

A Note of Thanks and a Request from the McRae Family:

"First, I'd like to thank everyone for their kind words when my mother died last January. My family is genuinely grateful.

"My grandfather subdivided part of his family farm in the 1940s to create McRae Beach, and we look forward to returning to the Beach for years to come. However, large parts of his family farm remained in our family, including what some people refer to as the "parks" as well as fields east of the cottages. Recently, concerns have been expressed that parts of our family's property (including the "parks") are being encroached upon by adjoining landowners. We trust that any such encroachment is inadvertent, and we hope that everyone will work together to be good neighbours, to respect each others' property rights and to enjoy our days at McRae Beach."

Tom McRae

McRae Beach Association Inc. Newsletter

May 2009

WELCOME TO Summer 2009

The following people were voted in at the Annual General Meeting held on September 6th, 2008, the last meeting of the season

President: Terry McGuire – **vacant -TBA**
Past President: Carole Benson - 64 Blue Heron Drive
Vice-President: Sheila Harrington - 58 Blue Heron Drive
Treasurer: Pat Roughley - 68 Blue Heron Drive
Secretary: Kathy Lindsey - 10 Laviolette Avenue
Parks Rep: 1st Park - George Dzilum - 14 Laviolette Avenue
2nd Park - Victor King- 79 Blue Heron Drive
Field Day Coordinator: Carole Benson- 64 Blue Heron Drive
Bingo Rep: Pat Roughley- 68 Blue Heron Drive
Youth Rep: **Vacant- please volunteer**

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SUMMER 2009

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.

Executive only Meeting: Sunday, June 14, in the 1st park at 11 am

First General Meeting of the Beach Association for the season:

Sunday June 28th, 11:00 a.m. in the first park.

Meeting for Executive and Field Day volunteers

Sunday July 26th 11a.m. in the 1st park

Annual General Meeting of all Beach Association

Sunday September 6th, 11a.m. in the 1st park. This will be the Closing Meeting and Election of officers for the following year.

BINGO: ---all bingo games are held in the first park

Saturday, July 4th, 7p.m.

Sunday, August 2nd, after Field Day at 7p.m.

Saturday, September 5th, 6:30 p.m.

FIELD DAY:

Sunday, August 2nd, 11:00 a.m. Field day will be in the **First Park** this year.

Volunteer List for the Summer 2009

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 et al
Coordinator of Volunteers: volunteer needed
Field Day Coordinator's Assistant: John Silva
Field Day: Prize Table: Sheila Harrington and Carole Benson
Recycling: Sharon Snider
BBQ: George Dzilum and Ward Lindsey
Signs: Pat Roughley
50/50 Draw: Pat Roughley
Lucky Draw: vacant
Food Tickets: Kathy Lindsey
Book/Prizes: Carole Benson and Pat Roughley
Water Balloons: Sheila Harrington
Face Painting: Ashley Harrington
Bocce Ball: vacant
Corn Roast: vacant
Bingo: Tables – Brad Roughley
Money: Pat Roughley
Caller: to be decided on day of Bingo
Park Reps: 1st park: George Dzilum
2nd park: Victor King
Newsletter: Writing: Pat Roughley and the Executive
Printing: Kathy Lindsey
Delivery: Pat Roughley

Bingo and Field Day Prizes:

We are in need of donations of interest to our membership at large [children, teens and Adults]. Your executive has been busily collecting various brand-spanking-new items as prizes for our well-attended BINGO games. Additional donations (housewares, toys, logo items/clothing etc) will be graciously and gratefully accepted.

If you have any connections with a book company that might be willing to make a donation/ partial donation to our non-profit beach association, please contact a member of your beach executive as soon as possible. **NOTE: WE NEED NEW BOOK DONATIONS, we thank all our members in advance for any donations.**

If you work for, own and/or patronize a company that would like to donate any item(s) to our Beach Association, please bring the donation to 68 Blue Heron at your earliest convenience. Perhaps you yourself would like to make a personal donation. Please attach a "donated by" card to your item(s) and drop it/them off at 68 Blue Heron Drive. All donations will be formally acknowledged and all will be used as Bingo, lucky-draw or in the case of books, as Field Day event prizes. We thank you in advance.

Do you have agenda items or concerns that you would like discussed by the Beach Association? Please submit them in writing to Pat Roughley, 68 Blue Heron. Please include your name, address, phone number, [email would also be helpful if you have one.]

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.

Beach Association Membership Dues remain the same as last year.

Your membership dues for 2009 are \$40.00 per residence. Please make cheques payable to 'McRae Beach Association Inc'. Collections will begin after May 16th. Cheques are preferable but cash will also be accepted.

MCRAE BEACH WEBSITE:

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:

In May, June and July the grass will be cut 4 times per month.

In August, September and October 3 times per month.

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: We need one to two hours of your time in the park closest to your dwelling on June 6th or 7th at 1:30 pm. Please bring a rake, a shovel, a paper leaf bag, gloves, your muscles and a sense of humour. Together we can make a difference for all to enjoy.

NOTE: long grass indicates debris to be removed. It would be really helpful if all docks could be out of the parks by that time. Thank you.

Other information on Property and Park clean-up:

1. According to by-law 2004-0126 section 8.2 [parts a and b], it is illegal to dump anything on Township property. This also applies to the road allowance of 33 feet from the centre of the road on either side of the road along North McRae Beach and South McRae Beach streets. Illegal dumping can be costly. It also has an impact on the aesthetics of our community /neighbourhood.

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM DUMPING.

2. Garbage must be placed in **containers** and 1 (one) bag is removed free of charge. All subsequent bags must have a sticker /tag on each.
3. Open air fires, 4 foot radius or more are only allowed during the day with a fire permit. You must have a 23 foot clearance from any structure, hedge, fence or anything combustible.

Fire permits are available at Baker's Furniture, located on the Road into Pefferlaw. Contained open air burning for cooking and recreational purposes-up to 2 foot radius does not need a permit. Please respect your neighbours. Smoke and odour may be annoying.

GARBAGE DAYS on Duclos Point Rd. and McRae Beach are Mondays.

Garbage Collection is provided every other week. Collectable materials shall be at the curb no earlier than 8:00 p.m. the evening before collection and no later than 7:00 a.m. on the day of collection. The first bag or can does not require a garbage tag. If garbage is set out in a rigid container, and has a tag, please have tag secured to the bag inside container, not attached to the container.

Recycling and Green Bin is picked up weekly. There is no limit to the number of Green Bins or Blue Boxes that can be placed out for collection. To ensure collection, all materials must be out at the curb before 7:00am. For links to information on what items can be recycled please see the link on the McRae Beach website.

Large Articles & White Goods are picked up on the first Friday of the month. Each item must have a garbage tag - white goods are appliances etc. and you must call ahead for pick-up of white goods. **1-800-465-5914**

Leaf and Waste Yard Waste Collection is biweekly (Apr. to Nov.) Mondays beginning May and every other week. [exceptions Aug. 8, 17, 31 Sept. 14, 28 Oct. 17 and 28]

Must be put in kraft paper bags, rigid containers or tied up. Paper bags are available at Canadian Tire, Home Hardware, Home Depot, etc.

Do not use plastic bags.

***For further information check the Township of Georgina website**

Spring and Fall Tag Exemption Days

Each spring and each fall, the Town of Georgina designates one week as Bag Tag Exemption week to assist in the cleanup around your house. Each household is entitled to set out up to five (5) bags or rigid containers or large articles out at the curb without having to affix garbage tag. This year, the Tag Exemption Days will be:

Spring: May 25, 2009, MONDAY

June 1- Canadian Environment Week

Fall: September 14, 2009, MONDAY

OCTOBER 19th, 2009, Waste Reduction Week

Seaweed (Duckweed) Pick-up-Residents may place aquatic weed waste in kraft paper bags for free curbside pickup on our regular Monday garbage day. It is suggested that seaweed be dried prior to placing in yard waste bags or containers.

Yard Waste Drop-off Facility

Miller Waste Systems, 1351 Bloomington Rd, Richmond Hill

- Summer Hours (April 1 to November 30/09)
- Monday to Friday 7:00am-6:00pm
- Saturday 7:00am -5:00pm
- Winter Hours (December 1 to March 31):
- Monday to Friday 8:00 -4:00pm

Georgina Transfer Station & Household Hazardous Waste Depot
(23068 Warden Avenue, Georgina) (1 km north of Ravenshoe Road (Regional Road 32) on the west side)

Hours of Operation

Monday to Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Note: All Facilities are closed on statutory holidays in Georgina.

Hours of Operation Household Hazardous Waste Depot:

Second Saturday & last Saturday of every month from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
Closed Statutory Holidays

Take-Action Tips for Cottaging More Lightly

By Steve Stockton /www.cottagelife.com [click green cottaging then click- easy tips for greener cottage]

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.

Flush less

A toilet dam or displacement device in the tank reduces the amount of water being flushed. The toilet dam is a simple tool that holds back water from the flapper valve. Displacement devices can be DIY – set a full plastic water bottle in the tank (don't use a brick; it can disintegrate, ruining the valves).

NEWS RELEASE: Effective May 15/09 rebates up to \$75[toilet rebate program] Visit: www.waterfortomorrow.ca

Fix the leaky cottage throne

A toilet tank leaking into the bowl adds a lot of water to the septic system. To test for leaks put a few drops of food colouring into the tank. If the colouring appears in the bowl without being flushed, you have a leak.

Kick the lawn habit

About 50 per cent of rainfall rolls right over short manicured grass to the water, carrying with it fertilizers (many are loaded with phosphorus) or pesticides (poisonous to aquatic life). Better to replace a lawn with no-maintenance native plants, such as dogwood and black-eyed Susans, which readily absorb most surface water. If you must be a turfhead, keep the grass more than 30 metres from the shoreline, don't use fertilizers or pesticides, and mow it no shorter than eight centimetres high.

Pick up after your pooch

Yes, there's already wildlife poop around the cottage, but modern CSI-style tracking of pollutants has identified dog-doo as a major source of water pollution in many areas, one that carries coliform bacteria that can make people sick. Bury or toss it in the back forty, or flush it down.

Beware the phantom load

Some electrical devices that use a remote control, like televisions, DVD players, or stereos, or use an adaptor, such as computers, continue to steal power after they're turned off. Unplug these or hook them into a power bar with a switch so you can really turn them off when not in use.

Listen to Charlotte

When sealing up cracks in the cottage, keep an eye out for spider webs. Spiders like to weave them in the path of airflow (a.k.a. air leaks) to catch insects.

Get over that waterweed phobia

Okay, so the kids squeal when they step in the shallows and feel weedy tentacles. Don't strip the entire waterfront of its aquatic vegetation, which holds sediment in place and provides critical food and shelter for many water dwellers, from bass to water striders. Instead, designate a small activity area for swimming, preferably less than two metres wide, and contact your local MNR for a work permit before you remove any amount of aquatic vegetation. Easier still, put a ladder at the end of your dock and skip the shallows entirely.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS:

We extend a hearty welcome to all who have made McRae Beach their permanent or summer address since the 2008 season. As a reminder to those of us who have been around for some time, and 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 pump in the second park is not potable
- 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 JUNE 30. 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.
- by law, 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.

WE HOPE YOU HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER 2009

Information Phone Numbers for the Sutton & Pefferlaw Area

CANINIE CONTROL: 905-722-3452

CHILDREN'S AID: 1-800-718-3850

MEDICAL CLINICS: Georgina Medical Centre 905-722-3251
Family Health Centre of Pefferlaw 705-437-2057

GARBAGE: Sutton 905-722-6516
Pefferlaw 705-437-2210

HOSPITAL: Southlake Regional Health Centre 905-895-4521

HYDRO: (after hours, emergencies): 1-800-240-9436

MAYOR:: Rob Grossi 905-476-4301

Member of Parliament: (Federal): Peter Van Loan 905-898-1600

Member of Provincial Parliament: Julia Munro 905-478-2572

MUNICIPAL SERVICES: Town of Georgina, 905-722-6516

NEWSPAPER: Georgina Advocate 905-476-7753

POISON INFORMATION CENTRE: 1-800-268-9017

POLICE: (non-emergency): 705-437-1221

POLICE (OPP): 1-800-263-2277

WOMEN'S SHELTER: Sandgate Women's Shelter 905-722-4043

GEORGINA FOOD PANTRY: 905-722-8305 915 Lake Dr, Jackson's Point,
ON L0E 1L0 (one block west of Dalton Road) Hours: Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm