

Our Mission

Dedicated to promoting communication, friendship, conservation of natural beauty and resources, water safety, sanitation and cooperation with public agencies.



President's Message

Greetings from your Board of Directors and thank you to Chris Brandt for volunteering to keep our newsletter in circulation.

Your Board has been busy since last summer addressing concerns mentioned at our AGM, in addition to matters later brought to our attention. Concerns acted upon include the following:

- Non-profit status
- Taxes on our GICs (CD type investments)
- Updating the constitution
- 3-year financial plan
- Slow response from Blind

River Council on dock maintenance and other concerns involving boat launches, etc.

For details, please see the summary of Board actions provided in the article below.

Jim Hamilton and Robin Ziebert are working on our **Rock Bass Derby** scheduled for **July 31st** and plans are progressing well.

We have met with Algoma Public Health and will be cooperating with them on their summer program.

Garbage bins have been moved; the garbage left behind by the bears was cleaned up last fall by a clean up crew of volunteers from the lake.

There is much more to report, but I will defer an update until this year's **AGM**, which is scheduled for **July 17th**. We are still looking for a meeting site.

We welcome any suggestions that would benefit our Association.

Respectfully,
Ed Pilon

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Your LMCA Board at Work

by Robin Ziebert

Dock Attendant Issues

Dock Attendants are employed by the City of Blind River. Their primary duties are assisting in the safe docking of boats. Assistance with the loading or unloading of goods is NOT part of their job description and is done at the personal discretion of each attendant. An official copy of their duties will be posted in the Welcome Hut.

In that each of the city's summer attendants is paid

a set amount, the city is currently unwilling to adjust the assigned duties and pay for attendants at just one lake.

So, to better assist our members, particularly our seniors, the Board is considering the awarding of an end of season stipend for each attendant, with the understanding that assisting cottage owners would be part of their expected duties. A discussion and vote will be taken on this topic at our Annual General Meeting.

Handicapped Parking

The number of designated handicapped Parking spaces has been increased, and the city has agreed to fix and/or replaced any damaged signs as needed.

Porta-Johns

The city has agreed to provide separate Porta - Johns at the landing this summer. As a result of the increase in rental cost, the cleaning will occur weekly rather than twice per week.

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Lake Matinenda Cottage Association Leadership

Ed Pilon, *President*
 Jim Hamilton, *Vice President*
 Linda Hamilton, *Treasurer*
 Robin Ziebert, *Secretary*

Directors:
 John Grabowski
 Dave Hall
 Janet Servatius

Special Advisor:
 Ron Servatius

Your LMCA Board at Work (cont'd)

Dumpsters

The garbage dumpsters have been moved to their new location at the top of the hill. A wheelbarrow, monitored by the Dock Attendants, is available to assist members in the transportation of garbage from dockside to dumpster.

Wi-Fi Service Availability

Horton's, the Marina, the Information Center and the Library all have wi-fi access

available. Also, both the Information Center and the Library have computers with internet access, and use is FREE at the Information Center.

Donations

Donations of \$200 and \$250 were made to the Timber Village Museum and the Blind River Food Bank respectively. This is in keeping with a past Board Resolution to support various needy city

organizations each year. As a representative of our lake's full and part-time citizens, it was deemed vital and appropriate for the Association to contribute to the city's overall well-being.

Incorporation Update

A list of former and current officers was sent to the Provincial Government to update The Association's continuing Non-profit Incorporated Status.

3 Ways Cottagers Can Keep Informed

Association Web Site

Both past and current Board Meeting Minutes along with other Lake Matinenda Cottage Association information is available on the Association's web site www.matinenda.ca.

The site is maintained and overseen by Jeff Rice.

At this site you will find email links for Board members, as well as many outstanding and even

humorous pictures taken by lake residents. Cottagers are encouraged to check in regularly and contribute their own pictures throughout the year.

Please notify us immediately if you find an inactive or faulty link.

Information Board

Separately, an information board is being installed inside the Welcome House at the landing. Minutes,

brochures, upcoming events and an Association mailbox will all be available at that location so that cottagers can keep informed about lake news and scheduled events while vacationing.

Annual General Meeting

The tentative date for our **General Meeting is Saturday July 17, 2010**. Time and location will be posted on the web site and at the landing.

Lodge Lost in Fall Blaze

While most of you know that the Lodge was slated for demolition this spring, you may not have heard that it actually burned down on November 25th. Luckily, no one was hurt in the fire. (Additional information and photos appear on our web site).



Matinenda Lake Water Quality Meets Standards

A Request for Investigation was received by the Ontario's Ministry of the Environment (MOE) regarding potential water quality concerns resulting from outdated septic and disposal systems on Lake Matinenda. The resulting report (available in its entirety on the Association web site) noted that the current water quality continues to meet the provincial standards.

The *Sault City Star* briefly covered this issue as well, and Ed Pilon's informational response to the Board and Association members is also available online.

For those of you that may be unaware, Dick Brennan and his team of volunteers, have been doing water testing on various locations of our lake for a number of years. These results have been submitted and are available, with a full explanation of the results, on the

Ministry of the Environment's Lake Partners website: <http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/water/lakepartner/index.php>. All cottage owners are encouraged to access this information. A complete chart and graph of these results for the last eight years will be posted on our information board within the Welcome House.



If there are concerns or issues in the future, the Board would like to offer its assistance and support in calling for and carrying

out a thorough investigation. It is only through self-policing and whole lake observation that we will be able to maintain Lake Matinenda's beauty and purity for future generations.

by Robin Ziebert

MNR Report

by Ray Lipinski
Resource Management Technician
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

When we look back at 2009 most of us might agree that it was not a typical year when we are discussing weather conditions and lake levels. The winter of 2008/09 was great if you like winter activities with lots of snow. Despite the large amount of snow, the spring freshet was not extreme, although it lasted a week or two longer than most years. The runoff flows were not as high as most years, particularly when compared to the spring of 2008. The early part of the summer was wet and cool, providing an abundance of water. The latter part of the summer and early fall turned out to be warm and dry. Overall lake levels and dam operations were within normal ranges in 2009.

No structural work is necessary or planned for the Matinenda Lake dam in 2010. Within the next few years the existing log boom will be replaced with a new yellow plastic boom, similar to those present at many dams. We plan to replace some of the stop logs at the Matinenda Lake dam in 2010.

A MNR fisheries crew was busy on the lake during the second week of July. They were conducting a relatively new type of netting survey called Broadscale Fish

Community Monitoring (BFCM). This type of survey is being conducted on many lakes across the province. The BFCM uses a combination of two types of gillnets:

- "Large mesh" gillnet that target fish larger than 20 cm in length, the size range of interest to anglers;
- "Small mesh" gillnet that target smaller fish (size range of interest to large fish)

BFCM is being conducted as part of the province's Ecological Framework for Fisheries Management, and has several components. Netting is used to determine abundance, size, age, maturation, contaminants and disease for the main fishery species. Habitat is also evaluated or updated by bathymetric mapping, measurement of temperature, dissolved oxygen and water clarity, and samples are collected and analyzed for water chemistry. The fish community is characterized by species present, and by collection of zooplankton and benthic (lake bottom) samples. Fishing pressure is also estimated by conducting aerial effort surveys. The plan is to re-survey lakes on a five year cycle, and results will be provided in state of the resource reports.

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Rock Bass Tourney 7/31



Jim Hamilton has kindly volunteered to re-erect and run **The Lake**

Matinenda Rock Bass Tournament for children ages 2 -14 years. The Tournament was a big hit back in the 1990's and is sure to be so again.

Minnow races and a family fish fry will be included, as well as prizes and awards for winners in various age and size categories. Plus, every participating child will receive a prize bag.

The tentative date for this event is **Saturday, July 31st**, so mark your calendars.

It takes a lot of volunteers to pull off an event of this size and scope, so if you have a few hours free that day (and possibly before) please contact organizers online or by phone:

Jim Hamilton (CA)
(705) 461-0032
Robin Ziebert (USA)
(248) 608-3919 or
rziebert@wowway.com

by Robin Ziebert

Matinenda Days 8/7



The LMCA Special Projects Committee has been working on a special event called **Lake Matinenda Days** scheduled for **Saturday, August 7th** at the landing.

The purpose of the event is to encourage new and renewed friendships between town and lake residents.

We hope to have several attractions including a

bake sale, craft bazaar, tag sale and flea market.

We are also hoping that a portion of any proceeds generated can be used to enhance the lake and support worthy causes in town.

Please consider helping, donating or contributing towards a successful event!

by Nancy Harz

Special Projects Committee in Action

by Nancy Harz

One of the purposes of the Association's Special Projects Committee is to encourage relationships on the lake and enhance our presence with the Town of Blind River.

Members include Maureen Bell, Caroline Bledsoe, Von

Dilloway and Chairman Nancy Harz. Board Director Janet Servatius serves as Liaison Member.

Donations

We have been in close communication with the library and Timber Village

Museum throughout this winter to determine how best to help the town through them.

The library has recently received nearly \$40,000 in donations and they are now able to enhance and expand their current

programs and projects. However, the museum and the Blind River Food Bank have had critical needs this winter. The Board approved donations of \$200 and \$250 respectively to help the community.

Continued on page 5

Committee in Action (cont'd)



Historical Ties That Bind

A goal of the Timber Village Museum as well as the library is digitizing historical documents from the surrounding area including Lake Matinenda.

As a matter of fact, the two organizations are anxious to capture more history of Lake Matinenda, especially our charter members and older settlers.

MNR Report (cont'd)

The fish species that were sampled from Matinenda Lake in the 2009 survey included lake trout, smallmouth bass, lake whitefish, northern pike, rock bass, yellow perch, bluegill, pumpkinseed, common white sucker, brown bullhead, cisco, rosyface shiner, bluntnose minnow and burbot. The largest fish sampled was a lake whitefish at 3.3 kg (7.3 lbs). The most abundant fish sampled was rock bass.

It is important to note that there have been changes made in Zone 10 to catch limits and the season for lake trout in 2010. The

catch and possession limit for lake trout is 2 fish with a sport fishing license; not more than one greater than 40 cm (15.7 in); the limit is one lake trout with a conservation fishing license. The season for lake trout is

Please consider writing a brief accounting of your personal history for inclusion. Our committee is standing by to help anyone who wishes to record their memoirs!

Lake Directory

Caroline Bledsoe has been working to update the lake directory. If you haven't updated your information recently, please email her at caroline.bledsoe@gmail.com or contact another member of our committee.

Lake Matinenda Days

Please be sure to read the article on page 4 for details about this planned social event.

from January 1st to Labour Day; not ending September 30th as in past years.

Anglers should be sure to review the new regulations before heading out on the lake.

Important Numbers

To report a Forest Fire:
310-FIRE (3473)

To report a bear problem:
1-866-514-BEAR (2327)

To report resource abuse or violation:
1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) or 1-800-222-TIPS

Invading Species Hotline:
1-800-563-7711

MNR Blind River:
705-356-2234

Natural Resources Information Centre:
1-800-667-1940

Are You a "Green" Cottager?

by Janet Servatius

We all need to be the very best guardians of Matinenda, so that for many years to come our families can continue to enjoy everything our precious lake has to offer.

With that in mind, below are a few suggestions for "green" cottaging that can help us leave lighter footprints on the environment.



1. Check your septic system. There are some very old ones still in use. Use the sniff test. Does it need to be pumped out? Some require pumping every 3 to 4 years. Ensure that your system is not leaching into the lake.

2. Do NOT use fertilizer on your lawns. Fifty percent of the rainfall rolls right over short grass into the lake carrying with it harmful fertilizers and pesticides. This creates algae and pollutes the lake.

3. Use "green" cleaners. Please see page 6 to learn more about available products sold in town. Even if the soap says phosphate free and biodegradable, it can hurt aquatic life. All biodegradable means is that

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Green Cottaging (cont'd)

it's capable of breaking down, not that it's safe. Avoid chemical cleaners. They destroy beneficial bacteria that break down waste in your holding tank.

4. Pick up after your pooch. Dog doo carries coliform bacteria that can make people ill. Put it way back in the forest or haul it away in trash taken to the landing.

5. Refuel away from the water; gas tanks, chain saws, generators and boats.

6. When possible, install a low impact dock. Avoid using pressure treated wood that comes into contact with lake water.



A general source for Eco friendly cottage and building products
http://www.cottagelife.com/index.cfm/ci_id/2675.htm

Great recipes for making your own healthy cleaners
<http://www.natural-healthy-home-cleaning-tips.com>

It's Easy to Find Eco Friendly Products...

Mic's Kwick Way

The largest selection of all natural body products in town!

Nature's Comforts

Shampoo and soap bar, essential oils, massage oils, bug repellent

Nature's Comforts is a family owned business in Northern Ontario. It originated as a personal effort to eliminate synthetic ingredients from everyday

products. All natural and biodegradable.
www.natures-comforts.com

Rocky Mountain Soap Co.

Soap, body wash, moisturizers and body butters

Zero environmental impact is always the goal. Biodegradable and all natural.
www.rockymountainsoap.com

From the Meadow

Shampoos, soaps and conditioners

Safe and pure Organic products WITHOUT dangerous chemicals
www.fromthemeadow.com

Techni-Cal

Natural pet food
www.techni-cal.net

Culligan

Filtered water refilling station

Sold at Blind River Stores...

Home Hardware

Biosak

Compostable garbage bags

Natura

Dish soap and general cleaning solutions

Does not contain phosphates, bleach or caustic ingredients. Formulated with readily biodegradable surfactants and natural citrus essential oils.

Charlie's Soap

All-purpose and laundry soap

Soap is created from vegetable-based ingredients that are the safest and most biodegradable with no lye, phosphates, bleach, dyes, brighteners or perfumes.

Power Klean

Laundry soap
Biodegradable and phosphate free; safe for all fabrics.

Evapo Rust Remover

No scrubbing, no solvents, no acids, no poisons, no VOC's, no HAP's, non-toxic, non-corrosive, non-flammable. Biodegradable and environmentally safe

Why Not Give Them a Try?

Mitchell's Pharmacy

Caprina Goat Milk Products

Face and body soaps
Contains fresh goat's milk, a natural and highly effective skin moisturizer. Dermatologist tested. Biodegradable and phosphate free.
www.caprina.com

Valu-Mart

PC Green

Cleaning products
Made from 96% renewable resources, readily biodegradable, fragrance-free, dye-free, and won't release toxic chemicals into our rivers and lakes.

Paper products

Made from recycled paper. Very good quality.

PC Organic

Food

These products have been certified organic by an independent third-party certifier in accordance with the principles of organic agriculture.

Got Your Operator's License?

Don't forget, since September 15th, 2009 all operators of pleasure crafts fitted with a motor *must* have on board proof of competency.

Although Transport Canada's web site states this law "applies to non-residents operating their pleasure craft in Canadian waters after 44 consecutive days," officials recommend that everyone obtain appropriate training and certification.

According to the web site, a Pleasure Craft Operator Card or equivalent issued to a non-resident by their state or county will be considered as proof of competency.

Although we cannot guarantee any specific site or class, those of you currently without a license may want to check out BoaterExam.com which appears to offer a free study guide and the

opportunity to take the test online. Transport Canada has accredited their boating safety course and/or test as presented to Transport Canada and as provided for in the Competency of Operators of Pleasure Craft Regulations.

For more information, please visit <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/debs-obs-menu-1362.htm>.



Representation of all cottagers is key to the Association's ongoing ability to address concerns effectively and work cooperatively with local officials to complete needed projects.

Time to Renew Your Membership

Please take the time now to renew your membership in the Lake Matinenda Cottage Association and encourage your neighbors on the lake to do the same.

Representation of all cottage owners is desired and key to the Association's ongoing

ability to address concerns and work cooperatively with local officials to complete needed projects.

At our General Meeting, one vote is allowed for each lot owned, provided dues are paid for each parcel. Annual dues are presently \$10.

Monies help to cover expenses associated with communications, small projects and building community.

Please **clip and complete the form below** and send it along with your check to the Association at your earliest convenience.

Lake Matinenda Cottage Association 2010-2011 Membership Registration & Dues

Name(s): _____

Property Location (e.g. Baker's Bay): _____ Lot Number(s): _____

CB Radio Handle: _____ Monitoring CB Channel # _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Please provide the information requested with your check for \$10 made payable to Lake Matinenda Cottage Association and mail to:

Lake Matinenda Cottage Association
Attn: Linda Hamilton, Treasurer
P.O. Box 1886
Blind River, Ontario P0R 1B0



Thanks for your ongoing support!

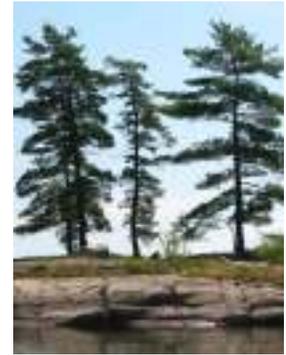
In Remembrance

We have lost some very dear friends from the lake and in the Town of Blind River this past year.

They have left their mark on our hearts and we will forever feel their presence in the tranquility and enduring beauty of our lake.

May they rest in eternal peace.

Pete Fitzpatrick
Jack Gale
Mrs. Gallagher
Ida Kennedy
Bob Schellekens



Mark Your Calendar!



Annual General Meeting
July 17th

Rock Bass Tournament
July 31st

Lake Matinenda Days
August 7th

Annual Collection/Dump Day
TBD

**LAKE MATINENDA COTTAGE
ASSOCIATION**
P.O. BOX 772
BLIND RIVER, ONTARIO
CANADA P0R1B0



We're on the Web!
Visit us at
www.matinenda.ca