



MACA NEWS

Serving property owners on Long, Negaunee, Wenona and Miskwabi Lakes

YOUR MACA EXECUTIVE

President: Andy Mosher
Vice President: Mike Giza
Treasurer: Virginia Vranckx
Secretary: Susan Rohricht
Past President: Larry Holden

Directors:
 John Beadle
 Peter Dilworth (*Lake Planning*)
 Dave Ewart
 John Ewing (*Roads*)
 Tim Hagarty (*Lake Stewardship*)
 Haden Heathcock
 Susanne James (*Newsletter*)
 Phyllis McCulloch (*Membership*)
 Tim Payment (*North Shore Roads*)
 Moe Welch (*Events*)

www.mymaca.net



Breaking the ice, Miskwabi Lake, April 2016

President's Message

Greetings to all of our Members, and welcome to Spring!

It has been a busy spring for MACA, and promises to be a busy summer. MACA's four lakes are now on the schedule for the "Love Your Lake" Shoreline Evaluation Project starting in early July.

This project is being spearheaded by the Coalition of Haliburton Property Associations, and aims to encourage waterfront property owners about the importance of natural shorelines to a healthy lake.

Natural shorelines are crucial for protecting our water quality, and consequently, our lakefront property values. This project is a rare opportunity to assess the health of our lakes, and hopefully prevent some of the disastrous mistakes that have been made in other parts of Ontario's cottage country.

In order to make this project happen, **we need volunteers**. Specifically, we need to provide accommodations for the two university student specialists who will be conducting the shoreline evaluations. We also need people with boats to drive the specialists around the lakes. For more information, please see page 2, and if you can help, please reach out to our Lake Steward, Tim Hagarty at **705-457-4595**.

Andy Mosher, MACA President



2016 MACA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Spring Cleanup: Sunday, May 22nd

AGM: Saturday, July 9th

Golf Tournament: Saturday, July 16th

Wine and Cheese: Saturday, August 27th

Details inside this edition of the Newsletter

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SHORELINE PROJECT!

CHA's "LOVE YOUR LAKE" PROGRAM COMES
TO OUR LAKES BEGINNING IN JULY



As we reported in the Winter newsletter, this summer is going to be an important one for our four MACA area Lakes. The Miskwabi Area has been chosen to participate in the Shoreline Assessment program, co-ordinated by the Coalition of Haliburton Property Associations (CHA) of which MACA is a member.

This program (also known as "Love Your Lake") was developed by Watersheds Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF) to be delivered by local organizations (such as MACA and CHA). Lakes have already taken part in the program in Muskoka, the Kawarthas and the Rideau Lakes area, and in Haliburton where over 5500 properties have already been evaluated.

The purpose is to reinforce the importance of keeping shorelines as natural as possible. Natural vegetation along shorelines helps to prevent harmful runoff from septic systems and other sources from reaching the lake, and helps to prevent the scourge of toxic blue-green algae that has seriously damaged lakes in other parts of cottage country including Muskoka. **Failure to protect shorelines can result in lakes that are unsafe to swim in, and declining property values, so it's important that we be proactive!**

So, what does the program entail?

- All waterfront property owners will receive a letter explaining that shoreline evaluations are taking place. **The evaluations are strictly confidential.** Only the property owner receives the evaluation of their individual shoreline. Individual owners may opt out if they do not

wish to receive a report, however the program has been extremely well-received on other lakes in Ontario with very high participation rates. **There is no cost to the individual property owner to take part.**

- **Starting July 4th**, two specially trained university students will be out on the water, conducting a visual evaluation of the shoreline of every property. **All evaluations will be done by boat; no one will set foot on shore.** It will take approximately three weeks to evaluate our four lakes.
- The student specialists will then prepare a report on the overall shoreline health of the lake, as well as a letter mailed to each property owner, with suggestions on how best to improve and maintain the health of their individual shoreline. Again, **these evaluations and suggestions are confidential** and the individual results will not be shared with anyone including MACA. The aim of the program is purely educational.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The program is approximately 90% funded by grants, including a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. However in order to make it possible, **we need volunteers!**

- **We need volunteer boat drivers with motorboats on each lake** to take the student evaluators along the shoreline. **We need as many boats as possible with licensed drivers on Long, Miskwabi, and Wenona.** Pontoon boats are preferred but bow-riders can also work. The evaluations on Negaunee will be done motor-free.
- **We need to provide accommodations** for the two student evaluators while they are working on our lakes. **If you can spare a bedroom (or two) for any portion of the program between June 30th and July 21st, please let us know.** The students will provide their own transportation. They will need access to broadband high-speed Internet in order to do their data entry.

If you can help by providing accommodation – or by volunteering to drive a boat – please contact our Lake Steward, Tim Hagarty, at: jthagarty@bell.net or by phone at 705-457-4595, by June 1st.

This program is a one-time opportunity to help protect our lakes for the future. Your participation is key!

For more information about the Love Your Lake/Shoreline Improvement Project, visit www.loveyourlake.ca, and the CHA's Web site at www.cohpoa.org.

Severance Application Update - Wenona Lake



Photo: Wenona Lake South end, Courtesy Susanne James

As we reported in the Winter MACA Newsletter, Haliburton County's Land Division Committee is considering an application to create three new lots at the southern end of Wenona Lake. The proposed lots would be accessed by a new road off Trapper's Trail.

MACA is concerned about the creation of new lots on any of our lakes, particularly because of added recreational/boating pressure on the lakes. As well we are concerned about the effect the specific proposed development may have on the wetlands, beaver dam and loon nesting area at the south end of the lake.

The applicant was required to submit a Site Evaluation Report and Environmental Impact Study, which has now undergone peer review by the County's consultants. These materials are now available for any member of the public to see by appointment at the County Offices in Minden.

There will be an opportunity for public input at a hearing of the County Land Division committee in July. Once the hearing is scheduled the date will be posted on the County's Web site at: www.haliburtoncounty.ca. MACA's President, Lake Steward and Lake Planning Director have reviewed the materials at the County Office, and plan to make a presentation at the hearing in July.

Any concerned members who wish to make an appointment to review the Site Evaluation and Environmental Impact Study should contact Lisa Gillan or Charlseey White at the County Planning Department at 705-286-1333 or email lgillan@county.haliburton.on.ca and cwhite@county.haliburton.on.ca.

Watershed Plan Update

By Peter Dilworth, Lake Planning Director

The Lake Planning Committee held its first meeting of the year on April 24th, at the Haliburton Public Library.

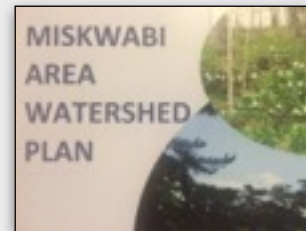
It was noted that the majority of recommendations identified as part of the Watershed Plan have been or are currently in the process of being implemented.

The committee agreed that its priority for this year is to support the Shoreline Improvement program (for details see Page 2 of this newsletter).

In addition, our group is plugged into the Municipality of Dysart et al's process to Review and Update its Official Plan.

In the fall we met with Patricia Martin, Director of Planning and Development at the Municipality, to provide her with a number of recommendations from our Watershed Plan relating to strengthening controls to limit contaminants from entering our lakes, controlling development and protecting our streams, rivers and wetlands.

The Municipality has agreed to meet with us again in June to explain how they will address our recommendations and concerns.



There is a still limited number of copies of the Watershed Plan book available for purchase. The cost is \$20, which covers printing. To order, please e-mail Virginia Vranckx at: virginia.vranckx@gmail.com

2016 MACA Events Schedule

SPRING ROAD CLEANUP

Sunday, May 22nd, 11am

Meet at Miskwabi Boat Launch

Please remember to bring gloves and sunscreen. Garbage and recycle bags will be provided, and there will be a BBQ for volunteers to follow. Thanks to our members who pitch in every year to help keep our roadsides clean!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, July 9th, 11am

Meet at the "Airport Strip" (across from the Miskwabi Boat Launch)

Guest speakers, directors' elections, and raffles. Please remember to bring chairs and sun umbrellas. BBQ to follow.

GOLF DAY

Saturday, July 16th, 8:30am with BBQ to follow.

*** Please register with Moe Welch **by June 23rd at the latest** at 705-455-9371 or by e-mail at: loismoe@bell.net

WINE AND CHEESE

Saturday August 27th, 2-5pm

This year's hosts are Susan and Keith Hay, 1128 Argillite Rd. on Wenona Lake (stay left at the first fork at Wenona Lake Road). Please bring a dry goods donation for the Haliburton Food Bank.

SAFETY FIRST PLEASE!

ON THE ROADS: MACA has received complaints about vehicle traffic speeding on our roads, particularly along Trappers Trail near the Causeway. Please observe posted speed limits and SLOW DOWN in areas where pedestrians are walking, and watch out for wildlife.

ON THE WATER: Transport Canada regulations require all operators of any recreational boat with a motor to have a Pleasure Craft Operators Card. Any motorboat 10 hp and over also needs to have a Pleasure Craft license. It's a good idea to take a boating safety course if you're new to the water. Remember to carry an emergency safety kit in your boat, and make sure all occupants wear life jackets. Please also be aware of paddlers, swimmers and wildlife in the water, and reduce your speed in narrow areas on the lakes.

The Holdens Say Goodbye



From Nancy and Larry Holden, Miskwabi Lake:

When we first bought our lot up here on Miskwabi, 46 years ago, there was no road into our place. We were brought in by boat from the now, Strickland Boat Launch. There have been a lot of changes here since then. BUT, the quality and clarity of the lakes has remained the same excellent! So have the people.

We have decided it's time to move on and thus have sold our cottage/home and purchased a house in Bobcaygeon.

Having served as a Director of MACA in the 80's and 2000's and having been your President for 5 years, we have made many friendships over that time. Our kids and grand kids have some wonderful memories of growing up in MACA territory! We take those memories and those friendships with us knowing that we will only be an hour away. Our friendships will continue and our memories are locked up in our minds and in our albums! But it's time for new adventures.

Thanks to everyone for making our stay here so memorable!

See ya soon!

Nancy & Larry the Always Miskwabians!

Have you renewed your MACA Membership?

If you have already renewed your membership for 2016, thank you! If your membership renewal was not received by the time of printing of this newsletter, we have included a reminder form. Please mail it to MACA, 2153 Trappers Trail Rd. Haliburton ON, K0M 1S0. The Membership form is also available on our website at www.MYMACA.net, or you can contact our Membership Director, Phyllis McCulloch at: phyllis.mcculloch058@sympatico.ca

NATURE NOTES:

TINY TERRORS: THE SPINY WATER FLEA IS A MOST UNWELCOME INVADER



The Spiny Water Flea can devastate marine ecosystems and is reportedly present in some Haliburton lakes.

They feed on zooplankton and reduce food supplies for small fish.

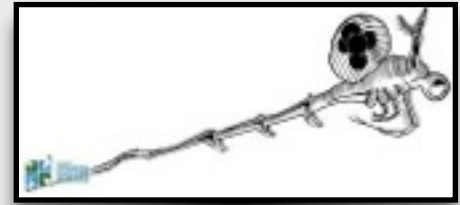
Inspect your boat, motor, trailer and fishing equipment to be sure

you don't accidentally transfer Spiny Water Fleas from one lake to another.

They will appear as gelatinous globs on fishing line and equipment. The best way to prevent spreading this dreaded invasive species is to dry equipment in the sun for 5 days.

Please consult www.invadingspecies.com for more information.

Submitted by Susan Hay



Facts about the Spiny Water Flea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*):

- Total length reaches one to 1.5 centimetres, with the tail spine making up about 60 per cent of the body length.
- Tail is straight or slightly angled with one to three barbs and a pointed end.
- May have orange, blue and green colouring. Red stripe runs half the length of the tail.
- Balloon-like egg pouch.

If you've seen an invasive water flea or other invasive species in the wild, please contact the toll-free Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711, or you can report a sighting online at www.invadingspecies.com.

FOR THE BIRDS!

For the love of our feathered friends:

If you find an injured bird, place it in a shoebox or similar safe, dark, small container and let it rest for a while where it will be safe from predators.

Do not attempt to give it water or food, and don't handle unnecessarily. Check on it from time to time and release into the wild when it appears to have recovered.

Place decals or other shiny objects on your windows to warn birds away. If you feed birds, place feeders well away from windows or within 2 feet of the window to reduce collisions.

Be aware that bird feeders can attract bears during the warmer seasons.

Submitted by Susan Hay



Common Redpoll - Photo Courtesy Bill Bunn

Hazardous Waste Disposal Day

Mark your calendars: Dysart et al's Haliburton Landfill Site has a new date for Hazardous Waste disposal this summer: **Saturday July 16th, between 9am and 3pm.**

Acceptable household Hazardous Waste materials include:

- Latex and oil paints
- Finishing products (e.g. varnish, glue)
- Used motor oil, auto and household batteries
- Cleaners (e.g. bleach, oven cleaners)
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Aerosol cans, solvents (e.g. varsol, paint thinner)
- Pool and photographic chemicals

For more information, visit www.dysartetel.ca

Also a reminder that **Cottage Kits** are available for purchase at each Landfill Kiosk and at the Municipal Office. They are a great way to ensure that guests or cottage renters manage their garbage and recycling properly. The **Cottage Kit** contains a one-time use Landfill Pass, recycling bags, a garbage bag, landfill location and hours, and more.

MACA FLASHBACK! 30 YEARS AGO



Here’s what was making news in the MACA Newsletter for May, 1986:

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“Groan-n-n – the Blue Jays are in last place; it snowed on the way up to the cottage on May 3... however, don’t despair, it’s cottage time again.”

“MNR are proposing a fishing license commencing 1987. They are proposing that residents aged 18 to 64 pay \$10.00 per year and those 65 and over pay \$5.00 a year. The proposals appear to be receiving favourable response on the basis the revenues are used to improve the fishery. We agree.”

“The Report on the Commission on the Financing of Elementary and Secondary Education in Ontario recommended the following of which is of particular interest to Cottagers and Property Owners: that the Government of Ontario review the appropriateness of redefining cottage and recreational properties as a separate category for property assessment and taxation, and that consideration be given to assigning differential (and hopefully lower) mill rates on this category...”

“HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE - at the March 14/86 meeting... the Commission adopted its new name which more accurately reflects its role... Inclusion of the Reservoir Lakes Area into the scope of CORTS (Canada, Ontario, Rideau, Trent Severn) policies and initiatives, particularly in the Water Management area is being pursued... The Committee is giving consideration as to how it may take advantage of the recently extended Canada/Ontario Flood Damage Reduction Program and plans to meet with a representative of that group in the next few months... The Committee meets quarterly and while there are no quick-fix solutions to the problems, issues and concerns of the Reservoir Lakes area and Waterway System, it is determined to press on to a solution. ”



Cottage Cook’s Corner

Favourite Recipes Shared by MACA Members

Wild Leek Pesto

by Susanne James

In Haliburton, we’re lucky to have native wild leeks (also known as ramps) growing in our forests. You’ll find these perennial plants in rocky soils of hardwood forests and ravines when the ground has thawed in late April to mid May. They have straight green leaves, resemble a green onion, and smell like a combination of garlic and onion when picked. Please don’t over-harvest them; only take a few per cent of a wild leek patch. This will help to ensure sustainable regrowth.

After pulling from the ground, clean thoroughly to remove dirt, and trim off the root ends. You can use the white bulb and the green leaves for cooking recipes.

Here’s an easy way to enjoy this delicious local ingredient this spring:

Wild Leek Pesto:

- 1 cup wild leeks, rinsed and chopped
- 1/4 cup pine nuts
- 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 4 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp fresh lemon juice
- salt and pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients in a blender until you have a fairly smooth pesto sauce. For an easy and delicious dinner, toss the wild leek pesto with cooked pasta, asparagus, sun-dried tomatoes and more parmesan. Enjoy it vegetarian, or add grilled chicken or shrimp, if you prefer.