

**Lake Cottage Association**

## christmas 2021

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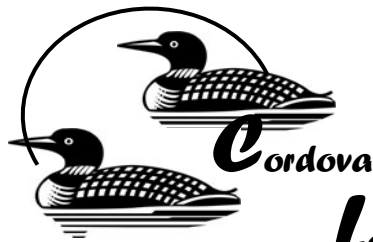
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**Lake Cottage Association**

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## Message from the President...

As I sit here looking out on our beautiful piece of paradise called “Cordova Lake” reflecting on the past year, I realize it has been another unusual year. We are all still dealing with a global pandemic and our lives have been impacted in numerous ways.

Even our little community of “Cordova Lake” has seen many changes.

1. We are currently short one position (Vice President) on the Cordova Lake Cottage Association (CLCA) Executive Committee.
2. We had the worst year, in terms of weeds on the lake, so will be looking for volunteers to put together a sub-committee to look into this issue.
3. Even our Regatta, if we are allowed to hold it in 2022, is in jeopardy unless we have some new volunteers offer to manage it.
4. Our CLCA Website could use someone with good web skills to help manage it.

So, the existing Members of the CLCA Executive Committee are asking if any of you are willing to put your name forward and volunteer your time, to help. Please contact the CLCA Secretary (Ashley Carnevale) at [secretaryclca@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryclca@gmail.com) if you are interested in any of the four areas listed above.

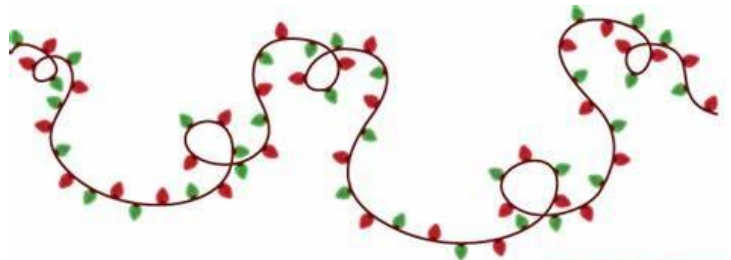
Our only source of revenue this year, besides our \$20 CLCA Membership Dues, was the sale of the “What’s Cookin’ on Cordova Lake” Cookbook. Thanks goes out to Janet Gammon and Allyson Gubb for volunteering to manage this endeavour. Copies are still available at the cost of \$15. Please see article about cookbook in the newsletter for more details.

On a lighter note, with all the wonder, whimsy, and occasional wistfulness that comes along with Christmas time, sometimes it’s hard to put into words just how the holiday season makes us feel. So, I am borrowing the quote below.

“The thing about Christmas is that it almost doesn’t matter what mood you’re in, or what kind of year you’ve had – it’s a fresh start.” – *Kelly Clarkson*

So, with 2022 just around the corner, cheers to a fresh start to all of you and your extended families. Please stay safe!

Regards, Elaine Epp CLCA President



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Dear Cordova Lakers,

We hope you all enjoyed the amazing summer of 2021 on our beautiful lake!

We wish to extend a heart felt thank you to those of you who so generously AND eagerly supported this year's lake fundraiser by purchasing the 2021 edition of the Cordova Lake Cookbook! We sincerely hope you're enjoying it as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

We also want to thank our team of "sales reps" on the lake for their help in making the cookbook easily available for you to purchase no matter where you were on the lake: Nancy Grozelle, Clare Matthews, Joanne Butkevics, Sue Tilley and Liz Carroll.

As always happens, despite multiple reviews of the draft document before sending it to print, a few errors have been discovered. We're pretty sure that our cottage gourmet community would have recognized the errors/omissions and known exactly what to do, but just in case, we want to summarize for you the changes that need to be made (that we know of so far!).

Page 5: Add ½ cup of chopped fresh cilantro and ½ tsp cumin to the salsa dip.

Page 49: Add one clove of crushed garlic to the chili mayonnaise.

Page 65: In step 3 add the garlic powder to the crumbs, cheese, basil and oregano.

There are still copies of "What's Cookin' on Cordova Lake" available for the incredible price of only \$15. They make wonderful hostess gifts, Christmas gifts, Valentines Day gifts, Mothers Day gifts, Fathers Day gifts, birthday gifts, anniversary gifts, housewarming gifts, shower gifts and "thinking of you" gifts. Time to stock up so you're prepared for gifting in 2022!

Please email [jgammon8892@gmail.com](mailto:jgammon8892@gmail.com) to find out where you can pick up your copy.

Wishing everyone a safe and joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Looking forward to seeing everyone again in the summer of 2022 for another incredible cottage season!

Be well.

Janet Gammon and Allyson Gubb







## **PET SAFETY DURING THE HOLIDAYS**

### **KEEP YOUR PETS AWAY FROM**

- Bread in yeast form
- Chocolate
- Xylitol (sugar-free items)
- Grapes/raisins
- Onions
- Eggnog
- Nutmeg
- Turkey bones
- Plants (e.g., holly, mistletoe)
- Christmas tree water
- Tinsel
- Lights and candles

A public safety message from the  
International Association of Fire Fighters



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# FACT SHEET

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## ALGAE

**Through the Docktalk program, FOCA encourages waterfront landowners to help control the growth of algae in lakes.**

### **How do algae survive?**

Algae make their food in the form of starches or oils by using the energy of sunlight and nutrients from the water. They grow in many forms. Some species are microscopic simple cells; others can grow as mass aggregates of cells or in strands. They can even resemble higher plants.

### **Are algae good for the Lake?**

Algae are critical to the life of our lakes. They are the base of the food chain, convert nutrients to organic matter, and oxygenate the water. Fish production in lakes varies directly with the amount of algae the lake produces. If there were no algae there would be no fish. Virtually all aquatic animals are dependent (directly or indirectly) on algae.

### **Factors that Affect Algal Growth**

There are a number of environmental factors that influence algal growth. The major factors that determine the type and amount of algae in your lake are:

- the amount of light that penetrates the water
- the concentration of nutrients in the water
- water temperature
- the physical removal of algae by sinking or flushing through an outflow
- grazing on the algae by microscopic animals and fish
- parasitism by bacteria and fungi
- competition from aquatic plants for nutrients and
- sunlight

### **Algal Blooms**

Nutrient sources such as detergents, septic tank seepages, and fertilizer runoff from lawns and gardens feed the algae in a lake and can result in increased algal growth or a bloom. Blooms of algae can affect the appearance of a lake, result in unpleasant tastes or odours, reduce clarity, and colour the lake a vivid green, brown, or yellow. Filamentous and colonial algae can mass together and form scum or mats on the lake surface that can drift and clog water intakes, cause unsightly shorelines, foul beaches, ruin recreation, and provide habitat for bacteria. Peeling paint and staining on boats and docks are partially the result of algae growth. Some species actually produce acids that may chemically corrode submersed metal pipes and concrete. Death and sickness to animals have been attributed to certain algae, mostly blue-green bloom-forming species.

### **Reduction in Oxygen Levels**

Algae produce oxygen as a by-product of photosynthesis, but also take in oxygen for respiration. A lake that has a large population of algae can experience a great fluctuation in dissolved oxygen concentration during a 24-hour period. Extreme oxygen fluctuations stress fish and other wildlife in the lake. When algae die, the decay consumes oxygen in the water. When dissolved oxygen reaches a critically low concentration, phosphorus is released from lake sediments and becomes available for algal growth—thus the cycle feeds itself and speeds up the degradation of the lake, or eutrophication.



# FACT SHEET

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## ALGAE

### Types of Algae

Several thousand species of algae live in Ontario's waters. Algae are extremely diverse in form, colour, habit, and habitat. They can live in water or on land. There are four general groups. The descriptions below relate to algae found in fresh water in Ontario:

**Green Algae** can be filamentous or free-floating. Filamentous greens (or attached algae) range from several millimetres to a metre in length. In many cases they develop into large colonies of floating or attached mats. They can cause odours in water and clog filters. Examples: Spirogyra, Mougeotia, and Cladophora. Free-floating green algae are important in the aquatic food chain and help to maintain oxygen levels. Examples: Chlorella, Pediastrum, and the desmids.

**Diatoms** are food for many aquatic microscopic animals. Diatoms have silicon cell walls that do not decompose. This is the group of algae most likely to clog filters. Some diatoms produce tastes and odours in the water. Examples: Asterionella, Fragilaria, and Cyclotella.

**Flagellated Algae** possess one or more flagella, whip-like 'tails' that act as propellers. These algae can sometimes produce strong tastes and odours in water supplies. For example, Synura can impart a cucumber odour to water even when present in low numbers. Examples: Dinobryon, Euglena, and Synura.

**Blue-Green Algae**, commonly known as pond scum, range in colour from olive-green to red. Some forms are gelatinous floating masses of various shapes. Sometimes, when a bloom of blue-green algae decomposes pigments are released, giving the water a bluish or pinkish colour. They have a pleasant grassy odour while healthy, but this may change to an unpleasant odour as they decompose.

### How Can I Protect My Lake?

Try to maintain a natural shoreline to increase nutrient uptake by plants and reduce erosion and nutrients leaching into the lake.

- Use low-phosphorus detergents and soaps.
- Avoid fertilizers.
- Keep shampoos and soaps out of the lake.
- Know how to maintain your septic system to keep it functioning properly. Have your septic system inspected and pumped every 3 to 5 years by a licensed contractor.
- Be familiar with your lake's healthy conditions and be able to recognize troublesome symptoms.
- Be a lake steward and join the Lake Partner program, contact FOCA for more information.

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#### Resources online:

[www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca)

[www.ene.gov.on.ca/cons/5088.pdf](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/cons/5088.pdf)

[www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/pond/algae.html](http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/pond/algae.html)

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/water-eau/cyanobacter-eng.php>

#### Your local contact:



 *christmas* 

# Shortbread Cookie Bites



↪ Only 4 Ingredients!

1 CUP BUTTER, CUBED

3/4 CUP SUGAR

1 1/2 TSP VANILLA

2 1/4 CUPS FLOUR

SPRINKLES OF YOUR CHOICE





# THE HEALTHY SHORE LIST

HOW DOES  
YOUR WATERFRONT  
CHECK OUT?



## PLANT A BUFFER ZONE OF NATIVE VEGETATION CLOSE TO SHORE

The tangle of roots filters impure runoff from your cottage and slows erosion of the soil

## SWEAR OFF PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES

They end up in the water and are bad news for aquatic life

## OPT FOR A FLOATING OR PIPE DOCK

It causes the least disturbance to the shoreline lakebed

## MOOR THE SWIM RAFT FARTHER OUT TO SAVE SHORE PLANTS

Birds nest and fish spawn in those things you call "weeds." Don't tear them out

## "SOFTEN" HARD WALKWAYS AND DRIVES

Unlike asphalt, pea gravel or wood chips soak up runoff

## PRESERVE YOUR PROPERTY'S MATURE TREES

Their deep roots stabilize the slope down to the water

## FORGO FERTILIZERS/UPGRADE YOUR LEAKY SEPTIC SYSTEM

Both send phosphorus into the lake, fuelling algae growth and depleting oxygen

## LEAVE FALLEN TREES AND BRANCHES IN THE SHALLOWS

Wood nourishes all sorts of underwater critters and provides cover for fish



## KEEP OIL AND GAS WELL AWAY FROM THE WATER'S EDGE

Even a minor spill has big consequences for vulnerable lake dwellers

## USE UNTREATED WOOD FOR SHORELINE STRUCTURES LIKE DOCKS

Preservative-free materials, such as cedar, are pricier but much safer for aquatic inhabitants

## KICK THE COTTAGE LAWN HABIT

Turf lets up to 55 per cent of rainfall wash away

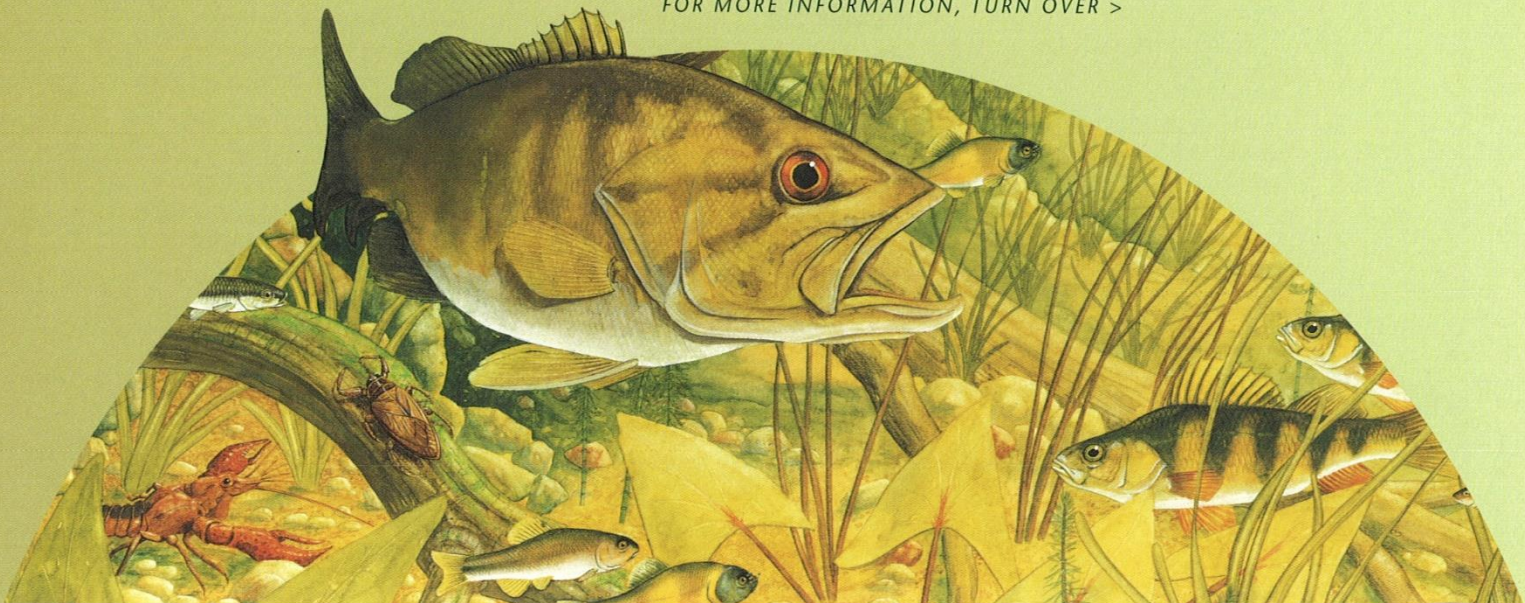
## REPLACE THAT CRUMBLING CONCRETE BREAKWALL

A gently regraded slope withstands waves and looks a lot nicer

## SHARE YOUR WATERFRONT WISDOM WITH NEIGHBOURS

Healthy-shore practices benefit everybody, from cottagers to fish

FOR MORE INFORMATION, TURN OVER >





## WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE HEALTHY SHORE?

**GETTING APPROVALS for a shore project:** Whether you're replacing a dock or restoring a shoreline, you want to be sure your project suits your waterfront's needs (and doesn't go against the *Fisheries Act*!). That means giving the authorities a plan of your grand scheme. Start with the Conservation Authority or Parks Canada; they'll tell you if you need a permit or more input from the Ministry of Natural Resources or Fisheries and Oceans Canada. (For more info on the approvals process, check out *The Shore Primer* or *The Dock Primer*, listed below.)

### HELPFUL CONTACTS

#### [www.fish-habitat.com](http://www.fish-habitat.com)

for quick access to Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Parks Canada, Conservation Ontario, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

**Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Ontario – Great Lakes Area**  
Fish Habitat Management Program  
867 Lakeshore Rd.  
Burlington ON L7R 4A6  
Tel: (905) 336-6424  
Fax: (905) 336-6285  
[www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/canwaters-eauxcan](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/canwaters-eauxcan)  
(You can find Fisheries and Oceans Canada publications on this website. Just click on the "Infocentre" link.)

**Conservation Ontario**  
120 Bayview Pkwy., Box 11  
Newmarket ON L3Y 4W3  
Tel: (905) 895-0716  
Fax: (905) 895-0751  
Website: [www.conservation-ontario.on.ca](http://www.conservation-ontario.on.ca)  
(You can find contact info for Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities on this website. Just click on the "Corporate Profile" link.)

**The Living By Water Project**  
5524 Dickinson St., Box 599  
Manotick ON K4M 1A5  
Tel: (613) 692-3571, ext. 122  
Fax: (613) 692-2806  
Email: [shorelines@lrconline.com](mailto:shorelines@lrconline.com)  
Website: [www.livingbywater.ca](http://www.livingbywater.ca)

**Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA)**  
156 Duncan Mill Rd., Ste. 18  
Toronto ON M3B 3N2  
Tel: (416) 429-0444  
Fax: (416) 429-4944  
Email: [info@foca.on.ca](mailto:info@foca.on.ca)  
Website: [www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca)

**Parks Canada – Ontario**  
111 Water St. E.  
Cornwall ON K6H 6S3  
Toll-free: 1-800-839-8221  
Fax: (613) 937-1331  
Email: [information@pc.gc.ca](mailto:information@pc.gc.ca)  
Website: [www.parkscanada.gc.ca](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca)

**Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources  
Lands and Water Section**  
300 Water St., Box 7000  
Peterborough ON K9J 8M5  
Tel: (705) 755-2000  
Fax: (705) 755-1677  
Email: [mnr.nric@mnr.gov.on.ca](mailto:mnr.nric@mnr.gov.on.ca)  
Website: [www.mnr.gov.on.ca](http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca)  
(You can find a copy of the 2003 Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources fishing regulations on this website. Just click on the "Fish and Wildlife" link.)

**On the Living Edge: Your Handbook for Waterfront Living**, by The Living By Water Project. Produced by Conservation Ontario and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. Order from: The Living By Water Project (see "Helpful Contacts").

**Keeping Your Lake Great** (annual lake stewardship newsletter), by the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations. Order from: FOCA (see "Helpful Contacts").

### SHORELINE LINGO

**BUFFER ZONE:** a replication of nature's riparian zone (see below) by conscientious cottagers, using native plant species. The wider the buffer, the better for your lake.

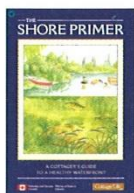
**LITTORAL ZONE:** the thriving strip of water closest to shore, where up to 90 per cent of lake species either lives or passes through.

**NATIVE PLANT SPECIES:** vegetation indigenous to your cottage area. Born of local soil and climate, they're hardier, managing without pesticides and fertilizers.

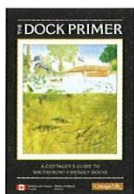
**PHOSPHORUS:** a "nutrient" occurring in nature, but also in human products, such as fecal matter and fertilizers. Too much phosphorus in runoff force-feeds algae and disrupts the aquatic balance.

**RIPARIAN ZONE:** the thriving strip of trees, shrubs, and plants at the water's edge. It acts as a "buffer," purifying runoff and securing soil, and provides shelter for shoreline wildlife.

### FURTHER READING



**The Shore Primer**, by Ray Ford.  
Produced by Cottage Life  
and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.



**The Dock Primer**, by Max Burns.  
Produced by Cottage Life  
and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Order free copies of *The Shore Primer* and *The Dock Primer* from: Fisheries and Oceans Canada (see "Helpful Contacts"). Both primers are also posted on [www.cottagelife.com](http://www.cottagelife.com) and [www.fish-habitat.com](http://www.fish-habitat.com).





# HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

- 🌲 Water tree daily
- 🌲 Use battery-operated candles
- 🌲 Close your doors when sleeping
- 🌲 Do not overload electrical outlets
- 🌲 Stay in the kitchen when cooking
- 🌲 Check decorations for certification label
- 🌲 Drink responsibly and do not drink and drive
- 🌲 Never leave a source of fire or heat unattended
- 🌲 Check to make sure your smoke alarms are working
- 🌲 Never use charcoal or gasoline-fueled devices indoors
- 🌲 Keep combustibles at least three feet away from heat sources
- 🌲 Turn off, unplug and extinguish all decorations when leaving the house or going to sleep



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# Is the wolf the most Canadian animal?

BY ALI AMAD PUBLISHED: DECEMBER 8, 2021

This essay about the wolf was originally published as part of “The Great Canadian Creature Feature” appeared in the [June/July 2021 issue](#) of Cottage Life.

Growing up as a ‘90s kid in the United Arab Emirates, I was often glued to the television screen in my living room. Along with subtitled reruns of Full House and ER, a smattering of Canadian shows had somehow made it all the way to the Middle East. I didn’t know much about Canada, a country nearly 11,000 kilometres away. But television taught me a lot about it, both fact and fiction.

My favourite shows were [North of 60](#), a CBC drama about a First Nations town in the Northwest Territories, and [Due South](#), a quirky police procedural about an impossibly polite Canadian Mountie, played by Paul Gross. The Mountie’s constant companion was Diefenbaker, a majestic, white part-wolf that also happened to read lips—in several languages.

Living as I did in a country where 40-degree summers and sand storms are the norm, Canada’s cold winters, endless snow, and wide expanses of forest became the stuff of fantasy. For me, nothing evoked “Canada” more than an imperious wolf calling to its pack with a piercing howl that resonated across the snowy pines of the wilderness. Ever since those formative years, the wolf has been prominent in my conception of Canada—even after fantasies became different realities when I immigrated to Toronto in 2006.

I arrived in Canada as a shy, inexperienced 17-year-old university student, separated from my family for the first time. Those early days were exciting, but also terrifying—I was in a strange city in an inconceivably large country where no one really knew or



cared about me. And I can definitively say that my first-hand experiences of Canada's frigid winter temperatures and deluges of snow were the furthest thing from my romanticized fantasies. Those first few years in Canada were tough. In many ways, I identified with the lone wolf, continents and oceans away from my pack. I had to learn to rely on myself to forge a life and career here. I became stronger and more resilient.

Those traits are what I admire the most about wolves—about all of Canada's wolf species. They're survivors. Wolves lead harsh lives. While some can live up to 13 years in the wild, most die far earlier through disease, starvation, or from human hunting rifles. They're shy like I once was, but behind their skittish elusiveness is a dogged desire to live. This desire is what makes them so terrifying to their prey, but it's also why they're revered by many First Nations as fearless and patient hunters. While I flew on a plane to leave my family behind, wolves that depart from their pack are known to take solo treks for hundreds of kilometres in search of food and a new home. And in an incredible testament to their endurance and resolve, they can go a week or longer without eating.

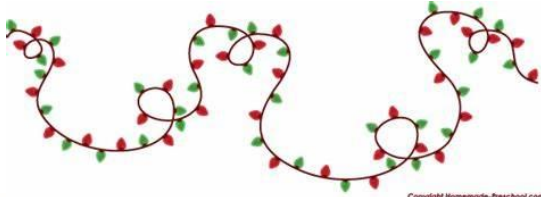
### **Tiny wolf pups practice howling together**

**But as much as I developed my independence in Canada, I learned that being alone is a limiting way to live. Similarly, while wolves can fend for themselves if they have to, they're also social animals that will work together. The entire pack assumes**

responsibility for each pup, and a female wolf will adopt the pups of another mother who starves or fails to return from a hunt. I respect how wolves take this balanced approach to life—depending on the situation, they rely on themselves or the collective.

After my initial isolation in Canada, I made university friendships that have grown into lifelong bonds. Those friends are my brothers today. My new pack. They were the ones who introduced me to a version of Canada that I'd only experienced on television.

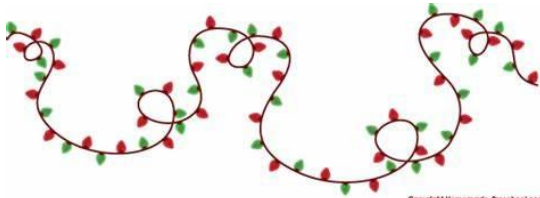




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ontario.ca/firemarshal  
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# Merry Christmas From My Family To Yours



**DAPHNE KALLIOMAKI**

Your Cordova Lake / Cottage or Home

Real Estate

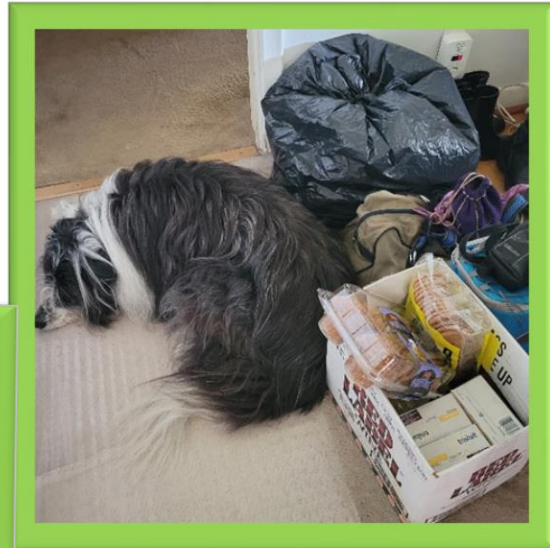
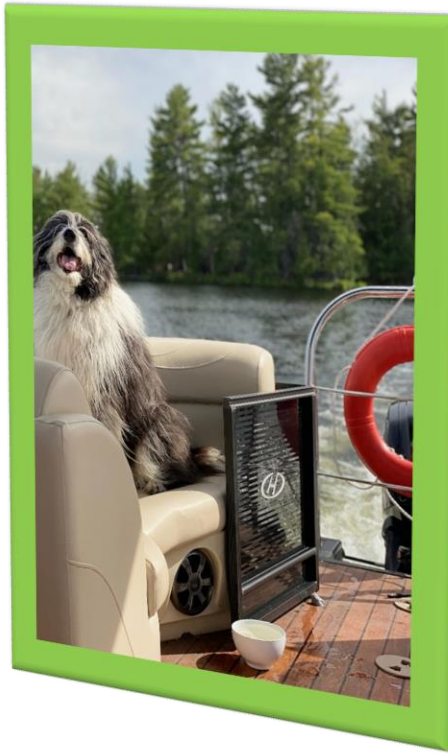
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

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# Cordova Lake Memories!

**Niko the dog!**  
**The happy boater and sad to**  
**leave the cottage!**  
**Pictures Courtesy of Sue Heim**



**A light snack!!**  
**Picture Courtesy of**  
**Cathy Masson**





**After the storm December 2021**  
**Picture Courtesy of David Nickleford**

**Happy Holidays!**  
**from**  
**Sam's Place General Store**

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Summer Fun!  
Pictures Courtesy  
of Angie Lewis



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## 10 reasons to escape to the cottage this holiday season

BY CHLOE RISTOW PUBLISHED: DECEMBER 1, 2017

The holiday season is fast approaching, and with it a flood of events, engagements, and responsibilities. Office Christmas parties, family dinners, and jam-packed malls don't make your winter break very relaxing. So why not get away from it all? Here are 10 reasons why you should escape to the cottage this holiday season.

### **Wintry gifts can be unwrapped, and unleashed**

From toques to toboggans, a holiday trip to the cottage lets you put your newly gifted winter gear to the test. Giftees will be warm, and gifters will know they've made the right choice. Even those socks that Santa brings every year will be put to good use.

### **The harder the work, the sweeter the reward**

For many of us, a winter trip to the cottage can be quite an undertaking. Aside from doubling the amount of clothing that we have to pack, some cottagers are faced with the added difficulty of unplowed driveways and laneways. Seasonal properties are often accessed via private laneway, and may be left unplowed by municipalities. This could mean loading up the toboggan for any number of trips to and from the head of the road. For boat access cottagers, this could mean a lengthy trek over ice. (Remember to be sure of ice conditions before you begin your trip!)

These voyages, while arduous, are so rewarding. There is an added pride and pleasure to loading up all that one needs and hiking off into the snow. That first cottage beer never tasted so good!

### **Keeping it simple**

The added struggles of access have a secondary benefit. You can be certain that once you have to drag items into the cottage yourself, you'll bring only what you really need. You can leave behind the clutter and enjoy what truly matters, good food and good company.

### **Unplug and unwind**

The lack of cell service in many of our cottage communities can be a real blessing this time of year. With work responsibilities generally in a lull due to the holiday season, this is the perfect time to enjoy a guilt-free unplugged holiday. Set that out-of-office reply and enjoy the rural bliss you've been missing.

### **No drop-ins**

Christmas is a social time, and while we all love to visit over the holidays, it can often become overwhelming, especially when that "good company" shows up unannounced. With a busy holiday schedule, moments of solitude can be few and far between. At the cottage in the winter, you can be almost certain that those who show up, are on the guest list.

### **A wintry night sky**

Ice-cold winter nights bring crystal clear winter skies. For the seasoned astronomer or the curious amateur, winter brings about some the most amazing stargazing opportunities. This is a great time to do a little research and find out which constellations you can only see in winter. A clear sky on a winters night can make you forget all about missing your favourite TV show.

### **All-day campfires**

For the fire-bug in the family, holiday cottaging has an added benefit; campfires are no longer an evening affair. A winter day spent adventuring outdoors is far more enjoyable with a roaring campfire to toast lunches, cook dinners, and dry out soggy mitts and toques. And not needing to run inside to get warm ensures you make the most of the daylight hours.



## Booze stays cold in the snowbank

'Nuff said.

## Get to know the locals

One person's community is another person's year-round hometown. The rural natural resource and tourism-based hubs that support our cottage communities are some of the most interesting places in all of Canada. General stores that are passed down through generations, eclectic art and craft shops, and hole-in-the-wall diners are a treasure trove of friendly faces and rich history. While things are a little less hectic in town, why not take the time to get to know your seasonal neighbours?

## The solace of winter

Packed shopping malls, jammed schedules, late nights, and early mornings. The holiday season can be a stressful one. The cottage may be just the winter escape you need to relax and recover.



### Trim the Tree with Fire Safety

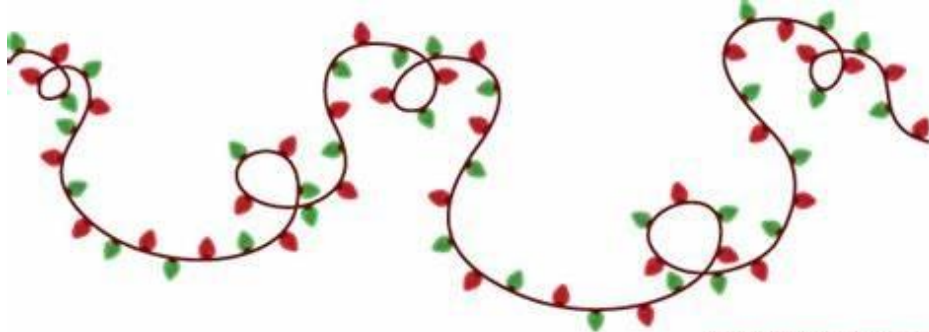
- When choosing a real tree, pick one that has been freshly cut; *Needles should not fall off when touched*
- Make a fresh cut **five centimetres (two inches)** off the base of the trunk before placing the tree in the stand
- Add water to the tree stand **every day**
- Make sure the tree is **at least one metre (three feet)** away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights
- **Never** place lit candles on the tree
- Discard the tree when it dries out and large amounts of needles begin to fall off

**For more information contact your local fire department.**



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