

# Loon Call Lake Cottagers' Association Newsletter - Spring - 2024

May 31, 2024



Welcome back to the cottage. Spring made an early appearance this year, with warnings about bears leaving their dens earlier than usual. But now spring is rapidly disappearing making way for summer. Yeah!

## Governance

### AGM

The AGM will be held on Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am until noon at NKCC. See you all there!

Agenda:

- Welcome
- Treasurer Report
- Presidential Nomination
- Lake Steward Nomination
- Water Quality Report
- Fire Committee Report
- Boating and PFD Awareness
- Events in 2024
  - Paddle Palooza/Food Drive
  - Regatta / Corn Roast
- What Three Words
- Shoreline Management
- Invasive Species Awareness
- Kawartha Highlands Park Report
- North Kawartha Mayoral Insights



## The Executive

The Looncall Lake Cottagers Association was formed in the mid 1900's to represent the interests of property owners and to help protect the lake for current and future generations of

cottagers. Every year new development and environmental threats put additional stresses on this valuable resource. We need your support and as a member you can help ensure the vitality of this beautiful lake.

### **How do we make a difference?**

- We monitor water quality in the lake by taking samples and by performing underwater vegetation studies
- We organize and support social events and presentations for members and residents of the lake
- We play an active role in local politics and voice your developmental and environmental concerns
- We participate in the larger provincial network of lake associations
- We purchase equipment to enhance safety on Looncall Lake as funding allows

Two positions, the President and the Lake Steward, are open for nominations this year. The votes will take place at the AGM. The sitting President will become the Past President following the vote.

### **Role of the President**

The President is the “leader” of the Executive Committee. The role of the President is to:

- ♣ Serve as chairperson in meetings of the Executive and in all meetings of the membership
- ♣ Seek consensus in making decisions of the Executive
- ♣ Avoid the interference of personal agendas
- ♣ Lead the Executive in the selection of contractors and professionals that will serve the needs of the Association
- ♣ Seek the input and communication of the member
- ♣ Exercise fiduciary duty (duty of care) in the management of the Association’s business
- ♣ Promote a sense of community by supporting open communication through whatever means available, encouraging member participation and making him/herself available to the membership.

### **Role of the Lake Steward**

The Lake Steward leads association in guardianship of the lake. The Lake Steward is responsible for:

- ♣ Conducting the Lake Partner Program (LPP) water sampling in May
- ♣ Conduct regular Secchi disc readings throughout the season (every 2-3weeks), and mail to Dorset (LPP) in November
- ♣ Attend annual NORKLA Lake Stewards meetings hosted by Doug Wellman and report back to LCLCA

- ♣ Report to LCLCA AGM on Water Quality based on LPP and Trent University test results
- ♣ Maintain the water quality data (past and present) and update to show trends for web site
- ♣ Familiarize yourself with Aquatic Invasive Species (plant and animal) and facilitate their identification
- ♣ Familiarize yourself with cottager practices that will impact water quality (e.g. Shorelines, septic systems) and share best practices with the community

## Cottage Association Fees

Fees are \$40 this year.

What do you get for your money:

- FOCA Membership - providing us with a broader view of lake health and cottage issue awareness, the fees have increased in recent years
- NORKLA Membership - access to lake health data, North Kawartha view of cottaging (Invasive Species, Septic data, etc.)
- Community donations
- Meeting in NKCC for a fee
- Cover the Regatta games costs
- Services and materials used to communicate to all cottagers
- Equipment to benefit all cottagers



## Cottager List

Do you need your cottage neighbour's contact information? email [info@looncalllake.ca](mailto:info@looncalllake.ca) to request a copy

## Lost and Found?

Have you lost something? Found something? [email info@looncalllake.ca](mailto:info@looncalllake.ca) and we'll post on the Facebook page.

# Community

## Fire Pump Committee

The fire pump purchase is imminent. The fire committee is finalizing the guidelines and procedures for the maintenance and training on the fire equipment, including responses to the questions you sent in, along with a set of cottage fire prevention practices. In addition, a web page is being constructed to make this information easily accessible (a link will be sent once it is published).

Henry Decock, Fire Pump Committee Chair

## Events

### Paddle Palooza and Food Drive

The Paddle Palooza and Food Drive will be held on June 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:30am. Paddle the lake with your friends and family. Greet lake friends at their docks and support the community by bringing non-perishable food to the drop off points for donation to the Apsley food Bank.



### Regatta and Corn Roast

We are looking forward to the Regatta and Corn Roast on August 3rd, and welcome all **volunteers**. We will have more information at the AGM.



# On the Water

## Loon Report

Loons were seen on almost every day in the summer of 2024. Sadly, we witnessed a loon death on the lake last year. The cause of the death is unknown. Please take care to watch out for loons in the water and do not fish with lead.

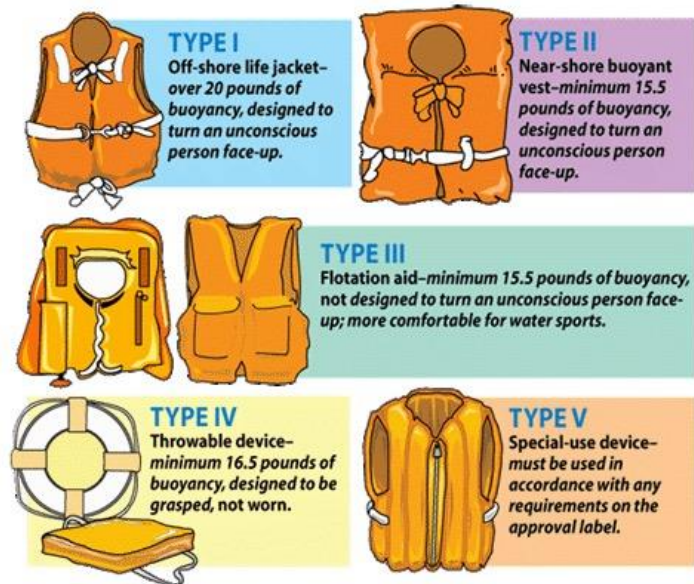
Thanks to Sue Murray for leading this program for Loon Call Lake and reporting to Birds Canada on our behalf.

## Boating and PFD Stats – Stay Safe

More marine fatalities occur on small, non-motorized watercraft than you may expect. A marine fatality is considered any event caused by entering the water involuntarily – primarily falling overboard, and capsizing; far fewer were due to collisions.

Some stats:

- The largest proportion (92%) of fatalities are male.
- 31% of fatalities involved alcohol but only 3% are impaired... it doesn't take much alcohol to impact you on the water!
- 86% of fatalities are not wearing PFDs.



For an eye-opening message we encourage you to watch this video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=up-fResUwRI> This is 35 minutes well spent for you and your family.

## Septic Health

Care for your cottage by caring for your septic. What to do:

- Septic inspection
- Septic clean out
- Septic bed health
- Be careful with what you flush
- Reduce water usage

[https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/septic\\_systems.pdf](https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/septic_systems.pdf)





# Water Quality

The Lake Partner Program results for 2022 have finally been released. They appear to be working a year behind schedule. All data- Secchi disk, total phosphorus, calcium and chloride ion - are within historical values. Although the Lake Partner Program data is behind schedule and redundant to the Trent University data, it is free and the Lake Partner Program covers many more lakes than Trent does. It is beneficial to be part of the larger set of data.

The water samples for May 2024 have been collected and mailed to Dorset, the home of the Lake Partner Program.

Trent University sampled our lake on August 10, 2023. The data for chlorophyll a, Secchi disk depth, calcium, total phosphorus, dissolved organic carbon and dissolved oxygen at lake bottom are all close to our historical average, except for one, which is too good, Secchi disk depth. Trent got a Secchi disk reading of 6 metres on Loon Call Lake. 5 metres would be believable in August, but 6 metres, not so much. Apparently, the entire region showed good water quality in 2023.

In conclusion, all is well on Loon Call Lake.

2022 data is now available and published on the web site at <https://looncalllake.ca/the-lake>.

# Lake Health Seminar

Join us at NKCC following the LCLCA AGM for the Lake Health Seminar to learn more about Natural Shoreline Conservation and Invasive Species Reduction

JOIN US!

## Lake Health Seminar

Saturday, June 8th, 2024 - 1:00-3:30pm  
North Kawartha Community Centre  
340 McFadden Rd, Apsley, ON K0L1A0  
Everyone Welcome

**1:00-1:30**



**Spreading the Word, Not Invasives**  
Vickie Hartog, **PLiNK**  
Prevent Lake Invasives in North Kawartha ([PLiNK.ca](https://plink.ca))



**Natural Shoreline Conservation**  
Doug Wellman,  
Shoreline Conservation Initiative for Peterborough County  
Margi Colquhoun,  
Loon Call Lake Cottagers' Association President  
Why a natural shoreline is important &  
what you can do for healthier shorelines



**NORKLA Overview**  
Doug Wellman, **NORKLA**  
North Kawartha Lakes Association ([NORKLA.ca](https://norkla.ca))

**1:30-3:30pm**



**Water Steward Training**  
Jeff Berthelette, **Invasive Species Liaison, OFAH-ISAP**  
([ofah.org/programs/invasive-species-awareness-program](https://ofah.org/programs/invasive-species-awareness-program))  
Main principles of water stewardship  
Invasive Species Act amendments, New species profiles.  
Demonstration of AIS inspections on trailered boats.

*Coffee, tea, and donuts will be provided, as well as new resources including shammies, updated Clean Drain Dry postcards, stickers, and more!*

## Questions? Requests? Feedback?

email [info@looncalllake.ca](mailto:info@looncalllake.ca)

**WATCH OUT FOR THE WILDLIFE! SEE YOU ON THE LAKE!**

**LOON CALL LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION**



Photo credit – Denise (Sue's sister)