

April 2020

6th edition

Duck Lake Cottagers' Association

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

Etransfer email address:
ducklakecottagers1@gmail.com

Spring 2020 Newsletter



Spring is Here At Last! Cottage Season on Hold?

The uncertainty over the duration of the spread of the COVID-19 virus extends to when our cottage season will be starting.

We all need to be patient and continue safe distancing.

Communities in cottage country are requesting that cottage owners not come to their property until travel is deemed safe again. This is to avoid stress on local community residents, Health care services and businesses whose products and services may already be in short supply, as well as to reduce spreading the virus.

We can get through this challenging time if we all work together to stay safe.

Plans for Summer 2020 –

Another New Public Dock, Stage 3

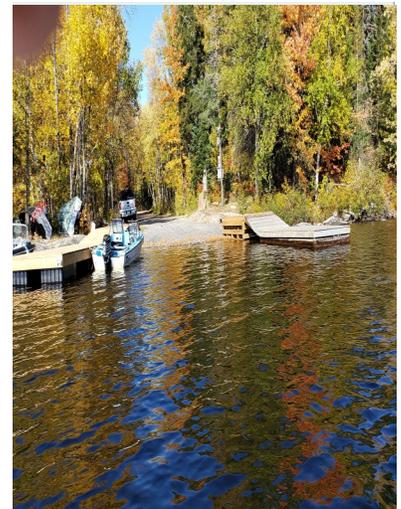
The east 8 x 12 ft. crib was finished in August 2019. This summer the plan is to construct an 8 x 8 ft. ramp and an 8 x 20 ft. Floater dock to attach to the east crib. The lumber and hardware will cost about \$3000 and volunteers will construct it. Let us know if you can help when a date is set.

Terry Rigsby again obtained free used heavy duty floats for the dock. Theijsmeijers will clean and seal them before transporting north.

Presently, there is \$2816.21 in the Dock Fund. This amount includes the \$1000 members decided to put into the dock fund for 2020 at the 2019 AGM. Donations to the project are gratefully accepted by mail or e-transfer.

Also, watch for our great handmade items for sale online and at the lake this summer to raise funds. You can buy by e-transfer and have your purchase delivered to your cottage !

As funds come in, the plan is to construct a 2nd 8 x 20 ft. floater for the east side, at a cost of about \$2000 for lumber and hardware.





HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2020 DUES ?

Reminder—Dues now follow the calendar year! 2020 Duck Lake Cottagers' Association dues of \$100.00 were due in January.

If you have not yet submitted your dues for the 2020 calendar year, please do so now.

To pay:

Etransfer your funds to

ducklakecottagers1@gmail.com

Or send your cheque to the treasurer:

Tom Howell

610 Lumberton Cres.

Mississauga, Ontario

L4Z 3Z6

Members receive their 2020 dock placards once the dues have been received.

Remember—Dues now follow the calendar year - you must be a paid member to vote or run for office at the AGM!

SAVE THESE DATES:

If cancelled due to COVID—19 an email will be sent out.

2020 Boat Decorating contest:

Wednesday July 1. Decorate your boat to celebrate the holiday. Meet at the Duck Lake public dock around 8 p.m. Prizes for the most creative decorating!

2020 Summerfest Picnic:

Saturday July 25, 2- 7 pm., eat at 5 ish (Rain date Sun. July 26th, noon—5 ish).

This year it will be held at Allan & Kathy Crowther's cottage, Duck Lake Road.

Bring: lawn chairs, swimwear, something to grill and a dish to share. Condiments and non- alcoholic cold drinks will be supplied. BYOB

2020 AGM:

The Annual General Meeting of the Duck Lake Cottagers' Association will be held on Saturday Aug. 1st, 2020, 9—11 a.m. at the Arnstein Community Centre.

Anyone interested is welcome.

Come find out what the Assoc. does, and bring any topics you want discussed. This will be an election year for directors, please consider running for office.

New Boating Speed Signs on the Lake

Claire Theijsmeijer: DLCA President

In 2019, several Association members expressed concerns about boaters passing too close to their property at excessive speeds. This was raising safety concerns for children and adults who were swimming or floating.

At their request, the directors agreed to order 2 regulation boat speed signs for these members, paid for by the property owners, and 1 sign for the public dock area as a reminder, paid for by the Association.

The transport Canada Vessel Operation Restriction regulation s2(7) states :

"A vessel may not travel more than 10 km/hr. Within 30 metres of shore".

This is a "universal shoreline speed restriction under the Canada Shipping Act 2001".

The DLCA asks that you respect this regulation when boating this summer and going forward.





A Healthy Lake Starts At Your Shoreline

Allan Crowther: DLCA Lake Steward

The shoreline in front of your cottage is crucial to our lake's health, providing oxygen, food, cover, a barrier to contaminants, as well as a living retaining wall. It may be the most complex piece of the earth that we will ever have the opportunity to live near.

The natural shoreline has four components, beginning under water and extending upland. The higher, drier ground called the upland zone is typically forested with trees that take advantage of better drainage. The riparian zone is closest to the shoreline with a thick layer of low foliage which controls erosion and sifts impurities out of surface runoff. Leaves and branches break the force of falling rain, which is further slowed by the rough surface of leaf litter, pine needles, and broken twigs. These first two zones are estimated to filter out as much as 90 percent of runoff; much of the sediment and other pollutants are filtered out before reaching the water. Land and water meet at the shoreline where plants, shrubs, and trees form a complex web of roots and foliage that knits the waterfront together, holding the bank in place and fending off the impacts of wind, rain, waves, ice, and boat wake. The littoral zone is the area from the water's edge to where sunlight no longer penetrates to the lake bottom. As much as 90 percent of the species in the lake either pass through or live in this zone.

How can we help this natural buffer do its job? Keep it as natural as you can! Leave as much of the natural vegetation on the land and in the water as possible.

In addition:

- be careful with gas and oil around the cottage
- avoid the use of pesticides, fertilizers, and high phosphorus detergents
- maintain your septic system with regular pump-outs
- keep flower and vegetable gardens well away from the lake
- leave trees where they fall into the water unless they are a hazard

Each of us can help our natural shoreline do its job to keep Duck Lake healthy.

Summarized from 'The Shore Primer'

DUCK LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION

2019-2020 DIRECTORS:

President:

Claire Theijsmeijer
reflect@vaxxine.com

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:
Janice Kuntz

jananddale23@gmail.com

Director/ Webmaster:

Ken Konkell
iamthinken@gmail.com

Director:

Chris Wheeler
cwheeler003@sympatico.ca

Administrative Assistant:

Deborah Hart
debthefroghearted@gmail.com

Argyle Fish Enhancement Program

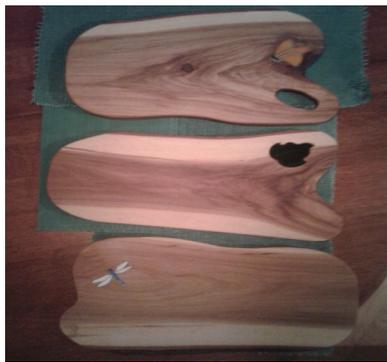
John Fisk: DLCA Vice-President

Normally at this time of the year local volunteers supported together with some Duck Lake Cottagers, would be gearing up for the spring spawn. Shortly after the ice goes out, teams of three or four people would go out at night and net spawning Pickerel for milking and raising their fry in the hatchery. Not so this year. The program has been cancelled, like a number of other activities, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The necessary permitting is in place, but after consultation with the local committee it was decided to put things on ice this year. (Pun intended)

The Argyle Fish Enhancement Program together with catch and release, have been very successful in helping the Pickerel numbers return in the Pickerel River system according to local reports. We have no official surveys, but there have been many anecdotal reports to support this. Duck Lake cottagers have been generous in their support of this program by annual donations and supporting the Poker Run BBQ (also canceled for this year). All of the funds collected for the 2020 season will be held over until next year.

I hope we will get to see all of you later in the season and to have your continued support of this worthwhile activity going forward.

Below is a sneak peek at a few of the fundraising items coming up for sale—look for a future email with more details on items/ pricing/payment, etc.



Charcuterie boards with stained glass inserts



Hand stenciled notecards



2 sided porch decor (Fall/winter)



One of a kind—Hand cut shade / potpourri lamp



Wooden coasters



One of a kind—hand-painted wooden dinosaur puzzle