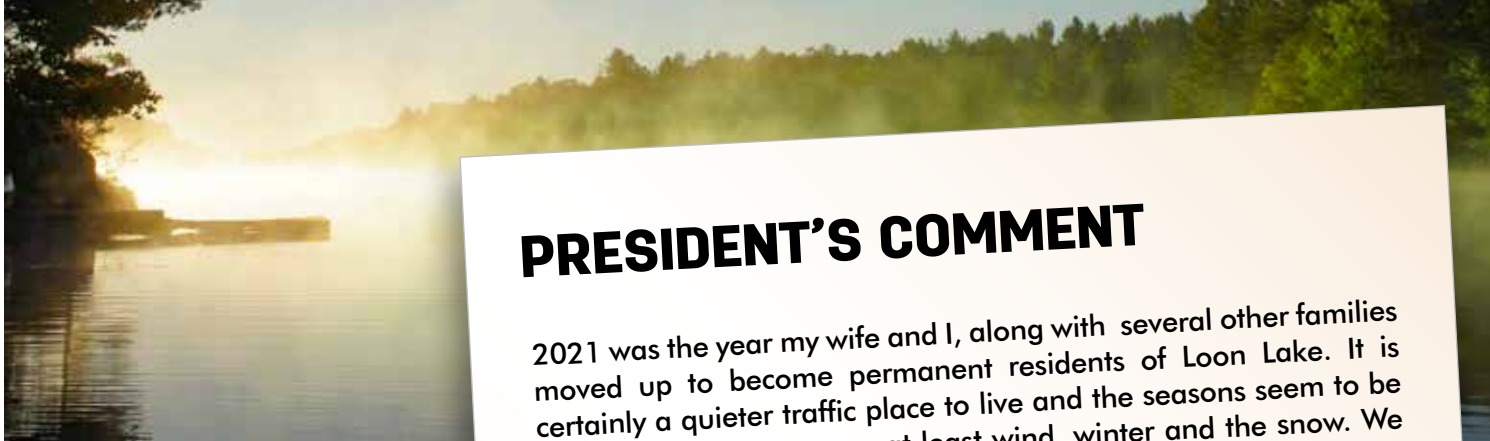




NEWS LETTER 2022



PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

2021 was the year my wife and I, along with several other families moved up to become permanent residents of Loon Lake. It is certainly a quieter traffic place to live and the seasons seem to be somewhat more extreme, at least wind, winter and the snow. We have made many new friends and acquaintances and have come to appreciate all the nature and abundant wildlife surrounding us.

I look forward to the continued growth of community spirit evidenced by cottage owners, permanent or seasonal seeing needs and stepping up to help their neighbours. People have been very generous with their personal time to make our community safer and better informed.

Having frequently traveled in all four seasons on Loon Lake Road, Red Wing Drive, Chipmunk Lane, Turtle Lake Road, Drury Lane and Pine Tree Road I see a great amount of pride in ownership with lots of neighbourly advice on the best place to shop, dine and enjoy our beautiful and paradisaal part of Muskoka.

I consider it a privilege to live here and serve on our board representing Loon and Turtle Lake and I appreciate all the skills our board and association members contribute so capably.

Dan Miller
President LTLCA

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT Dan Miller

PAST PRESIDENT Dick Thomas

TREASURER Laura Sandwell

COMMUNICATIONS Jaclyn Boucher

MARKETING Joel Kwinter

NEWSLETTER Len Churchill

MEMBERSHIP David Caruana

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATION Michael Clarke

ENVIRONMENT

BENTHIC MONITORING

WATER SAFETY AWARENESS

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATION Gary Lyon

TOWN LIAISON

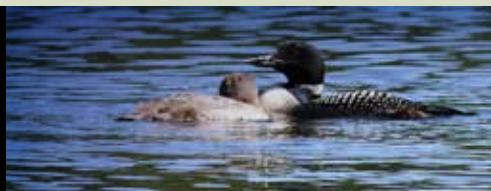
ENVIRONMENT Peter Helston

WATER QUALITY & INITIATIVES

ENVIRONMENT Brian Mellon

CHANNEL/MARKER BUOYS/

FIRE ALERTS







2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday

July 16th

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Like last year, we plan on conducting our AGM in an outdoor and socially distanced manner.

It will be held at Dan Miller's cottage at

51 Loon Lake Drive

beginning at **10:00 AM.**

In the event of rain or Covid19 restrictions, a follow up announcement will be made by the Association's Board.

Our survey about events on the lakes showed a variety of interests that the Association would be glad to assist in promoting.

Contact Dan Miller if you would like help in organizing an event.

SAVE THE DATE!

JULY 16, 2022

ANNUAL AGM/AFTERNOON BBQ

(Rain Date July 23)

This year, the LTLCA Board will be hosting a BBQ lunch following this year's AGM.

Food has been generously donated by Sobeys.

Family and guests are welcome, provided they have pre-registered.

Great entertainment for both adults and children will be announced in the coming months.

This is a fantastic opportunity to meet your neighbors and make new friends on our lakes.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!



COURTESY CODE

We all want the same thing – to enjoy life on Loon and Turtle Lakes. For some this involves quiet and relaxation. For others, fun and frolic. In consideration of the environment, your neighbours, your safety and to maintain a positive collective experience, please respect the following:

NEIGHBOURS

- ✓ Please avoid noisy activities in the early morning before 9:00 AM and in the evening after 10:00 PM. This includes using lawn mowers, power tools, construction equipment, playing loud music and partying.
- ✓ The sound from audio devices being played and that of loud voices carry across the lake. Be considerate of others who prefer to relax with the sounds of nature.
- ✓ Allowing dogs to bark excessively can be an irritant to many. Please manage your pets.
- ✓ The islands are privately owned or crown land and are not here for loud parties.
- ✓ The sound of children playing is not noise and is welcomed.
- ✓ Please respect your neighbour's boundaries.

CAMPFIRE WITH CARE

Daytime burning is not permitted by the Town of Gravenhurst.

Get up to date Fire Danger Ratings from the Town or our website www.loonturtle.com

When there is a fire ban, it includes fireworks.

ENVIRONMENT

BE THE SOLUTION FOR WATER POLLUTION

- ✓ Wash people, pets and laundry in the cottage.
- ✓ Use biodegradable detergents wherever possible.
- ✓ Inspect your septic system annually and pump it out regularly.
- ✓ Consider water use wisely especially with washers and dishwashers.
- ✓ Refrain from the use of fertilizers as they eventually end up in the lake.
- ✓ Maintain natural brush at the shoreline to discourage geese.
- ✓ No Grass, No Geese. Fewer geese means reduced e-coli in the water.

PUT WASTE IN THE RIGHT PLACE

- ✓ Keep our roads and forests litterless.
- ✓ Put garbage out on garbage day only to avoid both small and large animals, like bears!
- ✓ Take large items to the dump.

LIGHTS OUT, STARS OUT

- ✓ Be considerate and use outdoor lights at night only as you need them.
- ✓ Ensure outdoor lights are only as bright as necessary.
- ✓ Consider fully shielded outdoor lights that point downward.

Loon & Turtle Lakes

Cottage Association

MEMBERSHIP

Warton Willy predicted an early spring and our efforts have begun. The Membership, Water Safety and Budget volunteers have already begun preparations. With warmer weather, clearing the channel and setting the marker buoys will begin. The direction of our association has evolved from solely a social group to include a deeper concern for our environment. The goal of acting together for our mutual benefit and sharing our collective efforts through monthly newsletters and the AGM remains the same. These are just some of the initiatives which affect the value of our lakefront homes and the quality of our lives:

- *dealing with invasive species*
- *goose mitigation*
- *preserving the biological condition of our lakes*
- *water safety*
- *rattlesnakes*
- *preserving water quality*
- *shoreline preservation*
- *septic system awareness*
- *fire safety*
- *road safety*

To join or renew your Loon & Turtle Lakes Cottage Association membership, please send a safe and easy -Transfer of \$45 to membership@loonturtle.ca or if you prefer, send a cheque payable to the **Loon & Turtle Lakes Cottage Association** to:

David Caruana,
1275 Maple Ridge Drive, Pickering, ON L1X 1H4.

For more information, please go to our website www.loonturtle.ca.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION*

Please help us to maintain a current and accurate record by updating your personal contact information with David Caruana either by mail at the address noted above or via email at membership@loonturtle.ca

NOTE: *Membership information is maintained in strict confidence.

Loon & Turtle Lakes

It's Up to Us

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS 2022

If we are to preserve the quality and quantity of our precious lake water 20 to 30 years from now, some things are going to have to change in the present. Properties down to the water's edge need to be less manicured, less non-native grass and plants, less imported sand.

Properties need more "wild". What you do within 3 metres of the water's edge has a direct impact on the health of Loon and Turtle Lakes. Consider that zone like a beautiful, big filter surrounding and guarding our lakes. We need to stop nutrients and toxins from flowing easily into our lake water. One of the predictable consequences of clearing this zone of native plants is an accelerated growth of water weeds. But there are more serious long term results including the ultimate game changer, a bloom of cyanobacteria.

The report you received in the spring from the Love Your Lake program will tell you all you need to know about rehabilitation of your water front. This program was a one-time gift from the Watershed Council of Canada and the Muskoka Watershed Council. I hope you will act on the recommendations.

One of Mother Nature's strong suits isn't tidiness. But you can count on her to make the right choices at the water's edge. While there are town and district by-laws that outline what you can't do at the water's edge, nothing replaces good old common sense.

Your lake association has been working very closely with local organizations that are driven by water science. The Federation of Ontario Cottager's Associations, The District of Muskoka, the Muskoka Watershed Council, the Dorset Environmental Science Centre and the Watershed Council of Canada are passionate about water quality. Is that important to us? Absolutely! Each of these organizations have a hand in generating the science that is focused on preserving the quality of our water on our lakes for future generations.

Your association worked closely with these groups last year. With their help, we continued with testing water for phosphates, benthic testing for the health of invertebrates, attending numerous seminars and conferences on water science plus added the Natural Edge and Love Your Lake program's. We also started identifying water weeds in our lake to guard against invasive species that are all around us in Muskoka and threatening the natural ecology.

The association also acted quickly on reducing the goose population, which was growing exponentially. Canada Geese are not native to Muskoka and are not endangered. We worked closely with the Canadian Wildlife Federation on ways to reduce the count and under their guidance and a permit, acted. Increasing e-coli counts in Muskoka lakes from geese are a direct threat to the health of our members. We will continue with this program this year to reduce the risk of e-coli contamination in our water from geese.

As one cottager said to me last year, "So what you are telling me is that, if I do nothing to our property and just let nature take over, that should be the best thing?" The answer is an emphatic "Yes". Your only problem is what you are going to do with all that time freed up!!

If you have any questions or concerns about environmental issues on Loon and Turtle Lakes, give me a call.

Peter Helston

Phone: 705-687-0142

Cell: 416-567-0397

peterhelston@contractmagazineservices.com

Remember:
NO GRASS, NO GEESE!

WATER SAFETY AWARENESS 2022 PROGRAM



Water Safety Signage



OPP invitation To Our AGM For Q&A Session



A Guide For Visitors



Property Owner's Guide



Website Postings

- Age and Horsepower Restrictions
- Link to E-learning Boating Videos
- OPP Video – Think Before You Sink

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

David Caruana

Jon Howey

Grant Neal

Michael Clarke

Joel Kwinter

Mark Selick

John De Santo

Andrea Moser

Ken Urbach

We can be reached at watersafetycommittee@gmail.com



On The Water

BOATING SAFELY

- ✓ You must have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card to operate a motorized boat or personal watercraft and it must be accessible.
- ✓ All required safety equipment must be in your boat or PWC and in good order. (Check the "Boat Notes" APP for detailed requirements).
- ✓ Please watch your speed as excessive wakes are dangerous to smaller craft and swimmers, damage docks and erode the shoreline.
- ✓ Reduce your wake by staying on plane - please, no ploughing through the water at a slow speed causing a big wake.
- ✓ After passing between an island and the shore, please direct your boat to the middle of the lake thereby staying away from the shore and docks.
- ✓ Please remember that canoes/kayaks/paddleboards have the right of way over motorized vessels.
- ✓ Slow down to no wake to pass or give them a wide berth.
- ✓ For safety sake, always have a spotter in the boat or on the PWC when towing skiers or tubes.
- ✓ Remember to turn on your full running light system (red/green/white) from dusk onward.
- ✓ Consider upgrading to a 4-stroke engine which is quieter and is more environment friendly.
- ✓ Refuel your boat carefully to avoid spillage.
- ✓ Be aware that Impaired boating is legally treated the same as impaired driving.

SWIMMING SAFELY

- ✓ Swim close to shore with a buddy.
- ✓ When swimming away from shore or in open water, please make yourself visible to boaters and PWC operators by having a boat escort and wear a bright coloured lifejacket or marker.





GUEST WATER SAFETY CHECKLIST

1. If you are operating a motorized boat or personal water craft (PWC), **you must have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card** and it must be readily available.

2. All required safety equipment must be on the vessel you are operating.

3. There must be one lifejacket onboard for every person on the vessel.

4. To operate a PWC, you must be 16 years of age or older and have an Operator Card.

5. To tow a skier or tuber from a PWC, there must be a spotter and there must be a seat on the PWC for each person being towed.

6. If the PWC is a three-seater, only one person can be towed. If the PWC is a two-seater, towing a skier or tuber is illegal.

7. If you are impaired while operating a vessel, your Motor Vehicle Driver's Licence will be suspended on the spot for a minimum of 3 days.

8. Stay clear of the shore and docks with your vessel to ensure the safety of swimmers and to avoid damaging docks and water fowl nests with your boat wake.

9. Always be aware of your wake. Ensure that it is not impacting others on the lake. IE kayakers, boarders, canoers and swimmers.

10. When swimming away from shore, make yourself visible to boaters and PWC operators. If you choose to swim across the lake or to an island, have a boat accompaniment. An alternative would be to wear a bright coloured lifejacket or marker that would make you clearly visible to boaters and PWC operators.

11. Fines
 - a. Not having a lifejacket, whistle, bailer, etc - \$200
 - b. Not having an Operator Card - \$250
 - c. Operating a vessel while under the influence of alcohol or drugs – automatic 3 day suspension of your Motor Vehicle Driver's Licence
 - i. First offense Minimum \$600 fine
 - ii. Second offense Minimum \$600 fine and at least 14 days in prison
 - iii. Third offense Minimum \$600 fine and at least 90 days in prison

Additional boating offences and fines are list on the back of this page

**THE OPP WANTS TO HEAR FROM THE COMMUNITY ABOUT DANGEROUS BOATING
CALL 1-888-310-1122**

“Courtesy & safety on the water makes for good neighbours”





WATER SAFETY

BOATING OFFENSES AND ASSOCIATED FINES

Here is a list of some boating offenses and their fines as presented in the Contraventions Regulations*. Note that they do not include administrative charges.

Operating a vessel if you are under age	\$250
Failing to have proof of competency on board	\$250
Failing to have the required pleasure craft license on board	\$250
Altering/Defacing/Removing hull serial number	\$350
Operating a boat in a careless manner, without due care and attention for others	\$350
Operating a vessel with safety equipment not in good working order or not readily accessible and available for immediate use	\$200
Operating a human-powered pleasure craft without PFD's or lifejackets of appropriate size for each person on board (\$200). Plus \$100 for each PFD or lifejacket missing	\$200 + \$100
Operating a power-driven vessel without a muffler that is in good working order	\$250
Operating a vessel to tow a person on water or in air without seating space on board for every person being towed	\$250
Operating a vessel to tow a person on water or in air without a person on board other than the operator keeping watch on every person being towed	\$250
Operating a vessel in an unsafe manner	\$500

You should also know that some boating offenses can result in fines to both the operator of the boat as well as to its owner. An example of this would be allowing someone under the age of 16 to operate your PWC.

*Fine amounts are subject to change.

PADDLING SAFELY AROUND MOTORIZED VESSELS/ BOATING SAFELY AROUND PADDLERS

We sometimes hear of incidents between motor boats and non-motorized craft, including canoes, kayaks and paddle boards being capsized by wakes from passing motor boats. Mostly, no-one gets hurt, but close calls can be scary. So, our Water Safety Awareness Committee asked the question, what can we all do to enjoy our lakes more safely. Certainly, everyone on the lake should use their craft safely and lawfully, but here are some more specific ideas:

PADDLERS:

- a. Always wear your life jacket! Having a PFD for everyone on board is the law, but don't just have it, wear it. If an accident happens, it's often too late to put one on. While many PFDs can be uncomfortable to paddle with, there are models made specifically for paddlers that work great.
- b. Stay away from the Boats. Whenever possible, paddle close to shore and minimize time in the middle of the lake. As well, those of us who like to paddle will often avoid the particularly busy times such as Saturday afternoons in the summer.
- c. Know where to sit in your canoe. This can really help avoid capsizing. If you are by yourself, sit on, or kneeling against, the bow seat while facing the stern. If you are with someone else, the heavier person should be in the back. And especially if its windy, kneel instead of sitting.
- d. Be careful when boating after dark. You may be able to see the boats, but they often can't see you. If out in the dark, use lights. It's not only sensible, it's the law.
- e. And speaking of the law... Remember that just having a PFD for everyone on board, is not enough. Canoes, kayaks and paddleboards (yes, paddleboards too!) must be equipped with not just PFDs, but 15 m of buoyant heaving line, a sound-signaling device (e.g. a pealess whistle) and navigation lights for operation after dark. There is an exception for paddleboats and Sit-on-Top Kayaks if everyone on board wears a PFD and you have a sound-signal device (plus a watertight flashlight if out in the dark). Consider attaching a pealess whistle to all your PFDs.

MOTOR BOATS:

1. Watch your Wakes. It's common for paddlers to see a boat zip by only meters away. Everyone in the boat waves happily as they disappear down the lake, leaving the paddlers desperately trying to turn their craft into the waves and avoid being swamped. The boater simply doesn't realize how big an issue their wake can be. If you are passing a canoe, kayak or paddleboard, please slow down to a "no wake" speed whenever possible. We recognize that if towing a skier, slowing down can be an issue, but if you are simply cruising the lake, or towing a tube, slow down to a no wake speed!
2. Keep as much distance as possible from others. Motor boats can get out of the way more quickly than non-motorized craft. The greater the distance, the more time the non-motorized craft has to prepare for the wake.
3. Be careful boating after dark. After dark, always use your navigation lights and be watchful for other vessels (and swimmers!) on the lake.

**Our lakes are an amazing resource for us all
but no one wants to get hurt, or hurt anyone else.
Let's act SAFELY, so we can all enjoy our lakes!**

WATER SAFETY AWARENESS COMMITTEE

Loon & Turtle Lakes

NEW FOR 2022 WATER SAFETY SIGNS

**WELCOME VISITORS!
PLEASE HELP KEEP
OUR LAKES SAFE**



**IMPAIRED
BOATING
IS
IMPAIRED
DRIVING**

**UNSAFE BOATING
CAN BE THE MISTAKE
OF A LIFETIME**

**UNSAFE BOATING CAN BE
THE MISTAKE OF A LIFETIME**

Here are some tips to practice safe boating:

- Carry all safety equipment on board
- The speed limit is 10km/h within 30 metres of the shore
- Reduce your wake by staying on the plane
- Canoes, kayaks, paddleboards & swimmers have the right of way



TOWN OF GRAVENHURST 2022 EVENTS

#	Start Date	End Date	Event Name	Location
1	26-Feb-22	27-Feb-22	North American Cup Pond Hockey	Muskoka Lake
2	17-Feb-22	20-Feb-22	Gravenhurst Winter Carnival	Virtual/Around Town
3	N/A		Family Day Event	YMCA/CC
4	N/A		Muskoka Home Builders Association Home Show	
5	4-May-22	4-May-22	Gravenhurst BIA Fashion Show	Opera House
6	25-May-22	7-Sep-22	Charity Bike Nights	MW Cockburn Square
7	31-May-22	2-Jun-22	OPP Trade Show	Arena Floor
8	TBD		Bass Anglers Pike Tournament	Muskoka Wharf
9	1-Jun-22	26-Oct-22	Gravenhurst Farmers' Market	MW - Field
10	5-Jun-22	5-Jun-22	Gutsy Walk	Sidewalks
11	4-Jun-22	5-Jun-22	Tall Pines Music Festival	Muskoka Wharf
12	8-Jun-22	8-Jun-22	Mayors Tea	Opera House
13	11-Jun-22	12-Jun-22	Gravenhurst Triathlon	Muskoka Wharf
14	18-Jun-22	18-Jun-22	Annual Gravenhurst Car Show	Gull Lake Rotary Park
15	25-Jun-22	26-Jun-22	Tim Horton's TORC Boat Races	Gull Lake Rotary Park
16	1-Jul-22	1-Jul-22	Canada Day Celebrations	Gull Lake Rotary Park
17	1-Jul-22	28-Aug-22	Music on the Barge	Gull Lake Rotary Park
18	7-Jul-22	25-Aug-22	Cinema Under the Stars	Gull Lake Rotary Park
19	9-Jul-22	9-Jul-22	Antique and Classic Boat Show	MW - Entire Site
20	15-Jul-22	17-Jul-22	Timberbeast Productions	MW - Gazebo
21	16-Jul-22	17-Jul-22	Open Water Swim Championships	Gull Lake Rotary Park
22	TBD		Ryde Town Council	Ryde Co-op
23	22-Jul-22	24-Jul-22	In Water Boat and Cottage Show with Ribfest	MW - Entire Site
24	TBD		23rd Annual Summer Bonspiel	Graeme Murray Arena
25	28-Jul-22	30-Jul-22	Timberbeast Productions	MW - Gazebo
26	30-Jul-22	30-Jul-22	Make A Splash	Gull Lake Rotary Park
27	TBD		CSFL Bassmania Tournament	Muskoka Wharf
28	30-Jul-22	30-Jul-22	Civic Holiday Fireworks	Muskoka Wharf
29	6-Aug-22	6-Aug-22	Celebrate Uptown Sidewalk Sale	Downtown
30	6-Aug-22	6-Aug-22	Northern Pass Bike Ride	Lion's Pavilion and Square
31	13-Aug-22	13-Aug-22	Ontario Power Boat racing Assoc. (OPBRA)	Muskoka Wharf
32	20-Aug-22	20-Aug-22	Dockside & Muskoka Music Festival	MW - Field & Gull Lake
33	25-Aug-22	27-Aug-22	Timberbeast Productions	MW - Gazebo
34	TBD		Ryde Heritage Day	Ryde Co-op
35	1-Sep-22	3-Sep-22	Timberbeast Productions	MW - Gazebo
36	10-Sep-22	10-Sep-22	Severn Bridge Fall Fair	Severn Bridge Fairgrounds
37	10-Sep-22	10-Sep-22	Severn River Rowing Club Regatta	Gull Lake Rotary Park
38	29-Oct-22	29-Oct-22	Let the Spirits Rise - Halloween Event	Opera House
39	TBD		65th Annual Santa Claus Parade	Downtown
40	25-Nov-22	25-Nov-22	Annual Tree Lighting & Black Friday Event	Heritage Square
41	TBD		Wharf Event at Christmas	Cockburn Square

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