

MAZINAW PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter 2020



Summer is THIS WAY!



MAZINAW PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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A big Thank You to all the MPOA members who submitted personal photos like this one that appear throughout the Newsletter!

President's Corner

by Francine Bates, MPOA President

Earlier this month we sent you a number of updates on COVID-19 as it relates to cottages in NF and AH. We are still in April, and it is too soon to know how things will unfold this



summer. We will continue to provide you with updates on our website however this newsletter is 'virus free'. We thought you might enjoy other more happy topics. With summer just around the corner, I'm hopeful we can enjoy those fun activities we love to do on the water.

In the spring of 2019 we experienced flooding due to unprecedented rainfall over the Easter weekend (100+ mm over a couple of days). Normally that amount might fall over a month or more, but it happened quickly and at the same time as the peak ice/snow melt. This year it is a very different scenario, thank goodness, and I am told by Jennifer North, Water Resources Technologist of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA), that water



levels are under control. You never know what Mother Nature will bring, but Jennifer's team is keeping a very close eye on our lake levels.

In the summer, the MPOA collaborated with Clark Richards, the Superintendent of Bon Echo Provincial Park, on ways to make the water along the rock and in particular at the narrows better for all boats, big and small. We are fortunate to have properties on Mazinaw that also have an amazing provincial park and we have a shared responsibility to make sure we are all safe. Our collaborative efforts were documented and can be found on our website.

Our focus again this year will be to continue to raise awareness regarding the quality and the environmental health of Mazinaw Lake. The Stewardship team (Vern Haggerty, Robert Reid and Jamie Fraser) are always attentive to water quality initiatives.

Every year we try to keep you informed on what is happening in the community that could affect you, and what steps you can take to help influence decisions. For the past few years, we've been telling you about the potential change to Hydro One's seasonal rate classification and the negative impact it might have on our electricity prices. FOCA has championed this fight with the backing of hundreds of Lake Associations. We have encouraged you to call Hydro One and to provide your input on an individual level. The louder the voices, the better our ability to influence the changes before they become fully baked. At the moment, this decision is still pending and sits in the Ontario Energy Board's court.

As we do every spring, your Executive is planning our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**. It was originally scheduled for Saturday, July 4th. Last year, the meeting was very well attended with over 80 people there. We have decided to host the meeting on June 13th instead. It will be a virtual meeting and we plan to keep it to one hour in length. We chose an earlier date, before people might be at the lake, as we felt that for many of you your internet will be better at home than at the cottage. Please mark it on your calendars!

To those of you who recently bought a cottage, or took over your family cottage, and joined our association, welcome! Here's to making wonderful memories on the Mazinaw. To those of you who are already part of the MPOA, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families a wonderful summer at the lake. I hope to see you out on the water.

Sincerely, Fran

The **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** had been planned for Saturday, July 4th. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the MPOA Board has decided not to hold a physical meeting where members gather together in one space this year. Instead, we are planning to conduct a virtual (on-line) AGM on Saturday, June 13th. Details will be provided to the membership in a future email correspondence.

Why be Part of the MPOA?

by Francine Bates

We keep our nose in what is happening:

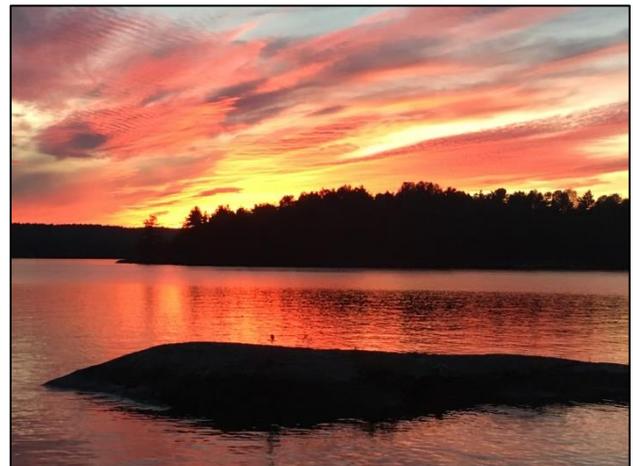
- Locally in the news
- We are on the local government's distribution list for items of interest in Addington Highlands and North Frontenac; things that might affect your taxes, or your quality of life at the lake; and we inform you on what you could do to influence change.
- We are a member of the Federation of Cottage Association (FOCA).
- We are hooked in with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and are involved in their projects to improve the water quality and fish habitats at Mazinaw.
- We keep you in the know e.g. hydro pricing, etc.
- We help address issues that affect our lake experiences such as water levels, dark skies, water safety, etc.
- We add a sense of community! We are here for each other.

How can you communicate with us?

Simple ... just send an email to communications@lakemazinaw.ca.

How do we communicate with you?

The MPOA has its own website www.lakemazinaw.ca and this is our primary communication vehicle so please return to it often. The HOME page is where we put the latest news stories but we also have a FOCUS ITEMS tab for project updates and initiative. As well, we send out emails on important topics to those of our current members who keep their emails up-to-date and registered with us (so please remember to let us know if you change it...also, to renew your membership each year by July 1st). And finally, we are kicking off the 2020 cottage season with our 3rd edition of the MPOA Newsletter.



Your Membership Dues

As always, the membership fees are due by July 1st. You can take the time now to pay or mark this on your 2020 calendar for the end of June. You asked and we're listening – many of you wanted to pay your dues by e-transfer. Now you can – please see #2 below.

Options for payment:

- 1. By cheque:** Payable to "MPOA" at P.O. Box 251, Cloyne Ontario K0H 1K0. **Please write the 911 number of your property and your email address in the note section of the cheque.**
- 2. By e-transfer:** Send to treasurer@lakemazinaw.ca. **Please write the 911 number of your property and your first & last name to which the fees apply in the notes section of the e-transfer. This is very important so we know who sent us the money!!!**
- 3. By credit card:** [via PayPal online](#) (Note: you don't have to join PayPal ... go to the lakemazinaw.ca website, membership tab and select PayPal and use the "Don't Have a PayPal Account" option to pay by credit card). When you click on this link, it will ask you to log in to the MPOA website to continue. Please use your email address as the userid. Use the password that was sent to you in an email from the MPOA (from communications@lakemazinaw.ca) when you became a member, or your personal password if you have previously logged into the website and specified a new password. If you have forgotten your password, you can ask it to be reset on the website, or you can send an email to communications@lakemazinaw.ca to send you a new password.

Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic payments CANNOT be dropped off at Smart's or Brown's this year.

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Please don't forget to inform us if any of your contact information has changed such as e-mail addresses, home addresses or phone numbers so that we can update our records.



2019 Membership Summary

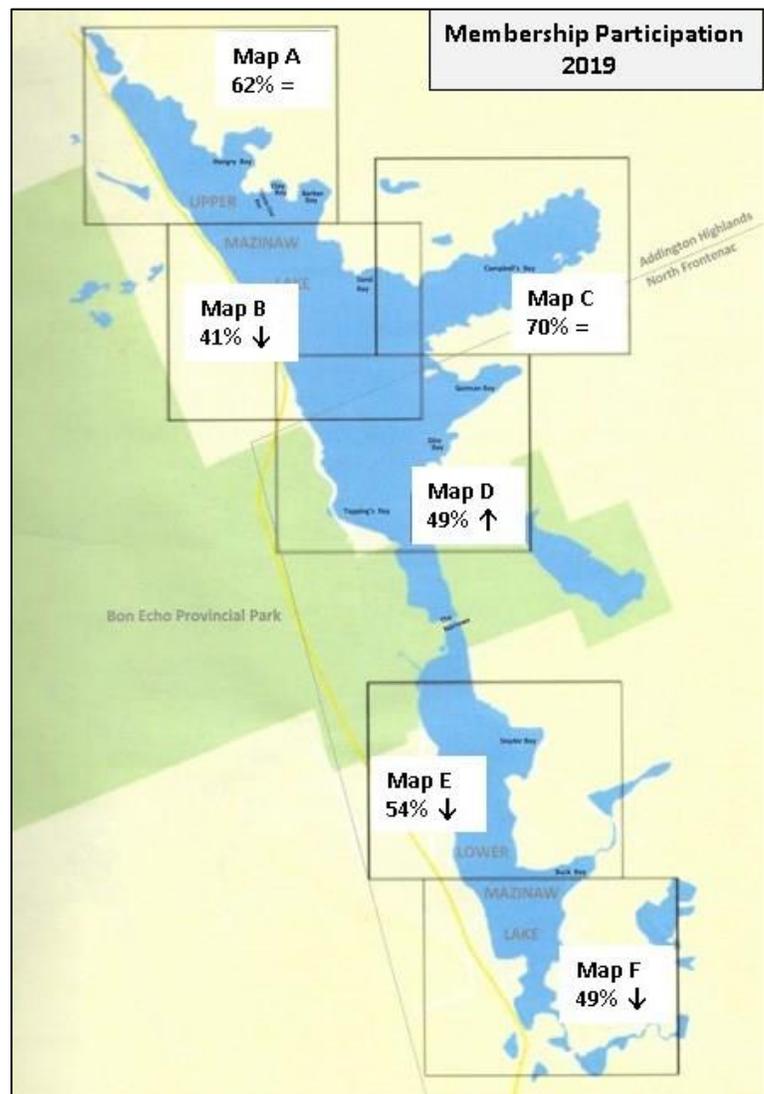
by Kate McGovern, MPOA Membership Director

While membership has continued to fall slightly since the 2017 membership drive leading up to the publication of the 2018 MPOA directory, I feel that thanks to our hard working executive, our partners at the marinas, and a very successful 2019 AGM last June, we are still above 200 members with many renewing automatically. Dues for 2020 remain at \$20 per residence. See the chart below for the trend over the last few years.

Annual Membership Totals	2019	2018	2017
Number of Members	205	215	225
Trend from Prev Year	↓	↓	↑

This map offers a visual look into participation in the MPOA around the lake. The map defines each region on our lake (as noted within the MPOA directory) and indicates the percentage of properties that were members within that area. The arrows and equals signs depict the trend relative to 2018.

As always, there are many ways to renew your membership and this year we have added the option of an e-transfer. See the previous article for details.



Treasurer's Report

by Rosemary Prevoe

First, thank you for the efforts by many of our board members. This led to a great response for membership renewals. Due to this our bank position remains strong for this year.

Please remember to renew your membership by July 1. There are many easy ways to pay your dues, including our new e-transfer. Please see the "Your Membership Dues" article in this newsletter for details.

We still have MPOA directories left over from 2017, although we need to keep some of them for new members. If you do not have a directory from 2017 and would like one, please send an email to communications@lakemazinaw.ca.

We held a BBQ event this year which was well attended. A huge thank you to all who helped out to make this a success.

MAZINAW PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For the year ended March 31, 2020

RECEIPTS:

Memberships	\$4,185
Sale of MPOA hats	915
BBQ revenue	167
Gypsy moths	<u>215</u>
	<u>5,482</u>

DISBURSEMENTS:

Bank charges	21
BBQ event	300
Director's liability insurance	1,359
Gypsy moth traps	489
Hat purchases	895
Memberships - FOCA	842
Meetings & office & general	297
Website	<u>720</u>
	<u>4,923</u>

Excess of receipts over disbursements	\$559
Opening bank balance	<u>10,740</u>
Closing bank balance	<u>\$11,299</u>

NOTICE TO READER

I have compiled this Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Mazinaw Property Owners Association for the year ended March 31, 2020. I have not performed an audit or review engagement in respect of this statement and accordingly, I express no assurance thereon. Readers are cautioned that this statement may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Rosemary Prevoe
TREASURER, Mazinaw Property Owners Association

April 2, 2020
Pickering, Ontario

FOCA – Yes, You’re a Member!

Contributed by FOCA

Mazinaw Property Owners Association is a long-time member of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers’ Associations (FOCA) and that means all of us can access FOCA member benefits.

But what does that mean?

For more than 55 years, FOCA has been the voice of waterfront Ontario. In 1963, a small group of cottage owners united as a provincial organization that has grown to represent more than 500 lake associations with 50,000 families across the province. Our united voice carries weight on the issues that matter. The issues evolved over time, but the motivation remains the same: to protect the sustainability of Ontario waterfronts and freshwater resources for our kids and their kids after them.

Over the years, FOCA has played an important advocacy role on environmental and policy concerns. In the 1980s FOCA fought hard for government action on the issue of acid rain, and lobbied to stop the use of toxic Dombind as a road-dust suppressant. FOCA secured your right to vote at the cottage in Ontario municipal elections as second-home owners. FOCA’s Lake Stewards are at the core of the Lake Partner Program of volunteer water quality monitoring to inform scientific and policy decision-making in the face of a changing climate.

Over the past decade, FOCA has gone to Parliament Hill and Queen’s Park to speak out against federal and provincial omnibus bills that gutted protection for our fisheries and fish habitat. FOCA worked with partners to secure land owners’ rights during claim-staking after years of behind-the-scenes work on the Mining Act, and FOCA continues to sit as a stakeholder at the table for discussions about the Algonquin Land Claim.

FOCA has lobbied hard in recent years for reforms to water management planning, and continues to work to ensure that land use planning is responsible and accountable to community interests. In 2017, after more than 18 months of FOCA’s advocacy efforts on the issue of dock permits, Ontario confirmed certain occupations of public land would be enabled without an MNRF permit (subject to conditions, and only where allowed by municipal bylaw or Federal statute).

FOCA holds intervenor status on the Ontario Energy Board and, on behalf of members across the province, has most recently been lobbying hard against proposed changes to the Seasonal Class of Hydro One customers that would see many members’ annual electricity bills rise by \$1,000! A final decision is pending; watch for updates in the FOCA Elert (e-newsletter). Sign up for free, here:

<http://bit.ly/FOCAElertSubscribe>.

FOCA assembled the most comprehensive risk-management program for volunteers in rural environmental groups, through the FOCA Insurance Program. The program insures nearly 400 lake associations across Ontario, to protect volunteer boards with cost-effective liability insurance. Each of you can also access CottageFirst, the first group insurance program for cottage owners, available exclusively to FOCA members through Cade Associates Insurance Brokers. Find out more:

<http://cadeinsurance.com/cottagefirst/>.

Got a cottage-country question? FOCA publishes a wealth of information online for members. Find fact sheets and brochures about invasive species, climate change concerns, municipal engagement, healthy waterfronts and so much more, here: <https://foca.on.ca/resources/>.

While you're at it, check out all the offers, discounts and other benefits available to you, because of our association's annual membership in FOCA: <https://foca.on.ca/member-services/benefits/>.

Lake associations across the province benefit from FOCA's ongoing research, information, and advocacy. FOCA is here to help our association, and to help make continued progress on the issues most important to waterfront residents. The work continues, and FOCA is leading the way toward a sustainable freshwater future for Ontario.

Our Association is part of FOCA!

foca.on.ca/benefits



Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

for thriving & sustainable waterfronts, for over 55 years

Each year, MPOA attends the FOCA seminars in the spring and fall. This is one of our valuable sources of information of upcoming items or events that MPOA may wish to participate in, or inform our members about, e.g. water quality initiatives, hydro one announcements, etc. At last spring's seminar there were two scientists who spoke: one about 2 particular invasive species of plants and the other about salt use and its effect on our lakes.

Gypsy Moths at Mazinaw

by Bob Reid

Gypsy moths were introduced into North America in the 1860's by an amateur entomologist from France who thought they could be used to establish a silk industry in the USA. Unfortunately, specimens which escaped from his Boston laboratory found perfect conditions for survival in the hardwood forests of the north east. Gypsy moths reached Ontario in 1969 and within two decades periodic outbreaks (often every 5-7 years) were causing extensive deforestation in the hardwood ecosystem. Males are light brown and fly around searching for females. Females are slightly larger than males and are white in colour. They cannot fly. Adult females deposit eggs in a light brown cluster on the bark near the base of a tree (often oak), buildings or furniture in the late summer. Caterpillars hatch in the spring and climb up to the leaves where they begin to feast. At times they will completely denude a tree and an unsuspecting cottager sitting below may be rained on by caterpillar poop (known as 'frass pellets') falling from the tree. This past summer many moths could be seen fluttering about the shores of Mazinaw looking for a mate and it is likely there will be a larger than usual hatch in 2020!

Control methods:

Destroy egg patches: In late August you can inspect the base of the hardwood trees on your property and scrape off any of the light brown patches of egg into a container and either submerging them in soapy water or burning them. Simply scraping them off and stepping on them does not kill the eggs and they can still hatch the next spring.

Gypsy moth traps are designed to lure the male moths into a container by releasing an attractant from a small pheromone strip that mimics the mating lure of the female. Once inside they are generally unable to escape (either by drowning in water or sticking to an adhesive coating). The traps should be hung at various points on your property by mid-July and left in place until moth activity stops in late August. These traps can be homemade, purchased at many hardware and gardening outlets, or ordered on-line. In previous years the MPOA has sold traps at the Annual General Meeting. Because this year's AGM will be on-line, traps will not be available at the AGM this year. Later in June we will send out a request to members to pre-order and pre-pay for traps.

Bacillus thuringiensis (Btk) is a bacterium found naturally in soil. Aerial spraying of Btk has been used in commercial forestry for over 30 years and is considered harmless to humans, other mammals, plants, birds, fish, honeybees, and other beneficial insects. The Btk bacteria when sprayed onto foliage die within a week (faster when exposed to sunlight) so that repeated spraying may be necessary to eradicate successive hatching of gypsy moth caterpillars. After being eaten by the pest caterpillar the bacteria multiply and release toxins that paralyze the caterpillar's gut - resulting in death within 1-5 days. Concerns about indiscriminate use of this pesticide make the gypsy moth traps the preferred approach for localized control such as on cottage properties.



Egg patches



Spring egg hatch



Hungry caterpillars



Distinctive marking of Gypsy moth caterpillar



Adult moths (Male -brown; female -white)



Note: This year Gypsy Moth Traps (only complete sets) will be available at a subsidized price. Later in June the MPOA will send out a request to members to pre-order and pre-pay for the traps.

A Mazinaw Turtle Tale

by Kate McGovern

When we were kids we used to see plenty of turtles sunning themselves on logs on any of the smaller creeks connected to Mazinaw Lake. If we got too close, they would slip into the water and out of sight. In recent years it has been rare to see even a lone turtle. I've been lucky enough to see a few turtles at our property on Mazinaw over the years. In early May, about 10 years ago, my son noticed a large snapping turtle with a shell about 12-15" happily hanging out in shallow water. A few years later, I noticed an eastern painted turtle laying eggs on a path to the water from the cottage.

Late last June, we observed a female preparing a nest and laying her clutch. My husband covered the nest at night with an overturned pail, but sadly one night, we forgot to put it back on and only the curled-up shells remained in the morning.

Fortunately, she returned and laid another clutch 2-3 weeks later very close to the original nest. This time we were prepared with a mesh covered box to protect the nest from predators.

In recent years the media has reported on efforts to help reduce turtle mortality. Roads, construction sites, and habitat modifications all are factors in increased turtle mortality and injury. We keep a keen eye on the roads and try to do our best to help these creatures.

The incubation period for painted turtles is anywhere from 60 to 90 days and depends on

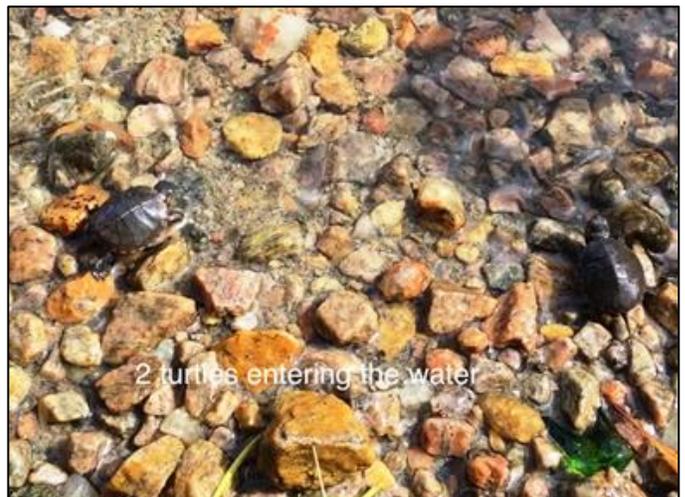
how warm it is. In September, we anxiously monitored "our" nest as an update in local media reported the hatching of a similar batch by a wildlife group, who incubated the eggs indoors then released them back where they were found. In mid-September, almost exactly coincident with the full moon, our protected turtles finally hatched. We carefully removed some of the debris mother turtle had placed over the buried clutch and watched as the sandy nest area moved slightly and finally a small head popped out. Looking around and rubbing a front foot against its eye to rid it of sand, the hatchling slowly headed away from the nest, and in the opposite direction to the water! So fascinated were we with the first hatchling we almost missed the second emerge

My husband carefully picked up the first hatchling, still on its mission to get farther from the water, and we placed it into a container to transport down to the water, just as the experts had done. Unfortunately, the hatchlings emerged on a particularly windy and rough day, but we found a relatively sheltered place to put them in. We watched the first one bob in the wavy water and finally disappear into the depths. Back at the nest the next 3 turtles came out faster than we could keep up with and were released together. It took about 1 hour for all to hatch. In the end, 7 tiny painted turtles were placed in or near the water. We watched for a while, but never saw any of them again hopefully we'll see mom and perhaps one of these turtles will be back next year!

Late last fall we were hiking through the forest on the north shore of Mazinaw along a hydro cut and saw another nest with the remains of eggshells about 500 yards from the closest water. What an amazing distance to travel for those young ones.

More information about the amazing reptiles and amphibians in the Mazinaw Lake area can

be found on the Canadian Herpetology Society website (www.canadianherpetology.ca). A Cottage Life article explores the 8 different species of turtles in Ontario: cottagelife.com/outdoors/how-to-identify-ontarios-8-species-of-turtles/.



Save Our Turtles

by Nancy Skipper

Did you know that all eight species of turtles in Ontario are now on the verge of becoming extinct, with many of them dying while crossing our roads and highways? Despite the odds, turtles can often survive run-ins with cars. Appearing dead, turtles can actually still be alive. Many injured turtles are females in the process of laying eggs. If a female turtle is hit by a car and can't be saved, staff at the Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre can remove her eggs and help them hatch. OTCC staff members incubate about 2,000 eggs per year, releasing the hatchlings back into the wetlands near where the mother was found.

You can help to save the life of an injured turtle by contacting the Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre. First, move the injured turtle off the road and carefully place it on the floor in the back seat of your car. When you get home the turtle can be placed in a vented box in a dark location until it can be transported to the Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre. Call the OTCC at 705-741-5000 to let them know you have an injured turtle. They will assist you in arranging its transport. If the turtle needs immediate help, they will connect you with one of the licensed First Response Centres located throughout Ontario, where the turtle can receive life-saving care before coming to the OTCC.

Turtles are vital to our wetlands as they eat dead plants and fish. Wetlands keep our water clean for drinking, fishing, and swimming. Let's do our part to save our turtles! For more information visit the OTCC web site ontarioturtle.ca.



Little Brown Bats

by Rosemary Prevoe

Little brown bats used to have huge colonies at Lake Mazinaw. When we first started coming to the lake you could see them each evening flying over the water and eating many mosquitoes.

Unfortunately, many seem to have succumbed to white nose syndrome. This is a fungus believed to have come to North America from Europe by cave explorers who may have carried this in on their equipment.

Bats are very beneficial as they can eat up to their own weight each day in insects. They are the only mammal that can fly. Bats give birth to one live young per year. The pup is generally born in June or July.

Bats can live up to 10 years. Their main predators are owls, raptors, raccoons, snakes, cats and weasels. Bats do not attack people but please do not pick up or touch any bats as there is always the possibility that they carry rabies.

These bats could become extinct. Only about 10% of their populations remain. Anyone going into a cave should ensure that their equipment is properly decontaminated. The best option is to leave them alone in their caves undisturbed. Bat houses can be built or purchased to assist these bats.

Resources:

<http://www.hww.ca/en/wildlife/mammals/little-brown-bat.html>

<http://www.hww.ca/en/things-you-can-do/action-and-awareness/bats/build-a-bat-house.html>

<https://batwatch.ca/content/bat-species-central-canada>



Mazinaw Sighting of a Melanistic Fox

by Bob Reid

This unusual melanistic (black) red fox has been seen around the south end of Mazinaw Lake over the past couple of years. When I first saw it walking along Head Road I thought it was a dog. Closer inspection revealed that it was a fox. I managed to snap a picture from my car window before it dashed off into the woods.

Melanism, or the deposition of excessive amounts of black melanin pigment, has been observed in many species of animals and birds which are not normally black. For some this colour becomes adaptive and a survival advantage (like black panthers) while for others, like this fox, it appears to be the result of a genetic mutation.



Bark Lice

by Bob Reid

Late in the summer I noticed several white pine trees had dark patches on the bark. Closer inspection revealed that these patches were formed by a colony of tiny insects classified scientifically as being in the order Psocoptera. Though not really members of the lice family, they have been named “bark lice” because they are small and somewhat difficult to see. Immature nymphs appear dark gray with pale whitish bands on the abdominal segment. Adults develop two pairs of membranous wings that are held roof-like over the body when at rest. Another name is “tree cattle” because they can be herded to move around as a group.

While the name “tree lice” and the appearance of the insects or the silky web they make may evoke a negative reaction, it is noteworthy that these insects are beneficial to the tree. They clean off any fungi, algae, mould and dead plant tissue from the surface of the bark. The dark patches on my trees were gone several days later and I assumed the adults had flown away.



Here’s a short YouTube [video](#) of bark lice on a tree (you’ll want to click Replay a couple of times).

There is Hope for Better Cell Service at Mazinaw!

Reported by Suzanne Sills

In July last year the Ontario Government made an announcement about the expansion of broadband and cellular service in the province. Below are statements from various news releases:

- In the 2019 Ontario Budget, the provincial government announced \$315 million over the next five years for broadband and cellular expansion.
- Three levels of government are now investing millions to build up cell coverage in rural areas from Ottawa to Peterborough, Ont., saying it will help businesses and families while making it easier to get help in an emergency.
- Infrastructure Canada said the money would first go toward 317 new communications towers and 32 internet access points to improve overall mobile coverage.
- It expects it would improve cell service for 1.1 million people living in rural areas as far west as Haliburton and Peterborough, as far north as the Township of Head, Clara and Maria, north of Algonquin Park, and as far east as the Quebec-Ontario border near Hawkesbury.

Your Septic System

by Vern Haggerty

Comparing COVID-19 to your Septic System?

Do you realize that a deficient septic system has the same effect on our lake as COVID-19 has on the human body? Both can lead to low oxygen levels which in turn can lead to less than favourable consequences.

Leachate from a deficient septic system leads to increased weed growth. As the weeds die off they decompose and deplete oxygen levels, altering the natural fish habitat. Low oxygen levels lead to an aging of the lake and a decrease in higher water quality species such as Lake Trout. Leachate can also lead to ground water contamination causing drinking water to be boiled, sickness and even death.

Last year 11 Mazinaw property owners took advantage of the North Frontenac Township Voluntary Septic System Re-Inspection Program. Of the 29 properties in the township that were inspected, 15 systems were identified as having no concern and 14 require remedial work. Remedial work includes pump-out. No systems were identified as requiring replacement.

To compare the findings on Mazinaw and 6 other North Frontenac Lakes, a complete copy of the 2019 report may be downloaded from the [Septic Systems](#) page on our website.

When walking across your septic bed this year think about the last time you had it pumped out. Better yet, think about having it inspected – your lake will Thank You!

Invasive Species Sleuthing

by Jamie Fraser

The beauty of Mazinaw Lake and diversity of its fishery is both a blessing and a curse. Every year more people discover the cliffs and the perfect swimming water. Fishing for walleye, lake trout, and the plentiful smallmouth bass also brings boats, bilge and bait that can introduce invasive species. With that in mind, The Frasers decided to take up the cause and form the Mazinaw Marauders, defenders of the watershed.

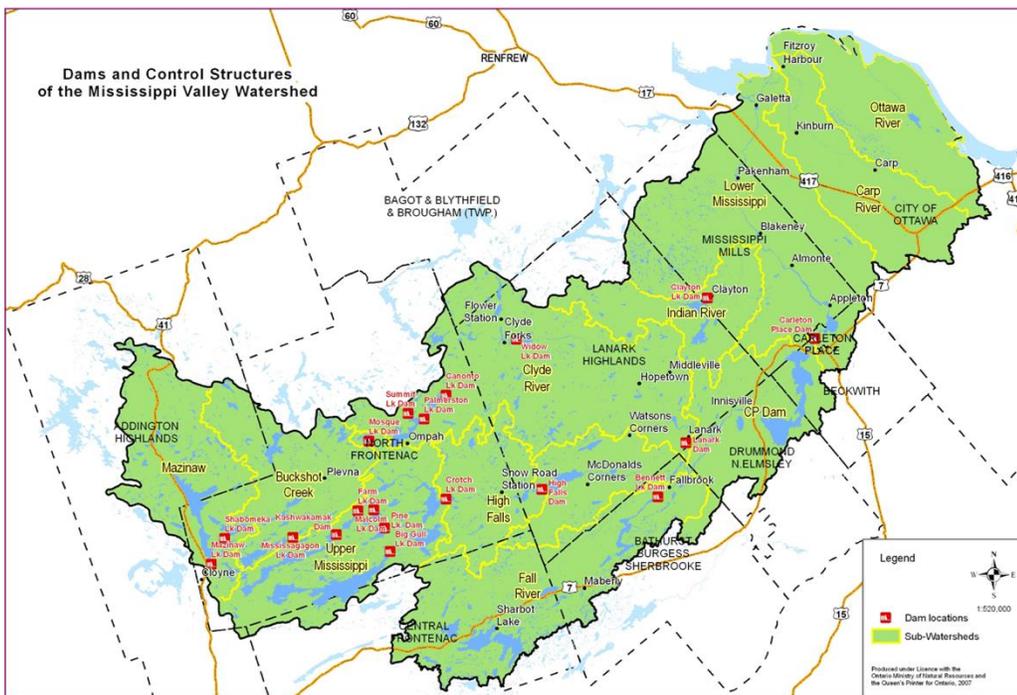
After reviewing the latest updates on invasive species at the website for Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program (www.invadingspecies.com/invaders) and the associated sightings data on the Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System (www.eddmaps.org/Ontario) we set our sights on the Rusty Crayfish.

The Rusty Crayfish was positively identified in Myers Cave in 1996 in the rapids between Marble Lake and Georgia Lake. The Mazinaw Marauders decided it was time to see if the Rusty Crayfish had found its way to, or at least close to, Mazinaw Lake. What did we discover? The answer is on our web site!

The 2019 Spring Flood

by Francine Bates (from the MVCA Summation of 2019 Flood)

Water management in the Mississippi River watershed is a complex process and no water body is managed in isolation. Mazinaw Lake is part of the Mississippi River watershed, a vast network of lakes, rivers and streams with a drainage area of 4450 sq. km. The river is 212 km long and there are approximately 268 lakes. Historically, spring rains coupled with snow melt, has provided the majority of water available to the system. This creates the need to manage the system to reduce the magnitude of annual spring flooding while at the same time, storing enough water to meet the requirements for wildlife and fisheries, tourism and recreation, water quality and low flow augmentation priorities.



Mazinaw Lake dam is one of 18 structures owned and/or operated by the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA). It is a concrete structure with two control sections containing 14 stoplogs, 7 logs in each bay. The dam has a bypass channel which is designed to be overtopped under

high flow conditions. The total drainage area above the dam is 339 sq. km. The best management operations necessitate avoidance of the bypass channel for three reasons: the operators lose access to the control sections, overtopping is associated with extreme flooding immediately downstream on Little Marble and Marble Lakes, and potential erosion and structure stability issues become a concern. Year round, MVCA monitors the water levels, flows, precipitation, snow pack, temperatures and weather forecasts closely. From January through to the spring melt MVCA staff are looking at the following in order to make decisions on what dams to operate, when and to what degree:

- how much water is in the system
- how much potential is there for runoff from snow melt
- what has history shown we should expect
- how wet the fall was for soil conditions prior to freeze up (which impacts the soils ability to store water once the snow melt begins)

- ice thickness and levels from a recreational use perspective (ice fishing, snowmobiling etc.) where fluctuating levels could cause unsafe ice conditions as well as create potential shoreline damage
- fish spawning (pike in March, pickerel from early April through late May, bass from late May through mid-June)
- the time of the year (the later the snow pack remains, the more likely the temperatures will warm up quickly creating a faster runoff)

MVCA is proactive in managing the system by doing things such as the fall drawdown. Each fall, the water is lowered in all upper lakes including Mazinaw Lake. In the fall of 2018, the fall draw down proceeded as it historically has with the 1st logs being removed from the dam mid-November. By December 17th, 8 logs were out, leaving a total of 6 logs still in the dam. In early March, based on above average snow water equivalent conditions in the upper watershed, an additional log was removed.

In March 2019, an early melt had started. Water levels on the lake slowly increased as runoff from snowmelt continued over the first two weeks of April. Prior to the Easter weekend, levels on the lake had just reached the summer target levels. With significant rainfall in the forecast for late Good Friday and all day Easter Saturday, an additional log was pulled from the dam. Significantly more runoff occurred than was expected and levels on the lake rose almost 30 cm overnight! Although guidelines suggest that only one log be pulled from Mazinaw Lake dam in a 24 hour period, inflows dictated that 2 more logs be pulled from the dam on Saturday, leaving only two logs in the dam, one in each bay.

This was the first time since the dam was rebuilt in 1992 that only two logs remained in the dam. Despite the removal of those logs, water levels continued to increase throughout the night and had increased an additional 26 cm bringing the lake level to 268.47 m. The main issue which caused the flooding was that the rain happened all within a very short period of time. Water was now 27 cm over the crest of the bypass channel and levels were still increasing. Crews were dispatched to remove the remaining two logs in the dam as erosion was beginning to be evident to the crest of the emergency overflow bypass. Due to debris in the eye of one of the logs, only one additional log was able to be removed, leaving one log in the dam.



The lake peaked at 268.59 m on April 22. By the long weekend in May, levels had returned to within the target range although not all of the logs have been replaced in the dam. MVCA staff inspected the dam shortly after the peak and also had a consultant inspect the structure to ensure that the erosion which had occurred did not affect the stability of the dam in order to ensure the stoplogs could be replaced (to maintain summer levels.) The erosion of the emergency bypass was repaired in December 2019.

What can we expect going forward?

Even with the best management, it is difficult to predict what Mother Nature is going to do. The MVCA needs to consider both the levels of Mazinaw Lake and the downstream effects of Little Marble and Marble Lakes if too much water is released at a time; as well as the impact on wildlife. The best suggestion is to be prepared. Each flood situation is unique, and your emergency plan should account for that – and be ready well in advance.

1. Know the warning system.

- The MVCA issues water conditions statements to inform residents, municipalities and other stakeholders of changing water levels across the watershed. For regular updates and advanced warning of an impending flood stay informed through the MVCA website or our Facebook and Twitter pages.

2. Be prepared.

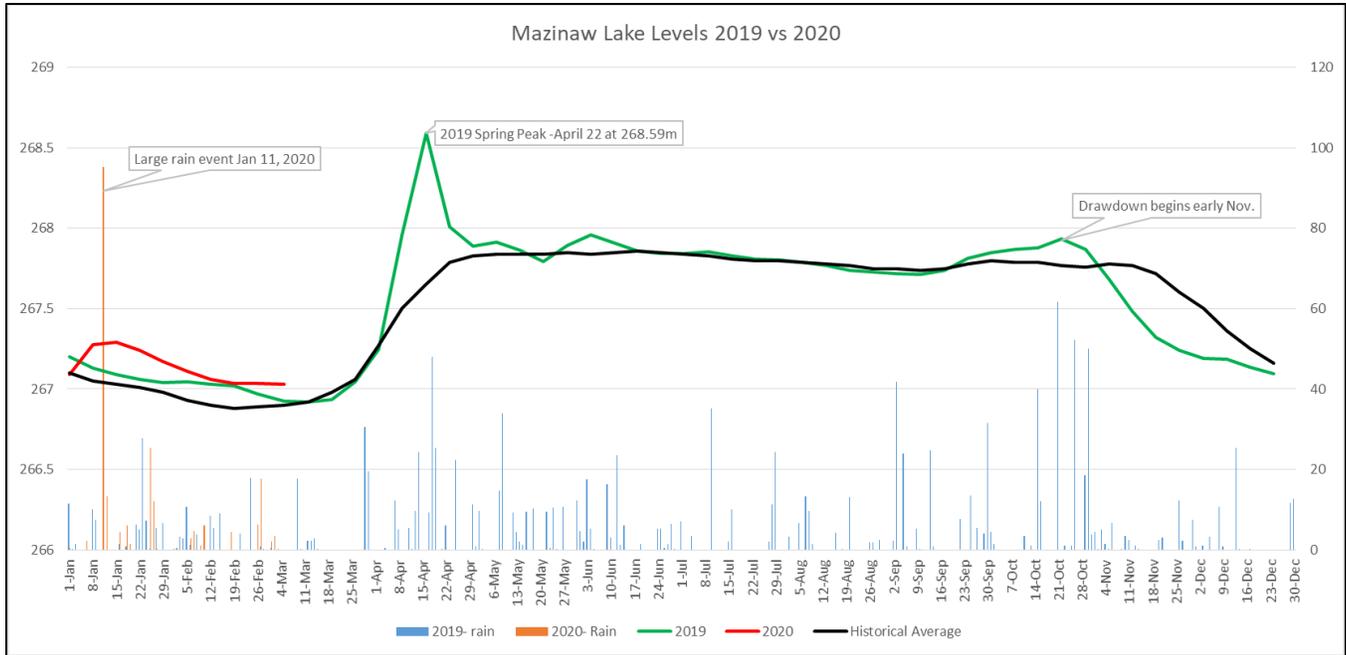
- The first step to flood preparedness is knowing your risk level. Learn about your municipality's emergency preparedness plan: evacuation routes and locations for emergency shelters, as well as their sandbag program if they have one.
- Ensure sump pump is clear, in good working condition and has a backwater valve on it.
- Do you need a portable backup generator and pump?
- Ensure downspouts are clear and the outlet is at least 3 m from the dwelling.
- Remove or secure items that might float away as flows increase.
- Remove valuable items from basements or lower floors that could be subject to flooding.
- Keep emergency phone numbers handy.



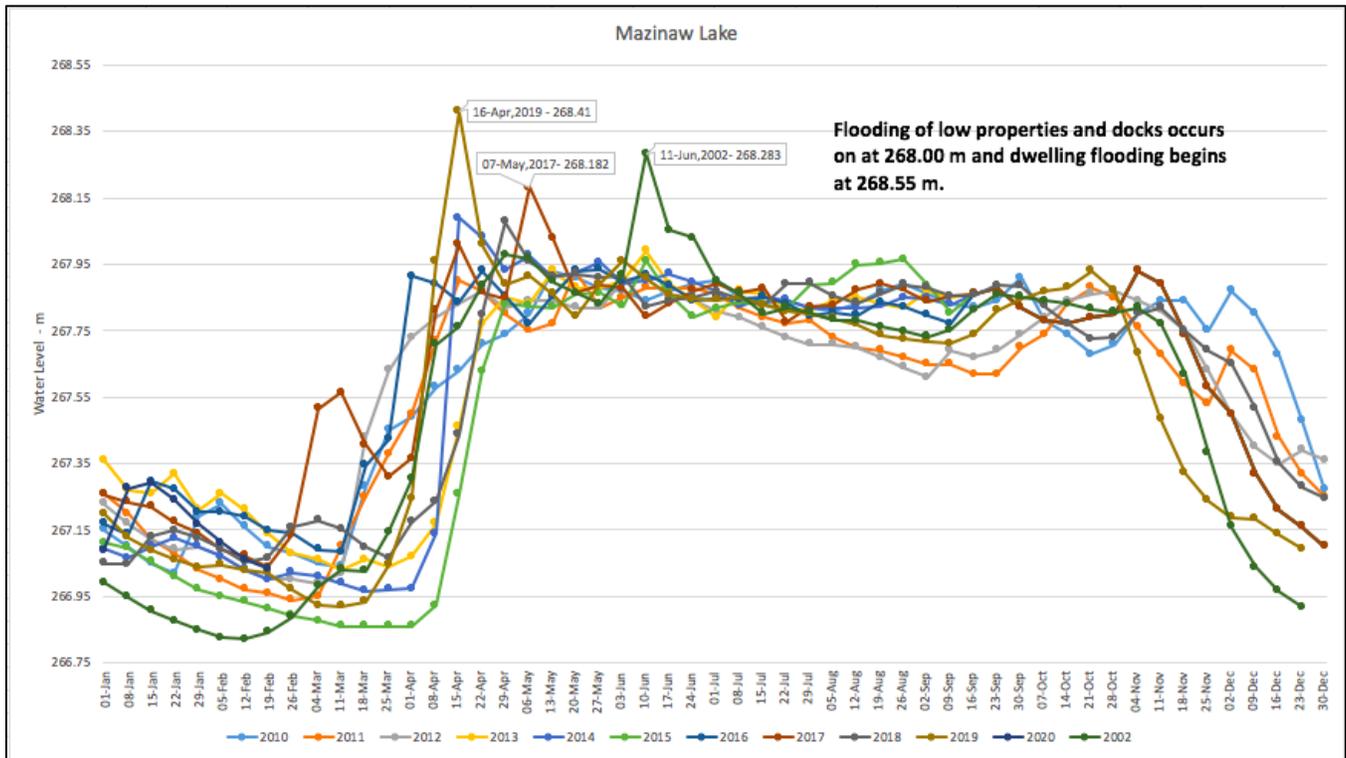
Daily water levels and flows are available on the MVC website at www.mvc.on.ca.

The chart below shows the water levels on Mazinaw for 2019 and to-date (when this was written) in early March. You will see that we had an unusual and significant amount of rain in January 2020 (yes, that's rain!). Currently we are above average in water content in our snow pack and starting to see runoff from mild temperatures and rainfall. MVCA will maintain the winter setting in the dam for now. The long range forecast, and the amount of rain we receive over the next few weeks, will determine

whether logs are either removed or added. This will ensure flooding is mitigated and water levels reach summer levels by the long weekend in May. This is a fine line as enough water needs to be in the lake in case of drought situations (which did happen in August 2019).



This chart shows water levels over the past 10 years.



MPOA Kayak Trip

by Francine Bates

If you like to kayak, there are plenty of places you can go at the Mazinaw, whether it is travelling close to the cottage exploring the various bays, coasting along the beautiful Bon Echo rock viewing the pictographs, circling Bear Island, or into the rivers which lead to other surrounding lakes. When you get close to shore, nature is right there with amazing reflections, gorgeous rocks and trees and sometimes you will see an eagle, a beaver slapping its tail to lead you away from its hut, a chipmunk swimming (I didn't know they did this until I saw one swimming from shore to Bear Island) or deer taking a drink at the river side, or even a bear looking at you from above!

In 2018, the MPOA organized our first 'social' paddling trip for those who wanted to join in. A group went up the Mississippi River starting in the upper Mazinaw heading north, and going to the mouth of Mackavoy Lake (see picture of the map below). One member from the lower Mazinaw said "I have been coming to Mazinaw since I was a baby but I have never been up this part of the river. I'm happy I have now."

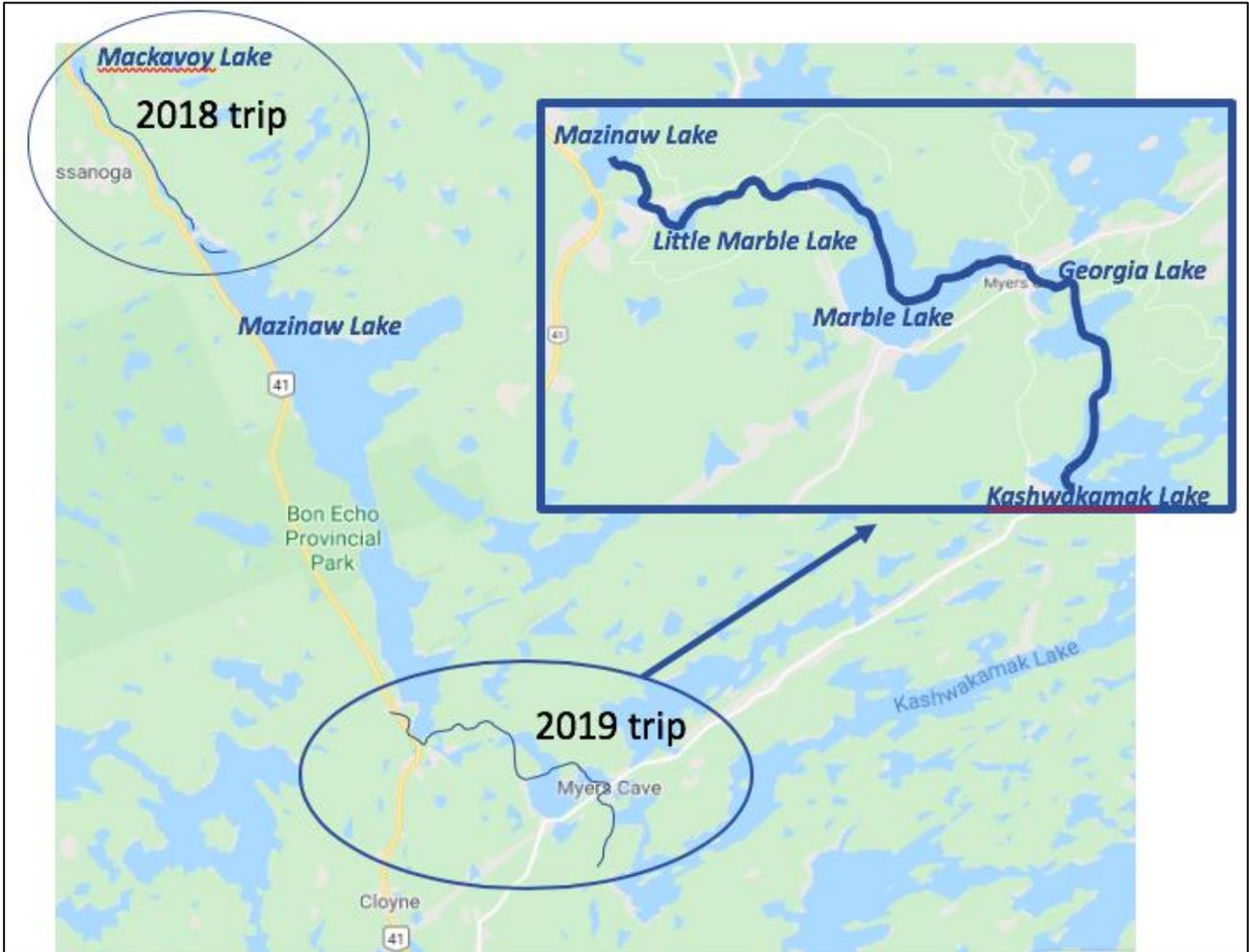
In 2019, the MPOA asked if any members wanted to be part of a kayaking email distribution list and many joined. The idea was whoever was going out could send out an email with a place and time to meet to go on a group adventure. I participated in a few outings but the one I want to tell you about is my "I have been coming to Mazinaw since I was in grade school but I have never been down this part of the river. I'm happy I have now!" adventure.

As a group of kayakers and canoers, we started in lower Mazinaw Lake and ended in Kashwakamak Lake. This adventure (see map below) took us through Mazinaw, Little Marble, Marble Rapids, Marble Lake, Snake Island (where we stopped for lunch...and yes, there were snakes sunning themselves on the rocks!), Georgia Lake, Whitefish Rapids, to Kashwakamak. It included a few portages: besides the Mazinaw dam, we manoeuvred around the amazing marble in Marble river, around the rapids at Myers Cave (although one brave kayaker went down it) and across the 506 Hwy.

We learned that you don't want to do this in a fiberglass kayak so if you have a choice, bring a boat you don't mind getting a little scraped by the odd rock along the way. The marble in Marble River is a site you want to see!



Sitting on a piece of marble that is above the water



If you want to join the paddling distribution list, send an email to communications@lakemazinaw.ca.

Serenaded on the Mazinaw

by Francine Bates

What's better than a beautiful day on the Mazinaw, enjoying a beverage on the dock with a bunch of great neighbours? Being serenaded by a traveling pontoon boat with professional musicians, that's what! Sitting in the sun, with beautiful music so serene, it moved a few of us to tears.

"The FOUR" musicians, violist Barb Hart and cellist David Rodrigo from Toronto, and violinists Leona Davidson and Andrea Jefferson from Brampton, call themselves the Northern String Quartet. They are part of the string section of the Rose Orchestra from Brampton. Over the past few summers they've come to a cottage in German Bay for a long weekend, and while there, they select new string quartet music, rehearse, and enjoy the lake.



Part of the enjoyment is going on a pontoon boat meandering along the shore to serenade the cottagers. Last summer on August 24th, recently back from their tour in Paris, France, they did it again! In advance, the MPOA sent out a note asking who might want to be serenaded by this group. Then, "Master Captain Ted" from Little Clay Bay was at the helm as they toured around the upper Mazinaw, going as far as the south park.



"We'd do more stops and go into the lower Mazinaw as well, if we knew more people." Ted commented. So, if you decide to have a gang over to be entertained at your dock this summer when this group is up, make sure to respond to this year's invitation or send a note anytime to communications@lakemazinaw.ca. Just be ready for the quartet to continue along and you are left with an afternoon party at your dock!

Looking forward to 2020 and what might happen on the Mazinaw!

For more information about the Rose Orchestra check out www.theroseorchestra.org.



A group gather at the north end of Mazinaw to enjoy the show!



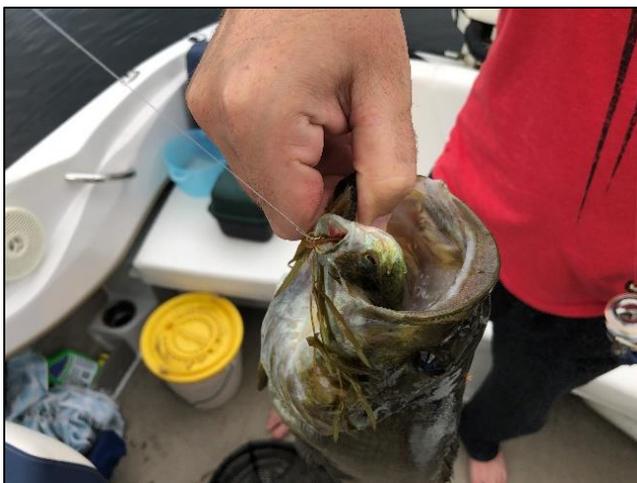
Barber Bay neighbours enjoying the serenade and each other's company for a wonderful sunny afternoon.

A True Mazinaw Fish Story

by Bob Reid

Last summer while fishing, my son-in-law Craig Anderson and I experienced an unusual event. We were fishing with worms in Buck Bay on lower Mazinaw hoping for some bass action. Sure enough, Craig found his rod suddenly bent in a fight with what seemed to be a sizeable fish. Much to our surprise when the fish reached the surface all we saw was a small perch on the line. I laughed as he commented, "I didn't know they put up such a fight!"

Two further cranks of the reel revealed the true reason for all the action. A 3 lb. smallmouth was on the hook and the perch that it was after had slid up the line. Pictures show the position of the perch in the mouth of the bass when the line was pulled taught. Both fish were live released, although I suspect the stunned perch became food for a passing gull!



A Canoe Story

by Shirley Grant

Our cottage is right next to what used to be Camp Mazinaw for Boys. One day some high school friends and I took out two canoes from our cottage on a beautiful sunny summer day. We decided to let down our tops and lie on the floor of the canoes enjoying the sun. Meanwhile the boys' camp director looked out on the lake and saw two canoes apparently adrift with no one in them. So he sent out two boys in canoes to rescue them.

A canoe can be a very silent craft and we girls were not aware of their approach until they were almost alongside. Wow! What a scramble trying to get our tops back up from a prone position on the bottom of a canoe! And you can well imagine the boys' hilarity!

Ah-h-h, those were the days!

Boating Safety & Etiquette

by Nancy Skipper

I have been living full-time on the lower Mazinaw since 2013. With each new year I have witnessed an increase in incidences of unsafe boating practices, with a couple of them leading to the potential for bodily injury. Two years ago I was literally knocked off my feet while standing on my dock as a boater sped past my home pulling a tube filled with children. The wake of the boat was so forceful that it not only knocked me down, it sent my boats banging into the dock and against each other. Last year I watched helplessly as a boat, once again pulling a tube filled with children, raced past our home. The wake was so strong that it upset a canoeist into the water a little ways out from our dock. The canoeist was not wearing a proper life jacket and was not a strong swimmer, and he was just far enough from my dock to be in trouble. I was not able to assist him with our boat as I was holding a young grandchild, but thankfully he managed to swim to the dock and I was able to help him get safely ashore.

We cannot blame visitors to our lovely lake all the time for these infractions; unfortunately some of us who call the Mazinaw home are to blame! With all that I see, along with reports of incidents emailed to MPOA from other members, I thought a little refresher course on safe boating may be a good thing at this time. In order to keep the facts straight I will be quoting a number of sources, including Transport Canada, Cottage Life, Pat's Boating In Canada, Speed Limits and Wakes, and the Safe Boater Training Program. Here goes!

On most Ontario waterways, the speed limit is 10 km/h (6 mph) within 30 metres (100 feet) of the shore. **Improper Speed or Distance** is not maintaining a proper speed or distance while operating a pleasure craft. Operators must follow these restrictions from the *Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations (VORRs)*.

Speed limit or no, all boaters everywhere are required to operate their vessels with safety in mind, and they can face fines if they're boating in an unsafe or careless manner. Careless Operation, under the *Small Vessel Regulations*, is an offense that will bring charges. The regulation reads, "No person shall operate a small vessel in a careless manner without due care or without reasonable consideration for other persons." Among other things, an operator can be charged with Careless Operation if, as a result of excess speed, their wash adversely affects:

- other vessels including anchored vessels, grounded vessels, vessels tied to docks, wrecks, dredges, tows, rowboats or canoes
- work being passed
- the shoreline
- docks or floats
- wetlands
- other waterway users such as swimmers, or users of bathing beaches
- where divers are working
- an area of anchorage

The *Collision Regulations* state that you must be a prudent operator at all times based on the prevailing conditions and local restrictions.

Boaters are responsible for any damage or discomfort their boat causes to wildlife, people, objects and the shoreline. “You are responsible to operate your boat in a safe manner and prevent damage caused by your wake or wash, even if no signs are posted. If your boat or its wake damage property or injures people, you may have broken the law in many jurisdictions (Canada Shipping Act, Maritime Law, provincial laws). The person who suffers damage must be able to identify the boat and the operator and prove it caused the damage (witnesses are helpful).” (Boating Laws: Contraventions Act)

Every boat’s wake speed range is different. Excess speed not only damages shoreline, but is hazardous to small boats and swimmers. Loons are particularly vulnerable to wakes.

How you speed up and slow down is important. Operating your boat at less than “hull speed” (about 6 knots for a 20 foot boat) creates very little wake. As you increase beyond hull speed, the bow begins to rise and the wake from the bow begins to meet the wake from the stern, causing the combined wave to increase in height and volume. This applies to both planing hulls (runabouts, power cruisers) and displacement hulls (trawlers, sailboats), but the planing hull can continue “on step”, which lifts the hull on top of the water to plane at faster speeds.

Between hull speed and planing speed, there is a speed range where the boat will throw maximum wakes and uses maximum fuel. Just before the boat begins to lift onto plane and level out, even a small boat can capsize nearby canoes or wash away shoreline. You should have a look behind you occasionally to see how your wake affects other boats and shoreline. Wake effects increase dramatically if the boat is operating in shallow water.

The Small Vessel Regulations that govern water skiing state that a spotter, who is not operating the boat, is required on board. Also, you must have a seat available for each person being towed in case recovery is necessary. Only personal watercraft (PWCs) designed to carry three people can be used for towing water skiers (diver, spotter, skier). Towing activities are not allowed in the period from one hour after sunset to sunrise.



Do I need to wear a life jacket on a Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP)?

This is a question that we get asked a lot so I asked an OPP officer from the Kaladar detachment. The answer is YES, you must wear a life jacket, AND you must also have a whistle. He suggested that you attach a whistle to all your life jackets and this way if a guest grabs a life jacket to enjoy your SUP, it will already be on it.

As well, here is the documented information **published by Transport Canada**, last updated July 2018:

If you are paddling across a body of water, or getting from Point A to Point B, you are navigating. Stand Up Paddleboards (SUP) used for navigation fall into the same category as canoes, kayaks, rowboats, rowing shells, and other human powered boats less than 6m and you are required to carry mandatory safety equipment under the Small Vessel Regulations.

- Option 1: WEAR a lifejacket with a whistle (no buoyant heaving line required).
- Option 2: CARRY a lifejacket on board with whistle and a buoyant heaving line.
- Option 3: NONE then could receive a \$200 – \$500 fine for non-compliance.

Also, a watertight flashlight is required for low-light or night-time conditions, i.e. after sunset, before sunrise or in periods of restricted visibility.

If you are NOT navigating (e.g. park and play at the waterfront, dock, surf wave, surf beach), then Transport Canada does not consider the SUP to be a regulated vessel for mandatory equipment requirements.

Paddle Canada also recommends the use of an appropriate ankle or waist-belt leash, although this is not required equipment.

It is the law to not exceed 10 km per hour within 30 metres from shore. Please slow down, keep your wake at a minimum near shore; stay out the 30 metres from the shore near congested areas or near people's docks.

It's a Bird, It's a Plane ... It's Hercules!

by Francine Bates



You hear them coming before you see them but it's almost impossible to get your camera out before they are gone! Usually, where there is one, a second will follow and maybe you will be lucky to snap a picture of the second one.

Ever wonder why you see these giant Hercules planes flying low, almost at the tree line level, over Mazinaw

and swooping up just in time to pass over Bon Echo Rock? Well, I reached out to Captain Graeme Scott of the 8 Wing Trenton Public Affairs section of the Royal Canadian Air Force to find out why.

Captain Scott said "The main reason that RCAF aircraft would be conducting flights over Mazinaw Lake would be for search and rescue (SAR) training with our CC-130H Hercules aircraft from 424 Transport and Rescue Squadron. They conduct a number of different types of training to ensure that they are ready to help their fellow Canadians in their time of need. This includes practice search patterns, night-vision goggle (NVG) training, flare deployment training, and many other types of drills to ensure they are ready for anything they may encounter on a real SAR mission."



Thanks for keeping us all safe ... and "thank you for your service" to all service men and women.

This cottager loves to see these planes – I feel my dad ('Captain Bates', having chosen a career in the Air Force but now gone) is doing a pass-by to check in on me. I find myself looking up to the sky at these big planes and saying "Hi Dad. All is good here on the Mazinaw."

A Brief History of the Bon Echo Inn

by Nancy Skipper (with some help from Google)

It is hard to walk around Bon Echo Provincial Park and not wonder how the park, and especially the Inn, came to be. What was it like to walk around this majestic land prior to it becoming a Provincial Park in 1965? According to local historian Margaret Axford in a presentation titled "The Dentist, the Feminist and The Writer" our beloved park began to take shape many decades earlier with the influence of three individuals and their families.

The dentist was Dr. Weston A. Price. Price and his wife Florence (who taught in Ardoch) began to rent land for the summer from a farmer David Weese beginning in 1898. They bought some land in 1899, with Dr. Price deciding to build an inn which duplicated the hotels found in the Adirondacks. According to Axford, , "He [Price] knew that the setting of the Mazinaw Rock would be a natural draw and it was the Prices who gave the name 'Bon Echo' to the area, and who gave birth to tourism in the region."

Using local labour, Price built his inn which consisted of the main building, five cottages, separate guest house, boat house, laundry house, ice house, numerous docks and a bridge across the Narrows. The Bon Echo Inn was completed at the end of the second summer of Dr. Price's purchase of the land. In 1901 he brought in a telephone line originating from the Kaladar train station running along the old Addington Road. This was the first telephone to the area!

Dr. Price wanted the Inn to be a haven for those loving nature. One of the Inn's guests was Flora MacDonald Denison who, along with her husband Howard and son Merrill, first came to the Inn and the area surrounding it in 1901. She fell in love with the Inn and according to Axford, "she would have bought the place at that time if Price had been selling it." Because this was not the case, Flora bought a lot south of the Narrows, built a cottage and spent the next nine summers there with family and friends. (Did you know that Flora was born in 1867 in Actinolite and taught near there?)

The summer vacation of 1910 saw Flora buying the Inn, Big Bear Island, and acres of land from Dr. Price for the price of \$13,000! It was Flora's vision to create "a haven for artists and philosophers in an inspiring natural landscape with an incredible view of Mazinaw Rock, where visitors could renew their souls, their energies and their creative instincts." She was greatly influenced by the democratic writings of Walt Whitman and wanted Bon Echo to become a "symbol of democratic freedom ... that would always be enhanced by the spirit of Walt Whitman." She commissioned the inscription to Whitman on a rock face of the cliff close to the Narrows. Among the guests visiting the Inn with Flora as the owner were James Thurber, Morley Callahan, Frank Lloyd Wright and painters from the Group of Seven.

Flora died in 1921. Her ashes were placed in an urn to be deposited in Mazinaw Lake under the commissioned inscription.

Upon her death, Flora's son Merrill inherited the inn and its 10 square miles of property. Merrill's partner and later wife, Muriel Goggin, ran the inn from 1923 to 1928 "like a general", seeing it prosper until the stock market crash of 1929. The Inn was then closed to the public until 1934 when it became Camp Mazinaw, a boys' camp for Trinity College School in Port Hope.

In 1936 the inn burned down after being struck by lightning and was never rebuilt. Merrill and Muriel still continued to spend summers at Bon Echo after selling off some of the land, keeping less than 100 acres for themselves. Merrill wanted to preserve the area as “a meeting place as it was for the Algonquins, a centre to which people would come to learn and discuss ideas in an inspiring natural surrounding.” In 1959 Merrill turned over the buildings and land to the Ontario government to be used as a provincial park.

For a more detailed account of the history of Bon Echo and the personalities who helped to create it, a number of books on the subject are available at the Cloyne Pioneer Museum. They include “The Oxen and The Axe” (Brown, Brumell and Snider), “The Mazinaw Experience: Bon Echo and Beyond” (John Campbell), “Sunset of Bon Echo” (Flora MacDonald Denison), and “Bon Echo: The Denison Years” (Mary Savigny).



One of the very best images of the Bon Echo Inn.
This image was taken looking southeast from Sawmill Bay. Notice the water tower on the far right.



This plaque commemorating the Bon Echo Inn stands near the Visitor Centre in Bon Echo Provincial Park.

The Inn was designed by Cleveland architect Charles E. Tousley for Dr. Weston Price. All materials were brought to the Inn site along the rough Addington Colonization Road. Labour was plentiful and inexpensive for Dr. Price. Unskilled workers were paid \$1/day and skilled carpenters \$1.50/day. The Inn was started around 1899. (Source: The Mazinaw Experience by John Campbell, available at the CDHS bookstore: <http://pioneer.mazinaw.on.ca/store.php>)

By 1901 a number of buildings had been completed including the 3-storey hotel, 5 cottages, staff house, tent platforms, service buildings, a boat house, a 9 metre water tower and two large docks (one on each side of the narrows). A windmill was used for power. Sadly, the Inn burned down following a lightning storm in 1936.

Part of the CDHS Archives

The Good Echo

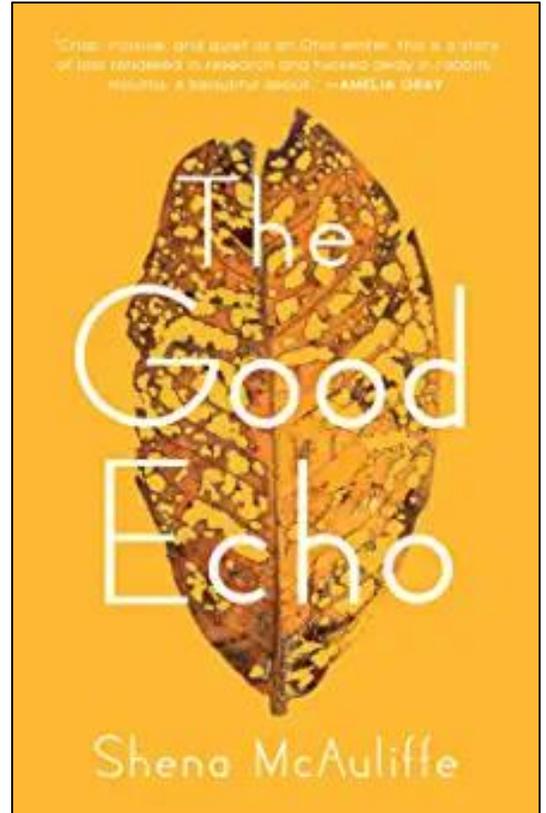
A book review by Kerry Skipper

Looking for some entertaining reading this summer? Let me recommend *The Good Echo* by Shena McAuliffe.

From the Author's Notes, "*The Good Echo* is inspired by the life and work of Weston and Florence Price, who lost their young son in 1914, and traveled the world in the 1930s, seeking evidence for Price's theories about nutrition." Those of you who are familiar with the history of our lake will recall that Weston and Florence Price were the ones who built the Bon Echo Inn near the Narrows of Mazinaw Lake in 1899. Florence has been credited with suggesting the name Bon Echo because of the marvellous echo that rebounded from the face of the granite cliff on the opposite shore. Dr. Price and his wife operated the Inn during the summers until they sold it to Flora MacDonald Denison in 1910. The site later became part of Bon Echo Provincial Park.

The Good Echo is not a biography of Weston and Florence Price, but a fictionalized tale of the lives of Dr. Clifford Bell and his wife Frances. The story follows them in their travels from Cleveland, Ohio to the Swiss Alps, Florida and Alaska, the Outer Hebrides, Africa, and yes, Mazinaw Lake. The narrative is told from the point of view of three people: Clifford, Frances and their deceased son Benjamin.

Last summer Ms. McAuliffe visited Bon Echo Provincial Park to read a passage from her novel at the amphitheatre and sign copies of her book at the Greystones gift shop. I'm not sure if copies will be available at Greystones this year, but the book can be ordered online from amazon.ca.



Bon Echo Provincial Park Update

by Clark Richards, Superintendent, Bon Echo Provincial Park

I am a firm believer that Mazinaw Lake and the surrounding area are one of the Province's most stunning landscapes. An experience on Mazinaw Lake and at Bon Echo Provincial Park inspires people to discover, enjoy, value and protect these special places. We all share a connection to this tremendous waterway and protected area and on behalf of the Bon Echo Provincial Park team I would like to welcome you to the 2020 park operating season. There are a few event highlights planned in the park which I am pleased to share.

Across the Province on July 17, 2020 Ontario Parks is coordinating *Health Parks Healthy People* day. The aim of this day is to promote and celebrate the link between a healthy environment and a healthy society. Enjoy a morning yoga session for all skill levels at the pumphouse beach while watching the sun rise over Mazinaw Rock. In the afternoon, join our knowledgeable park interpreters for a guided hike to learn about our diverse and unique park ecosystems. Day-use access and all programming are free. For details on this event and a variety of other special events and programs in 2020 please refer to the events page under Bon Echo at www.ontarioparks.com/park/bonecho/events.

The Friends of Bon Echo Park will be hosting the annual *Art Exhibition and Sale* on July 24-26, 2020 at South Beach. Attendees will enjoy a variety of regional Canadian nature, wildlife and countryside artwork with a BBQ lunch, musical entertainment and children's activities. Those who are on Mazinaw Lake are welcome to access South Beach by boat outside of the designated swimming area for free. The Friends of Bon Echo Park volunteers play an integral role in helping to protect the park's natural and cultural resources and facilitate exceptional visitor experiences. Please contact the Friends of Bon Echo Park to learn about exciting volunteer opportunities and new initiatives at www.bonechofriends.ca.

We are pleased to be hosting the *Monster of Mazinaw* trail running race on September 26, 2020. The park has partnered with Happy Trails Racing to offer a variety of challenging trail race distances from 10km to 60km. If you wish to incur some sweat equity as a participant, cheer as a spectator or volunteer as race support, the fall season is a tremendous time of the year to enjoy the park. Visit www.happytrailsracing.com for more details about this event and their trail race series.

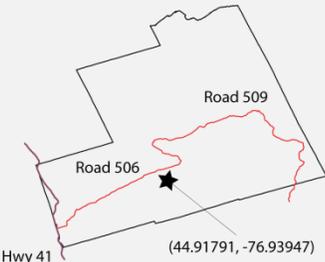
The extra special efforts of the Mazinaw Property Owners Association on the lake stewardship initiatives and support are much appreciated. Together, we can help preserve this special area's diverse ecology, rich human history and rugged beauty so that it can be enjoyed for both present and future generations.

I look forward to seeing you in the park.



2020 Events at the North Frontenac Star Gazing Pad





The following events are taking place at the North Frontenac Star Gazing Pad at 5816 Road 506 between Plevna and Fernleigh. Check NorthFrontenac.com events calendar for event updates. Events begin at sunset.

Contact Corey Klatt, Manager of Community Development for more information. recreation@northfrontenac.ca, 613-479-2231x233

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. BRING YOUR BINOCULARS AND TELESCOPES IF YOU HAVE THEM.

April 25: Theme: The Realm Of Galaxies.

May 16 & 17 (Victoria Day Weekend): Theme: The Inner Planets.

June 20: "Sun Party" 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Theme: Seasons (rain date June 21)

July 25: Theme: Our Moon (waxing crescent at perigee).

Bonus Event! Tuesday evening to Wednesday morning, August 11/12: Theme: The Perseid meteor shower.

August 22: Theme: Three Circumpolar Constellations: Two Bears and a Dragon.

September 12: Theme: The Outer Planets. (all 5 will be in the evening sky).

October 10 & 11: Theme: The Watery Constellations. (or The Outer Planets if September event is clouded out).

www.northfrontenac.com/dark-sky-preserve.html

"North Frontenac Township Dark Sky Preserve" is also on Facebook

Four Seasons, More Reasons 

MPOA Board Members

Francine Bates

President

mposa@lakemazinaw.ca

Robert Reid

Vice President

Rosemary Prevoe

Treasurer

treasurer@lakemazinaw.ca

Suzanne Sills

Secretary

Kate McGovern

Membership and Directory

Vern Haggerty

Lake Steward

Jamie Fraser

Associate Lake Steward

Murray Russell

FOCA Representative

Arndt Kruger

Community Relations

Nancy and Kerry Skipper

Communications and Webmaster

communications@lakemazinaw.ca

We have an amazing MPOA board! The commitment for each board member is for a 3 year term and many of us have already served that time, plus many more years. In 2019, we welcomed Nancy and Kerry Skipper who have done an amazing job as our Communications and Webmaster team. This year, Kirsten Houghton and Ian Phillips have expressed an interest in joining us. The current team has met them and we believe they would be strong contributors to our board.

Arndt Kruger, Community Relations Director and former President, will be leaving the board effective our 2020 AGM. I would like to thank Arndt for his many years of volunteer service, managing various important projects for our lake association and for his valuable leadership. This year I too will be stepping down; however, I plan to make myself available for one more year to assist the new President (that will be 10 years for me). I have thoroughly enjoyed various roles over this time such as Secretary, Vice-President, Director of Memberships, Director of Communications and Webmaster, and now President. My claim to fame might be the last two MPOA directories, creating the maps you see in the booklets from scratch, along with the creation of the MPOA website and the communications id. I have enjoyed meeting so many of my fellow cottagers over the years.

2020 will be the last year for Kate McGovern, Director of Memberships, who plans to step down at the end of the year. Bob Reid, Vice-President and a member of our Lake Steward team, has declared

2020/21 as his last year, and he will be stepping down effective the 2021 AGM. Bob has offered to make himself available for projects as they arise going forward.

To keep the association strong, we need new members to take over and learn the positions in 2020 from those who will be stepping down in 2021 or 2022. Please consider offering your varied skills by letting us know at communications@lakemazinaw.ca if you'd be willing to join the MPOA board. As a team, the workload is more than reasonable and you get to give back to the lake you love! If you would like to volunteer to help but are not feeling that you have the time to join the board, please let us know that too. Just please send an email to communications@lakemazinaw.ca. All contributions are welcome!

Fran

