

MPOA Quarterly Newsletter

Mazinaw Property Owners Association
Fall Edition

October 26, 2022

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MPOA Notes

MPOA Website

<https://www.lakemazinaw.ca/>

Current MPOA Board

President:	Amy Fraser
Vice President :	TBD
Treasurer :	Gillian Van Kempen
Secretary:	Jeanette Wilson
Membership Director:	Ian Philips
Communications Director :	Joanne McRae
Webmaster :	Joanne McRae
Facebook Admin :	Amy Fraser/Joanne McRae
Lake Steward:	Hiliary Vaillancourt
FOCA Representative *1 :	John Campbell
NFLAA Representative *2:	TBD

Special Thanks

Thank you **Ian Philips** for work on the MPOA printed member directory! It looks great and is very useful. Your many hours of work have paid off for everyone.

Thank you **Hiliary Vaillancourt** for working to keep our lake in good health. Your consistent efforts have brought awareness to issues affecting all of us.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to all of the unnamed **volunteers clearing trails** on west side of the North Lake. Many kilometers of long-standing paths were completely obliterated by the May storm, and you have worked tirelessly all summer long cutting and moving downed trees. This is hundreds of hours of work, and there is more progress every week. From someone who shed tears that the trails were gone, thank you so very much.

Which brings us to a relevant point: fire chief Casey Cuddy has expressed concern that there is heightened risk of fire going forward, as the downed wood dries out. Please be especially vigilant against fire in the coming years.

Election Results

Thank you to everyone who voted. Note that the total number of votes cast (for all but the N. Frontenac Mayor's race) were in the low hundreds. Your vote counts, especially in municipal elections!

Addington Highlands

Reeve: Henry Hogg
Councillors:

- Ward 1 – Tony Fritsch and Kirby Thompson
- Ward 2 – Kenneth Hook and E. Helen Yanch

North Frontenac

Mayor: Gerry Lichty

Councillors:

- Ward 1: Stephanie Regent and Wayne Good
- Ward 2: Roy Huetl and Gerry Martin
- Ward 3: John Inglis and Fred Fowler

Cottage Break-Ins

When and Where

Mid-October saw a rash of cottage break-ins along Vikings Point Lane, and South Mazinaw Heights Road. The police are involved, and neighbours are assisting each other by keeping an eye on adjacent properties, sharing information on the MPOA Facebook Group, and by reporting any suspicious activities to the police.

The primary motive appears to be a vagrant finding a place to stay, rather than theft. Food has been consumed, and washroom facilities used. When closing the cottage this year, consider the possibility of a break-in and how you would protect your property. (Cameras, neighbours, periodic visits). Tip: you can log on and look at your Hydro One energy usage; a sudden spike after you've closed up is a possible sign of someone taking up residence. (Thanks to Derek Panchyshyn for this idea).

To keep abreast of the breaking news, consider joining the Facebook group:

[MPOA Facebook Group](#)

Cottage Closing Tips

FOCA's has a Top 10 Tips for cottage closing: <https://foca.on.ca/cottage-closing-tips-from-foca/>

Lake Health

From the MPOA's Lake Steward, Hilary Vaillancourt

Phosphorus Levels

From the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority's communication of May 10th 2022:

"Results from the MVCAs lake sampling program show that the lake is maintaining its oligotrophic status with deep secchi depths indicating good water clarity, and low to moderate concentrations of total dissolved phosphorus. Dissolved oxygen levels at depth within the lake continue to be ideal for Lake Trout"

Good news for trout fishermen. HOWEVER: the lower lake has had phosphorus readings trending upwards (bad!) for the last 6 years, and even the upper lake had a slightly high reading. What contributes to high phosphorus? Fertilizer run-off, and malfunctioning (or inadequate) septic beds. If you have any doubt that your septic is up to the task, please have it inspected.

Eurasian Milfoil

Invasive Species Confirmed - Unfortunately, the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority has confirmed that Mazinaw has the invasive weed called "Eurasian milfoil". The MPOA is working with the Conservation Authority, Watershed Canada, the Parks Manager and politicians to address and generate an action plan for MPOA members. Unfortunately, once an invasive species is in a lake it is very hard to manage; however info on targeted control methods used on Malcolm Lake is available here <https://malla.ca/eurasion-milfoil> For more info on Milfoil ID see: <http://www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/aquatic-plants/eurasian-water-milfoil/>.

When boating, please try to avoid traversing the weed patch as this can help spread it.

If you see any patches out of the norm, or any green algae please report to mazlakesteward@gmail.com and communications@lakemazinaw.ca with photos and coordinates. Also, please be reminded that heavily landscaped lots stripped of the "ribbon of life" can exacerbate phosphorus levels in our lake which increases water weeds. Avoid fertilizers especially with a "P" compound and consider the FREE shoreline restoration program detailed in our May newsletter, see details at: <https://naturaledge.watersheds.ca>

iSample Program

Lake Sampling- This summer, our lake volunteers collected samples pursuant to the Federation of Ontario Cottager's iSample 2.0 Program aimed at identifying various invasive species. The lab results should be available late Fall or early Winter and we will share the results upon receipt.

Shoreline Planting Project

Shoreland Planning Resources released- The FOCA steering committee of the *Planning for our Shorelands* project has released 2 new resources designed to help facilitate more resilient and healthy waterfront communities: 1) Environmental Net Gain; and 2) Shoreline Naturalization Planting **Plantemplate**. These publications will help you as a property owner, to enjoy healthy and resilient waterfronts benefiting individual owners and the overall Lake health. Visit the webpage for the links to download copies of these guides: <https://foca.on.ca/land-use-planning-overview/>

Short-Term Rentals

The article linked below highlights the current progress on regulation of Short Term Rentals (STRs) in Ontario. Find out how the township and the North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance (NFLAA) view the concerns around renting your cottage.

There is a balance to be struck between limited and/or supervised renting to offset cottage costs, and using a residential property as a commercial rental business. Our own John Campbell is mentioned in the article, having worked tirelessly to bring attention to this evolving issue.

<https://www.frontenacnews.ca/north-frontenac-news/item/15918-short-term-rental-bylaw-groundwork-done-by-nf-council-members>

Misc

Flood Risk

Adapting to Rising Flood Risk- A report by Canada's Task Force on Flood Insurance and Relocation was recently released stating that the total residential flood risk in Canada is now estimated at **\$2.9B per year**. The majority of risk (89%) is concentrated in a small number of the highest risk homes (10%). Additionally, the report notes that 9 in 10 Canadians living in high-risk areas remain unaware of their flood risk. [Access the digital report on this webpage.](#)

Fall Webinar: Economic Impact of Waterfront Property Owners

On **Saturday, November 19, 2022** at 9:00am - 12:00pm FOCA is hosting their annual Fall Seminar. The theme is "*Gathering Momentum*" where they will discuss a report about the **economic impact of waterfront property owners across Ontario**, updates on FOCA's top priorities, results from their recent surveys, and the launch of their revised website including a new login process for members-only benefits and resources. Also, get association tips for engaging with your incoming municipal council as they head into their next 4-year term, with an emphasis on land use planning issues. [Register now.](#)

Sign up for FOCA Alerts

The FOCA group puts out great content related to waterfront property. They list many webinars and presentations on topics of concern to cottagers, and have additional information regarding cottage ownership on their website.

Sign up for e-alerts, regular newsletters, or just browse their website: www.foca.on.ca

e-alerts sign up: <https://foca.on.ca/news/elerts/>

Note: To access some materials you may need to use the FOCA Username : focamember and Password : Foc@M3mb3\$2014.

The FOCA contact is Michelle Lewin, communications@foca.on.ca 705 749 3622 if you have any connection issues.