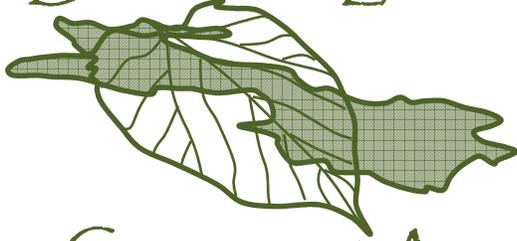


Basswood Lake



Cottagers' Association

Spring 2009
Lake News

Message from the Chair

Well, another winter is gone and summer is just around the corner.

This winter saw Huron Shores pass the new official plan. The plan is in the final stages before it comes into effect. The Huron Shores council did receive letters of concern with regard to building set-backs and the ban on RVs and trailers, but chose to proceed with the proposed draft. This may have an impact on any of you who plan on building near the lake, as well as any who have or use RVs or trailers on your property.

For more information on the official plan, please visit www.huronshores.ca/municipal/planning.html

We also received our new assessments and, from what I've seen and heard, the lake was hit with some substantial increases. I contacted the municipality and learned that the overall increase for Huron Shores was approx 9.5%. This may change a little after appeals, but will likely result in higher taxes if your assessment increase was 10% or more.

Now for the good news: The cottagers' association board is working on a new approach to our annual meeting this year to try and include the whole family.

This should make it easier for one or more adults from each family to attend the meeting. See the What's New section on page two for more details.

Finally, I would like to encourage anyone interested in sitting on the board, or just wishing to help out, to let me know. If you have questions or concerns about anything to do with the lake that you wish to have discussed or responded to at the annual meeting, just drop me an email at kp-aero@sympatico.ca.

Best regards,
Ken Shaw



Photo courtesy of Marilyn Kellum

What's New

The annual meeting has a **new date and venue** this year. Join us at Melwel Lodge on Sunday, July 26th for a day of fun, facts, and food.

The annual meeting will be held in the lodge from 10:00am to noon, and will be followed by a family BBQ and social from noon to 4:00pm.

Bring the kids and have some fun, get to know your neighbours on the lake, and enjoy a hot dog lunch.

For more information on Melwel, please visit www.melwellodge.ca. Thank you to Marilyn Kellum for organizing this event.

Huron Shores is celebrating their 10th anniversary on July 25th in Iron Bridge.

Events at the Iron Bridge Arena include a free afternoon carnival, and family dance with live entertainment in the evening, as well as a \$15 per person BBQ hosted by the Lions.

Watch www.huronshores.ca for further details.

Dues Are Due Again

Please remember your cottagers' association membership fee is due and is only \$25.

You can pay at the annual meeting, or send your cheque to Jane Mason, Basswood Lake Cottagers' Association, RR#2, Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0



Photo courtesy of Joanne Falk

Septic Systems

Please remember that we, as cottage owners, are responsible for the future of the lake, preserving it for generations to come.

Have your septic systems inspected by a qualified contractor, and arrange to have them pumped on a regular basis. Contractors or plumbers can provide an educated assessment as to how well your system is working and what might be required for repairs.

King's Plumbing & Heating 705-842-3644
Four Seasons Septic 705-356-3444

Focus on FOCA

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) has developed a new Lake Planning Handbook, focused on sustainability, which offers "advice, ideas, and question and answers about lake planning, project management, communications, and more."

Marilyn Kellum has requested a copy of the handbook and will have it at the annual meeting. For more information on FOCA initiatives, please visit www.foca.on.ca.