



FARLAIN LAKE

Community Association

Ripples

Farlain Lake Community Association Newsletter



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Summer 2015

July 2015

Welcome to the Summer Issue of *Ripples*! Read on for an update on the community from the President and information for members.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Herb Huck - President

Doug Kirk - Past
President

Pete Andrews - Vice
President

Don Ferguson -
Secretary

Ross Graham -
Treasurer

Bill Sweeney - Director

Pat Kelso - Director

EWM Harvest

13 yr old Carter

Buchanan collecting

EWM



EWM Harvest

Diver surfacing

covered in EWM.



Summer has arrived and I hope you all enjoy another great season of fun, activity, and friendship at our wonderful lake. As I write this piece, I am on vacation enjoying all the wonderful activities available in our community. I have gone strawberry picking, enjoyed a drive-in movie, tried some new restaurants, and oh yes, have

spent a lot of time relaxing in the sun and enjoying the lake. So much to do and so little time! Isn't life at the lake grand?

Your association has been busy the last few months as we work on the Eurasian Water Milfoil project for the second year, develop our contacts with the new council and inform them of our priorities, plan for the boat parade and the Annual General Meeting (AGM). In addition, we continue to pursue new membership, work with community representatives on road safety concerns, and stay abreast of new developments in our community. I would like to thank all those on the Board and those helping the association through volunteer roles for allowing us to continue to do this important work to make our community the best it can be.

This year's Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) hand harvesting project was the second year of a three year strategy to contain the infestation and help prevent it from spreading elsewhere in the lake. On July 18 -19th, 35 volunteers and three commercial divers worked as a team to remove more invasive aquatic plants from the lake.

An anomaly has occurred regarding the EWM in Farlain Lake. Something has triggered its growth. The EWM plants removed last year were 2 - 3 feet in length. This year the plants were 6 - 10 feet in length. While the EWM vegetation in Farlain Lake is healthy and abundant, the Eurasian watermilfoil populations in Lake Scugog and the Kawartha Lakes region have collapsed; the EWM plants are not growing in the lakes mentioned.

We will be investigating the EWM growth in Farlain Lake in order to better understand the challenges we face in our efforts to manage the invasive plant. Further information will be provided in the fall issue of the Ripples newsletter.

At this year's AGM, one of the founding members of the association and a true leader in our community will be stepping down from the Board after 10 years of involvement (3 years recreating the association and 7 years as a Board member). Pete Andrews will continue to volunteer his valuable time and expertise to the community, but will no longer be an active Board member. Several others on the Board have reached their maximum terms and are on extended terms. To keep the association going we need new Board members. I can't tell you how much I have enjoyed my participation on the Board. I have met great people from the community and made many new friends, learned so much about our



EWM Harvest
*Gerry Pipe collecting
EWM from diver.*



Reminders and Coming Events

2015 Annual Boat Parade

Saturday August 1
2:00 p.m.

**Boat Launch on
Andrew Drive at
Bottom of 17th
Concession**

2015 FLCA Annual General Meeting

Sunday August 2
9:00 a.m.

**Knights of Columbus
Hall
Penetang**

FLCA Membership
Renewal Due Now

400th
Anniversary Champlain
Landing
Festivities
Penetang
July 31-August 2

lake, learned how to be a responsible cottager, and have been made aware of important issues that impact our community. It has allowed me to be fully engaged in this community. What you get out of Board membership far outweighs what you will be asked to contribute. So, please consider stepping up and joining our exceptional community leadership team. If you don't feel a Board appointment is appropriate for you, register as a volunteer to help us carry out our good work. Together we can preserve and improve on the community values that we all hold in high esteem.

Before I sign off, I would ask everyone to remember the cottage golden rules so everyone can enjoy their precious time at the lake.

1. **Water Safety.** Life jackets save lives, so please wear them when boating. Power boats need to give right of way to non-powered vessels and reduce speeds near docks and shorelines. Swimmers should never be in the water alone. See the information on water and boat safety on the [FLCA web site](#).

2. **Fire Safety.** Remember to observe periods when fires are banned to protect our lake and always ensure that fires are not too large and are in open spaces where sparks won't cause unintended disasters. Remember that fire permits are required. See the [FLCA web site](#) for more info.

3. **Noise.** Sound carries over open bodies of water and during the hot summer months people need to keep their windows open to cool down their cottages. Keeping noise down before 8 AM and after 11 PM is a courteous and responsible habit I ask that we all observe.

4. **Road Safety.** The summer has more pedestrians and cyclists on our road ways which means we need to be even more careful with our driving habits.

Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing you around the community, at the boat parade, and at the AGM!

Herb Huck
President, FLCA

KEEPING OUR FARLAIN LAKE ROADS CLEAR OF GARBAGE! by Pat Kelso

Did You Know?

- That bulky items are not picked up at the curb without a scheduled appointment? (see below for details)



Did You Know?

On August 1, 1615 - 400 years ago - Samuel de Champlain, from the then only seven-year-old French settlement now called Quebec city, arrived with a party of several canoes on the Georgian Bay shoreline of what is known today as northern Simcoe County, Ontario. This marked the start of Champlain's extended sojourn in Wendake, the land of the sophisticated corn-growing Huron confederacy of the early 17th century. That stay turned out to be a key influence on Champlain's dream for Ontario and North America.



- Every person in the County of Simcoe produces approximately 9 kgs (20 Lbs) of waste every week?
- That residents in cottage areas are strongly encouraged to use a curbside garbage box in order to help with animal issues? It is recommended that boxes with top access must not be deeper than one metre, must be easily opened and capable of remaining open while waste is removed. Boxes should have some means of identification to indicate if waste is present for collection. To obtain a free garbage marker, or for more information please contact Customer Service at info@simcoe.ca, 705-735-6901, or 1-800-263-3199.
- That there are many more guidelines and helpful tips at County of Simcoe's website: simcoe.ca/waste Visit for more details!

Bulky Items Do Not Belong At the Roadside!!

The County will not pick up these items without us calling for a scheduled pick up. None of your cottage neighbors enjoy seeing your old mattresses and dressers at the road for days on end, becoming soggy with rain!

What will they pick up if I call?

* Mattresses * Furniture * Electronics * Appliances (including CFC) * Metal * Wood waste * Bath fixtures * Carpeting bundled and rolled (Max. 2.5 m x 30 cm in diameter, 1 bundle = 1 item) * Many other items (please call: 1-800-263-3199)

Bulky item collection is available June through to the last week of September. Call the above number to schedule an appointment for bulky collection.

Maximum of five items per scheduled collection. Material must be at the curb by 7 a.m. on your scheduled bulky collection day. Cost is \$35 per scheduled pick up. Payment and a list of items to be collected are required at the time of booking.

Regular Collection in the County of Simcoe includes:

- One untagged bag of garbage weekly (additional bags must have a County garbage tag affixed)
- Weekly recycling collection
- Weekly green bin collection
- Bi-weekly yard waste collections in the spring and fall
- Access to a user-pay call-in bulky material collection service available from June to September



More details!!!! County guidelines for Garbage:

- 1 large bag (20kg and 90cm x 75 cm) or 1 can (20 kg and 80L) a

week

- Cautioned against using oversized containers as it is easy to exceed size or weight limits
- There are some double-up days where 2 containers are allowed (week after Victoria Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day)



Recycling guidelines:

Recycling collection in the County is two stream. This means you need to separate your paper from your containers.

CONTAINERS go in the blue box. Rinse food residue from containers. Remove and include lids. Place containers loose in the blue box.

PAPERS go into a separate box from your containers, either another blue box or a grey box. Residents are asked to only use the larger blue box for containers, not for paper, due to weight restrictions.

All your recyclables must be curbside by 7 a.m. on your collection day *
You are asked to not overload your recycling.

Still not sure where things go?

The County has a handy website whereby you simply type the item, and just like magic, the Wizard will tell you what bin it goes in.

Check out the [Simcoe County web site](#).

More questions?

The County is always working on improving, so things may change as the year progresses! If you have questions about green bins, yard waste or any other items, there are lots of up-to-date details for you available by visiting the website at: simcoe.ca/waste.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MONITORING WATER QUALITY

by Bill Sweeney

Collecting useful information about the water quality is important to tracking positive or negative changes in Farlain Lake over time. Total phosphorous (TP), water clarity, and E-coli are primary indicators of the water quality of the lake.

The FLCA is a participant in the Lake Partner Program of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change. The program collects data from 550 inland lake volunteer organizations to create a database of nutrient levels in lakes across Ontario. The FLCA collects water

samples for the Lake Partner Program in the months of May, June, July and August. There are different types of phosphorous that can be measured in a water sample, but the Lake Partner Program measures all of it collectively (the total phosphorous). Phosphorous is the element that controls the growth of algae. Higher levels of phosphorous may lead to algal and aquatic plant growth.

During its sample collection, the FLCA uses a Secchi disk to measure water clarity in the lake for the Lake Partner Program.



Secchi disk being lowered into water to assess water clarity..

The FLCA also collects water samples every other year on even numbered years for the Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations (FoTTSA) beach water E-coli testing program. Water samples are collected at five locations on Farlain Lake on the Tuesday following the August long weekend.

Reviewing total phosphorous and Secchi depth results for the past eight years indicates that our lake has a good balance of algae levels and good water clarity. Some of the reasons that the water quality in Farlain Lake has remained constantly good over the years involves Tiny Township's septic systems re-inspection program, the use of soaps and detergents that do not contain phosphates, and the culling of nuisance Canada Geese.

Generally speaking, Farlain Lake can be considered a Mesotrophic lake that contains moderate amounts of nutrients and contains a healthy, diverse population of aquatic plants, algae, and fish.

Results of Farlain Lake's water quality monitoring can be found on the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Lake Partner Program, [Dorset Environmental Science Centre website](http://desc.ca/programs/LPP) (desc.ca/programs/LPP). Scroll down to Lake Total Phosphorus Data (2002 - 2014) to access historical data on Farlain Lake. Historical results of the E-coli water sampling can be accessed through the [FoTTSA website](http://tinycottager.org) <http://tinycottager.org>. Click the FoTTSA logo and scroll down to the water reports.

THE TRUE NORTH STRONG AND FREE...
by Pat Kelso

Oh Canada!!! Flag etiquette!!



We all love living in this beautiful country and many of us just had our own Canada Day celebrations at the cottage! Many of us proudly fly the Canadian flag at our cottage or on our boats. Did you know that according to the government's Canadian Heritage branch, we have a few rules to help us with flag etiquette.

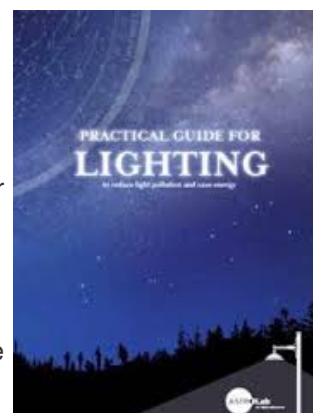
Canadian Flag etiquette.....did you know??

- Flags should be in good condition. Worn out, frayed, faded or ripped flags should be disposed of with dignity.
- In our country, the National Flag takes precedence over all other national flags.
- The Canadian flag is to be on its own mast, not paired with another flag.
- Covering a statue, work of art or other objects with the Canadian Flag is discouraged.
- The flag should not be used as a decoration...for example, it should not be used as a tablecloth, or seat cover.
- It is inappropriate to mark, write, sew or pin anything on the flag....this would even include signatures of prominent Canadians.
- To display hanging horizontally: on a wall, a fence, in a window or from a mast or pole, from an observer's point of view, the point of the leaf is always at the top and the bottom of the stem is at the base.
- To display hanging vertically: from an observer's point of view, the tip of the maple leaf is to the left and the stem is to the right.
- On a boat: when in harbor, it is to be flown from 0800 to sunset, usually at the stern.

For further details, visit: www.pch.gc.ca and enjoy displaying our love of Canada by flying our flag with honour and pride!!

PRESERVING THE NIGHT SKY by Pat Kelso

Many of us have been reading articles recently about how light has become a source of pollution. It is hard to believe, but as we are escaping to the country and to our cottages to enjoy the peace and quiet, we may be affecting that tranquil peace that we have been seeking! By putting up artificial lights, we are creating an environment where the animals have to move further away.



The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada wants people to know about pollution caused by light and that there are many impacts on us. Aside from the health risks to us, light shining toward wetlands or any vegetated area turns the night into twilight, disrupting the lives of the creatures that live in the lake and on land. Besides the obvious disastrous effects to birds migrating and crashing into brightly lit buildings, there are more subtle effects that over a longer period of time



will affect our ecosystems.

For example, the amount of time spent hunting, mating and feeding of all animals has been shown to decrease with light. Bright lights are an attraction to insects where they become targets for predators and animals that usually spend the night

active, feel unsafe and become less likely to engage in their usual activities such as feeding and mating. Just like humans, light affects the amount of melatonin in animals, which in turn affects their sleep and immune system causing long-term effects to the species over time.

What can we do?

Become aware of the amount of light you are using around your cottage at night. Authorities have suggested that we decrease the wattage of lights, use amber-coloured lights, and decrease the amount of time the lights are on and if we still wish to have the lights, try using timers or motion-sensor detectors. It also helps to make sure that the light doesn't shine beyond your property line (also a neighborly tip) and/or to use a shield so that the light is mainly scattered downward where you need it temporarily for your own safety.

Don't forget that solar lights may also be included in this advice and to store them away in the fall. We all want to be safe, but it is important to remember that we are sharing the beautiful lake with all the plants and animals that have been here since the beginning of time, and that will hopefully be here long after as well for our children and grand children to enjoy!!

Spread the word about the FLCA - forward this newsletter and encourage others to join. Download the 2015-2016 Membership Form [here](#).

**Elizabeth Di Chiara
Farlain Lake Community Association**

Do you have an article or idea for the newsletter? Contact Tammy

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or Elizabeth Di Chiara at elizabeth@cscm.org.
