

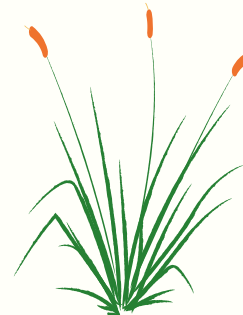
CORDOVA LAKE COTTAGE ASSOCIATION



Spring/Summer 2023 Newsletter

What's inside this issue:

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
REGATTA RECAP
CORDOVA COMMUNITY-SAYING GOODBYE
THANK YOU TO THE SPONSORS
FOCA UPDATE



President's Message

It is hard to believe that summer is just around the corner. Many of you will be coming up for your first long weekend (May 24) so the members of the Cordova Lake Cottage Association (CLCA) wanted to update everyone on a few things.

1)The CLCA 2023 Membership Drive will be starting shortly. Reminder, we received a majority vote at last year's CLCA AGM to increase the annual CLCA fees to \$30. So please visit the CLCA website at <https://www.cordovalake.ca> and hit the [Membership] button from the home page for instructions. As properties continue to sell on the lake, we are asking all existing members to help us try and promote the CLCA to those new property owners. Please direct any new neighbours to the CLCA website (link provided above).

2)The CLCA Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday July 8th, from 10 am to 11:30 am at the Cordova Mines Community Center (55 Alfred St E, Havelock, ON K0L 1Z0).

3)All four (4) positions (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary) on the CLCA Executive Committee are up for renewal at this year's CLCA AGM. If anyone is interested in running for any of these positions, please contact the current President (Elaine Epp at edepp3943@gmail.com).

4)The Regatta Sub-Committee from last year has graciously volunteered to run this year's Regatta (REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE: Saturday August 5th from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm, at the Beach).

5)We are looking for volunteers to help out with the following:

a. Water Testing – please contact current President (Elaine Epp at edepp3943@gmail.com)

b. 2023 Regatta – please contact chair of Regatta Sub-Committee (Elise Rice at elise.rice@rogers.com)

6)Remember to check out and support the CLCA Sponsors by visiting the CLCA website at <https://www.cordovalake.ca> and selecting the [Sponsors] tab.

7)Check out the newly revamped Cordova Mines Recreation Association (CMRA) for community events and programs (e.g., Community Dinners, Pancake Breakfasts, Renting the Community Hall etc.) in the Hamlet with a heart of GOLD. You can follow them through the [Cordova Mines Recreation Association Facebook Group](#). Note, they will be posting their events on the [Cordova Lake Cottagers Facebook Group](#), as well.

Your voice is important. If you have anything you wish to bring up to the CLCA Executive Committee, please contact the current President (Elaine Epp at edepp3943@gmail.com).

Be safe, considerate of others and we will all celebrate a healthy and happy 2023 Spring/Summer/Fall on Cordova Lake.
Regards, Elaine Epp President of CLCA (on behalf of all CLCA Executive Committee Members)

Regatta Recap



Last year, the Cordova Lake Cottage Association celebrated its 50th Annual Regatta on July 30, 2022, and what a celebration it was! It was amazing to see everyone together enjoying themselves after a tough couple of years. The weather was perfect, the BBQ was FREE and the everyone was smiling. It was everything we, had hoped for.

The 2022 regatta will forever be known as the 50th Annual Regatta Sponsored by Leon's Peterborough. A huge thank you also goes out to; Johnston Excavating and Concrete, Daphne Kalliomaki, Sam's Place General Store, Broadbent's Home Hardware, Havelock Guardian, Canadian Tire Campbellford, Vandermeer Toyota and Prinston Homes. The contributions from all our sponsors allowed us to offer our traditional CLCA BBQ at no charge, create 8 new games for the kids to enjoy and purchase all new signage for the regatta which can be used year after year. None of this would have been possible without the support from our generous sponsors. Our Silent Auction was a huge success and once again we would like to thank everyone who donated. With donations from many members of our lake community as well as countless donations from local businesses we were able to deliver a variety of items for everyone to enjoy bidding on. (See a complete list of those who donated at end of article).



The 50th regatta offered up some of the traditional events including Horseshoes, kids races and relays and the infamous egg toss (apparently this year the eggs were indestructible). Sorry Jim Greives, no hog this year! Also offered were some new events including the Rib Cook Off, Bake Off, Photo Contest and Kids Colouring Contest. We would like to thank everyone that participated in these events and would like to acknowledge the winners. Congratulations goes to...



**Horseshoe
Tournament**

Darcy Huber &
Sean Griffiths

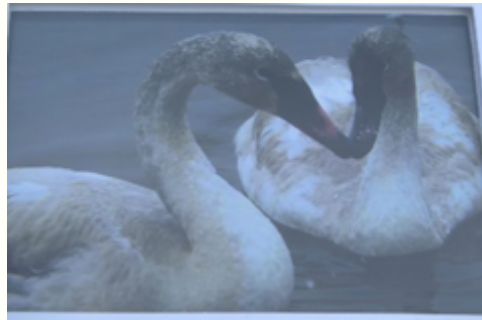


Photo Contest
Tammy Cole



**Also, a huge shout
out to our raffle
winners...**

Jason Cole -
Napolean BBQ
Mr. Boustead -
Napolean Fire Table
Rick Gubb -
Adirondack chairs



Rib Cook Off
Jeff Campin



Colouring Contest
Leah Maynard



Bake Off
Nancy Grozelle



Thank you to all who donated this year!

- Valu-Mart
- Tony & Carolyn Callum
- Possibilities
- Jillian's Antiques
- Boustead Family
- BMR
- Gemmill & Cullen Family
- Dave & April Carr
- Canadian Tire
- Tammy Cole
- Rick & Allyson Gubb
- Havelock Tim Hortons
- Guardian Havelock Pharmacy
- Laura Spoelstra
- Pink Chowdhury
- Julie Cassidy
- Doris & Murray Axford
- Off the Porch Crafts & Gifts
- Main Street Spa
- Teresa Lamers
- Diana Xamin
- Nancy & Clare Randy Pater
- Sturdee Family
- Catherine Masson
- Theo's Pizzeria
- Katie Findlay
- Dooher's Baker
- Marmora Spa & Nails
- Casey O'Neill
- Bob & Diana Barrett
- Willful
- Jeff Peters
- Good For the Soul
- Nickles Pharmacy
- Donofrio Family
- Boland Family
- Vicky Hare
- Forever Flowers
- Flicke Family
- Daphne Kalliomaki
- Pat Fox
- Cottage Country
- Elaine Epp

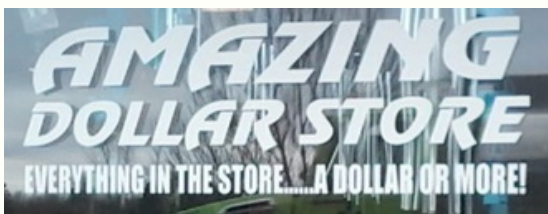
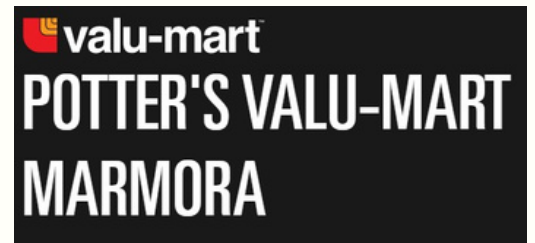
**Save the Date...
2023 Regatta
Saturday August 5!**



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sponsors...



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THE COTTAGE



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Cordova Community

Saying goodbye to our Cordova Lake members



Beckford (née Byrne), Dawn Tracy

It is with heavy hearts we share the passing of Dawn Beckford of Cordova Mines, on May 8, 2023 at the age of 59 years.

A matriarch in the Beckford family, Dawn will be greatly missed by the love of her life of 45+ years, Gord. She is deeply loved by her daughters, the late Michelle (Gordo), Sara (Jonathan), Laura (Adrian), and Erin (Ryan).

Proud Gramma to the lights of her life, Andrea (Squigs), Patricia (Bear), Liam (Liamaurous), and Lucas (Luker).

Devoted daughter to Dianne and Gary Westlake and the late Murray Byrne and daughter-in-law to Win and the late Ray Beckford.

Sister to Cathy (Steve), Robyn (Jeff), Mark (Lori), and Megan. Sister-in-law to Tim (Sophie), Bill (Angela), and Carl (Mary). Bonus sister to Kerri (Todd) and Kelly.

Cherished aunt to many nieces and nephews. Beloved by her countless friends and extended family.

Dawn's positive outlook for life and contagious smile and laugh will be greatly missed.

In honour of Dawn's dedication to community involvement, in lieu of flowers, donations to the Cordova Mines Recreation Association are greatly appreciated.



Sheldon SMITH Obituary

Passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, in Campbellford at the age of 94. Previously of Belleville.

Cherished father of Joanne Smith (the late Phil Robertson) and Derrick Smith (Anne Henry).

Grandfather of Tiffany Thompson. He will be sadly missed by his nephews Richard and Bob Blackwell and by his extended family. Sheldon was inducted into the Peterborough and District Sports Hall of Fame in 1989 and is the recipient of four City of Peterborough Civic Awards for his racing accomplishments. Sheldon was the top racer in Canada between 1950 and 1968. He also won national titles in 500-mile races for three years in the 1950s. Along with being an avid motorcycle rider all his life, he enjoyed spending time at the cottage he built on Cordova Lake. A Graveside Service will be held on Saturday, May 27th at 11:00 a.m. at HIGHLAND PARK CEMETERY, 2510 Bensfort Road, Peterborough.

Online condolences may be made by visiting www.highlandparkfuneralcentre.com

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John PRIEBE Obituary

Peacefully, in his sleep, after a lengthy illness on Monday, February 13, 2023, at age 58. John Priebe of Nestleton, beloved husband of Grace Celerian. Loved father of Ben Priebe and his wife Jordie of Sudbury, Chris Priebe and his wife Sara of Port Perry, and Steve Priebe and his wife Charmaine of Bowmanville. Brother of Jay Priebe and his wife Jenny Johnson, and Joelle and her husband Aaron Hill. Dear son of Val and Yvonne Priebe of Caesarea. He will be missed by his nephews Jonas and Ezra. If desired, memorial donations may be made by cheque to the Oak Ridges Hospice in Port Perry. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.waggfuneralhome.com



Cordova Mines Recreation Association

Strawberry 
Social



\$15

Saturday, June 24

11:00 - 1:00

Cordova Mines Community Centre



Cold Meats

Salads

Strawberry Treats

Tea & Coffee

Cold Drinks

RSVP with Irene @
705-778-2016 or 705-772-0359

Vandermeer
 **TOYOTA**

CUSTOMER DRIVEN SINCE 1988

FOCA – Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations 60 Years Old

On January 7th, 1963, 125 people representing 40 cottage associations met for the first time and decided the time was right to form a provincial association. And so, the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) was born! Today, FOCA represents 50,000 families in over 525 lake, camp, cottage, river and road associations across the province.

In 2022 alone, FOCA's environmental programs engaged more than 1,000 volunteers, and over \$13,000 was granted in program funding for on-the-ground invasive species work undertaken by our member Associations. FOCA released important new reports about short-term rentals, and rural road issues, as well as a first-of-its-kind study of the economic impact of waterfront property owners across Ontario. Our collective annual household spending of \$11.4 billion dollars, including \$700+ million in property taxes, demonstrates the huge economic footprint of our community and the importance to rural and northern Ontario communities!

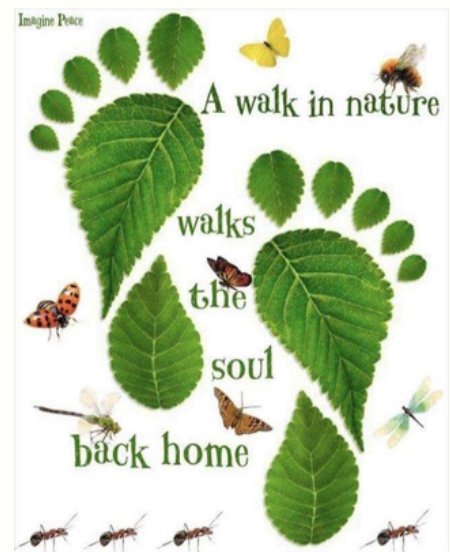
[The CLCA is a member of FOCA. We participate their Lake Partners Program for water testing. FOCA offers many benefits to you through your membership in CLCA.]



Foca

Spring Burning

Despite the cooler temperatures, we need to be aware that spring burning (especially before the leaves are on the trees) can be particularly hazardous. Composting your leaves and brush is a safer alternative to burning them. Learn more and watch a spring burning video from FOCA on their webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/fire-safety/>



Pleasure Craft Licensing Changes

Transport Canada is proposing changes to modernize pleasure craft licensing, which will come into effect in the winter of 2023.

Proposed changes to pleasure craft licensing include:

1. Introducing a five-year validity period for pleasure craft licences (PCL).
2. Expanding the Small Vessel Regulations to include all pleasure crafts equipped with motors of 10 hp or more and all pleasure crafts (including all power-driven and sail-alone vessels) above six metres in length.
3. Owners must notify Transport Canada of a name or address change and of a sale or transfer of a vessel within 30 days.
4. Easier cancellation of a pleasure craft licence, if a lifetime PCL holder fails to apply, a PCL holder fails to renew a PCL, or a PCL holder wishes to remove their pleasure craft from service.
5. Introducing a \$15 service fee to process an application to obtain, renew, or duplicate a PCL.

Mandatory PFD Wear Under Consideration

Over the last 12 years of OPP marine unit statistics, of the 289 boaters who have died on the water, 88% of them were not wearing a PFD (personal floatation device), and more than 85% were in vessels shorter than 6 metres in length. As part of making the boating experience safer, FOCA has long encouraged everyone to wear a PFD when on the water, as have our colleagues at the Lifesaving Society, Canadian Safe Boating Council, Boating Ontario, the Ontario Provincial Police and others.

This Spring, Transport Canada will be seeking input on proposed changes to Small Vessel Regulations which would require all boaters and passengers to wear a PFD on boats. The public review will take place through the Let's Talk Transportation website likely starting in April.

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Bill 23 Implementation



"As of January 1, municipalities can no longer seek advice from conservation authorities (CAs) to determine if planning applications may impact water quality in local lakes and rivers. Planning applications will still be circulated to CAs to get important advice on impacts to flooding, erosion, wetlands and unstable soils (known as natural hazards) but, provincial regulations now prohibit CAs from providing additional advice on ecological impacts to the watershed, even if requested by municipalities. CAs are working with municipalities and applicants to help them transition, and moving forward, CAs will continue to work with individuals, developers and municipalities to assess natural hazard risks and how to mitigate them."



BURNING NOTICE

FIRE RESTRICTIONS ARE IN EFFECT.

Fire restrictions are now in effect, NO open air burning is permitted, except for small campfires in the evenings.

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Havelock-Belmont-Methuen (HBM) – Current/Relative News (from HBM website and emails)

Fish Hatchery Road

HBM is working with the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNDMNR) to take over ownership of Fish Hatchery Road. HBM staff is exploring the option of area-rating costs associated with the upgrading of Fish Hatchery Road to HBM municipal standards.

6th Line Transfer Station

The new weigh scale at the 6th Line Transfer Station is now operational. A cashless payment system has also been implemented, which means only debit and credit card payments will now be accepted at this location.

HBM Using CLOUDPERMIT Online Software for Building Permitting and Planning Applications

Havelock-Belmont-Methuen is pleased to offer residents, builders, and the business community Cloudpermit – an online system to apply for and track your building permits.

The Cloudpermit building permit system allows you to apply for and to see the status of your application anywhere, at any time. You can start an application and finish it later, and receive email updates on the status of your permit application.

1. Create an account in Cloudpermit.
2. Start a new application.
3. Pay for your permit.
4. Request an inspection.

Go to the HBM website for more information or use this link: <https://www.hbmtwp.ca/en/doing-business/building-and-planning.aspx>

Note, Council approved By-law 2023-017 being a By-Law respecting building permits and inspections (8 different items have increased effective 1-July-2023).

Property Assessment Update Delay Continued

Property assessments for the 2022 and 2023 property tax years will continue to be based on the fully phased-in January 1, 2016 current values.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ontario government postponed the 2020 Assessment Update. They have indicated that 2022 and 2023 property tax years will continue to use the current values. This means your property assessment for the 2023 property tax year will be the same as the 2022 tax year unless there have been changes to your property. For more, visit MPAC's (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) webpages:

<https://www.mpac.ca>



**WATCH 4 TURTLES
CROSSING ROADS**

**BABIES
ON BOARD**

NESTING SEASON
May to Mid-July

**If you find an injured turtle please
call the Ontario Turtle Conservation
Centre (OTCC), home of Ontario's
turtle hospital at 705-741-5000.**

SHARED BY THINK TURTLE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE THINKTURTLE.CA



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HOW TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WILDFIRES

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION STEPS THAT CAN MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER DURING A WILDFIRE



■ VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

1. HOME IGNITION ZONES

To increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire, choose fire-resistant building materials and limit the amount of flammable vegetation in the three home ignition zones. The zones include the **Immediate Zone**: (0 to 5 feet around the house), the **Intermediate Zone** (5 to 30 feet), and the **Extended Zone** (30 to 100 feet).

2. LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE

To reduce ember ignitions and fire spread, trim branches that overhang the home, porch, and deck and prune branches of large trees up to 6 to 10 feet (depending on their height) from the ground. Remove plants containing resins, oils, and waxes. Use crushed stone or gravel instead of flammable mulches in the **Immediate Zone** (0 to 5 feet around the house). Keep your landscape in good condition.

■ FIRE RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION

3. ROOFING AND VENTS

Class A fire-rated roofing products, such as composite shingles, metal, concrete, and clay tiles, offer the best protection. Inspect shingles or roof tiles and replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration. Box in eaves, but provide ventilation to prevent condensation and mildew. Roof and attic vents should be screened to prevent ember entry.

4. DECKS AND PORCHES

Never store flammable materials underneath decks or porches. Remove dead vegetation and debris from under decks and porches and between deck board joints.

5. SIDING AND WINDOWS

Embers can collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials; radiant heat from flames can crack windows. Use fire-resistant siding such as brick, fiber-cement, plaster, or stucco, and use dual-pane tempered glass windows.

■ BE PREPARED

6. EMERGENCY RESPONDER ACCESS

Ensure your home and neighborhood have legible and clearly marked street names and numbers. Driveways should be at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet for emergency vehicle access.

- Develop, discuss, and practice an emergency action plan with everyone in your home. Include details for handling pets, large animals, and livestock.
- Know two ways out of your neighborhood and have a predesignated meeting place.
- Always evacuate if you feel it's unsafe to stay—don't wait to receive an emergency notification if you feel threatened from the fire.
- Conduct an annual insurance policy checkup to adjust for local building costs, codes, and new renovations.
- Create or update a home inventory to help settle claims faster.



**TALK TO YOUR LOCAL FORESTRY AGENCY
OR FIRE DEPARTMENT TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE SPECIFIC WILDFIRE RISK
WHERE YOU LIVE.**



FIREWISE USA®
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

VISIT [FIREWISE.ORG](https://www.firewise.org) FOR MORE DETAILS

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Order a Reducing Wildfire Risks in the Home Ignition Zone checklist/poster at [Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org)

Emergency preparedness starts with you be prepared



make a plan



build a kit



stay informed

Emergency preparedness starts with you be prepared

build a kit



- ✓ Customize your kit
- ✓ Pack enough for 3 days
- ✓ Refresh twice a year



First aid kit



Non-perishable food



Crank radio



Water (4L/person/day)



Flashlight



Medication



Documents
& cash



Batteries
& chargers



Clothing
& blankets



Personal items

Avian Influenza in Ontario

Peterborough Public Health Urges Caution Around Wild Birds

With spring weather and bird migration, increasing avian influenza activity in Ontario is prompting Peterborough Public Health to urge the public to use caution around wild birds and poultry. Last year saw significant transmission of avian influenza in wild and domesticated bird populations.

According to Julie Ingram, Manager of Environmental Health at Peterborough Public Health, avian influenza (AI), commonly known as 'bird flu,' is a Type A influenza virus that can infect domesticated and wild birds, including chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, pheasants, quail and guineafowl.

While avian influenza is not a significant public health concern for healthy people who are not in routine contact with infected birds, all residents are reminded to avoid touching or handling dead birds and water fowl, or birds/fowl that appear to be unwell. In addition, pet owners are advised to ensure their pets do not consume or play with dead wild birds and not to feed pets raw meat from game birds or poultry. Residents are also encouraged to know how to identify the symptoms of avian flu in wild bird populations. Signs of avian influenza in wild birds include:

- Nervousness, tremors or lack of coordination
- Swelling around the head, neck and eyes
 - Lack of energy or movement
- Coughing, gasping for air or sneezing
 - Diarrhea
 - Sudden death

To report sick or dead wild birds, contact the Ontario regional centre of the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative at 1-(866)-673-4781 or report online.



Blue Frog Water Gardens

Weeds Away!

Operating in as little as 2' of water. Designed to create a continuous current of water will move weeds, muck, silt, and suspended debris away from wherever it is pointed. This could be your swimming area, dock, marina or pier. The blower also prevents fine silt and sediment particles settling near your swimming area, marina or near your dock which ultimately forms muck.

It comes with a quick disconnect power cord and a dock mount kit (1" x 6' steel pole not included). Energy efficient & simple installation.

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CVCA – Current/Relative News (from CVCA website)

Spring Freshet Safety

The “freshet” is the annual spring thaw of snow and ice in our watersheds. Quick melts and heavy rain can contribute to flooding, as ground that is still frozen does not absorb extra moisture easily. Even if your current watershed conditions are not suggesting higher flood risks, conditions can change quickly, and bring the potential for near-shore flooding; being prepared is the best possible approach for waterfront property owners.

Cordova Lake is in the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) area. The CVCA posts information on Flood Messages and Low Water Response on the top of their main website page. We have included the basics below.

The CVCA monitors weather information, river flows, snow pack and ice conditions in order to predict when floods will occur and how high the water may rise. When flooding is possible, or about to occur, the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority issues flood messages to municipal emergency management officials and the media.






As a result of a review of flood message terminology, Crowe Valley Conservation Authority and Conservation Authorities across the province are introducing some changes effective immediately. These changes will ensure that Conservation Authorities use consistent terminology in line with that used by other agencies such as the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment Canada and the Weather Network.

Flood Messages and What They Mean

The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority issues 4 types of messages, depending on conditions:

1. Normal
2. Watershed Conditions Statement (with 2 variations: "Water Safety" and "Flood Outlook")
3. Flood Watch
4. Flood Warning

Should flooding occur, the first response is up to you! As a property owner, you need an emergency plan to minimize flood-related property damages. While CVCA flood forecasting and warning program is responsible for providing timely, accurate flood predictions, our municipality (HBM) is responsible for emergency response in the event of severe flooding.

 <p>Normal</p>	No flood conditions exist
 <p>Water Safety Statement</p>	High flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors that could be dangerous for recreational users such as anglers, canoeists, hikers, pets, etc. Flooding is not expected.
 <p>Flood Outlook Statement</p>	Early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high wind or other conditions that could lead to high runoff, cause ice jams, lakeshore flooding or erosion.
 <p>Flood Watch</p>	Flooding is possible in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.
 <p>Flood Warning</p>	Flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities.

Current Low Water Status:



The Ontario Low Water Response program was developed to ensure that the province is prepared in case of low water conditions. It is designed to assist in the coordination and support for local responses in the event of a drought. An area or watershed is considered to be in drought if:

- it is below normal levels of precipitation over an extended period of time
- stream flows are at the minimum requirement to sustain aquatic life
- low water conditions are causing socio-economic effects

When current conditions fall below the drought indicator levels, the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority’s Low Water Response team holds regular meetings to coordinate local actions to minimize the impacts of drought.

The CVCA Low Water Response Team is composed of representatives from the Ministry, Industry, Recreation and CVCA staff and board members. Voluntary conservation is the main measure that can be promoted/implemented during a low water event in our area. Municipalities can enforce by-laws to restrict non-essential water consumption.

HELP SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH

**Annual Yard Sale & BBQ.
50/50 & BBQ on both
Friday & Saturday**

Drop by for some cool
finds, raffle tickets and
great food to help a
great cause!

Looking for and
needing Donations

**385 VANSICKLE RD. HAVELOCK ONTARIO
FRIDAY AUGUST 4TH - SATURDAY AUGUST
5TH AT 8 AM -4PM**

This will be our 6th year for this yard
sale for Mental Health in my son Brock's
memory. 100% all the proceeds will be
going to Mental Health in Belleville

For more information about the Yard Sale or to donate message
Jennifer May Sweet-Dafoe on Facebook or @ 613 403 4917



**FIREWORKS
REQUIRE A
PERMIT**

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HBM Fire Chief




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<p>Lavender</p>   <p>Mosquito Housefly Flea</p>	<p>Lemon Grass</p>   <p>Mosquito Housefly Flea</p>	<p>Lemon Balm</p>   <p>Mosquito Housefly</p>
<p>Peppermint</p>   <p>Mosquito Spider Housefly</p>	<p>Thyme</p>   <p>Mosquito Ant</p>	<p>Catnip</p>   <p>Mosquito Cockroach</p>

lazy days
 SPLISH SPLASH SPIOOSH
 rays of sunshine
 ice cream & popsicles
 giggles & smiles
 BURGERS • HOT DOGS • CORN ON THE COB
 TWINKLING STARS
 CAMP FIRES & S'MORES
SUMMER

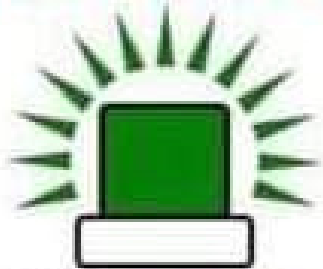


part of
the family
Peterborough

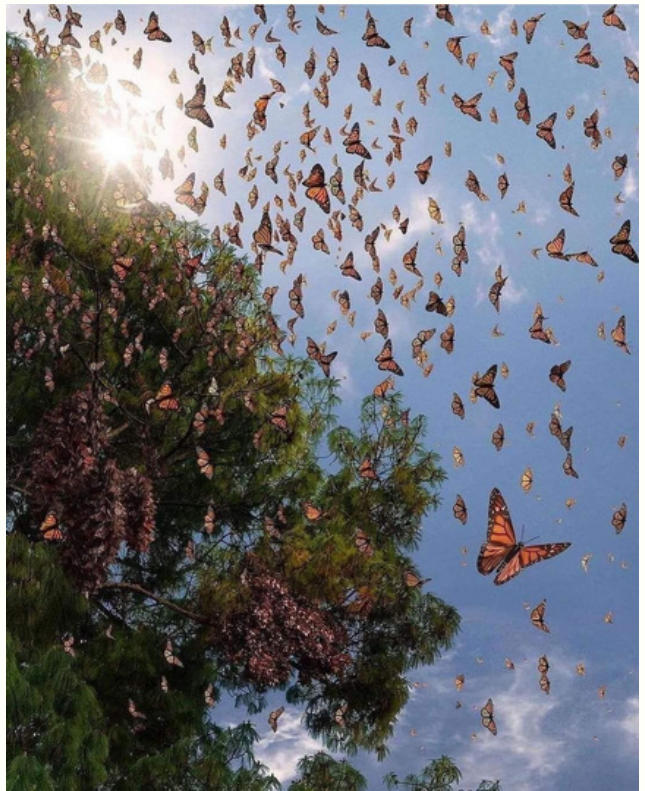

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Seasonal fire safety

Make fire safety a priority whether at your home, your cottage or during a celebration. Always make sure there are working smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms where you are staying and that you and your family know your fire escape plan. Here are a few tips to help stay fire safe during seasonal activities and occasions.

At the cottage

- To minimize the risk of fire and burn injury while at the cottage, follow these fire safety tips:
- Install smoke alarms. It's the law for all Ontario homes, cottages, cabins and seasonal homes to have working smoke alarms on every storey and outside all sleeping areas.
- Install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your cottage if it has a fuel-burning appliance.
- Test smoke and CO alarms at least monthly or each time you return to the cottage. Pack new alarms and batteries when going to the cottage in case they need to be replaced.
- Develop and practice a cottage fire escape plan to ensure everyone knows what to do if the smoke alarms sound.
- Know the telephone number for the local fire department and your cottage's emergency sign number.
- Clean barbecues before using them. Keep an eye on lit barbecues and ensure all combustibles, as well as children and pets, are kept well away from them. Fires can happen when barbecues are left unattended.
- Keep barbecue lighters and matches out of sight and reach of children.
- Remember to bring a flashlight with extra batteries.
- Check heating appliances and chimneys before using them.
- Check with your local fire department, municipality, or the forest fires page to determine whether open-air burning is permitted before having a campfire or burning brush. If open burning is allowed, fires should be built on bare soil or exposed rock. Remove leaves and twigs from around the fire to keep it from spreading. Always keep a bucket of water, sand or even a shovel close by and supervise the fire at all times.
- Smoke outside. Keep a large can with water nearby so cigarette butts can be safely discarded.
- Drink responsibly. Tobacco use and excessive alcohol consumption are contributing factors in many fires and can lead to serious injuries.
- Burn candles in sturdy candle holders that will not tip and are covered with a glass shade. When you go out, blow out!

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5 invasive species that cost Ontario the most money

BY GRACE HUNTER PUBLISHED: MAY 2, 2023

For the amount of damage they cause, invasive species punch above their weight. The spread of invasives can have enormous consequences on natural ecosystems, recreation, and economic industries. Now, a study by a team of international researchers has revealed that the global economic cost of invasive species is as steep as the costs for natural disasters such as storms, earthquakes, and wildfires.



“Invasive species are costly,” says Sarah Rang, the executive director of the Invasive Species Centre, a non-profit that was not involved with the study. “We know in Ontario alone, it’s a \$3.6 billion annual cost because of the impacts on forests, fisheries, agriculture, tourism, and recreation.” Rang points to zebra mussels as a prime example of an invasive species whose actions have led to a big price tag in Ontario. While an individual zebra mussel is smaller than a fingernail, they form vast colonies can spread to form what looks like a large underwater lawn of mussels. Rang says that zebra mussels are efficient water filters, similar to little aquarium pumps going all day and all night. But their filtering abilities have cascading effects on the ecosystems of Ontario’s lakes. “They can store and change toxins and nutrients like phosphorus, which we know is like fertilizer for aquatic weeds,” says Rang. “There’s really good evidence that says zebra mussels take in water, they filter it, and they change the type of phosphorus that’s available and make it more available for plants and other things to grow,” she says. These little biological filters can lead to an overgrowth of aquatic plants and hazardous algal blooms in Ontario lakes.

But Rang points out that it’s important not to despair or be discouraged when faced with the high cost of invasive species. “There are practical steps that all of us can take to reduce the impacts of invasive species,” she says.

This first is to stop the introduction of invasive species to a new area. That’s the most cost-effective method of dealing with invasive, says Rang. For cottagers, and boaters in particular, there’s a simple motto to remember: clean, drain, dry. As of January 1st, 2022, Ontario has mandated that all boaters must remove or open drain plugs and take all reasonable precautions to remove invasive species on boats and associated equipment before transporting overland. Actions to prevent invasive species spread today will save Ontario money—and frustration—in the future.

The top 5 invasive species that cost us the most

From 2017 to 2019, the Invasive Species Centre surveyed Ontario municipalities and conservation authorities to estimate the costs spent on invasive species. The total estimated costs for invasive species was estimated at \$50.8 million per year.

Here are the top five invasive species that racked up the big bucks.

1. Emerald ash borer

This small, wood-boring beetle targets—you guessed it, ash trees. The larvae chew their way through a host ash tree, killing the tree in the process. The damage caused by the emerald ash borer quickly adds up for municipalities and conservation authorities as dead and damaged trees must be removed and replaced.

2. Zebra mussels

Along with their negative impact on freshwater food webs, zebra mussels are known to invade water supply pipes, leading to large repair costs.

3. Spongy moth (a.k.a. the LDD moth)

Unlike the emerald ash borer, spongy moths aren’t so picky about their host tree. The caterpillar stage of these invaders will feed upon the leaves from a variety of hardwood and some softwood trees. They impact the health of forests by stripping their host tree of leaves, impacting the forestry industry as well as tourism.

4. Quagga mussels

Quagga mussels can survive and spread across both hard and soft surfaces, damaging structures such as docks, break walls, and beaches.

5. Phragmites

A familiar sight along the highways up to cottage country, phragmites is a tall invasive reed that forms thick stands and crowds out native vegetation. Along with the harm they cause to native species, they can block off access to shorelines for property owners, boaters, and fishers.



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9 places to stop and explore along Highway 7

BY LEYLAND ROCHESTER PUBLISHED: MAY 16, 2023 UPDATED: MAY 18, 2023

Highway 7 is one of Ontario's oldest highways, and before Highway 401 was built, it was the main thoroughfare that connected Toronto to Ottawa. Now, it cuts right through eastern Ontario's cottage country, winding around towns like Sharbot Lake, Kaladar, Madoc, and Peterborough. It's a popular route for cottagers or just about anyone looking to escape for a weekend. That's why we've compiled a list of nine stops along Highway 7. Whether it's for food, fun, or just to stretch your legs, add these places to your list and experience all that the eastern part of the province has to offer

Haugen's Chicken & Ribs Barbecue in Port Perry

Where: Highway 7A at Highway 12, southwest of Port Perry

Okay, technically this one's not on the old Highway 7, but it's close enough. After Highway 7 splits into Highway 12 and Highway 7A west of Peterborough, follow Highway 7A down to Port Perry. Just off the road is Haugen's Chicken and Ribs, a hidden gem that is rumoured to be one of the best places for barbecue in Ontario. In operation for 70 years, it has been a community staple in Port Perry and the Lake Scugog area. They offer succulent barbecue chicken, ribs, burgers, sandwiches, and a whole lot more. Portion sizes are always large, and service is always friendly.



The Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough

Where: New location at 2077 Ashburnham Drive, 5 minutes from Highway 7 in downtown Peterborough

Unfortunately, you'll have to wait until late summer 2023 to visit the Canadian Canoe Museum, which is currently moving to a bigger and better location. They will reopen right on the waterfront in downtown Peterborough, which is a great spot to see not only the museum but the town itself. The Canadian Canoe Museum explores Canadian heritage and history through the unique lens of the canoe and other watercraft, which provides rich context to some of your favourite boating and paddling adventures. The museum boasts over 100 canoes, lots of Indigenous history, interactive galleries, a scavenger hunt, and puppet shows for kids. We also recommend exploring Peterborough, a scenic city that is the southern gateway to the Kawarthas and right on the Trent-Severn Waterway.

Indian River Reptile and Dinosaur Park in Indian River

Where: Highway 7 and Regional Road 38

Rawr! Did you know that Ontario has its very own dinosaur park? Well, you can't see real dinosaurs here, but they have life-sized, convincing replicas. Located east of Peterborough, Indian River Reptile Zoo and Dinosaur Park is a zoo and museum specializing in all things Jurassic. They have some great interactive galleries that the kids will love. You can walk or drive through the exhibits, which are mostly outdoors, but inside, they have a reptile zoo that doubles as a not-for-profit sanctuary for abandoned reptiles and other animals. All proceeds from ticket sales go toward the sanctuary, so if you want to support a great cause while having a fun-filled day, we highly recommend checking them out.





Jack's Family Restaurant in Norwood

Where: Off of Highway 7 in downtown Norwood

Jack's Family Restaurant in downtown Norwood offers tasty bites and wholesome homemade meals for affordable prices. It's rumoured to have some of the best fish and chips in eastern Ontario, and other famous seafood options include fish tacos, clam chowder, and shrimp and chips. They also have burgers, poutine, ribs, and even fancier options, such as braised lamb shanks and liver and onions. We also recommend exploring the picturesque town of Norwood, which has many stately historical buildings, a well-maintained main street, and beautiful gardens in Lion's Park.

Iron Rooster Rotisserie and Grill in Marmora

Where: Highway 7 and Yarrow Lane, equidistance between Marmora and Madoc

The Iron Rooster is a motorcycle-themed rotisserie and grill located on Highway 7 between Marmora and Madoc. It's known by locals for its delicious chicken wings, which their website claims are the best around town. But they also offer other delicious assortments of barbecue classics, such as chicken, beef burgers, and more than a dozen appetizers. Every year, they throw a huge block party hosted by a local Harley Davidson aficionado group, and the event has live music, a beer tent, a barbecue, a farmer's market, and a raffle for prizes. It's happening next in August 2023—if you're a motorcycle enthusiast, you must check them out!



Bon Echo Provincial Park in Cloyne

Where: On Highway 41, 20 minutes north of Highway 7 and Highway 41 in Kaladar

This one's a little far off the beaten path, but we promise it's worth it! Located 20 minutes north of Kaladar off Highway 7, Bon Echo Provincial Park is one of the most beautiful parks in Ontario and one of the most popular for camping and RVing. It offers some of the best hiking trails in eastern Ontario, which range in distance and difficulty from one kilometre to almost 20 kilometres. The park is home to the legendary "Painted Rock," which contains over 250 Indigenous pictograms that showcase the area's spiritual significance. Painted Rock towers 100 metres over Mazinaw Lake, a stunning cliff that seems to rise straight out of the water—breathtaking!



Perth

Where: Highway 7 and Highway 43, 25 minutes south of Carleton Place

Nowhere in particular in Perth, just Perth itself! If you love small, kitschy, and rural Ontario towns, then you'll want to explore downtown Perth for its quaint and quiet charms. Walk along the Tay River Trail, a historic portaging route from the early 19th century, and see the famous red bridge in Stewart Park. Every street corner offers cute shops, fine dining, and statuesque historic buildings. The Perth Brewery deserves a special shout-out for its fantastic selection of craft beer, and Rideau Antiques to the south of town deserves a visit for its huge offering of antiques and farm memorabilia in a country setting.



Balderson Village Cheese Store in Balderson
Where: On County Road 511, 10 minutes north of Perth off Highway 7

If you visit Perth, you might as well visit Balderson as well—arguably the cheese capital of eastern Ontario. Located only 10 minutes north of Perth off Highway 7, the Balderson Village Cheese Store is an iconic institution that’s been in operation since 1881. They offer a wide variety of premium cheeses, all made in-house and aged to perfection. Their specialty is cheddar in all ways, shapes, and forms, such as double-smoked orange cheddar, extra-aged white cheddar, and cheddar in mild and medium flavours. Don’t forget to pick up some meats, maple syrup, honey, jams, or other delicious spreads. They even offer pre-made charcuterie boards—score!



Mississippi Lake National Wildlife Area near Innisville

Where: On Highway 7 near Innisville, 15 minutes south of Carleton Place

The last (but not least) on our list is Mississippi Lake National Wildlife Area and Bird Sanctuary. Located on the small hideaway of McEwen Bay, Mississippi Lake’s wildlife area is a popular spot for fishing, hiking, biking, and birdwatching. If you’re in need of a quick stop to stretch your legs on the drive to the cottage, this is it. It’s also an environmentally important location in eastern Ontario, serving as a protected wetland and haven for species of birds, fish, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. It’s also been a sanctuary for migratory birds since 1959, and shelters more than 10,000 ducks during duck hunting season. If you’re a bird or duck lover, this is the place to see coveted species such as ring-necked ducks, blue-winged teals, green-winged teals, and hooded mergansers.



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Cordova Lake Contact Information

President	Elaine Epp	PresidentCLCA@gmail.com	613-472-3943
Treasurer	Orla Boland	CordovaLakeCATreasurer@gmail.com	416-953-7790
Secretary	Ashley Carnevale	SecretaryCLCA@gmail.com	647-274-7755
Vice President	Sommer Gettins	vicepresidentclca@gmail.com	905-809-9676
Lake Stewards	Dan and Chris Lamers	thelamersfamily@yahoo.ca	613-962-8995
Newsletter	Open Position		
Advertising	Open Position		
Website	Sara Lavelle	saralavelle@gmail.com	
Road Reps:			
Fire Route 18	Paul Carroll	ehoulden25@hotmail.com	613-472-2211
Fire Route 54	Elaine Epp	edepp3943@gmail.com	613-472-3943
Fire Route 57	Sandy Rice	Sandy.rice@outlook.com	613-472-5037
Fire Route 59	Dave Simons	donebun.41@hotmail.com	613-472-5673