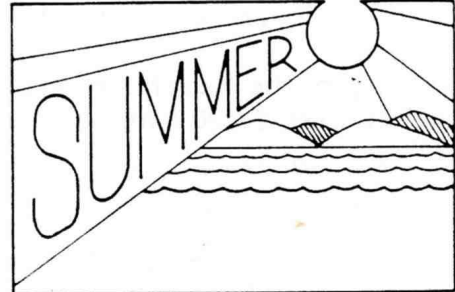


McRAE BEACH ASSOCIATION INC. NEWSLETTER

MAY 2007

WELCOME TO SUMMER 2007

The first thing would be to introduce all the homeowners to your Beach Association Executive. The following people were voted in September 2006, which was the last meeting of the season that you attended. **Were you there??**



President:	Terry McGuire - 4 Vine Avenue
Vice-President:	Sheila Harrington - 58 Blue Heron
Past President:	Carole Benson - 64 Blue Heron
Treasurer:	Pat Roughley - 68 Blue Heron
Secretary:	Kathy Lindsey - 10 Laviolette Avenue
Parks Rep:	1st Park - George Dzilums - 14 Laviolett Avenue 2nd Park - Victor King
Field Day Co-ordinator:	volunteer needed
Bingo Rep:	Linda Ingarra
Youth Rep:	Vacant- please volunteer

Now we come to the Volunteer List for the Summer 2007

Please consider volunteering. Our community is only as strong as our volunteers. Knowing your community members means fun, security and safety. Protect yourself, your children, your friends and other family members and visitors --- **Join your Beach Association!**

Collection of Beach Fees:	Pat Roughley
Coordinator of Volunteers:	VACANT Any volunteers willing to take this on.
Field Day:	Prize Table: Sheila Harrington
	Recycling: Sharon Snider
	BBQ: George Dzilium and Ward Lindsey
	Signs: Sharon Snider
	50/50 Draw: Pat Roughley
	Food Tickets: Jen McGuire
	Book Prizes: Carole Benson
	Water Balloons: Sheila Harrington
	Face Painting: Ashley Harrington
	Bocce Ball: Dino Collura
Corn Roast:	George Dzilium
Beach Volleyball:	Lubke Storry
Bingo:	Tables - George Dzilium Money - Pat Roughley Caller -- to be decided on day of Bingo
Park Overseers:	1st park: George Dzilium 2nd park: Terry McGuire
Newsletter:	Writing: Kathy Lindsey and the Executive Printing: Doug Atkinson Delivery: Pat Roughley

Important Dates for Summer 2007

MEETING DATES

Agenda, minutes, notices and newsletters will be strategically placed in the two parks and on the bulletin board at South McRae Beach. Look for them there.

First Meeting of the Beach Association for the season:

Sunday May 21st, 11:00 a.m. in the first park. Yes that means **YOU** -- All McRae Beach homeowners.

Executive Group will meet - June 17th 11a.m. in the 1st park

General Meeting of all Beach Association on June 24th 11a.m. in the 1st park

Meeting for Executive and Field Day volunteers July 22nd 11a.m. in the 1st park

General Meeting of all Beach Association September 2nd 11a.m. in the 1st park-----

This will be the Closing Meeting and Election of officers for the following year.

BINGO

June 30 7p.m.

August 5 after Field Day [Sunday] 7p.m. All bingo nights are in the 1st park.

September 1 [Saturday] 6:30p.m.

FIELD DAY: August 5th, 11:00 a.m. **PLEASE NOTE:** Field day will be in the Second Park this year

BINGO, RAFFLE AND FIELD DAY PRIZES

We are looking for donations of any new items, particularly those of interest to our adult and teen members, to round out our prize roster. If you work for, own and/or patronize a company that would like to donate an item to our Beach Association, please bring the donation to 64 Blue Heron Drive between July 28th and August 4th. Perhaps you yourself would like to make a personal donation. Please attach a "donated by" card to your item(s). All donations will be formally acknowledged. Thank you.

Do you have agenda items or concerns that you would like discussed by the Beach Association?

Please submit them in writing to Terry McGuire, President, 4 Vine Avenue. Please include your name, address and phone number.

Did you know that we have a web site?

The McRae Beach Association web site is designed for those who are new to the Beach, for seasoned beach members and for those who live permanently at the Beach. The web address is <http://www.mcraebeachassociation.com> . Just find it once and then bookmark it so you can easily refer to it often.

Other web sites of interest:

Federation of Ontario Cottagers <http://www.foca.on.ca/>

Cottage Life <http://www.cottagelife.com/>

Ontario Provincial Police Cottage Watch

http://www.opp.ca/Community/CrimePrevention/opp_000271.html

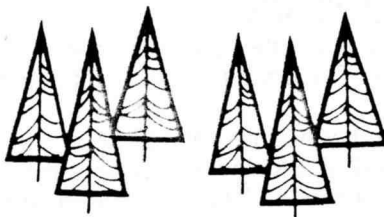
Grass Cutting in the Parks

J.J Enterprises (17 McRae Beach South) is looking after cutting and trimming the grass in both parks as per the following schedule: May 4 cuts, June 4 cuts, July 4 cuts, August 3 cuts, September 3 cuts and October 3 cuts.

As many of you are aware, the parks we enjoy belong to the Estate of Thomas McRae. Wanting to keep the deeded right of access to such parks in the hands of those who live or cottage on the original McRae farm, we, as an Association, have agreed to look after the upkeep on such lands.

Parks Cleanup

There is a fine for placing brush, etc. across the road from you property. It is against a local bylaw to do so.



Garbage must be placed in containers and that 1 (one) bag is removed free of charge and all subsequent bags must have a green sticker /tag on them.



Fires are only allowed during the day with a fire permit. Fire permits are available at Baker's Furniture, located on the Road into Pepperlaw. Please respect your neighbours. Smoke may be annoying.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Your membership in the McRae Beach Association is an important part of our continued role that the Association plays. Your membership ensures that we can provide a ready collective voice when needed in order to meet our mission. As an Association, our overall goal is to maintain the recreational value of the McRae

Beach community by protecting the ecological resources of the lake, actively promoting boat safety, organizing social and recreational activities, participating in and supporting FOCA [Federation of Cottager's Association] and maintaining a positive working relationship with local government agencies.

Increase in Beach Membership Dues

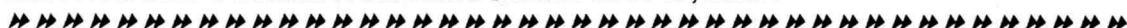
Your membership dues this year, 2007, have been increased to \$40.00 per residence.

This increase accounts for our need to purchase Liability Insurance on behalf of all members of our Association. This increase was decided and voted upon at our General Meeting in September 2006. Last Thanksgiving weekend you received a letter to all residents explaining why this raise was necessary. If you have mislaid this letter or just to refresh your memory the following is a condensed version of the letter with the pertinent information:

"Plans for summer 2007 activities are already underway and your membership in the McRae Beach Association is an important part of the continued role that the Beach Association plays. Your membership ensures that we can provide already collective voice when needed in order to meet our mission - the more members we have, the stronger our voice. As an Association our overall goal is to maintain the recreational value of the McRae Beach community by protecting the ecological resources of the lake, actively promoting safe boating, organizing social and recreational activities, participating in and supporting FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association), and maintaining a positive working relationship with local government agencies.

At the September 2006 General Meeting it was decided that membership fees would increase to \$40.00. This increase in membership fees is in response to the need to purchase liability insurance on behalf of all members of the McRae Beach Association Inc. For the summer of 2007 please renew your membership, encourage your neighbours to join the McRae Beach Association, attend the Annual General Meeting, and become a volunteer if possible."

BEACH DUES COLLECTION WILL START MAY 12, 2007.



EVENTS OF INTEREST IN THE AREA

When you come to the lake do you just stay there or have you ever considered investigating some of the events offered in our community? Following is a short list and description of some of these events.

FESTIVAL OF STORIES: Sunday August 19th, 2007 at the Georgina Pioneer Village. 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **The Peter Gzowski Festival of Stories** is a celebration of the joy of reading and storytelling. It includes: Authors, illustrators, storytellers, children's entertainers and musicians, clowns, face painting, crafts, book publishing, vendors, The Peter Gzowski Open Mic, Read-Aloud, and much more...

EAGLEWOOD FOLK FESTIVAL: Canada's Premiere songwriters Festival.
August 24,25,27, 2007. Held at the Eaglewood Resort, 9715 Morning Glory Road.

GEORGINA STUDIO TOUR AND SALE: September 29th & 30th, 2007.
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days. Did you know our area is home to a group of artisans who offer for sale their talented offerings. This year is the 13th Annual Tour. Award winning and very talented artists display their creations of one-of-a-kind gifts for special occasions and even that unique gift you would like for yourself. Look out for the brochures at local shops and information kiosks.

CONSIDER A TRIP TO SEE LIVE THEATER:

Stephen Leacock Theatre, 130 Gwendolyn Boulevard, Keswick,

<http://www.town.georgina.on.ca/dpt-leisure-theatres-slt-showtimes.aspx>

OR

Red Barn Theatre, Hedge Road, Jackson's Point, Ontario

<http://www.redbarntheatre.ca/> <<http://www.redbarntheatre.ca/>

Tips for a Green Cottage excerpted
from the Cottage Life website
www.cottagelife.com article by Steve Stockton
of Cottage Life. For more tips see the
Cottage Life Website.



REDUCE YOUR WATER USE (AND SAVE YOUR SEPTIC)

Install a low-flow showerhead. especially if long-showering teenagers hang out at your cottage. A low-flow aerator can cut the water flow by 50 per cent without lessening the spray.

Practice catch-and-release-elsewhere at the sink When rinsing fruits and veggies, put a basin below the faucet and recycle the captured water for thirsty plants or sluicing off the deck chairs. Brushing your teeth for two minutes with the tap running loses about 11 litres of water down the drain; a mug of water for brushing and rinsing does the job with much less waste.

WAYS TO CUT DOWN AND CLEAN UP YOUR RUNOFF

Sniff out a sick septic system There are still cottagers out there with leaking and overloaded septic systems, a major source of contaminated runoff to the lake. Human waste contains phosphorus, a nutrient that algae thrive on; too much of it, and your lake will get algal blooms and decline in water quality. Inspect your septic bed and surrounding area periodically for odours or puddling and, if you detect trouble, call in the professionals. And get the tank pumped out every three to five years. If you're having a huge crowd to the cottage, say for a wedding, rent a porta-potty instead of stressing the septic system.

Refuel away from the water When you need to top up gas tanks, such as chainsaws, generators, pumps, and boat engines, do it well back from shore, preferably over a tray and in a shelter with a hard floor. Use a rag for mopping, to make cleanup easy.

Hook a rainbarrel up to your eavestroughs By catching rainfall before it hits the ground, you can greatly reduce runoff. (For those who only associate runoff with summer rainfall, it also comes in winter and spring, in the form of snowmelt.) Even temporarily storing rain in a barrel until after a storm lets up helps reduce erosion. Newer rainbarrels are designed to keep out mosses so the water won't become a breeding pool for them.

Don't soap in the lake, ever Even if a soap says it's phosphate-free and biodegradable, don't assume it's safe for the lake. The soap can be harmful to fish and other aquatic animals; all "biodegradable" means is that it's capable of breaking down (with the help of soil bacteria) into its constituent parts. However, do use this type of soap if bathing on land, and dump the washwater well back from the lake, so it doesn't filter down as runoff.

WAYS TO SHRINK YOUR COTTAGE ENERGY BILL

Retire that old beer fridge It's been great for your overflow beer stash, but that ancient fridge in the boathouse is sucking more than four times the electricity of a newer, energy-efficient model, and costing you almost \$130 a year (or a few two-fours). Be a greener beer drinker and retire the clunker. At the very least, unplug it between visits and definitely over winter. As for the kitchen fridge, another energy hog if it's 10 or more years old, keep it out of the sun, away from the stove, and in an area that allows air to circulate to improve its efficiency. Also check the door seal: If it isn't tight enough to hold a piece of paper in place when closed, repair or replace it

Plant a tree or two Green giants are great insulators of the cottage. Plant deciduous trees on the south and west sides of the cottage, to provide shade in summer and let sun inside throughout the winter. Conifers on the north and northwest sides block cold winds in winter with their thick evergreen boughs.

WAYS TO SAVE COTTAGE WILDLIFE

Be a slow and low-polluting boater When close to shore, always drive at a "no wake" speed (10 km/h within 30 metres of shore) to protect aquatic and shoreline nurseries from wave and prop action, and prevent erosion. Get your engine tested to ensure it meets or exceeds EPA 2007 standards. If you're in the market for a new engine, four-strokes and direct-injection two-strokes are much cleaner than old-style two-strokes.

Create a wildlife corridor Many animals and birds won't cross open areas, needing a corridor of dense vegetation to get from the top of your lot to the water's edge. Chart a course through the low-traffic areas of your property and fill in gaps with native shrubs, such as dogwood, grasses such as big bluestem or Canada wild rye, and flowers such as butterfly weed or blazing star, which will attract lots of birds and butterflies.

ARTICLE OF INTEREST:

The Toronto Star March 03, 2007 **DRINK IT, SWIM IT, FISH IT, LOVE IT**

This is the slogan adapted by The Ladies Of The Lake. A group of women resident of the Lake Simcoe watershed raised \$250,000 from the sale of a calendar featuring their tastefully denuded selves. Their purpose is to rally government, business, the school system and local citizenry to rescue the lake. A former McRae beach resident, co-chair of the group, believes Lake Simcoe can be restored when everyone takes responsibility for it.

Right now Lake Simcoe is the victim of pollution and urbanization around the shoreline. We have weeds, algae, gloating masses of Eurasian milfoil, alien species and zebra mussels. It is a slow death for the economic and lifestyle benefits that the lake and watershed, an area of 3576 square kilometres, has provided for more than 5000 years. One of the core accomplishments of The Ladies Of The Lake has been to draw together different communities in the watershed through their common concern for rescuing the lake and setting up an awareness program. They are now meeting with politicians and advancing a proposal that a Watershed Council be established.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS

We extend a hearty welcome to all who have made McRae Beach their permanent or summer address since last season. As a reminder to those of us who have been around for some time the FYI to our new arrivals:

- Georgina Township requires dogs to be leashed or otherwise restrained at all times
- parking and camping within our parks are prohibited
- the speed limit on Blue Heron Drive, McRae Beach South and all side streets is 40 km/h
- the water from the pumps in both parks has been deemed NOT POTABLE
- garbage collection day is Monday. The first bag is free and then tags (\$1/bag) are available at local stores
- big items collection is the first Friday of each month. Each item must be tagged
- the first 30 metres (100ish feet) from the shoreline are deemed restricted and as such boats and PWC operators are reminded of the need to keep their speed down to 10 km/hr when entering or exiting this area. Many residents have placed buoys at the 100' mark to assist in identifying the swimming area.
- when on/in the water PLAY SAFELY! Swimmers and sailboats always have the right of way
- all docks, boatlifts, etc. are to be out of the parks and in the water, or on your own property by July 2nd. This will assist the grass cutter to do his job and park users to pursue their enjoyment of this space.
- for safety reasons and the pleasure of all, no vehicles are to be left in the parks. Please park along the road or return your car to your dwelling after launching.

WE HOPE YOU HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER 2007