



FARLAIN LAKE Community Association

Ripples

Farlain Lake Association Newsletter



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Issue: Fall 2015

October

Welcome to the Fall 2015 Issue of *Ripples*! Read the President's Message for a full report on what the FLCA has been doing this year for our community. Follow the links to the web site as we continue to add more information as a resource.

Our membership year is August 1-July 31 annually. We are still missing a number of renewals - have you renewed for 2015-16 yet?

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Quick Links

[Farlain Lake Web Site](#)

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FLCA Board 2015-2016

Herb Huck - President
Doug Kirk - Past President
Ross Graham - Treasurer
Don Ferguson - Director
Bill Sweenie - Director
Pat Kelso - Director
Jim Mossman - Director
Margaret Brohm - Director
Ed Borkowski - Director

Downloads

[EWM AGM Presentation](#)

[2015-16 Membership Form](#)

[FoTTSA Retail Discount
List 2015-16](#)

What's New on the Web site?

[Boat Parade Photo Gallery](#)

[Update on the Battle Against
EWM](#)

[Weed Warrior Training
Manual](#)

[Invasive Plant Reference
Guide](#)

As Fall arrives...



Summer has passed, and we now get to enjoy all the beauty that the fall brings. The cooler evenings are perfect for sitting next to a fire and gazing at the stars. The magnificent display of colour put on by the forest amazes us all year after year. And yes, it is time to pull in the docks and put away all the water toys for another year.

For the FLCA it is a time of reflection on what we have accomplished and what lies ahead. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in August, I reviewed some of those accomplishments that I would like to share with you again.

Let's begin with our increased focus on building strong relationships with the council for Tiny. Here are some of the things we did in that regard...

* We developed a questionnaire highlighting key concerns and issues impacting our community and sent it to township political candidates inviting them to respond. We posted those responses to help you make an informed decision during the last election about who would be best to represent us on council. I think we made excellent choices.

* After the election, members of your Board met with the Mayor Cornell and Township CAO/Clerk Doug Luker to inform them of key issues that impact our community and to solicit their views on top priorities for the upcoming year. We have established a strong working relationship with the full council which will help us represent our community.

* Board members made a presentation to the new council on the [Lake to Sky Community Management Plan](#) in June. The top 10 recommendations pertaining to the township in that plan were identified.

* We also met with township staff and the Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) to go over our top 10 list presented to council and determine priorities and next steps.

* Members of the Board represented Farlain Lake community interests at the Township's first two Town hall meetings and the first public meeting on the Official Plan review.

* Council responded by getting more active in our community. The mayor joined us for the unveiling of the new information Kiosk at the boat launch and helped judge the boat parade. Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma attended our AGM and provided comments on questions



raised by attendees. Gibb Wisharts, Cindy Hastings, and Richard Hinton helped during our Eurasian Watermilfoil hand harvest. They have all spoken highly of our community and our approach to partnering with the municipality to make our community a great place to live or visit for years to come.

The FLCA also accomplished many of our other goals this past year including....

* The group officially met 5 times to go over Board issues and plans over the last year. When you add in the annual meeting that translates to meeting every other month. The Board functions year round.

* Doug Kirk volunteered to join the [FoTTSA](#) Board so that Farlain Lake would have better representation on that important organization.

* Led by Pat Kelso, the association broke the 100 member target set for the year, we hit 101 with a 97% retention rate. We ask that you all renew your membership for the next year and get anyone you know who has not joined to do the same.

* Bill Sweenie took water samples from 5 locations around the lake and had it tested. The water quality results remain good and have in fact improved somewhat over the last years.

* We also contracted to have 5 nuisance beavers removed from the lake. These animals destroyed numerous shoreline trees and pose health issues as they can carry Giardia, a parasite that infects the intestines of humans and animals.

* The association with the volunteer leadership of Tammy Turpin, Chris Andrews, and David Hern organized another very successful and enjoyable boat parade.

* Your Board actively sought out new sources of funds to support key initiatives and ended up obtaining a Trillium grant worth \$6,500 and a \$5,000 private donation to deal with our invasive species issue. This is in addition to the generous ongoing support from the township who committed \$5,500 to us over a 3 year period. That is \$17,000 raised by your association on your behalf which doesn't include the donations in

kind received over the last couple of years.

* We have made significant improvements to our [website](#), issued several newsletters and community alerts to help you keep informed about your community. We even helped some members retrieve lost docks, jet skis and paddle boats.

* Finally, the Board through the leadership of Pete Andrews, acted upon a three year plan to control the aquatic invasive species called [Eurasian Water Milfoil](#). Two hand harvests have been conducted, a sign has been constructed and installed at the boat launch to try to control the further spread of invasive species, and numerous pieces of information have been created and shared with the community, council, and the SSEA.

As a result of all these efforts, your Association has never been in a better financial position, been better connected to key leaders in our community, or been in a better position to represent you, our members. And the total cost to you for all these services is \$40 a year per household. Can you think of anything else you bought for \$40 that provided as much value?

To continue with a successful association requires community members to take turns with assuming the responsibilities to deal with the key issues that will impact our community. This year we were fortunate to have three community members step up and join the Board. I would like to thank Margaret Brohm, Ed Borkowski, and Jimmy Mossman for accepting this challenge.

I ask all of you to consider taking your turn by joining the Board, volunteering to help a committee, or recruit someone in the community who you think would be an ideal candidate for such roles in the future. New people, new energy, and new thoughts will keep your association effective and allow it to continue to serve you.

Have a great fall!

Sincerely,

Herb Huck
President

THANK YOU PETE!

As Pete Andrews retires from the FLCA Board...



The Farlain Lake Community Association expressed its sincere thanks to Pete Andrews and his wife Darrell for their outstanding contributions to the Farlain Lake community! Pete was instrumental in reviving the Association back in 2008 and in addition to his leadership and hard work on the FLCA Board since then, he is the author of the Lake to Sky Management Plan for the Lake and is the "Major General"

for the Eurasian Watermilfoil Eradication Project". His environmental knowledge and experience, and his passion for the Lake and our community are invaluable!

A presentation was made to Pete and Darrell at the recent 2015 Annual General Meeting to express our thanks. Fortunately for us, although he has stepped off the Board, Pete will continue to be the key contact for the war against invasive plants such as the EWM.

A GREAT DAY FOR A PARADE!

Members of the FLCA community once again enjoyed the annual Boat Parade on Saturday August 2 thanks to the creative talents of members of the community!

Congratulations go to the following prize winners:



First Prize - Family Fun



Second Prize - Christmas in August



Third Prize - Dragon Boat

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO THE PRIZE SPONSORS!

MINTY'S MARINE SERVICE

Cozy inflatable chair & \$100 gift certificate for boat repairs

CANADIAN TIRE

34 piece mini tool set and work belt

BOSTON PIZZA

2 gift certificates

FOODLAND

PENETANGUISHENE

Gift basket

BROOKLEA GOLF CLUB

Two 18-hole passes

TIM KONNRY

1 Roots life jacket

BARBER AND HASKILL

pure latex bliss pillow (value \$140)

BALM BEACH GO KART

60 cart vouchers

MIDLAND HOME HARDWARE

Cooler gift bag filled with goodies

KELSEY'S

20 coupons for \$10 discount

MIDLAND HOME DEPOT

2 fold-up portable chairs

Please see the web site for the complete [photo gallery](#) of the parade!

YARD WASTE AND LEAF DISPOSAL

Bi-weekly leaf collection October 5 to December 11...



Leaves and yard waste can be taken to the Transfer Station or may be left at the curb in compostable bags, boxes or open ended rigid containers. More information about this and your pick-up dates please go to the

[Simcoe County web site](#) or contact info@simcoe.ca.

Coming soon! Possible By-law changes!

For your information the Township of Tiny is currently considering banning the burning of leaves for next year beginning January 1, 2016 for environmental and safety reasons.



READY FOR WINTER?



Time is flying by, summer is a memory and winter is not far away.

The following is a reprint of a good checklist of "things to do" before those of you who are seasonal say good-bye until the spring!

From [Thirteen Ways to Prepare Your Cottage for Winter](#) by Martha Uniacke Breen, Style at Home Magazine

The fall colours are falling and the days are getting crisper. Now that cottage season is over, it's time to shut it down for another year. Preparing your cottage for its long winter's nap need not be a major chore, but there are some crucial steps you should take to avoid any surprises while you're away. Here are 13 simple steps to put your cottage to bed for winter.

1 Shut off the water supply, drain the pipes and hot water tank, and leave taps open to allow them to "breathe". Toilets should be turned off and flushed, then any remaining water bailed out. Alternatively, pour antifreeze into the bowl to protect the lines; be sure to use RV (pink) antifreeze or another environmentally friendly type.

2 Unplug all electrical appliances and electronic devices. Many

modern electric and electronic devices continue to draw a small amount of power even when turned off; over a winter, it can add up to an expense you don't need. Take out any solar lights and remove batteries to maintain for next year and to decrease fall light pollution.

3 Turn off baseboard electric heaters or turn off breakers. They are a leading cause of cottage fires. Or if the cottage has central heating, turn it down or off.

4 Clean out the fireplace and close the damper flue.

5 Thoroughly clean the kitchen and remove any food. During the winter, rodents and even bears can sniff it out, causing a lot of damage.

6 If you can, remove valuables, such as TVs and stereos, and take them down to the city. If any valuable items will be left at the cottage, make sure windows are covered so that thieves can't see in and be tempted.

7 Any items that are normally left outside, such as a gas barbecue, should be removed and stored offsite or in a secure location onsite, such as a locked garage or basement.

8 Take photos of the cottage, inside and out, as well as any valuables you're leaving there over the winter. Record serial numbers of devices that have them. These will prove invaluable if you need to call the insurance company.

9 Make sure that any minor repairs, such as painting bare areas, stopping up holes and resealing cracks around openings, are done before the first freeze. These jobs can get a lot worse if left to winter's ravages.

10 Install a cover over the chimney opening to prevent raccoons or other furry tenants from moving in. Inspect the exterior of the cottage, looking for other small openings that could be co-opted for an animal home - including under the deck, at the foundation, or under eaves.

11 Arrange to have a local snow removal company come at least once over the winter to remove snow and ice build-up from the roof. Even a relatively small load, such as a foot or so, can become dangerously heavy if there's a



period of rain followed by a freeze-up. Put boxes over vents or skylights to protect them from snow loads or accidental damage by an over eager guy with a shovel.

12 Consider hiring the same company to maintain the road and walkways around the cottage over winter, so there is access in case

of an emergency such as a fire. Keeping the paths and driveway shoveled also makes the cottage look more lived-in, which is a security advantage.

13 Hire someone or ask a friend who lives up there year-round to check on the cottage periodically to make sure all is well, if you can't get up there yourself. If something unfortunate has happened, from a break-in, to a fire, to a roof cave-in, the sooner you are made aware and can deal with it, the better.

GASOLINE ETHANOL SEPARATION

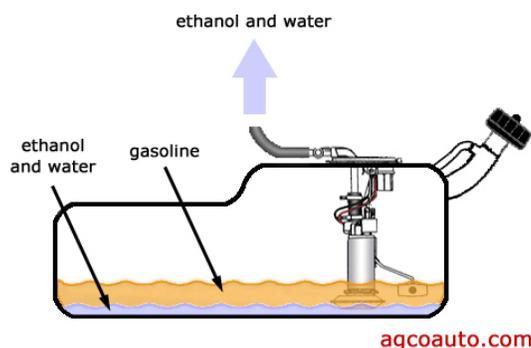
My experience with gasoline containing ethanol...

by **Bob Chisholm, Farlain Lake**

In June 2015, my 4 horsepower 2-cycle outboard motor started on the second pull and I continued on to visit friends at the other end of the lake. It was the first time out for the boat this year. To return home, the motor wouldn't run. After several pulls, it would start but conked out within a few seconds. After several tries, it got going and brought me home, but something was wrong.

I took the motor and gas can to my Suzuki dealer. The regular gas in the plastic container was purchased about a month before and was mixed with oil as required. Initially the mechanic couldn't find anything wrong. After a day or two they found that the motor would run on one of their tanks using their gas. To test my gas, they filled a glass jar from my tank and found that the ethanol had separated from the gas and it sank to the bottom of the jar. It was easy to distinguish the ethanol from the gasoline.

Phase-separation of ethanol fuel



agcoauto.com

This ethanol separation impaired the gasoline and clogged up the carburetor, as I understand it, and the motor wouldn't run properly. At the dealership they called the problem "ethanol separation". Apparently this has become a big problem with small motors using regular gasoline. If regular gas sits in a container for weeks without being used, moisture (water) from the air may get into the gas and act

as a catalyst to separate the ethanol. It takes only a spoonful or less of water to cause the ethanol to separate. One Internet source states that the water and the ethanol actually combine and separate from the gas.

At the marina, they cleaned the carburetor and disposed of all the gasoline in my tank and rinsed it out. They recommended using high octane/premium gasoline which they said has no ethanol in it. Also, that premium gas should be used in all small motors including outboards, lawn mowers, 4-wheelers, chain saws, powered whipper-snappers, etc, etc. for the reason that the regular gas which they use often sits around in containers for weeks and water can accumulate through condensation and break down the gas mix.



The next step was to find gas without ethanol in it. I could not establish if the brand which I usually buy sells any gas without ethanol in it. The notice on their pumps stating "may contain up to 10% ethanol" appears to apply to all grades of their gas.

However, I did find one source. Shell "V-Power" which is 91 octane does not contain ethanol. Their newer pumps have a sticker on them which states this clearly. Now I use their V-Power for the outboard motor.

I had the same problem two years ago with my four cycle Honda lawnmower. The local Honda dealer told me the problem was with the gas and the carburetor had to be cleaned. As I think back, that could have been because of ethanol separation. Now my lawnmower gets ethanol free gas as well.

It appears that cars using regular gas do not experience this problem. Perhaps it is because they are constantly using fresh gas. Maybe it is because they have fuel injection instead of carburetors. Maybe both. I don't know.

As an experiment, I filled a 500 ml jam bottle with regular gas and put in a tablespoon of water. Within an hour the ethanol had separated and it sunk to the bottom, clearly visible.

I was not aware of this ethanol separation problem until recently. There is lots of information on the Internet about ethanol separation.

I am not connected with Shell in any way, other than buying gas for my outboard motor and lawnmower. There may be other oil companies which sell ethanol free gasoline. Shell happens to be the only one I know of.

by Pat Kelso

For those of you who are still regularly up at the lake, you will notice some construction happening on Andrew Drive at the bottom of the hill. The Township is putting in removable speed bumps to help with the speeding concern through



that area. The area of concern is at the foot of the hill of Military Road, down by the postal boxes, just before the Municipal parkette.

It is hoped that this will decrease the speed and/or traffic use of those who use our road as a short cut travelling along Military and then up the 17th Concession Road. The speed bumps will be removable for the winter months.

Thank you for driving carefully in the area!

MEMBERSHIP ALERT!!!

This will be the last communication you receive from the FLCA if you have not yet renewed your membership for the 2015-2016 Membership year! You saw all the work that is being done on behalf of the community in the Message from the President above.

Don't let that happen - please send in your completed [form](#) with the \$40 fee as soon as possible.

Don't remember whether you have renewed? Simply email the FLCA at inquiries@farlainlake.ca.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Do you have ideas for the newsletter or web site? Please contact me at elizabeth@cscm.org.

**Elizabeth Di Chiara
Farlain Lake Community Association**