

CORDOVA  
LAKE COTTAGE ASSOCIATION

Spring/Summer  
2016

## Message from the President



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Spring has sprung

The grass is ris

I wonder where the birdies is?

Apparently there is no confirmed author of this verse, so I have claimed it.

On the subject of birds, Catherine and I have, over the Fall, Winter and Spring seen an amazing variety of birds. In the Fall there was a Great White Owl and most spectacularly, a bald eagle showing off the miracle of flight in front of our cabin. The Winter months were made easier thanks to a well-attended bird feeder in front of our deck. Now that Spring has indeed sprung, we are inundated with new sightings, among those being Buffleheads, Mergansers and finally the Loons.

Our CLCA Association executive has had a change. Our Treasurer, Kim Stephens-Woods has decided to resign due to other demands on her time. We thank her for her many years of service to our lake community.

Keeping with the bird motif, Ian Sturdee, bird watcher extraordinaire, who you may see along FR 59 with binoculars in hand, has agreed to step up as interim Treasurer. We encourage Ian and any other interested member to run for this elected position at the upcoming AGM.

The CLCA Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday July 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at the Cordova Community Centre. Please plan to attend as this is your opportunity to voice your opinion on the issues that have a direct impact on our lake community!!

I'm sure we all look forward to the annual Cordova Lake Regatta, which is scheduled for Saturday July 30<sup>th</sup> - the August long weekend.

The fireworks display, scheduled for Canada Day weekend last year was postponed to the August long weekend due to rain. As it turned out, there was a great deal of approval in having the Regatta and the Fireworks on the same date. It made for a fabulous weekend so we have decided to once again support the Fireworks display and have it on July 30<sup>th</sup>. A potential rain date will be July 31<sup>st</sup>. We are happy to confirm that Milan Kratochvil and Brian Addie will again be creating a new spectacular fireworks display set to music. If anyone was planning to have their own fireworks display, please consider contributing your money to the Cordova Lake show instead. This is a major expenditure and we could certainly use some financial assistance. Donations will be accepted by any member of the Executive. Come see us at the Regatta!

The Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Lake Association, of which we are a member, will be holding a General Meeting this Spring. Of interest will be the County of Peterborough initiative to have all lakefront property septic systems older than 10 years inspected. This will be at the cottage owners expense and the expected cost is now at \$300. There has been some dialogue as well, to extending inspections to all properties regardless of system type, such as holding tanks or gray water pits.

As a cautionary note, last summer, Catherine and I came very close to hitting a swimmer with our boat. The swimmer was very far out from shore with no spotter boat alongside, and he did not even wear a bright orange swim cap to alert boaters. Please advise your friends and family to enjoy the lake but please swim SAFE.

And on a final note of personal interest: Walleye Fishing on Cordova Lake opens the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in May, Muskie on the first Saturday in June and Bass on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in June!! Enjoy!!



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# Honey Bees Matter

## Why Do we need Honey Bees?

One out of every three bites of food that we eat is made possible by pollinators like honey bees. As the growers of most of our food, Canadian farmers know how much we all rely on these pollinators. Statistics Canada data shows the number of beekeepers and honey bee hives in our country is on the rise, but there contributing to honey bee health issues.



## Native pollinator-friendly plants by province

Here is a handy reference guide for native pollinator friendly flowering plants grown in provinces across Canada. All of these will be beautiful additions to a Buzzing Garden, attracting honey bees and other pollinators.

	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	NB	NS	Nfld	PEI	YT	NWT	NU
<b>Seaside Heliotrope</b> ( <i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i> )													
<b>Golden Heather</b> ( <i>Hebe x exoniensis</i> )													
<b>Foxglove Beardtongue</b> ( <i>Penstemon digitalis</i> )													
<b>Prairie Crocus</b> ( <i>Pulsatilla patens</i> )													
<b>Lowbush Blueberry</b> ( <i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i> )													

## The Life of a Worker Bee

Worker bees – which make up the majority of the hive – have different tasks depending on their age.



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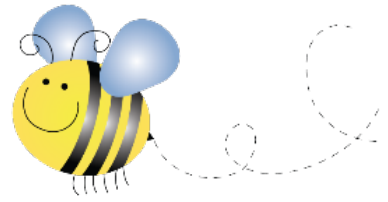


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### History of the honey bee in Canada

The honey bee did not originate in Europe but

was slowly brought there (and eventually to Canada) for the production of honey. As commercial beekeepers began to grow more common, the role of the honey bee evolved as well.

Even though our country is still a major honey producer—with 95 million pounds produced in 2015—we also use managed honey bees for another reason: the pollination itself.

Frequently, pollination services are provided by beekeepers who have special relationships with farmers, and whole colonies will be transported from field to field. Not only is this good for the crops, but crops like canola are a valuable source of nutrition for honey bees.



Where there are flowers, there are honey bees. Every spring we take for granted that we'll find them in our gardens and parks. But did you know the honey bee isn't native to Canada? Honey bees were brought here from England, and although bee populations and honey production are on the rise they haven't always had the easiest time coping in the place we call home.

#### 1600s

Honey bees are imported from England to Virginia for honey production, and soon spread north to Canada. Here, both wild colonies and farmed honey hives began to spread over the next two hundred years.

#### 1939

With World War II rationing in place, sugar becomes an expensive commodity and Canada's hive numbers rise to an all-time high to fill the demand.

#### 1946

The war ends and with it, so does sugar rationing. The number of hives in Canada dwindle due to oversupply.

#### 1980

Though the number of hives grew with Canada's population, honey bees brought from the United States arrive infected with the varroa mite and with the loss of nearly 200,000 colonies, the industry is devastated.

#### 2014

Honey bee numbers have stabilized and are now higher than they've ever been, according to Statistics Canada, because



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Thank you to all of you who visited The Cottage this past year. What a year it has been. The store has been such a success, we are expanding!

It is located on Highway #7 on the east end of Havelock, (next to Woody Burger).

The Cottage carries Fox, Billabong, SAXX, Ten Tree & Life Is Good Clothing, and we are now a Licensed Oakley Sunglass Retailer.

You can also find Speedo – Water shoes, Snorkels and Goggles, along with a full range of Watertoys – Kayaks, Tubes, Trampolines, etc...

We had requests last summer for different styles of kayaks and we listened. Pelican is now supplying us with a larger assortment and we also carry kid's sizes.

There is even a Gift Shop with some lovely home décor items.

On June 4, 2016 there will be a 1st Anniversary Celebration starting at 10am. Everyone is welcome to drop by and say hello. There will be a BBQ, Draws and Giveaways!

Join our Facebook page to see new products and upcoming events at:

[facebook.com/thecottagehavelock](https://facebook.com/thecottagehavelock)

Those of you who came in last year and those who haven't had a chance to come in for a visit, we look forward to seeing you!



## Growing and Maintaining a Honey Bee Garden

Pollen and nectar are two of the most important things in a honey bee's life. They use them to feed their hives, and they need them to fuel their incredible journeys to find flowers as sources of food. The closer their hives are built to food sources, the easier those trips become and the better prepared for winter the hive will be.

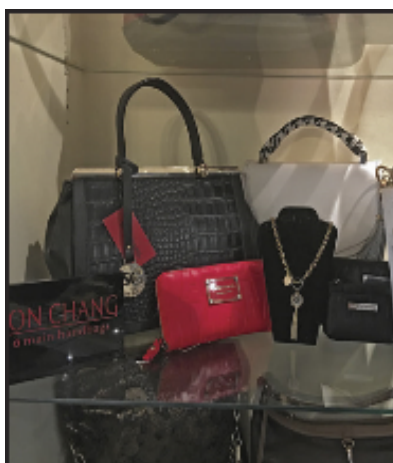
Since a lack of proper nutrition is one of the major causes of honey bee losses, we can do our part to make sure that bees near where we live are treated to sustainable and nutritious sources of pollen.

Some of the best plants we can grow for honey bees are actually the same plants we see every day, because they make up the habitat honey bees are used to. These include wildflowers like asters, daisies, calliopsis and gaillardias, but they also include plants people often call weeds. Plants like butterfly weed and milkweed aren't just good for honey bees either, as they provide an attractive and nutritious meal for other pollinators like butterflies.

In a way though, the biggest pollinator gardens, are our country's millions of acres of farmland. With flowering plants like canola, the benefit isn't just to the pollinators either, as when pollinated by honey bees, the crop actually produces a better yield with larger pods and more seeds.

Best of all, we can also benefit from the honey bees' habitat just as they do. Planting raspberries or lavender, or even onions, can mean reaping a harvest after the honey bees have come and gone.

For more information about pollinator gardens, and for a free garden kit, make sure to visit [Buzzing Gardens!](#)



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## Keep Cordova Lake Clean...

I've been contacted by several residents of Cordova Lake. They are concerned about the amount of trash being left on the roadside and boat launch. It takes all of us to keep Cordova Lake beautiful.

Please also remember to clean up after your pets.

You can do anything.



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# Regatta Update (August long weekend)

First, we would like to thank all the volunteers and those in attendance despite the flash hurricane we experienced. The children had a great time and we raised money for the lake.

This will be our third and final year organizing the regatta. We expect to be travelling during summer 2017. So we need a couple of families with smaller children to step up and consider organizing the regatta. It really is not that much work. We have prepared a checklist of a few things to do in advance (emails to township etc). The three main tasks are purchasing the food (we have a detailed list), purchasing prizes for the games and having volunteers to give out the prizes, and getting the regatta material to and from the site. Usually there is a lot of help for that. So please let us know if you would like to volunteer this year to learn the ropes or even take on one of the tasks.

Second, when it comes to volunteers our motto is, "If you did it last year, please show up and do it this year". We assume traditions continue and those that have graciously volunteered for specific tasks will do them again unless we hear otherwise. But we always need more help and ideas to raise more money.

Third, if you have children in high school that need volunteer hours, this is a great opportunity. The regatta is a great tradition. For our children, it was one of the highlights of the summer so let's keep it going. Plus it has raised needed money for the lake. But most of all, it is one of the few events that brings everyone from the lake together. Let us know if you can help out.

Steve and Orla

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**Safety...**



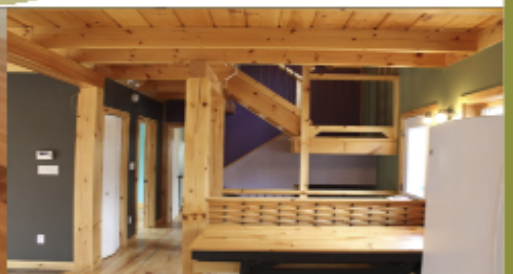
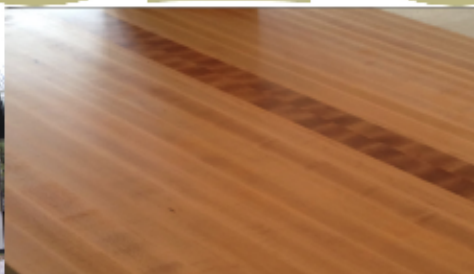
**In light of the devastation in Fort McMurray we thought some campfire safety tips would help Cordova Lake stay safe this summer.**

- Keep your fire to a manageable size (20inx20in is a standard size).
- Keep a water source close by to extinguish any flare ups.
- Make sure your fire is completely extinguished before heading home after a weekend at the cottage or when you retire for the evening.
- Do not remove ashes until they are cool and free of hot ambers. Disposing hot ambers in the woods could result in a forest fire.

**These rules can also apply to woodstoves and fireplaces**

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# 7 tips that will help you prevent forest fires

By: Jessica Faulds



As a wildfire rages in Alberta, destroying homes, communities, and forests, experts are saying the blaze was likely started by humans. And people aren't just at the root of the Fort McMurray Fire—across Canada, humans are the leading cause of wildfires, starting more fires than lightning strikes.

These tips will help you enjoy your time in nature responsibly, and help ensure your favourite spots are around for years to come. Remember, while enjoying the outdoors is wonderful, our first responsibility is to nature.

Show your love for cottage country and take care of it!

## **Always look up fire regulations and bans in your area**

The Fort McMurray fire is still raging, and yet in nearby Edmonton, where there is currently a fire ban, there have been over 110 reports of people using fire pits. In recent days, there have been several fires that have gotten out of control, requiring the help of the fire department. Fire bans are usually publicized in the news, and signs are hung at campgrounds—and there is no opting out! Some fire bans even include things like barbecues, so it's good to check and see what current regulations are.

## **When you do build a fire, follow these steps**

So you've checked that there's no fire ban, and you're ready to roast hot dogs and s'mores. Great! First step: check for wind. If it's too gusty, you should probably put off the fire and have a potato-salad night. No wind? Perfect. Clear an area around your fire, making sure there's no flammable debris in reach of the flames. While the fire is burning, make sure there's always someone around to attend it. And when you're done, extinguish the fire completely with water. Make sure there is absolutely no life left in the flames, and then stir the ashes around, making sure the ground you leave behind is cool and moist.

## **Keep your candles stable and covered**

While they may seem innocently small, candles are a leading cause of home fires. Their miniature flames can reach a temperature of 1,400°C! Indoors or outdoors, if you use candles, keep them in a sturdy container that can't be toppled, and keep them away from

## **Make sure your vehicles are up to snuff**

If you'll be driving your car through forested areas, ensure that it has a proper exhaust system. A lot of vehicles have spark arrestors, which prevent engines from emitting flammable debris, but they're not legally required everywhere. Make sure your car has a spark arrester and that its exhaust system is working properly. Same with your chainsaw, leaf blower, and any other device with a similar motor.

## **Pulverize your cigarette butts**

If you smoke, do it carefully. In 2002, 9,414 fires in Canada were caused by cigarettes and "smokers' material." If you have to smoke, go to an area where you're not surrounded by flammable material and debris, and ash into an ashtray or receptacle. And when you're done, destroy your cigarette, ensuring there is absolutely no spark left in it. Our favourite tip is to keep an old beer or soda bottle half full of water and drop your butts in there.

## **Have an all-terrain vehicle? Keep it on the road/gravel**

Yes, we know it's a cruel irony. All-terrain vehicles are made to drive just about anywhere! However, the undersides of ATVs generate a huge amount of heat and can ignite grasses and brush as they drive over. So use your ATV on the road, on gravel or dirt, or on snow.

## **Be extremely careful with fireworks**

Never set off fireworks during a fire ban, or in an area with lots of brush or flammable debris. The safest way to see fireworks is at a show put on by pros (they're always a lot more impressive too), but if you're in a situation where you're allowed to set off your own, do it in an area without any flammable material within a few hundred feet (a beach is a good idea). Keep water and extinguishers nearby, and keep track of where fireworks land to make sure they are extinguished properly. Read the safety instructions that come with fireworks, and if in doubt about conditions, leave the fireworks and go hunting for fireflies instead.

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# Campfire Gourmet!

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## GOURMET S'mores Menu

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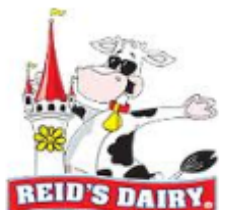
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There are NO LCBO or Brewers Retail sales on the following days:

New Years Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Christmas Day

# Cordova Lake History



Gord and I need your help! We would like to write articles about the history of Cordova Lake. To begin the series we would like to hear the history of FR 59 McMillan Drive! Please email us your stories and pictures they will be featured in our Fall 2016 newsletter!

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## Cordova History

### Haunted House of Vansickle



In the mid 1860s, a young town clerk by the name of Marcus Powell discovered gold shimmering in the walls of a cave. As the news of this discovery spread, the town of Cordova Mines boomed virtually overnight. Boom turned to bust quickly however, as it was found that the gold was difficult to mine.

David Vansickle opened the town's first general store and post office in 1880. By 1886, with an estimated population of 50 people, the small hamlet was also home to a carriage and agricultural implements business, a cheese factory, a school, and two churches: Methodist and Episcopal. This decade slowly brought forth advancements in technology which greatly improved mining production, and by the 1890s, the mines were in full operation. In 1903, the mine was abruptly closed and remained idle for the next 8 years. Again, the population dwindled. In 1911, another company set up shop, and once more the community was bustling. But the 50 year plan was brought to a halt in 1917, when the plant was destroyed by fire. Again, another exodus. The mines sat dormant until 1937, when yet another company decided to resume mining. In 1940, the mines were closed forever, the mining buildings were destroyed, the mouths of the mines were sealed, and the population saw its final decline. That is, until this most recent wave of abandonments.

Like many mining communities in those earlier days, Cordova Mines was a dry town. During periods of activity at the mines, a trailer would set up shop on Vansickle road selling alcohol. When authorities approached, to avoid legal recourse, the trailer would be moved to the opposite side of the road, which is a boundary between Peterborough and Hastings counties. Today, many of the original buildings are long gone, but a small population still calls the tiny hamlet of Cordova Mines home.

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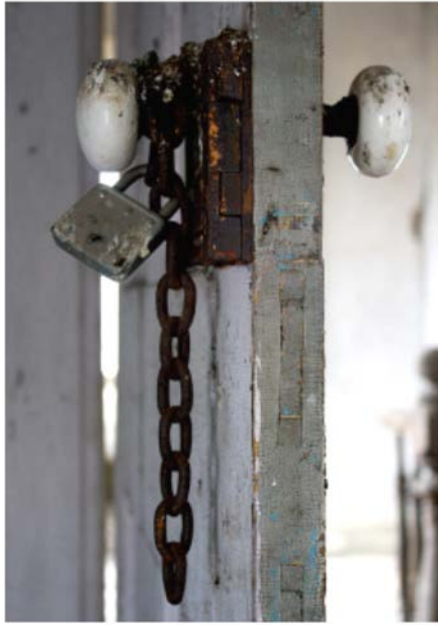
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# Cordova History

## Haunted House of Vansickle Pictures



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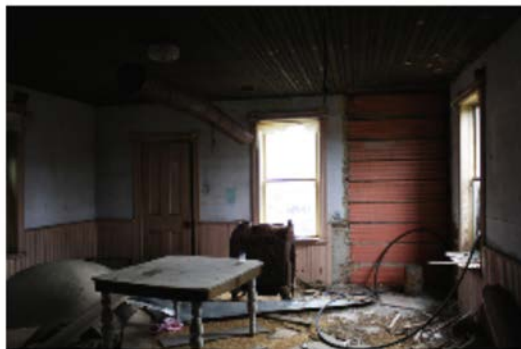
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# Cordova History

## Haunted House of Vansickle Pictures



The fall 2016 issue will feature the Ellis haunted house!

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## Sources of Carbon Monoxide

Many Ontario households have, an average, 4-6 fuel-burning appliances that produce carbon monoxide.

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- Stove
- Portable Fuel Heaters

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# Did you remember to change the batteries?

## Only working smoke alarms save lives!

- **Install in the proper locations.** Ontario law requires that working smoke alarms be located on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas. Avoid installing smoke alarms in or near kitchens and bathrooms, or near air vents, windows and ceiling fans.
- **Change the batteries once a year.** Install a new battery at least once a year or whenever the low-battery warning sounds. Test the smoke alarm after installing a new battery.
- **Test smoke alarms monthly.** Smoke alarms should be tested monthly, and upon returning home after an absence of more than a few days. If the alarm fails to sound when the test button is pressed, install a new battery.
- **Replace smoke alarms after 10 years.** Smoke alarms more than ten years old should be replaced with new ones.
- **Manage nuisance alarms.** If a smoke alarm frequently activates due to cooking activities or using the shower, do not remove the battery! Try moving the smoke alarm, purchasing a smoke alarm with a hush feature, or replacing ionization alarms located near kitchens with photoelectric alarms.
- **Always follow the manufacturer's instructions** for installing, testing and maintaining smoke alarms.
- **For information about smoke alarms,** visit [www.ontario.ca/firemarshal](http://www.ontario.ca/firemarshal) or contact your local fire department.



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[www.ontario.ca/firemarshal](http://www.ontario.ca/firemarshal)



**INSTALL SMOKE ALARMS**  
**IT'S THE LAW**



# CORDOVA LAKE NEWS!



Canada Day  
Fireworks and  
BBQ will take  
place Saturday  
July 2/2016 at  
the Cordova  
Mines Fire Hall.  
BBQ starts at  
7pm and  
Fireworks will  
take place at  
dusk!!

## Cell Phone Coverage at Cordova Lake

The latest word I have about improvements to cell phone coverage is they are a long way off. Rogers had approached the Township Council about erecting a tower that would serve us but has backed off and has no plans.

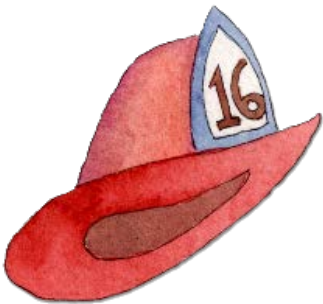
The best hope for improved coverage is government funding (federal and provincial) which is most likely a long way off.

Most of the people I talk to who get adequate coverage say they get the strongest signal from Bell and Telus from the Marmora tower. Some get good coverage from Rogers. It depends where you are on the lake. If you are not satisfied with your coverage I suggest you talk to any neighbours who have a different carrier to see if their coverage is better and then consider switching.

Thank-you Ian Sturdee for this update



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## 5 PFD mistakes you don't know you're making

By [Sara Laux](#)



May 19 is National Lifejacket Day (yes, really!), and for good reason: worn properly, lifejackets and personal flotation devices (PFDs) save lives. According to the Red Cross, over a 16-year period, only 12 percent of “immersion fatalities” involved someone properly wearing a lifejacket or PFD. Keeping yourself safe isn't quite as simple as just wearing any old PFD, although that's a big step in the right direction.

Here are five common PFD and lifejacket mistakes not to make this summer.

### 1. Thinking that PFDs and lifejackets are the same.

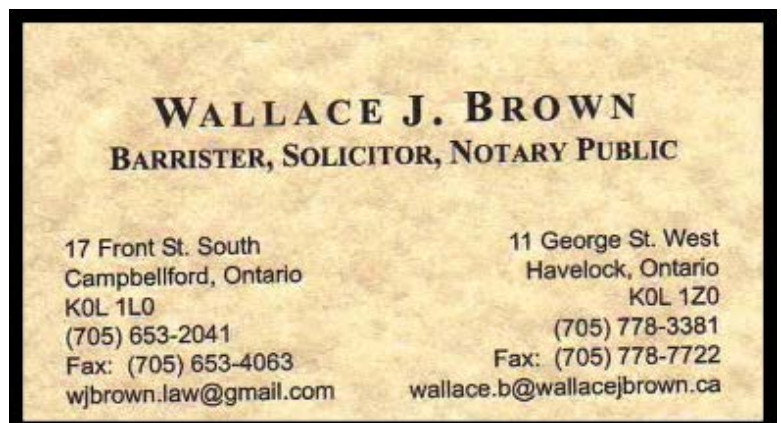
While some retailers consider lifejackets a type of PFD, Transport Canada makes a distinction between the two. Both lifejackets and PFDs are designed to keep you afloat in the water, but lifejackets are specifically engineered to turn you face-up, even if you're unconscious. Although lifejackets tend to be bulkier and more awkward than PFDs, they offer greater protection—which is especially important if you're on a large body of water or in rough weather, or in a remote area. Lifejackets only come in red, yellow, or orange. PFDs, on the other hand, tend to be more comfortable and many are better-suited to canoeing, kayaking, or water sports. Although they're available in more colours, it makes sense to pick one up that will allow you to be seen both by rescuers and other boaters—especially if you're in a low-sitting craft like a kayak or canoe.

### 2. Using the wrong size

Lifejackets come in youth and adult sizes, while PFDs come in sizes for children, youth, and adults. In order to float properly, lifejackets should fit slightly loose in order to allow water under the front of the jacket. PFDs fit according to chest size for adults and weight for children, and should fit snugly while still allowing for easy movement. PFDs made specifically for women can often be a better fit. When trying on a PFD, make sure you're comfortable and that the device doesn't ride up when you pull on the shoulders. Kids' PFDs should have a large collar to support their head. For small children and babies, a PFD should also have a strap between the legs. And don't buy a too-big PFD thinking your kid will grow into it—that's putting them at risk if they fall in the water.

### 3. Using the wrong PFD for your activity

Not all PFDs are created equal. While kayakers, canoeists, and stand-up paddle boarders are often fond of inflatable PFDs that can be worn as waist pouches or vests, these devices—which incorporate a carbon dioxide cartridge which inflates the PFD—aren't approved for use on personal watercraft, white water, or while being towed behind a boat. They're approved for use with kids under 16. Similarly, a large, bulky lifejacket probably isn't the best choice for a multi-day canoe trip. When all is said and done, the PFD that is the most effective is the one you actually wear.







## 5 PFD mistakes you don't know you're making

### 4. Using your PFD incorrectly

Loosening the straps of your PFD or (worse) keeping it off completely means your protection is seriously diminished if something unexpected should happen. Find one that's comfortable so you don't feel the need to take it off. PFDs also shouldn't be used as kneelers or cushions—this can compress the foam inside, affecting their buoyancy.

### 5. Slacking on maintenance

PFDs need to be dried and stored properly to stay working season after season. Air dry them to reduce the chance of mildew, then keep them out of direct sunlight and away from direct heat sources, as these can degrade the fabric and reduce their effectiveness. Clean them with a mild soap and water if they get dirty. If you're using an inflatable PFD, consult the owner's manual for regular maintenance tips.

One last thing—if you have a pooch that enjoys being on your boat, consider getting a PFD for them as well. Many dogs are good swimmers, but panic and exhaustion can get the better of them. Look for a low-profile model that has a handle on the back for extra help getting your furry friend out of the water.



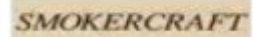
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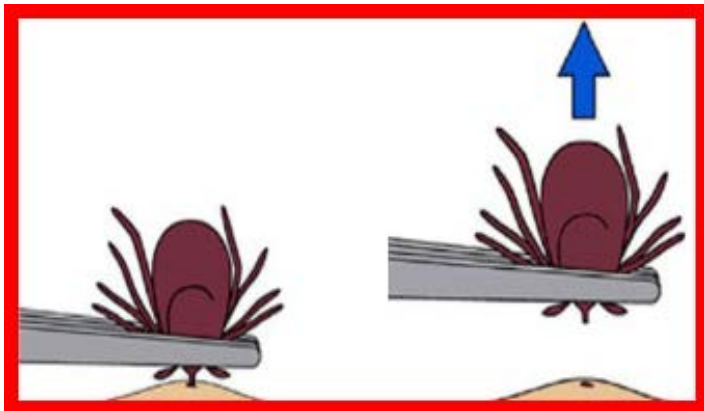
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## How to remove a tick



- Use a fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
- Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.
- After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.
- Dispose of the live tick by submersing it in alcohol, placing it in a sealed bag/container, wrapping it tightly in tape, or flushing it down the toilet. Never crush a tick with your fingers.



Avoid folklore remedies such as "painting" the tick with nail polish or petroleum jelly, or using heat to make the tick detach from the skin. Your goal is to remove the tick as quickly as possible--not waiting for it to detach.



### Follow-up

If you develop a rash or fever within several weeks of removing the tick, see your doctor. Be sure to tell the doctor about your recent tick bite, when the bite occurred, and where you most likely acquired the tick.



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