



Misty Autumn Morning on Crow Lake

Photo by: Joan Jolliffe

*Autumn show us how beautiful it
is to let things go.*

Unknown



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Message from the Board

Greater Bobs and Crow Lake Association (GBCLA)

The dominant theme for the Fall issue sadly remains identical to the Spring: the Covid 19 Pandemic continues to change the world. Despite significant progress made on vaccines and treatments, most medical professionals would argue the current wave is worsening globally. Fortunately for residents on Bobs and Crow lakes, the summer has passed without any reported cases. The influx of cottagers and visitors seems to have been conducted responsibly with no linked or reported outbreaks in the adjacent Townships. For residents who continue to visit their cottages over the winter, we strongly encourage the continuation of the safe practices recommended by local Public Health.

The summer of 2020 at the lake was different. The fortunate ones who visited did comment on the noticeable reduction in people, boats, cars, etc. It was quieter. Some may have even mused about having the lake all to themselves. But the "normal" buzz was missing and accompanied by a tinge of guilt. The shared pleasure of our "little spot in paradise" did not feel the same when friends, neighbors and acquaintances from out of province, south of the border and out of country cannot come. For some it was the first time in 35 to 40 years that there was no trip to the lake. Next summer should be better. The GBCLA Board remains confident that a safe vaccine and effective treatments will broadly be in place by the summer of 2021, and that travel restrictions will have been lifted. With the arrival soon of frost and snow, this year's lake residents will now be the ones who have to stay home during the winter, rather than go south or offshore to warmer destinations.



The GBCLA will be conducting an online survey later this year on internet service levels around the lake. With the pandemic shifting some work habits and living arrangements to cottages, the rising load on the internet infrastructure has been noticed by many. We hope that our survey will support the efforts of local Townships and lake organizations such as FOCA (Federation of Cottage Associations), to raise awareness and attract recently announced Federal Government funding for new infrastructure investment. Read the article in this issue by Adrian Sunderland.





Although we had fewer visitors to the lake this summer, it was more than made up by an invasion of Gypsy Moths. This invasive species produced severe defoliation of trees in some areas, especially oaks, maples and basswoods. Although epidemics usually follow a 7 to 10-year cycle, climate change impacts may be shortening this cycle through warmer winters and extended drought periods. The article by Wildlife Director Joselyn Morley describes a few things the average cottager can do to reduce the impact of the larvae and caterpillar stages for next year.

Despite the cancellation of almost all of the GBCLA 2020 events and programs, our Fisheries Committee continued to make progress. Working with our partners at the Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, a plan has been approved for a fish habitat enhancement project on Fish Creek in the fall of 2021. Significant improvements will be made to the creek bed to enhance and broaden the area for walleye and other species to spawn in the spring. South Frontenac Township (SFT) is also scheduled to replace the bridge crossing Fish Creek on Bobs Lake Road. The GBCLA has worked hard to develop a cooperative relationship with SFT over the years, which facilitated our input into the bridge design in order to minimize any impact on migrating fish. The full report by Fisheries Director Paul Patterson is in this issue.

Sadly, the pandemic has imposed additional financial pressures on local community groups. The Crow Lake Community Association recently announced its demise and the end of its oversight of the Crow Lake Schoolhouse in Crow Lake Village as of September 30, 2020. A message by President Gerald Guigue explains the difficult circumstances surrounding this decision.



Recently the GBCLA changed the membership year from a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year, to a much simpler calendar year. To complete this system change, we extended the “fully paid” membership status to all (paid-up) members from June 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020 at NO ADDITIONAL COST to members. To partially offset this 6-month free extension, the GBCLA encourages members to pay for their 2021 membership during the Fall 2020. This prepayment assists greatly with our program planning and budgeting for 2021. In the era of the Covid19 pandemic and other government cutbacks, the GBCLA genuinely needs the continued support of every member. Please go to our website at bobsandcrowlakes.ca and use our secure online payment methods of Paypal or by E-transfer.

With global deaths of Covid 19 surpassing one million, tens of millions affected financially by the economic downturn and the emotional stresses imposed on everyone by the “new normal” for social behavior, it is not hard to distinguish between what is important and what is not. The GBCLA Board hopes to welcome everyone back to Bobs and Crow lakes in 2021 to enjoy one of Nature’s Top 10. Thankfully this virus has not altered the natural beauty.



Autumn's Coat of Many Colours

Photo by: Cindy Taylor



***I**nformation from your Association*

Internet Service at the Lake

By: Adrian Sunderland

Over the past 40 years I've seen the lake evolve. Cottages becoming permanent residences, roads being paved, two stroke motors replaced with four stroke motors, the invention of personal watercraft, the replacement of old tractor tire 'tubes' for huge floating couches, and party lines being replaced first with individual lines and then cellular telephones (where reception required you to stand under a tree, facing south, with one hand on your head).



Perhaps the largest evolution over the past 20 years has been the Internet. At first it was something we wanted to disconnect from at the lake. However, as time passed the need for permanent residents and for seasonal cottagers to be hyper-connected has increased. This year COVID-19 amplified the need for high quality broadband Internet in rural communities.



With the ever-increasing need to stay connected for personal reasons, work, or school, the CRTC states everyone in Canada should have access to the Internet with broadband speeds of at least 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload and access to unlimited data. Most, if not all, of us on Bobs and Crow Lake do not have this level of access.

Unfortunately, Internet access on Bobs and Crow Lake can leave much to be desired. Our area is served by several landline providers, Bell, Westport Telephone Company and North Frontenac Telephone Company. If you are lucky to be in a broadband service area from one of these

providers, you might be able to get ADSL2+ service from them at speeds of up to ~20Mbps. If you are not in their service area your options are extremely limited. There is mobile data service at great expense (if topology allows) from cellular service providers. Rogers and Bell have towers in both Parham & Westport (other carriers roam to Bell and Rogers on these towers). Another option is Xplornet satellite service, which is slow and also costly. To exacerbate the problem, both terrestrial and satellite-based Internet services are more likely to be affected by high demand and poor weather.

There is some hope on the horizon. Many will be aware Elon Musk is in the process of building out a low earth satellite constellation called Starlink that will provide Internet service to underserved rural areas. Early beta testing is now underway and shows great promise for both speed and latency. The federal government has also committed funding to improve services across the region. EORN (Eastern Ontario Regional Network) has a \$213-million project underway to improve cell and wireless broadband services across the region.



On that note, the Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association (GBCLA) plans to run an online survey this winter to better understand how residents and seasonal cottagers access the Internet, if current options are sufficient, and if there is a desire for improved Internet access in the immediate area. Stay tuned for more information.

If there is an overall desire for better access, the GBCLA will engage with local government and local carriers, outlining the demand, which they can take into consideration for future capital investment.

Whether you go to the lake to disconnect or to get some work done it's safe to say the Internet has become an integral part of everyday life, now no different than electricity. Reasonably priced high-speed Internet service should be available to everyone in rural communities.



Crowe Lake Village Dock

By: Jean Faucher

At the virtual Annual General Meeting of The Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association (GBCLA), the poor condition of the Crow Lake Village dock was raised by a member who lives on Crow Lake. The safety of individuals launching or retrieving their boats is an issue given the physical state of the dock. This dock is also the primary launching location for Emergency Services for Crow Lake and a portion of Bob's Lake.



An onsite meeting was held with Andy Dillon (Chief Building Officer) and Terry Asselstine of the Central Frontenac Township. The Crow Lake resident (Lyle Turner) identified the sections of the dock that were potentially unsafe and in need of repair. The township representatives indicated that they rent the site from Public Works Canada and any repairs are limited to the dock only and not to the shoreline area. Central Frontenac Township is also limited on what it can do in the water by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. Township staff committed that some of the repairs would be done in 2020 (limited by their budget) and the remainder of the

repairs or a replacement of the dock would be identified as a capital project for 2021.



As of September 30, 2020, some gravel has been spread at the site and rocks have been positioned at the ramp to limit the spring ice damage. The overhead lamp of the site has been replaced and a portion of the dock structure has been reinforced. Central Frontenac Township is waiting for approval from Rideau Valley Conservation Authority in order to be able to dig into the lake at the end of the ramp.



Thanks go out to Andy Dillon and the Central Frontenac Township staff for their prompt attention to addressing this problem and for supporting residents and visitors of Crow Lake in the restoration of this important dock.



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Bridge at Bolingbroke

By: Larry Arpaia

The bridge replacement over the Tay River at Bolingbroke has caused much frustration for permanent residents and cottagers who have their abode off Crow Lake Rd on Bobs or Crow Lakes.

In early August the bridge was closed for replacement after an engineering assessment determined that the bridge was not structurally sound. Closure of the bridge added up to an hour of time for a round trip to/from Westport, Perth or Ottawa.

Demolition, the building of new abutments, structural steel set and a new road surface applied have been completed. The efficient and timely building of the bridge was accomplished in a three-month period. Kudos to the Tay Valley Township and the construction company Ross and Anglin Ltd.

The wait is over! The Bolingbroke Bridge on Crow Lake reopens on November 6, 2020.



Bolingbroke Bridge Construction



Ominous Sunset Over Bobs Lake

Photo by: Gordon Slater



***M*embers and Membership**

Membership Calendar Year and Due Dates

By: Rick Prudil

On July 1st 2020 The Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association switched their membership year from a fiscal year (July 1st – June 30th) to a calendar year (Jan 1st to Dec 31st) for both our financial accounting statements and for our membership dues.

Members were notified of the change via a number of communications over the past 12 months. This change was made to simplify the financial accounting records the Association must maintain, and to simplify the computer program we use to track who is a member and for which year they have paid their dues. There is now a much lower risk of a fee processing error. Even more beneficial is that there will be much less confusion when communicating when a membership has been paid for and when it expires. Virtually all Lake Associations run their membership programs on a calendar year basis.

As part of this change, all fully paid up members were granted 6 months of free membership (July 1st to Dec. 31st). This explains why there have been no dues reminders through the summer and early fall.

We are now asking that people begin paying their dues in the fall for the upcoming year. Doing so helps to mitigate the financial impact of the free dues period. More importantly it helps us with financial planning for the following year.

Those members who have not yet paid for 2021 can expect to see “dues reminders” in their inbox in October. We recently added Interac E-transfers as a payment option in addition to cheques and PayPal through our website. Details can be found here <https://bobsandcrowlakes.ca/home/members/>

Wishing each of you a happy and safe winter and hoping that things return to something more like “normal” for the 2021 cottage season.



Framing the View

Photo by: Lisa Ray Koenig



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M Marine Safety

Marine Safety Fall 2020

By: Dick Johnston

For obvious reasons I hope we never have another start to our boating season as we did this year - Marinas closed, restricted travel at the Federal, Provincial and Municipal levels of government, campgrounds closed and, concerns about shortages with food and other supplies - all as a result of Covid19. To further complicate things some of our long-time volunteers retired.

In spite of all these obstacles it was important to ensure that the hazard buoys were deployed. The association put out a call for volunteers. The result is we now have a group of new volunteers to take over specific areas and a list of individuals ready to step in, if needed. Thanks to everyone who responded.

Another thanks goes out to our American neighbours who are volunteers. Through their efforts they ensured that the areas they look after were covered off. Dave Cutts – Sweets Point, Lynn McIntyre – Central Narrows.

Since there are changes in our volunteers, here is a list of the names and areas they cover.

Gordon Harrison	- Buck Bay
Jim Veltman	- Wester Basin
Paul Patterson	- Pine Quay Island
Paul Davidson	- Green Bay
Angus Laidlaw	- Central Narrows
Mark & Mike Cooke	- Mud Bay
Glenn Russel	- Norris Bay
Mike Byrnes	- Crow Lake, Crow Lake Passage

Over the years I have observed that boaters on Bobs and Crow Lakes are often quick to assist. To highlight the extent to which they will help, here a few examples:

- retrieving and returning lost buoys;
- towing other boaters that have experienced problems;
- jumping in, fully clothed, into cold water to retrieve an unsecured floating dock; and
- capturing and caring for a runaway blow up, pink, Unicorn raft

Please stay safe and see you next year.



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Fisheries

Fall 2020 Fisheries Update

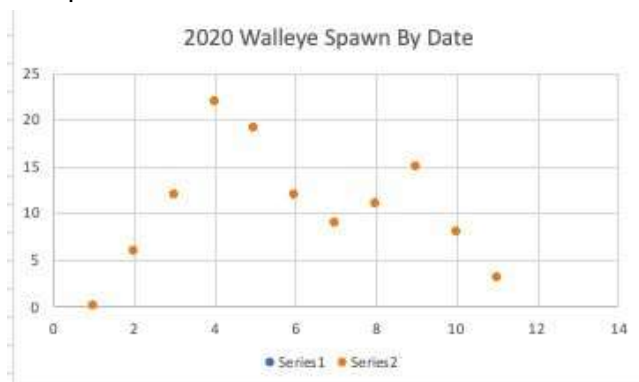
By: Paul Patterson

The Fisheries committee met in 2019 and identified 5 Priorities for the Fishery in 2020.

1. Organize a spring survey of the walleye spawn on the sites re-Habilitated by GBCLA,
2. Revisit Lake Trout stocking in Green Bay with MNRF,
3. Assess the re-habilitated walleye spawning beds for further restoration work,
4. Educate the lake community on the plan for the Fishery in concert with the MNRF Fisheries Management Plan (Fisheries Management Zone 18), and
5. Work with South Frontenac Township to restore access to the Doran Lake wetlands from Green Bay as part of the redevelopment of Green Bay road east of New road.

Walleye Spawning Survey

Carson Jen (GBCLA) coordinated a full slate of volunteers for the spring of 2020 to survey sites at Eagle Creek, End Creek and McEwan Creek. For the first time we also had access to the spawning grounds on Fish Creek through property owners Bill and Celine Pyle. As the Covid pandemic worsened it was decided to cancel the full 2020 survey. However, the Fish Creek site was monitored by a single volunteer (Duane Meeks) from March 26 to April 10, and Eagle Creek was monitored by Gord Thompson over several nights through the same period.



The above results from Fish Creek were very promising with 117 Walleye spotted on the spawning beds over the course of 10 nights beginning April 1 and ending April 10 during the evening hours of 20:45 to 21:30. The results from Eagle Creek were not so encouraging. The spawn came early this year and water levels were both below their historical average and their mid-April levels. As a result, Walleye were not able to get up into the beds at Eagle creek from the lake.



We shared the results of the survey with both MNRF and RVCA. On the strength of the results of the survey at Fish Creek, **Jennifer Lamoureux, RVCA Aquatic and Fish Habitat Biologist**, visited the site to review the spawning grounds at both Fish Creek and Eagle Creek. In 2021 the **Greater Bobs and Crow Lake Association (GBCLA)**, **The Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation** and the **Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA)** will partner to implement a fish habitat enhancement project on Fish Creek. A follow up site visit will be completed in October 2020 to observe conditions once the water levels have been lowered on Bobs Lake.

This initiative will align with the focus area of fisheries, GBCLA membership and community interaction. The GBCLA will be recruiting volunteers



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Fall 2020 Fisheries Update (cont'd)

to help with the rehabilitation in October 2021, so stay tuned for the E-Lert coming your way next year. This spawning bed project will also strengthen and enhance the RVCA and GBCLA partnership for additional Fisheries projects.

This project will directly support **Objective 1.3: restore, recover or rehabilitate degraded fish populations and their supporting ecosystems, including fish habitat** in the Ontario Provincial Fish Strategy.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-provincial-fish-strategy>

The Association also shared the results of the Walleye Spawning Survey with the municipality of South Frontenac who are looking to replace the bridge crossing Fish Creek on Bobs Lake Road. The municipality has forwarded the plans for the bridge replacement to Jim McIntosh, a member of the Fisheries Committee for the Association, for input to ensure the spawning grounds are not negatively affected. Jim is a resident on Bobs Lake, a civil engineer and was one of the founding partners of McIntosh and Perry Consulting Engineers Ltd. Key areas of concern from the fisheries perspective are that the stream bed be reinstated with rock which will promote fish habitat and that fish flow velocities are maintained or improved.



Camsel Creek

On a related note the GBCLA met with Mark Segsworth, Director of Public Services for South Frontenac Township at the Camsel Creek site. We discussed the replacement of the current culverts with a structure that would restore fish access between Green Bay and the Doran Lake wetlands. We agreed that we would propose the project to the Public Services Committee providing that we funded the design work, received landowner consent and would manage the permit application process. The Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation agreed to fund

the design work on the condition that the Township implemented the project in 2021. The Association and Foundation presented the project request to the Public Services Committee. Unfortunately, the Committee declined to consider the request as they had not budgeted for roadworks on this segment of Green Bay road within their 5-year planning horizon. The GBCLA will continue to monitor this site for fish activity but defer our request to align with municipal plans for upgrade of this section of Green Bay road whenever that may be.



Barred Owl

Photo by: Lynn Watson



***E*vents and Information**

Crow Lake Community Association Says Good-bye

On behalf of Gerald Guigue, President

On August 28, 2020, the Board of Directors of the Crow Lake Community Association (CLCA) met to discuss the future status of the association and the lease of the Crow Lake School House.



Some of you may already be aware that 2020 has been particularly difficult, given the widespread impact of the pandemic. Among the hardest hit are the small community-based organizations and the CLCA has not escaped the hardships. In the years leading up to now, the financial strain was already being felt. It was becoming harder and harder to attract and retain members, recruit volunteers, and to arrange fundraising initiatives to help pay for the maintenance and upkeep of the Crow Lake School House.

Central Frontenac Township closed access to the schoolhouse early on in the pandemic. As of late September 2020, we are still not able to use it or rent it. After very difficult and heartfelt discussions, the CLCA is announcing that it has terminated its lease for the schoolhouse with Central Frontenac as of September 30, 2020.

There are just too many unknowns, resulting in health and safety issues that are outside the control of the CLCA. The lease termination is financially necessary in order to reduce our operating costs for insurance, hydro, and propane. Our financial resources are insufficient to carry the lease going forward. It has also been decided to dissolve the Crow Lake Community Association.

These were very hard decisions for the Board with lots of best wishes and good intentions. Unfortunately, the hard reality is that we could not continue.

With sincerest wishes to all. Stay safe and healthy!

Gerald Guigue, President

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Bolingbroke Dam Update – Spring 2020

Valerie de Winter, Communications & Media Relations Parks Canada

The Bolingbroke Dam Project was substantially completed in the Fall of 2019.

The dam is functioning and being monitored by Parks Canada employees through both electronic gauges and regular inspections. In collaboration with our partners TayNet, RVCA and the Municipalities along the Tay River are managing the dams flow.

In November/December 2019 the old Dam was dismantled and, rip rap placed along the shores of the mouth of the Tay River.

This Spring the contractor will be on site fixing, adjusting a few deficiencies, finishing the site clean-up and proceeding with relevant landscaping. At this time, we are not able to give an exact schedule of activities for the Spring as plans shift and change with the current COVID-19 situation.

No public access to the dam exists. Foot access to the dam is through private property and is prohibited. No water access is available and trespassing at the dam site is discouraged. Strong flows and currents can be dangerous and unpredictable.

Parks Canada urges the Public to stay away from the dam structure at all times for safety reasons.

We encourage residents and guests of Bobs and Crow Lakes to consult our website for information and updates on any of our projects at

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/on/rideau/visit/infrastructure>



Twin Oaks Camp - Gas Pump Upgrade

By: Carson Jen

Twin Oaks Camp at the north entrance to Green Bay, is only one of two locations that still sell ethanol free marine gas on Bobs Lake (the other location is Sunset Country). In September, work began on upgrading the outdated gas pumping equipment by their supplier Rosebush Energies (who acquired the fuel business of Leonard's Fuel). The existing gas storage tank had reached the end of its regulatory life and needed replacement. Sandra and Fred Fuller (owners) were able to negotiate a significant investment by Rosebush Energies to replace the tank and distribution lines in order to be issued a new marina license. It turns out that 42 years ago, Twin Oaks was issued a full-service license in error.



With a reduction over the last few years of available locations to gas up on the lake, this investment is good news. The availability of ethanol free marine gas is a significant convenience to boaters around the lake. Twin Oaks will also begin offering BBQ propane exchanges as an additional convenience to residents. As of mid-October 2020, work is now completed on the storage tank, distribution lines, gas pump and signage. Twin Oaks is ready for the 2021 boating season. All we can wish for now is that "normal and healthy" boating can return to the lake!

Sandra and Fred want it known they are extremely grateful to Rosebush Fuels for their support and a huge thank you as well to Leonard's Fuels for the many years of first-class service.





Beaver Dam Breach – Crow Lake

By: Jean Faucher

On August 7th, I was awoken by an announcement that there was 3 inches of water on Oak Bluff Road at the Lone Ridge Lane junction, where I live. After an investigation by the neighbourhood residents, we concluded that the Twin Pond beaver dam had been breached and its water was making its way into Crow Lake at the South side of Patterson Bay. That water which carried sediment, fish and probably Giardia i.e., “beaver fever”, had gone through two additional beaver ponds before entering Crow Lake.



I immediately informed the Board of The Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association (GBCLA) who sent out an E-lert to its members informing them of the possibility of water contamination in Crow Lake. The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) was also promptly contacted. Since the contact was made on a weekend, it was not possible to arrange a site visit that weekend on short notice. However, RVCA took water samples onsite first thing Monday morning which were sent to the lab for testing.



In the following days, the GBCLA received many inquiries from residents and visitors regarding the safety and status of the water quality. The lab results which showed no material health risk from the dam break, were not received by the RVCA for over a week. This delay unfortunately had the potential to increase the exposure to unsafe lake water from swimming or drinking. In order to provide an improved benefit to public health and safety, the lab results ideally should be turned around in a shorter period of time.

This is not the first time that a beaver pond has been breached and its water discharged into our lakes; and it will not be the last time. Residents are lucky that Stephanie Joyce owns a cottage at the end of Alf Patterson and works as an environmental scientist for a consulting company, which deals with water contamination. I decided to consult with her on Mother Nature's process for purifying contaminated water. She explained that:

- Water is like air where the warm water will float on top of cold water; therefore, the pond water was likely warmer and would remain on top of the lake water (after some initial mixing).
- It is all a question of volume: how much pond water mixes with the lake water. The Twin Pond was a significant volume of water as it can be seen on Google maps or any topographic map of the area. Crow Lake is a much larger body of water, especially with depths of over forty meters in some areas. Therefore, it would not take long (i.e., days) for Crow Lake to assimilate the pond water.
- Water currents: The water of Crow Lake flows from North East to South West (Bob's lake pass). Therefore, the pond water would generally follow the South side of Patterson's Bay, follow the shore of Crown Land until it crosses the narrows of the two lakes; limiting the majority of the contamination to the Crown land side of the lake.
- Giardia is commonly encountered in sewage and surface waters. The bacteria can survive for 2 to 3 months in water temperatures of less than 10 C. At 21 C, it can survive for almost one month. But the bacteria are killed in 10 minutes at a water temperature of 54 C. Crow Lake surface water was in the high 20's, therefore, the life of the bacteria would be numbered in days to weeks. Raising the water temperature to boiling immediately kills the bacteria.
- Water aspect will also indicate the degree of contamination by its colour, opacity, smell and feel.





*Beaver Dam Breach (cont'd)***Conclusion:**

It is very likely that the water in Patterson's Bay in Crow Lake was contaminated to some degree for a few days, even after the flow of the pond water had seceded. However, the natural processes noted above would have diluted and limited the physical extent of the contamination. The GBCLA endeavors to communicate health risks associated with lake water quality to its members as soon as possible. But all residents and guests must exercise their own common sense and judgement in determining if the water quality is safe enough to swim in or drink, or to arrange for their own water quality tests.

Again, I would like to thank Stephanie Joyce for spending time educating me on the natural decontamination process.

Reference Material:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC184281/pdf/aem00098-0183.pdf>

<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/canada/health-canada/migration/healthy-canadians/publications/healthy-living-vie-saine/water-recreational-recreative-eau/alt/pdf/water-recreational-recreative-eau-eng.pdf>

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-10/documents/giardia-factsheet.pdf>

Septic Alternatives

By: Joselyn Morley

It is really easy to not worry about your septic system until something goes very wrong. Throughout rural and cottage Ontario, the septic system is the common way to dispose of black water, and grey water. Regulations concerning the building and operating of septic systems have become much more stringent over the years in an effort to protect waterways and groundwater.

Recently, the cost to have a septic system pumped at a boat-only access cottage or camp has increased substantially. Furthermore, as cottages age, and renovations are undertaken, septic systems require maintenance and repair. Sometimes a total overhaul is required.

There are alternatives to the classic septic system. In fact, the majority of properties on Bobs and Crow

lakes would not have the room to install a new conventional septic system due to the space needed between the leach field and lakes, streams, groundwater, wells, or property lines.

Most people dump both grey and black water into their septic system. Diverting grey water from the septic system can prolong its life. Black water is water with human waste. Grey water is all the other water. Grey water can be used to flush toilets or water gardens. Your system can be as elaborate as replumbing to allow collection and treatment of grey water, or as simple as collecting used water in a bucket for use elsewhere, depending on the amenities at your home or cottage. If grey water is stored for any length of time, it needs to be treated. Grey water diverted from the septic system can be treated in a variety of leaching pits or filtration systems. Septic systems are regulated under the Ontario Building Code (OBC). If you have a stand-alone toilet, such as a composting toilet, you still need somewhere to treat your grey water, and different municipalities have different rules regarding requirements. The OBC is pretty clear in a lot of areas, such as septic systems. There's a lot more 'grey' area in the regulations when dealing with grey water.

Septic systems traditionally rely on anaerobic bacteria working on the sludge in the tank before the effluent is dispersed through the leach field. When aerators are used to add oxygen to the tank, aerobic bacteria can help to break down the sludge, allowing for a much smaller leach field. Adding filters or filter beds at various points in the system can also improve the system, and reduce space needed.

There are a few toilets that do not rely on septic systems. They are not for everyone, but if your septic system needs to be updated, repaired, or replaced, it is worth considering stand-alone toilets. The original stand-alone toilet, the outhouse, is still legal in Ontario, as a Class 1 Sewage System in the OBC. Similar to septic systems, there are rules about distance from lakes, streams, groundwater table, wells, property lines, and other structures. There are many outhouses functioning today that are not up to current code and many were built with no attention to any code at all. A well build outhouse is remarkably environmentally friendly in many respects, but like septic systems, they need space, which a lot of cottages don't have.



Septic Alternatives (cont'd)

There are a few stand-alone toilets that do not require much space, although most require commitment to use. They're not as easy as flush & forget..... If you are considering switching from septic system to a grey water system and stand-alone toilet, or employing them in a new build, make sure to check regulations. There's a wide variety!

Composting toilets comprise a bin for the compost, a drying system, and a place to sit. Some divert liquid away from more solid waste. Composting toilets use aerobic bacteria to break down waste, so aerating the sewage is necessary. Usually the waste is turned by a motor within the unit, or by hand via a crank, similar to turning garden compost in those big black bins. Powered units have fans to circulate air, manual ones rely on the heat of decomposition to exhaust the unit. Both have pipes for odours and gasses. Much of the issues with smell associated with composting toilets comes down to not getting the air to circulate correctly. Downdrafts can push sewage smells back into the room, just like a downdraft can push smoke down in a chimney. Neither are pleasant. The process requires heat and they work best at around 15C. Once it drops to 5C they don't work at all. If you can heat the area that is great but provides challenges if turning power on and off for days, weeks, or months at a time, or without power. The composted material is obviously good for gardens, but it is still human waste. Composted, yes, but composting does not kill all pathogens. Human compost should not be used on food gardens. A composting toilet requires consistent attention. It takes commitment to maintain a composting toilet but can be well worth the liberation from the traditional septic system.

There are incinerating toilets. The waste is incinerated at high temperature, powered by gas or electricity. These require a power source, and exhaust system, and are often energy hungry. The ash is sterile, but very high in nutrients, so you need to be careful where you dispose of it.

Chemical toilets are technically stand alone, but an environmental mess to deal with. The majority of ways rural or cottage residents dispose of human waste requires bacteria, both anaerobic and aerobic. Chemical toilets do not. They kill surface bacteria, break down solids, and suspend human waste in a holding state, usually with caustic agents like lye, antibacterial agents (that will destroy all that is good about your septic system!) perfumes, dyes, and preservatives.

Those of you on septic systems, as you consider repair or replacement, keep in mind that there are other alternatives to the conventional system. For those considering, or currently using other methods of disposing of waste, black water and grey water, I'd love to hear what works, what doesn't, what you're worried about, and what you'd do differently next time! (jmorley@ncf.ca)



Resurrected Osprey Nesting Pole

By: Carson Jen

After an extensive team effort to raise the fallen Osprey Nesting Pole at the entrance to Mud Bay in October of 2019, Bobs Lake residents were ecstatic to see a family return to the familiar site in the Spring of 2020. When the pole fell down, the substantial existing nest was washed away. From the recent photo it is obvious that the new family worked hard to rebuild it. The new pole base should be good for another 50 years and there was no noticeable damage to the base from last year's winter ice.

Thanks again to the Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation for funding the restoration of an iconic symbol of Bobs and Crow lakes, and to the many volunteers who made it happen (special thanks to coordinator Bill St. Arnaud).





Interest Pieces

Labour of Love

By: Reprint from Cottage Life Magazine



Bill St. Arnaud is a member of the Board of Directors for The Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association. Recently Cottage Life magazine did a story about “Cottage Do It Yourselfers” who go to great lengths to realize a dream. Bill’s dream was building his log home on Bobs Lake. Below is a reprint of the story for your reading pleasure.



Built by hand and horse, and with a lot of chutzpah!

What can a cottager build at the lake? Everything. At least if that cottager is Bill St. Arnaud. Bill, a retired internet engineer, and his wife, Janice Walker, have had their property on Bobs Lake, Ontario since 1989.

“It was always my dream to build a log home,” says Bill. But he sure didn’t take the easy route to achieving that dream. With no road access at the time, there was no way to get heavy equipment to the build site. So, Bill dug the foundation by hand,

using pickaxes, shovels, and pry bars. He hauled the sand, gravel, and cement across the lake on a pontoon boat. “Every single shovelful had to be moved four or five times,” recalls Bill. Shoveled from the mainland into the boat; off the boat and into a pickup truck; off the truck and into a pile by the cement mixer. When it came time to pour the foundation, Bill had to shovel everything into the cement mixer, then into a wheelbarrow, and finally, into the concrete forms.

All this shoveling took a long time. It wasn’t until the summer of 1994 that the foundation was finished. “Thinking back, I must have been insane,” says Bill.



Insane? No. Determined and creative? Yes. In late February of 1995, Bill got the help of a local man with a team of Belgian draft horses to drag the logs across the ice. Then he hoisted each 1,500 lb. log into position using steel cables strung between the trees. Next came the roof, rafters, and dormers; the stone steps; and the porch.

“I’ve never been one to sit around,” says Bill. “I love physically working.” Which is why he then built all the cottage’s furniture, and constructed his own towable backhoe after taking a welding course. Sure, the backhoe probably would have been useful earlier, while, say, digging the foundation – but Bill lives and learns. “As Janice says, I was going on a lot of chutzpah even thinking that I could start such an undertaking,” he says. “I got these skills by making mistakes.”

So, is there anything at the cottage that Bill didn’t build? “Well ... I didn’t build the fridge or the stove.”

Cottage Life magazine, October 2020



Wildlife Around the Lakes

Batty About Bats

By: Ben Stevens

Some people love them, and some don't. But one thing is for sure, they love bugs – especially those little biting beasts we call mosquitoes. We hardly ever see bats – except those movies where thousands of huge fruit bats come flooding out of their cave. We don't have Fruit Bats around here – instead we have several smaller varieties. The most common one is the Little Brown Bat which weighs less than 12 grams/0.5 ounces yet has a wingspan of about 25 cms/10 inches. Best time to see them is at dusk – they are amazing acrobats and a joy to watch. And did I mention they love mosquitoes?



Two Myths, Two Truths:

Myth #1: they get tangled in your hair – if one does, take a picture and send it to us - it will be the first ever recorded case.

Myth #2: they caused coronavirus – the verdict is out on that, and the best guess is that if so, they passed it on to pangolins, and so that's only a problem if you eat pangolins.

Truth #1: they are death on mosquitoes – hundreds and thousands every night! You've got to love them for this.

Truth #2: mosquitoes can hear bats and will keep about 30 meters/100 feet away from a bat house.

Bat moms have one tiny baby bat per year and at birth they weigh about 2gms – that's less than one tenth of an ounce. Although the mating takes place in the fall, the baby bat doesn't develop and isn't born until the spring. Many of you will know they are under serious threat from an infection known as white nose disease. This is deadly, but only for bats, and spreads like wildfire, again only among bats. The infections are greatest among big colonies. They badly need our help and one way we can really help them is to establish new colonies. Spring

is the time (April and May) when they are looking to establish new colonies. What does it take? Just a bat house. And a bit of luck.

Bat houses are easy to make – you've probably already got the materials in your basement, and they are easy to install. This is a simple but great project for everybody who is self-isolating from the coronavirus. Or you can buy them. Here are three sources for info on bat houses:

1. For do-it-yourself plans:
<https://cwf-fcf.org/en/explore/bats/canadianwildlife-bathouse-v4-MASTER.pdf>
2. For a video (to be honest, not very helpful)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U30e8Qwqx-k>
3. To buy a ready made bat house on line from Canadian Wildlife Federation (\$95)
<https://shopcwf.ca/collections/frontpage/products/bat-box?src=bats>

Installation Instructions - Bat houses should be mounted at least 10 feet above ground, and 12 to 20 feet is better. Choose a sunny location East or South facing. Bat houses work best with at least 6-8 hours of direct sunlight (if only partial-day sun is available - morning sun is preferable).

Bat houses can be mounted on wooden posts, steel poles, or on the sides of buildings. It's not a good idea to mount them on trees unless you can make sure they are well clear of branches. In fact, setting them back about 6 metres/20 feet from the tree line is best so they have the space to swoop around.

The success rate of bat houses is roughly 35% - colour them black or brown as they love the heat; most are occupied within 2 years. Bats love to feed near water – easy for us around Bobs Lake. Here's a website with more info:

<https://www.bigbatbox.com/blogs/learn/where-to-put-a-bat-house-in-your-yard> Let us know how many you installed and when you installed them. Keep an eye out for occupants, let me know and I'll post updates. Email me at stevensb@kingston.net





Batty About Bats (cont'd)

What about Vampire Bats? These are tiny species of bat, about 3 ins/7cms long & found in South America – and yes, they do live on blood, but almost always from farm animals – e.g., pigs & cattle. Are they harmful to humans? There have been very rare examples in Peru where bats have infected humans with rabies, but from a practical viewpoint here in Ontario, it's not an issue.

And Fruit Bats? These are the pictures you see of millions of them flowing out of caves at dusk. They are indigenous to Australia and Africa and can be up to 15ins/35cms long with a wingspan up to 5ft/1.7m. I was lucky enough to witness a huge flight of them in Accra – literally millions covering the sky as far as the eye could see. And, again in Australia where they are called flying foxes. Many of them live in the parks in downtown Sydney for instance, where they happily roost in trees for all the world to see. Are they dangerous – no, they feed solely on fruit. And their faces really do look like foxes.

European Gypsy Moths (Lymantria Dispar)

By: Joselyn Morley

Male and female gypsy moths



The Gypsy Moth is an invasive species in North America. It does most of its damage to trees in its larvae stage, as a caterpillar. This summer has seen extreme defoliation in Ontario. Accidentally introduced in the 1860s, there have been periodic outbreaks ever since, that usually end with the overabundant population collapsing. This outbreak shows no signs of abating.

Gypsy Moth Larvae (Caterpillar)



The caterpillar is 5 to 60 mm long, dark in colour, and covered in hairs. These hairs protect it at all stages of its lifecycle. On its back are five pairs of blue dots and six pairs of red dots. It has four

stages: egg, caterpillar, cocoon, and moth. The exact timing of the stages vary somewhat depending on weather, but generally are as follows: Female lays the eggs on the trunk of the tree in late July through August. One female lays one egg sack, which can contain 100-1000 eggs. Egg masses are 4 cm long, tan in colour. The eggs overwinter until the tree buds emerge, usually in early May, when small caterpillars begin to climb the tree to the canopy. The caterpillars spend about 40 days growing, munching, and moulting. One caterpillar can eat a square meter of canopy. They climb up and down the trees and can travel between trees on long threads blown by the wind. They cocoon when they reach 6 to 7 cm long, usually mid-July to early August. This transformation stage lasts two weeks or less. We see the moths by late July to mid and late August. Moths live 10 days. They do not eat anything as moths and only reproduce. The female is white or cream in colour, smaller, and does not fly. The male is brown, larger, and flies.

Egg sacs of Gypsy Moth



They prefer hardwood like oak, maple, or basswood but will eat anything, including conifers. Trees cannot live stripped of all leaves and needles. Some deciduous trees can re-foliate somewhat in same year, but conifers cannot. Other invasive caterpillars such as the forest tent caterpillar, feed on the leaves slightly earlier, allowing at least the deciduous trees a chance to re-foliate somewhat. The gypsy moth caterpillar eats for a longer time, meaning little chance for new leaves. Added to the caterpillar attack this year is the stress of drought, and previous years' caterpillar attacks.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) maintains that there will be no control measures implemented by the Ministry such as aerial spraying. They maintain that population collapse occurs following epidemic years, and that gypsy moths follow a 7 to 10-year cycle. Natural pressures will combat the gypsy moth population. The MNRF collects defoliation data aerially annually in July. They will continue this year, if covid19 restrictions allow.

There are natural predators, parasites, and pathogens to the gypsy moth various life stages.



Gypsy Moths (cont'd)

These include some birds, although the eggs and caterpillars are protected by its hairs, small mammals, and some invertebrates. Eight species of parasitic wasps prey on the gypsy moth, as do parasitic flies. There is also a virus and a fungus. The Nuclear Polyhydrosis Virus (NPV) affects the eating habits of the caterpillars then converts the inside of the caterpillar to millions of virus particles. This helps propagate the virus. Unfortunately, drought kills the virus. We have had a couple of summers of extreme drought, including this one. The fungus *Entomophaga Maimaiga* exists as resting spores on tree bark throughout the winter, germinating into sticky spores in the spring. The fungus digests its way into the caterpillar on contact. It kills the caterpillar, turning the decomposing carcass into microscopic spores that spread. Unfortunately, this fungus relies on specific moisture levels and temperatures in order to germinate. In short, the conditions required to experience a collapse of the gypsy moth population are not occurring.

Newly hatched larvae



There are some things you can do. Removing the egg sacks off of tree trunks will reduce the population. You can knock them to the ground where they will be eaten or put them in a bucket of soapy water. You will see egg sacks from August until May. You can also wrap burlap around a tree, where the caterpillars will hide, allowing you to destroy them. This only works while the caterpillars are feeding in the spring. You can lessen the stress on damaged trees somewhat by watering and feeding them.

Spraying Gypsy Moths:

Bacillus Thuringiensis, subspecies *Kurstaki* (Bt-k) is a natural, soil-borne bacteria that can be sprayed onto the leaves. Bt-k produces a protein crystal during the spore-forming stage of its life cycle, which is toxic only to the larvae stage (caterpillar) of specific insects. These microscopic crystals are ingested by insects feeding on treated leaves. In the alkaline environment of the targeted insect's

digestive system, the crystals are converted into toxic protein molecules that destroy the walls of the insect's stomach. The insect stops eating within hours and is dead in 2 to 5 days. It must be ingested by the feeding caterpillars, so it must be sprayed in the spring. Bt-k washes off the leaves so timing is very important. It is usually done in two applications.

Bt-k kills only lepidopteran larvae that are feeding at the time it is sprayed. Bt-k stays on the leaves for a short time, so it only kills larvae that feeds at that specific time of the year. Bt-k susceptible insects, such as gypsy moth, feed much earlier in the spring than the larvae of monarchs or swallowtails, who feed exclusively on milkweed and the carrot family, much later in the summer. The Bt-k is long gone by the time monarchs and swallowtails are feeding. Understanding how Bt-k works, and how it is targeted very specifically at the gypsy moth caterpillar, should reassure people worried about butterflies and other insects.

Bt-k is best applied aerially, and usually in two applications 7 to 10 days apart. If you are considering spraying Bt-k, Zimmer Air Services has all the information you will need:

<https://zimmerair.com/services/aerial-application-services/forest-pest-control/>

Arrangements are best made in the fall. Each individual property owner contracts with the company. Cost currently is \$357 for the first acre, and \$96 for each subsequent acre.

Broadie the Broad-winged Hawk

By: Ben Stevens

We've been watching "our" Broad-winged Hawk "Broadie" for about 25 years, wheeling around on the horizon and screaming its head off – a glorious and un-mistakeable sight, an unforgettable sound. Of course, it's neither "ours" nor is it the same one – they can survive about 12 years in the wild, but as we'll see later, often way less than that. So how do you tell a Broad-winged from all the other hawks? The best give-away is the fan tail with distinct black and white stripes; but watch out for the Red-shouldered Hawk which is also in our area and has a similar tail but is a couple of sizes larger. For good comparisons, go to <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/>.

As they soar around in the sunshine, they are on the hunt for prey; small mammals, lizards, baby

**Broadie the Broad-winged Hawk (cont'd)**

turtles, other birds – in fact almost anything small and moving will cause a swooping dive to investigate. We've found that its screaming voice is an alarm call – usually the result of a predator (or a human!) approaching the nest when there's a baby on board. Yes, they do have predators – despite weighing about 450 grams/1 lb. and standing 35 cm /12 in high, they can be taken by Bald Eagles and Red-shouldered Hawks. But they are most vulnerable at the nestling and egg stage – raccoons love the eggs for example, and they nest close enough to the ground not to be a challenge for a hungry Rocky Raccoon. The parents will get pretty angry, defending the nest very aggressively, swooping down to try to knock the predator out of the tree. As an endangered species, Broad-wings are protected – habitat loss is their major threat.



This year's nest was along the roadside – part of a daily route march for Diane. One fine morning, with no warning she was whacked on the back of her head – hard enough to knock her hat off, giving her the impression someone had thrown a rock at her, and cause her enough of a mild concussion for her to lose her way, go down a side track by mistake and turn the wrong way back on to the road again! For the next few days, she was screamed at and swooped down on every time she walked the road – being followed by Broadie for about 200 meters before being left in peace – only to be picked on again on the return. And the fascinating thing was that we heard of no-one else who was harassed like this. As the youngster in the nest grew to almost adult size, the attacks subsided, and the next we heard was a call from our neighbour DiAnne Henderson at Green Bay Heritage Cabins. She had a grounded hawk in their backyard that was trying to fly but was unable to get off the ground – and sure enough it was a young Broad-winged, hobbling on one leg. Well she and another neighbour carefully caught it in a blanket and took it off to the Sandy Pines Wildlife Centre in Napanee where they do a wonderful job of receiving, treating and releasing orphaned and injured wildlife of all sorts (<https://sandypineswildlife.org/>). Their veterinarian

diagnosed a compound fracture of the leg, plus a large open wound on its chest – almost certainly as a result of being too adventurous too young and falling out of the nest onto a branch spur and then crashing to the ground. Sadly, the only outcome had to be humane euthanasia. Meanwhile Broadie and mate spent several days in and around DiAnne's backyard searching for their off-spring, before joining with hundreds of other Broad-wings as they gather along the north shore of Lake Ontario and migrate as a huge flock down to Central America and the Caribbean. See you next year Broadie – travel well.



Dabbling Ducks of Bobs and Crow Lakes

By: Joselyn Morley

Alongside the large flocks of migrating Canada Geese (no, not Canadian Geese) are a multitude of smaller waterfowl migrating through. Overshadowed by the dramatic spectacle of huge flocks of geese, the smaller, quieter birds might only be seen by birders or hunters. Bobs & Crow lakes see waterfowl and birds from both the Atlantic and Mississippi fly zones. Species that don't summer here can be spotted in the spring or fall as they migrate. Ducks rely on two of the most threatened habitats: wetlands and grasslands. Climate change is pushing them out of their habitat. Floods, droughts, fires, extreme weather, development, pollution and competition for limited resources leads to stress on other species.

Dabbling ducks are those that prefer shallow water. Most of what they eat they can find on the surface, just below, or on the banks. You'll see them in the coves and back bays of Bobs & Crow Lakes. When you see the duck bums sticking out of the water, that's the dabbling ducks. Divers find food deeper down, diving well under the water to catch fish and other food.



Dabbling Ducks (cont'd)



Mallard Duck

Everyone recognizes the Mallard. They're largest of the dabbling ducks, and have distinctive green heads on the male, and the purple wing stripe on the female. They are the most adaptable of all the dabbling ducks. That's good for them, but not so good for other species! They are the duck most likely to be spotted in a city park or trying to nest in a flooded field in spring. Unlike other ducks, they can thrive on grain, so you will see them in agricultural fields alongside Canada Geese. Domestic ducks were originally bred from Mallards. Mallards can and do breed with domestic ducks, producing a fertile hybrid offspring. They can breed with a number of wild ducks, creating hybrids, often infertile, which threatens other duck species. If you see a duck that looks *kind of* like a Mallard, chances are it's a hybrid. Mallards breed with pintail, black ducks, wigeon, shovelers, cinnamon teal, green winged teal, and gadwalls. Most hybrids are infertile, thus threatening the species of the other duck, as the mallard is so adaptable, established, and dominant.

Hunters target them because of their size and relative abundance. About 50% of ducks hunted in North America each year are Mallards. Faced with pressure from wetland habitat loss in the west they have pushed east into the Maritimes, competing for, and winning, resources, threatening many other duck species.



Wood Duck Photo by: Lynn Watson

Wood ducks are beautiful. They were on the brink of extinction by the beginning of the 1900s from habitat loss and overhunting. Their survival and recovery is a testament to the dedication of conservationists, and an illustration of the need for

action to protect wetland and forest habitat. Wood ducks nest in hollow trees and such cavities near or above water. They routinely have two broods a year. They need forested wetlands and dense vegetation.

They possess claw and climb and grip. Shortly after hatching, the mother duck will leave the nest to the water below, call to her chicks, and all the tiny chicks climb up the inside of the cavity, and launch themselves out of the nest into the water below. Wood duck nesting boxes were instrumental in helping to bring the species back from the verge of extinction. Many an older hunter or birder (and spouses!) have stories of wading or canoeing through wetlands, installing and maintaining wood duck nesting boxes. The boxes are pretty specific to wood ducks, as they need a corrugated surface inside to allow the chicks to climb, and the boxes have to be monitored and cleaned out. Positioning is important to protect from predators. Other animals, birds, or waterfowl may use the boxes. I have plans for wood duck boxes if anyone wishes to build, install or maintain them.



Harlequin Ducks

The Harlequin Duck could use the same attention on conservation that the wood duck received. The eastern population of Harlequin ducks is in sharp decline, with less than 1000 pairs. The eastern population was declared "endangered" by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada in 1990. Technically they are sea ducks, as they winter in coastal areas of Quebec and Labrador. We see them in Ontario during the spring and summer when they leave the coastal areas and head to freshwater streams and lakes. They feed by walking along the bottom of a stream or river against the current eating the larvae of insects. They have high nutritional needs, but do not have a varied diet. A lot of their inland water bodies are gone due to flooding, drought, power dams, mines, and other human encroachment. They return to the same coastal areas in the winter, and do not adapt well if the area has been changed, damaged, or polluted. They breed later than many ducks and

**Dabbling Ducks (cont'd)**

have smaller clutches. They have been protected in Canada since 1917 with the inception of the Migratory Birds Convention Act. There has been a total ban on hunting them in Eastern Canada since 1990, although that is not the main threat. The Migratory Bird Act is federal legislation, and generally migratory birds are managed federally in Canada, but rules for protection of habitat for example are covered by a variety of levels of government and require cooperation and consistency.



Black Duck

The Black Duck is one most threatened by the Mallard, through hybridization, competition for resources, and encroachment of habitat. It was once the most abundant duck in Eastern North America. It is now in dangerous decline. The male and female look very similar. The male has a brighter bill, but both can be easily confused with a female mallard. They return to the same marshes each year, stubbornly, going so far as to starve if the marsh is still frozen, or drained, or developed. They are adapting poorly to the effects of climate change as their habitat changes. As the Mallard has pushed northwards and eastwards, black ducks have declined in those areas. Hunters harvest fewer black ducks now than ever before, possibly because of the increase in the mallard population in black duck areas. Destruction of habitat has impacted all waterfowl, but black duck more so due to the stress from mallards. Mallards are genetically dominant. Since 1940 approximately 1.7 million game-farm Mallards have been released in the range of the black duck.

Organizations such as Ducks Unlimited help to educate and encourage wetland conservation. They were founded in 1937 by conservationists and hunters as they saw waterfowl populations declining. As weather becomes more extreme and warmer, habitats previously supporting specific species will no longer be able to do so. Ranges of various waterfowl are changing faster than ever before. Ducks like the mallards have the distinct advantage.

I'd love to hear about what ducks & waterfowl you're seeing at the lakes this fall, or what you hope to see next spring. I'd also enjoy hearing about what interests you with regard to wildlife at Bobs & Crow Lakes. Is there something you'd like to know more about? Are you worried about a species? Have you seen some interesting things you'd like to share? Especially with the Bio-Blitz having to be postponed this year because of covid19, I'd love to hear from you about your wildlife interests!



**Stay Safe,
Stay Well,
Happy Holidays!**



Cook's Corner

Carrot Ginger Soup

If you went to your farmers market over the weekend and came home with a beautiful bunch of carrots, then this carrot soup recipe is for you. They're the main ingredient in this easy recipe, along with a few staples that you likely already have in your kitchen. Here's what else makes it so darn good:

Ginger adds a lovely freshness and plays well with the carrots' sweetness

Onion and garlic give it depth of flavour

Extra-virgin olive oil adds richness

Apple cider vinegar or orange juice makes it bright and tangy

Veggie broth gets the blender moving and ties it all together

Season to taste with salt and pepper and add a bit of maple to sweeten it up, if you wish. That's it!

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 cup chopped yellow onions
- 3 garlic cloves, smashed
- 2 heaping cups chopped carrots
- 1½ teaspoons grated fresh ginger
- 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
- 3 to 4 cups vegetable broth
- Sea salt and fresh black pepper
- 1 teaspoon maple syrup, or to taste (optional)
- coconut milk for garnish, optional
- dollops of [pesto](#), optional

Instructions

1. Heat the olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add the onions and a generous pinch of salt and pepper and cook until softened, stirring occasionally, about 8 minutes. Add the smashed garlic cloves (they'll get blended later) and chopped carrots to the pot and cook about 8 minutes more, stirring occasionally.

2. Stir in the ginger, then add the apple cider vinegar, and then add 3 to 4 cups of broth, depending on your desired consistency. Reduce to a simmer and cook until the carrots are soft, about 30 minutes.
3. Let cool slightly and transfer to a blender. Blend until smooth. Taste and adjust seasonings. Add maple syrup, if desired.
4. Serve with a drizzle of coconut milk and/or a dollop of pesto, if desired.



Enjoy!



2021 - Membership Application / Renewal Form

Name: _____

Date: _____

eMail: _____

Magazine by e-mail: Yes / No

Mailing Address:

Summer Address (911 number):

Winter telephone: _____

Summer telephone: _____

Township (Please circle appropriate): Central Frontenac, South Frontenac or Tay Valley

Cottage Location (select appropriate location):

☐ Big Bobs (Main/West Basin)

☐ Crow Bay

☐ Central Narrows

☐ Long Bay

☐ Green Bay

☐ Buck Bay

☐ Mud Bay Basin

☐ Norris Bay

☐ Bobs Lake East Basin

☐ Crow Lake

☐ Mill Bay

☐ Island Property

Annual membership dues are **\$40.00**. Corporate membership is **\$75**.

If you wish to donate additional funds, please indicate amount \$_____. If this donation is to be used for a specific purpose let us know. _____

Please make cheques payable to Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association. Membership form and cheques may be given to any Lake Association Board member, or mailed to:

Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association

c/o Rick Prudil

2018 Centreville Rd / Centreville ON K0K 1N0

Membership enquiries: membership@bobsandcrowlakes.ca

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