

Duck Lake Cottagers' Association

Website: sites.google.com/site/ducklakecottagersassoc/

We Need YOUR Help for a New Dock and for Removal of the Old Crib in 2019 !!

We have exciting plans for the public dock area this summer, but can't do it without your support.

- ensure enough docking space in place before removing the old crib, we'll save the old ramp and floater to attach to the new crib, which gives 24 ft.
- build a new 20 ft. x 8 ft. floater with volunteer labour to cut costs. This could be done in a day for about \$1500. We have found good used free dock floats.
- build a small ramp from shore to the new crib.

Paul Cameron is willing to volunteer his Kubota and time to remove the old crib.

WE need donations, and volunteers to assist, and those with a truck or trailer to take wood to the landfill. The rocks will be saved for the 2nd new crib in future.

- The large rock at the land end of the old crib will be moved, and the launch area smoothed. If enough donations come in this year, we can add gravel to upgrade the launch area.

Possible dates to build the new dock are end of June, or 1st or 2nd week of July.

The old crib removal has to be done between July 15 and Sept. 15.

LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP AND ON WHICH DATES!

SEND YOUR DONATIONS to: Duck Lake Cottagers Association, c/o Tom Howell, 610 Lumberton Cr., Mississauga, ON. L4Z 3Z6
DONATIONS can now be done by e-transfer to – ducklakecottagers1@gmail.com. Add this as a payee on your bank account. Please put in the memo line what it is for example: dues, dock donation, etc.



WELCOME SPRING !



New Crib - Spring 2019



Spring ice out damage to the main dock - April 2019 (new crib fine!). Main dock moved back into place for now - thank you team of 4!



Social Corner: Janice Kuntz

NEW SOCIAL EVENT July 1st - Christmas in July/Canada Day - BOAT DECORATING CONTEST. Decorate your own boat to celebrate the holiday(s). Meet at the public dock, Duck Lake at 8 pm, to show off your boat. Prizes for the most creative decorating!
At 9 pm everyone will parade together by boat, as the DUCK LAKE flotilla, to the Port Loring fireworks.
Let's show off our Duck Lake spirit to the community at large!

As we can see, the Old Dock wants to retire. The team is making great progress to construct a new and better solution. This will take some fund raising.

We have come up with a great plan for this. Shopping at the cottage! COTTAGE CRAFTS available at many events this summer to buy for gifts and adding decor to our own cabins.
Cheese boards, coasters, jewelry, hand stenciled items, coloured flames and much more.

Contact Jan to pre order.



Annual Summerfest Picnic:

Saturday July 27, 2 – 7 pm., eat at 5- ish (Rain date July 28, noon -5 ish.)

At Deb Hart and Tom Howell's cottage, Kelsey's Bay by Mud Lake Falls (the one with the trampoline). Bring: lawn chairs, swimwear, something to grill and a dish to share.

Cold drinks will be supplied. BYOB.

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the DLCA will be on Saturday Aug. 3, 2019, 9 -11 a.m. @ Arnstein Community Centre.

Anyone interested is welcome.

Come find out what the Assoc. does, and bring any topics you want discussed.



Reminder - Dues now follow the calendar year !

2019 Duck Lake Cottagers' Association dues were due in January!!!!

To pay: e-transfer funds to ducklakecottagers1@gmail.com or send your cheque for \$100.00 to the treasurer -

Tom Howell

610 Lumberton Cres.

Mississauga, ON L4Z 3Z6

Members will receive their 2019 dock placards once dues are paid.



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Update to Broadband Service - Chris Wheeler

In March 2019, Ottawa announced plans to spend up to \$1.7 billion on rural internet over the next 13 years with \$717 million slated for the first 5 years. Currently, 85% of Canadian households have access to Internet service with download speeds of 50 Mbps and upload speeds of 10 Mbps. Ottawa's plan will see that extended to all households by 2030. In 2017 Ontario had the 2nd lowest average download speed of any Province.

In April 2019, Bell announced it is expanding broadband wireless home internet access in Muskoka and Haliburton. Bell will be expanding into areas like Bala, Baysville, Honey Harbour, Huntsville, Milford Bay, Carnarvon, Dwight, and Minden. Bell is extending their "Wireless Home Internet" service to year-round and seasonal residents alike in Ontario's cottage country, part of their "extensive campaign to bring broadband Internet access to smaller towns and rural communities,"

Xplornet communications is investing heavily in "fixed wireless" service using communication towers and radio waves known as "spectrum" to send broadband signals to customers' homes. It's often used in rural areas that can't be easily connected by wires and where lower population density makes the fiber-to-the-home technology prohibitively expensive.

What does this mean for Port Loring and specifically for Duck Lake residents? Good things are coming but the timing is uncertain. The DLCA is monitoring the situation, assessing the technology that we currently use, and working with local partners to advocate for better service sooner. The DLCA Board recently conducted an internal survey capturing all the different types of wireless connections available on our lake. If any Association members would like to join the survey or learn about the results of the 1st phase, please contact Chris.

Duck Lake Cottagers' Assoc.

2018-2019 Directors:

President: Claire Theijsmeijer

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Vice-President: John Fisk

Jrfisk43@gmail.com

Treasurer/Corresponding Secretary:

Tom Howell

Tomhowell610@gmail.com

Director/Lake Steward:

Allan Crowther

Alcrow3@yahoo.com

Director/Social Committee Chair:

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Director/Webmaster:

Ken Konkel

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Director:

Chris Wheeler

cwheeler003@sympatico.ca

Administrative Assistant:

Deborah Hart

debthefroghearted@gmail.com

"Ranavirus", a New Deadly Threat to Amphibians, Reptiles and Fish - Claire Theijsmeijer

In the last decade, this virus has caused large mortality events in amphibian populations across the globe. In the U.S. it has been proven to be the cause of box turtle deaths, 16 species of frogs, 6 of salamanders, and some snakes and lizards. In Canada, 5 provinces have reported deaths from ranavirus in frogs and salamanders.

In 2017, the first documented Ontario turtle deaths were proven. In 2018, a snapping turtle in Burlington died with ranavirus. The symptoms include skin hemorrhages, especially near the base of the hind limbs and vent opening, ulcers on the skin and mouth, weak/erratic swimming, gasping for air, fluid accumulation under the skin and in the body cavity.

Mortality rate is 90 -100% and there is no known treatment. Ranavirus is transmitted through direct contact, ingestion of infected animals, or exposure to infected soil or water. The virus can jump from reptiles to fish to amphibians.

Prevention focuses on quarantine of the affected animal, and sterilization to prevent spreading the virus. All equipment and water in captive facilities should be disinfected, and anyone working there should disinfect clothes and tools.

What You Can Do - As cottagers who bring boats and fishing equipment from southern areas to the north, we need to be careful to not spread ranavirus. Don't dump bilge water or bait buckets from outside areas. Disinfect your equipment after use. Anyone who handles fish, reptiles or amphibians should disinfect their hands afterward.

*If you see a turtle, fish or amphibian with ranavirus symptoms, put it in a container and contact MNRF North Bay 1-800-667-1940.

Let's try to keep this disease from spreading further!

Climate Change and Developmental Impact on Birds: - from Ontario Nature, Conservation & Education

A 2015 Audubon study found that 314 North American bird species will likely lose over half their range by 2080. Of these species, 188 are climate threatened like the Bobolink, and 126 are climate endangered such as Eastern Whip-poor-will. Housing and agriculture are also major impacts on habitat. You can help protect birds and habitat by reducing your own carbon footprint, avoiding tree cutting and planting native plants and trees.



Whip-Poor-Will

Inspecting inflatable PFDs - from Cottage Life website

Inspect the inflation mechanism, including the pull cord and CO2 cylinder, for wear or corrosion. For auto-inflate PFDs, inspect the bobbin.

Check the indicator status (most inflatables have one); it should be green. If it's red, "the CO2 cylinder has been discharged and the unit will not function properly," says Ian Gilson of the Canadian Safe Boating Council. You'll need to replace it.

Test the PFD's bladder. Inflate it by breathing into the air tube, then let it sit for 24 hours. Inspect. If there are any leaks, "the bladder will have deflated somewhat or completely." Don't try to patch a leak, says Gilson. "It may not hold under pressure."

Check the PFD's expiry date. If it's passed, it means the inflation mechanism needs to be replaced.



Argyle Nursing Station - John Flisk

West Parry Sound Health Centre (WPSHC) has been awarded funding to expand its six regional Nursing Stations into Nurse Practitioner Led Clinics (NPLC).

This provides for extended health services to the communities they serve. Our valued facility on 522 north of town is one of those facilities. This means that on a regular basis additional Nurse Practitioners, Social Workers, Mental Health and Addiction caregivers will travel to Port Loring as needed. All of these services are supported by WPSHC.

What WPSHC does not support is the maintenance and upkeep of our local facility. Contributions made to WPSHC are shared with all of the six rural sites. Right now, the facility in our community is badly in need of a new roof. Each year the Duck Lake Cottage Association collects donations and transfers them to our Nursing Station. We are asking that this year everyone dig a little deeper and make a meaningful contribution for this health care facility in our own community. Help the Argyle community know that those of us on Duck Lake fully support our Nursing Station.

This summer the Nursing Station Hours are:


Monday 10am to 6 pm

Tuesday 8 am to 4 pm

Wednesday 8 am to 8 pm

Thursday 8 am to 4 pm

Closed for lunch and dinner and all Statutory Holidays.



PROUD SUPPORTER 2019

Duck Lake Dock Fund

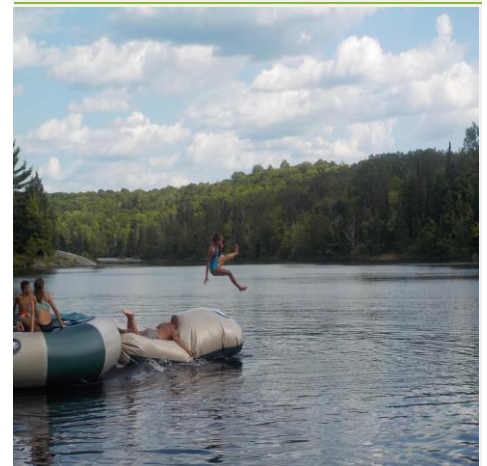
sites.google.com/site/ducklakecottagersassoc

BECOME A SUPPORTER TODAY

In the absence of any government funding, the Duck Lake Cottagers Association (DLCA), <https://sites.google.com/site/ducklakecottagersassoc/> has begun the much needed replacement of the dock on Duck Lake. Improvements will be added as funds become available (Please be patient.). This landing at the end of Duck Lake Road has been maintained by the DLCA for decades. Access was originally provided by George Lee and later guaranteed by the Ministry of Transportation. DLCA needs your support.

Contributions to the Duck Lake Dock Fund can be done through:

- E-transfer to ducklakecottagers1@gmail.com
- Sent to: DLCA Treasurer, Tom Howell, 610 Lumberton Cres., Mississauga, ON L4Z 3Z6. Those contributing \$100 or more will receive a laminated placard like this to place on your dashboard, boat or dock. **Thank you!**



Please note:
If you wish to have pictures posted on the DLCA website contact the webmaster, Ken Konkel at:
iamthinken@gmail.com