



# Spring Newsletter 2024



## Message from the President ...

Greetings all!

I extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you as we embrace the arrival of spring to our community.

I encourage each and everyone of you to take advantage of the warmer weather to connect with your friends.

CLCA board has a great list of events planned for the summer, we will be sending emails to our membership with updates, and all will be posted on our website.

Our AGM is on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm and will be done over zoom, we have a lot of information to share with you about our community.

As always, we are looking for new board members and volunteers so please reach out to us at anytime.

I would thank the Board Members and volunteers for all their hard work and dedication through out the year, without them none of this would be possible.

Together, lets make this season a time of growth, unity and joy for our community, may it be filled with laughter, friendship and unforgettable memories by the lake.

Warm regards and look forward to seeing everything this summer!

*John Fernandes*

**President  
Crystal Lake Community Association**

## Crystal Lake Community Association (CLCA) Annual General Meeting (AGM)

**Monday, June 3, 2024 @ 7:00pm**

We will be holding the AGM virtually via Zoom again this year. The link will be shared by email and posted closer to the meeting date.

All are welcome to attend the Zoom, but just a reminder that only CLCA members are allowed to vote.

### Agenda items to include:

- Discussion of CLCA Business
- Lake Stewardship update on Crystal Lake
- Election of CLCA Officers
- Upcoming 2024 Crystal Lake Events
- Guest Speaker Kevin Pepper – Loon Whisperer
- Approval of the revised CLCA Constitution re ONCA
- Topics of interest in the Trent Lakes Municipality
- Q&A's: please send questions in advance, or can ask using the Zoom chat feature



## Meet the CLCA Board Members Team

<b>President</b>	John Fernandes
<b>Vice President</b>	Christine Brickman
<b>Secretary</b>	Sharon Brickman
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carol Ing
<b>Membership</b>	Linda Mielewczyk
<b>Past President</b>	John Hubbard
<b>Board Member</b>	Rainey Weidauer

**Lake Stewards:** Nikita Siappas & Shawn Baldwin

## Capital Gains

The Federal government announced in the 2024 budget to implement higher taxes on capital gains on annual amounts in excess of \$250,000. The tax hike, which boosts the inclusion rate from 50 per cent to 66.7 per cent, would be applied to gains realized after June 25.

This could significantly affect cottage owners, as they have experienced increased values over the last four years. It has been suggested to consider your options before the deadline as the additional tax implications could be significant. FOCA estimates this could negatively affect approx. 150,000 seasonal cottage owners in Ontario.

There are numerous articles you can read on the FOCA site to better understand the impacts for your own situation.

<https://foca.on.ca/property-taxation-assessment/>



## Upcoming Events 2024

- ✓ CLCA Annual General Meeting via Zoom June 3, 7pm
- ✓ Get the Lead Out! June 22, 12 – 3pm Crystal Lake Dam
- ✓ Name That Tune Galway Hall June 22, 7pm
- ✓ Canada Day Scavenger Hunt White's Beach and Hot Dogs June 29
- ✓ Meet and Greet hosted by CLCA President July 20 (members only)
- ✓ Crystal Lake's Got Talent Aug 10 hosted by McInnis & Worona's
- ✓ Haunt the Docks August 24
- ✓ Fall Food Drive Oct 4 – 6 and Oct 11 - 14 for the Kinmount Food Bank



### Other Events:

- ✓ Summer Supper Galway Hall June 29, 5pm
- ✓ Kinmount: Music In the Park Every Thursday starting July 4
- ✓ Farmers Market Every Saturday 9 to 2pm starting May 18<sup>th</sup> to Thanksgiving
- ✓ Kinmount Fair Labor Day Weekend Aug 30 to Sept 1
- ✓ Artisans Marketplace Weekdays 11 am to 5pm, Sat 10 am to 5pm, Sun 10 am to 4pm
- ✓ Highlands Cinema opens May 5 for the season

Sponsored By CLCA


Please join us on June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 12pm -3pm at the Crystal Lake Dam boat Launch

The purpose is to exchange your old lead fishing tackle with new **Lead-Free** Fishing tackle consisting of Sinkers and Hooks. The exchange is free and is for anyone. Any members who participate in the exchange will receive a ticket for a draw to win a hand carving Made By John Doble. Please note the draw for the carving will be for CLCA members only. If you're not currently a member you can sign up and pay at this time

For your information we have lost a few loons on our lake in the last couple years, last year one was taken to a rescue site and was deemed to have died due to lead poisoning (lead split shot/sinker) had been found in the Loon

Please support this program, it is **free** and a great step forward to protecting our lake and its residents

Thanks In Advance!



### Short-Term Rental (STR's)

Action: The Municipality of Trent Lakes Short Term Rental Group have created a draft Short-Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) by-law as part of Phase 3. The TL Staff brought this to Council on April 16, 2024. Public consultation on the by-law will be accepted through the TL website until May 31, 2024.

As well, there will be two public meetings June 8, 10 – 12pm and June 13, 6 to 8pm.

Learn more at

<https://www.trentlakes.ca/.../gov.../short-term-rentals.aspx>



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### Our Loons

The loons have returned and will be actively nesting. A recent study has shown that loon populations are declining, with major causes being loss of habitat and water levels. There are a few simple things we can all do to protect our loons including:

- ✦ Watch your wake, the lake levels are generally high during mating and nesting season, one wave can flood a nest and destroy the eggs, meaning the pair will have no chicks for the year
- ✦ Respect their space, if you see a nest please stay clear
- ✦ Try and leave shorelines as natural as possible



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## Water Levels

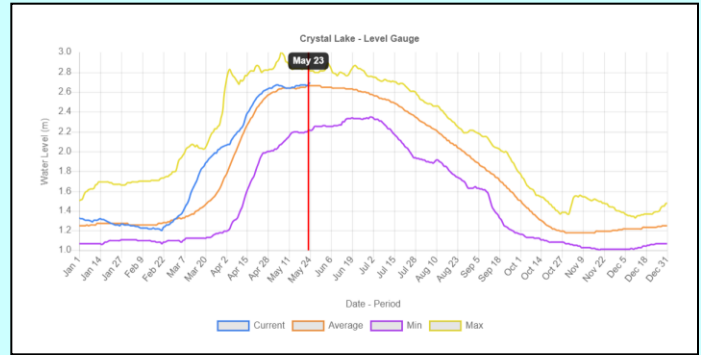
Water levels are important to all of us on Crystal Lake. The Coalition of Equitable Water Flow CEWF, are one of the organizations the CLCA supports. They are in regular contact with the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) water management team.

As seen in the chart the water levels on Crystal Lake are slightly above average for this time of year.

Water levels will continue to fluctuate based on the needs of the Trent and weather conditions.

CEWF Video on Understanding TSW & Climate Change

<https://www.cewf.ca/video-water-level-extremes-what-you-can-do#>



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### Buoys/Markers

We have buoys around Crystal Lake to mark some of the rocks and shoals. CLCA purchased several new buoys, anchors and hardware last year to replace the older worn out ones. We have a team of volunteers that put them out and bring them back in - no matter what the weather conditions!

**Your CLCA dues going to good use!**

**Note:** Please be cautious navigating around the lake, as rocks and floating debris can be hazardous at all times of the year.

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**STEVE BRAND, CD**  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE



**MUSIC in the PARK**

Thursdays 6:30 pm  
Austin Sawmill Park

Sponsored by Kinmount Community Volunteer Management Committee, Kinmount Lions & Guest Sponsors

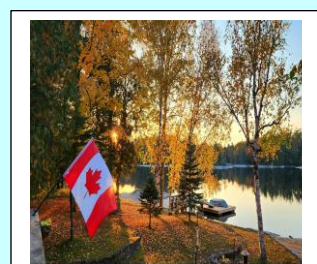
**JULY**

- 4 The Mark Ekins Band
- 11 Gary & the Rough Ideas
- 18 Melissa Payne
- 25 Cash on the Barrelhead

**AUGUST**

- 1 The Wanted
- 8 Rick Fines
- 15 The Blackfly Boogie Band
- 22 The Recycled Teenagers

Food by Linda J's Market



## What does the CLCA do?



**CLCA focuses on and represents the interests of Crystal Lake waterfront property and area residents, and to provide a sense of Community and Pride!**

- ✚ We organize and sponsor Crystal Lake events like the Name that Tune, Canada Day and Haunt the Docks
- ✚ We purchase and maintain buoys to mark some of the rocks and shoals on Crystal Lake.
- ✚ We maintain a website to keep us informed, share events, photos and other interesting stuff!
- ✚ We make donations to and support local businesses in our community such as Music in the Park and Foodbanks
- ✚ Provide 'members only' useful items – the Crystal Lake map and Emergency Contact Fridge Magnet
- ✚ We keep the Welcome Signs and various planters looking beautiful

**CLCA acts as a liaison and represents us all on various important matters:**

- ✚ We liaise with the Municipality of Trent Lakes Council and staff regarding waste management, roadway maintenance, development and by-laws and policies that impact Crystal Lake and area
- ✚ We support the Crystal Lake Steward who takes water samples to be tested by the Ministry of the Environment to monitor the water quality of the lake for clarity, phosphorus levels and invasive species (i.e. zebra mussels).

### IDEAS AND VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Are you interested in helping out with an event or an initiative? Do you have great ideas to share? Do you have questions to ask or comments to offer? If so, we would love to hear from you!!

**Please send us a note at [crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com](mailto:crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com)**

Also, if you are willing to help out with canvassing for membership (chatting with your neighbours or taking on a section of the lake) please let us know!



### Crystal Lake Map

The revised Crystal Lake Map has been distributed to our members!  
Blue Recycle Bins also available



### OPP Patrol

The OPP patrol both our lake and roads during the day and night. Know and follow the rules of the lake and road.

For more information on safe boating visit the [Transport Canada](http://TransportCanada.ca) website.



## HUBBARD INSURANCE GROUP

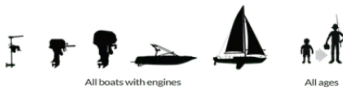
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### DO I NEED A BOATING LICENSE IN ONTARIO?

All operators of motorized boats in Ontario are required by law to have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card. Commonly known as a boating license, a Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) is required for all ages, boat lengths and engine sizes (including electric trolling motors). Boaters who operate a motorized vessel without a boating license face a \$250 fine.



### HOW OLD DO I HAVE TO BE TO GET A BOATING LICENSE IN ONTARIO?

There is no minimum age to obtain your boating license in Ontario. Boaters of all ages, including those less than 16 years of age, are required by law to obtain and carry a Pleasure Craft Operator Card while boating. In addition, certain Age and Horsepower Restrictions apply to boaters 16 years of age and under.



## Crystal Lake Red Chair at White's Beach

The red chair has been a big hit! We know you are enjoying taking family/friends pic with the chair



## CLCA maintain membership with various associations. A strong, united voice is important when advocating on behalf of our members

- ✦ **Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF):**
  - Work to implement equitable water management policies for the Trent-Severn Waterway taking all those affected into account. Visit CEWF's website
- ✓ **Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA):**
  - A non-profit, voluntary organization that represents over 500 Ontario Associations. Your membership dues help pay or support FOCA. They are dedicated to supporting the interests of Ontario's waterfront property owners.



## New Fridge Magnet

The Emergency Contact Fridge Magnets are being distributed with the new Crystal Lake maps! Write your property address and contact info in case of an emergency. Many get flustered in an emergency!

**Supported and organized by CLCA**



## Lake Stewardship

As we embark on another cottage season it is important to remember our environment and water quality. We now have the results from the 2023 water quality testing;

- ✓ **Phosphorus level** = Low (7.715 ug P/L)  
This is a great result as higher levels can result in invasive & toxic algae species
- ✓ **Secchi Depth** = 6.5M Good  
A special disk is used to measure water clarity. Great results as visibility = healthy lake
- ✓ **Dissolved Calcium** = Fairly high (30.87 mg/L)  
This impacts invertebrate species as it helps them form shells. i.e. Reason for increase in zebra mussels
- ✓ **Chlorophyll Concentration** = Fairly Low (1.73 ug/L)  
These results are great as it leads to better clarity and less nutrient pollution.
- ✓ **Dissolved Oxygen** at bottom of lake = Low (.8 mg/L)  
Although this hasn't been flagged, many aquatic plants and species thrive off of oxygen levels

In summary, we are fortunate to have an overall healthy lake!! We continue to monitor and work with various organizations to have water tested frequently.

Lake Stewards  
Nikita Siappas and Shawn

CRYSTAL LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

**Canada Day Scavenger Hunt**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 29**

SCAVENGER HUNT OPEN TO CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER  
12PM THE HUNT STARTS  
BRING ITEMS TO WHITE'S BEACH FOR 2PM

HOT DOGS AND FREEZIES AT WHITE'S BEACH 2PM FOR ALL AGES  
(CLCA PAID FAMILY MEMBERS)

REGISTER AT:  
EVENTCRYSTALLAKE@GMAIL.COM  
DETAILS TO BE SENT UPON REGISTRATION

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN!

Crystal Lake Community Association Presents:

**NAME THAT TUNE** Come on out for a fun, competitive game night!

\$15/person in advance or \$20 at the door

**SATURDAY, JUNE 22ND 2024**  
Galway Hall

GAME STARTS AT 8:00PM SHARP

Hosted by Candice Reardon DJ Services

No singing required!  
Listen to clips of music and fill out an answer sheet. The team with the most points at the end, WIN! Create a team or show up and we will place you in one!  
Munchies, cash bar and dance to follow!

Register by PayPal or credit card at  
<https://crystallakecottagers.ca/tunes2024.htm> or  
cash payment at the door

## Be Wake Aware – Impacts of your Wake!

- ✓ Smaller watercraft like kayaks, fishing boats and SUP's can be easily capsized
- ✓ Swimmers can be tumbled over and injured
- ✓ Boat wake causes shoreline erosion
- ✓ Nesting bird on the shore can have their nests destroyed
- ✓ Disruptive to your neighbors AND damage to docks and ramps

### What can we all do?

- ✓ Be aware of the size of your wake at all times
- ✓ Position passengers thru-out the boat to reduce time spent in transition
- ✓ Look behind you to minimize the impact of your wake
- ✓ Reduce your speed to less than 10 km/h 30m from shore, docks and swimmers
- ✓ Water-ski, tube, surf & wake-board 200 meters away from all shorelines
- ✓ Consider the size of the wake produced when purchasing a new boat

## Are You Interested in Advertising?

Contact us for more details at  
[crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com](mailto:crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com)

[Our website receives a huge # of hits and traffic.](#)



### Helpful Phone Numbers

#### Emergency Numbers

Fire, Police, Ambulance Emergency: 911  
Marine & Air Search and Rescue: 1-800-267-7270  
Poison Information Centre: 1-800-268-9017  
Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868



#### Non-Emergency Numbers

Police: 1-888-310-1122 Tele-Health Ontario - 1-866-797-0000  
Ambulance: 705-286-2424  
Ministry of Natural Resources: 1-800-667-1940  
Hydro One: 1-888-664-9376 Outages Call 1-800-434-1235  
Bell Canada: 416-310-2355  
Municipality of Trent Lakes - 705-738-3800  
After Hours by-law enforcement Trent Lakes Ext 300



### Etiquette and basic reminders for your Guests and Renters

Remind guests sound carries easily. Suggest guests keep music and other noise at a level that will not disturb [neighbours](#)

**Parking:** Identify designated parking areas for vehicles and trailers. Be mindful to not block driveways, roads other access.

#### Pets and Wildlife

- Dogs must always be in control, cannot wander off property, and must be kept quiet (no incessant barking). Dogs are not permitted on the public beach. Guests must clean up after pets.
- Do not feed wildlife. Ensure all doors remain closed and do not leave food in open areas or leave garbage outdoors.
- Be mindful of animals while driving and respect road speed limits; be mindful of nesting birds and watch your wake.

#### Boating and Off-Road Vehicle Safety

- A Personal Flotation Device (PFD) is required for each person on any watercraft (motorized or not).
- Children and those who cannot swim to wear a PFD and never be left unattended while on docks/shore or on watercraft.
- A boater's licence is required for motorized watercraft operators; a safety kit must be available on board all [watercraft](#).
- A valid driver's license required for operators of off-road vehicles (ATVs, snowmobiles); drivers and passengers wear helmets.
- Never drive under the influence or have alcohol/cannabis on board.

#### Environment

- Flush only toilet paper, grease or other products are harmful to the [septic system](#)
- No soap or detergent (e.g., shampoo) products in the lake.
- Dispose of cigarettes and garbage appropriately; do not [litter](#)

#### Outdoor Burning and Fireworks

- Designate a fire [pit](#) and keep fires small and in control at all times. There is no daytime burning permitted from April through October (after 6pm only). Never leave a fire unattended or burn in hazardous conditions. Respect burn Fire Hazard conditions and any fire bans in effect.
- Fireworks are only permitted on certain holidays. Be mindful that fireworks can cause distress to pets and animals. Practice safe use of fireworks.

#### Garbage and Recycling

- Waste must be properly sorted into garbage and recycling (containers and papers/fibers etc), using clear bags only, and a Cottage Kit
- All garbage and recycling must be removed; if Transfer Site is not open on day of departure, guests to make their own [arrangements](#)

**DON'T KEEP ME A SECRET!**

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# Become a Member of the Crystal Lake Community Association 2024



The Crystal Lake Community Association represents you and your interests as a property owner. It is important that we have a strong association represented by **all property owners** so when we speak on your behalf we are able to say that we represent the majority of all Crystal Lake residents.

Our membership has been increasing every year thank you for your continued support!

We know your property is a major investment, so why not join the CLCA so we can help protect that investment and your interests. Membership is only \$20 annually per property. We also offer the option for you to pay your membership fee for up to 5 years at a time.

Visit our website at [www.crystallakecottagers.ca](http://www.crystallakecottagers.ca) to make your online payment:

We want to hear from you, contact us at : [crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com](mailto:crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com) or [crystallake.memberships@gmail.com](mailto:crystallake.memberships@gmail.com)



### 7 PRACTICAL PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID TICK BITES

- EDUCATE YOURSELF**  
Know where to expect ticks, what environment they thrive in and the symptoms of a tick bite.
- WALK IN THE CENTER OF TRAILS**  
Reduce exposure to tall grass and other greens, where ticks may be hiding.
- USE A DEET-BASED REPELLENT**  
Apply repellent regularly and consistently on all exposed areas of skin.
- WEAR CLOSED-TOE SHOES AND LIGHT-COLORED CLOTHES**  
Sandals leave your feet exposed to ticks. Light-colored clothing allows you to better spot ticks that may be attached.
- IF BITTEN BY A TICK**
  - Use tweezers to hold the tick and steadily pull upward.
  - Clean the bitten area with water, alcohol or iodine and soap and water.
  - Monitor the bite mark for rashes or other changes.
- CHECK BODY, CLOTHES AND PETS FOR TICKS**  
Conduct a full body check when you return from a potentially tick-infested area. If alone, use a mirror to check body parts not in normal sight.
- TUCK PANTS INTO SOCKS**  
By tucking pants into socks, you are sealing off a potential crevasse that ticks can crawl into and hide.
- SHOWER AFTER ENTERING INSIDE**  
Showering within two hours after leaving the outdoors can wash away ticks that are on you but have not yet attached.

The Crystal Lake Book Exchange Library Book Exchange is at White's Beach! What a fun and easy way to get more use of a great book!



**Supported and organize by CLCA**

**Transfer Station Summer Hours  
April 15 - Sept 15**

**Crystal Lake**  
Sunday - 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Monday - 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**Tuesday - Closed**  
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
**Thursday - Closed**  
**Friday - Closed**  
Saturday - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



# Canada Day & Haunt the Docks 2023 Collage





# CLCA Spring Newsletter 2024

Kinmount Pickleball coming to the Kinmount Fairgrounds!  
Pickleball will be offered 3 days per week July 2-Aug 22,  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.  
Join the Kinmount Pickleball Facebook site for info



## Cottage Kits

Home / Live / Recycling and Garbage / Cottage Kits

If you rent out your cottage, make waste disposal easy for your guests. Cottage kits are available for purchase and provide a one-time Waste Disposal Card.

Please read the Municipality of Trent Lakes' guidelines for being a good neighbour and ensure your guests are well informed.

### Cottage Kit Contents

The cottage kit contains:

- A one-time Waste Disposal Card
- A clear garbage bag for your garbage
- A clear garbage bag for your recyclable containers
- A Waste Management Guide that includes Transfer Station Hours and locations
- Campfire information

### Purchasing Cottage Kits

Cottage kits are \$5.00 each and must be purchased by the registered property owner. They are available at the Municipal Office or at any of the [Transfer Station Sites](#).

## Summer Supper

at

### The Galway Hall

June 29<sup>th</sup> at 5pm

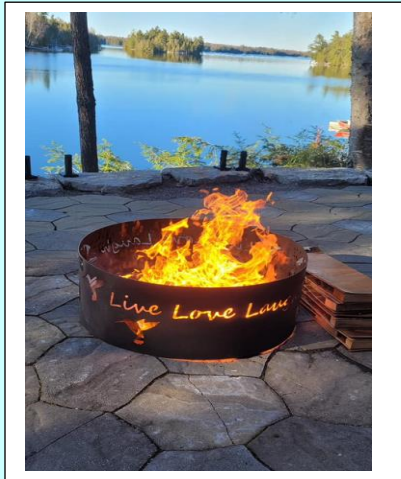
One sitting only

Hot & Cold Menu

\$25.00

Reserve 705-488-2831

Takeout available



## FIRE SMART YARD CHECKLIST

Did you know that most home ignitions are caused by burning embers that start fires in yards that spread to the home? You can prevent this! Creating and maintaining a fire smart yard will protect your home and neighborhood. Follow this weekly checklist to keep your home safe.

If you contract someone to care for your yard, review this checklist with them. And remember – the key to fire safety is maintenance, maintenance, maintenance!

### CLEAR ZONE 0

- Remove combustible items within the first 5 feet around the house
- Remove hazardous plants like juniper, Italian cypress and bamboo
- Use non-combustible mulch, like gravel, stones or pavers

### LIMB UP TREES & TRIM BRANCHES

- Prevent fire from spreading from the ground to tree tops by removing the lowest branches of the trees to at least 6 feet
- Keep bushes and plants low beneath trees to avoid "fire ladders"
- Remove dead branches
- Trim branches 10 feet from the roof

### REMOVE LEAVES AND DEBRIS FROM

- Zone 0
- Gutters
- Rooftops
- Beneath bushes
- Under decks and staircases
- Behind garage or sheds

### RAISE "SKIRTS" OF BUSHES & HEDGES

- Trimming bushes a couple feet from the ground will allow you to keep the bed beneath clear of leaves

### KEEP SPACE BETWEEN PLANTS

- Thin out bushes and plantings to allow space between plants to prevent the spread of fire
- Weed and clean beds regularly



UNDER DECKS

UNDER SHRUBS

YOUR GUTTERS

