

This is a brief update from Bob Reid, MPOA President to let you know of developments over the late spring and summer.

LDD Lymantria dispar dispar Moth (also known as gypsy moth)

Outbreak

Once again the caterpillars were munching like crazy in June and July and deforestation along many parts of the lakeshore was significant. Two positive developments: heavy rains greatly contributed to the comeback of our trees and most have had a regrowth of leaves. Pines that were affected will generally regrow needles every 3-4 years so there is hope for their recovery as well. More importantly the caterpillars seem to have been affected by both a virus and a fungus. Female caterpillars, which go through one more stage of growth than males, were most affected. Despite thousands of male moths flying in the last two weeks of July there are virtually no females or egg masses on trees (very different than last year). This is usually how such outbreaks end.

MPOA Lake Directory 2022

Ian Philips has done a herculean job modernizing the membership information of our 200 plus members. Board members are in the process of canvassing all 300 properties on Mazinaw to recruit new members and to collect accurate up-to-date contact information for the directory. You can help by asking your neighbours if they are members and if not, encouraging them to join by selecting the Membership button on the home page of the MPOA website (link shown at end) . Everyone needs to complete a Membership Information Form (in the same section) and give permission to have their information included in the 2022 directory. Emergency Services (fire, ambulance, police etc.) will be provided copies of the directory. To ensure the information is not used commercially, the directory is not provided to local businesses.

The primary purpose of the MPOA Lake Directory is to know who is on the lake and where/how to contact them. Sometimes it's social, but things do happen - a tree falls on your neighbour's roof; a cottage comes off its foundation; a boat floats away. Every year the MPOA Board receives requests from cottagers asking how to reach a neighbour to let them know that they have a problem. Our July 1 storm/tornado is an excellent example. Having a listing in the directory will ensure that others can easily and immediately contact you.

Communication with Bon Echo Park Officials

Gillian Van Kempen, MPOA Lake Steward and I met with the Park Superintendent, Clark Richards in early July to discuss issues related to canoe safety and traffic at the Narrows. The canoe rental operator is making efforts to assess the experience of renters and to provide some instructions. This effort is sometimes hampered by people who have an accomplished canoeist rent the canoe and then allow others with less experience to use it. This is a hard problem to control. As everyone knows canoes and kayaks have the right-of-way so please, if you are motoring through the Narrows, have patience. I broached the idea of canoeists staying out of the channel but there have apparently been incidents of motorboat wakes upsetting canoes so this idea didn't fly. The good news is that the park did install new buoys at the Narrows and a "no wake" sign this spring. I was also advised that there have been some fatalities related to cliff jumping by swimmers and this is now prohibited on park land (all along the east shore of Mazinaw south of the narrows).

Lake Steward Report

We recently received an email from a member on the lower lake who is experiencing 'swimmer's itch'. Gillian has prepared an excellent article on this parasite that addresses history, symptoms, treatments, etc. Check it out on our website (link shown at end). If you've had the unfortunate experience of swimmer's itch, please post to our Facebook page to alert others on the lake to areas that may be at higher risk for contraction. Your MPOA Board is investigating providing free trees for shoreline planting next spring... stay tuned.

Short Term Cottage Rentals

The petition initiated by the MPOA requesting that the North Frontenac Council form a committee to address cottagers concerns garnered 100 signatures on Mazinaw and 50 plus signatures from 9 other lakes in North Frontenac. The Mayor has agreed to take forward a document from the North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance that outlines concerns and possible solutions to a joint committee with representatives of Central Frontenac and Addington Highlands townships. Central Frontenac Council has already had an appeal from cottagers on concerns about commercial rental operations. My sense is that protections will be built into any solution for those who periodically rent their cottage and that the focus for regulation and enforcement will be on unsupervised commercial operations such as Air BnBs which are creeping into many lakes in the region.

Mazinaw-Lanark Forestry Plan for 2021-2031

A plan has been finalized and approved by the MNRF. (Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry). Joel Arthur from Skootamatta Lake headed a push to get permanent protections introduced into future plans so that each lake association didn't have to negotiate with the foresters. For the link to Joel's email go to the end of the Newsletter. I attended a dispute resolution meeting several weeks ago, and while some concessions were made to individual lake requests for setbacks and viewscape preservation, the ministry seemed to pay little heed to cottager's concerns. Fortunately for Mazinaw there is no forestry planned along our shores in the next decade. Ian Philips, MPOA Membership Director and Laura Logan, Shabomeka Lake Association President, walked 7 km of the Shabomeka Leg Power trails over 4.5 hours with Margret Hatton, MLFI (Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc.) forester to inspect the potential logging impact on the trails. They are relieved to say that while the impact will not be zero, it will be relatively minimal.

Should you wish to read more about this visit our website (link shown at end).

Tapping's Landing

New signage has been placed at Tapping's to keep the roadway clear for emergency vehicles. Please pay attention!

MPOA Website and Facebook Page

Suzanne Sills, MPOA Communications Director continues to provide updates on key issues for cottagers as well as notices from the townships about urgent matters such as fire bans. If you haven't seen these updates, they are well worth checking out. (link shown at end). For Facebook search for 'Mazinaw Property Owners', and join the group.

Finally, we want to know if you have concerns or suggestions of how to improve your cottaging experience on Mazinaw Lake. Let us know at communications@lakemazinaw.ca

I hope you all continue to have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Best regards,

Bob Reid, MPOA President

While on the MPOA website take a few minutes to explore the wealth of information about our community and our lake.

www.lakemazinaw.ca

For **Membership** select the button on the home page.

For **Swimmer's Itch** from the home page select Lake News/Environmental Focus Items/Water Quality.

For **Mazinaw-Lanark Forestry Plan** from the home page select Lake News/Forest Management

New **Updates** are shown on the Home Page.

For **Facebook** search for Mazinaw Property Owners Association.



lakemazinaw.ca