

# ECHO LAKE ASSOCIATION SPRING/SUMMER 2024 NEWSLETTER

## Association Executive

### **President:**

Cheryl Francis

Don Lawlor

### **Vice President:**

Adriana Lurz

Brian (Stew) Stewart

### **Treasurer:**

Rob and Val Brockbank

### **Secretary:**

Michelle and Ken Kavanagh

### **Webmaster / Lake Testing:**

Paul Ecclestone

✉ [elamuskoka@gmail.com](mailto:elamuskoka@gmail.com)

🌐 [echolakeassociation.ca](http://echolakeassociation.ca)



Echo Lake - Baysville

(NOTE: This is not owned  
or administered by the  
Association)



## SAVE THE DATE

### **Echo Lake Association Annual General Meeting:**

Saturday August 24, 2023

11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Bethune United Church  
2 Dickie St, Baysville, ON P0B 1A0  
Phone: (705) 323-9615

Coffee/Tea/Sweets will be provided by the Bethune United Church  
UCW (United Church Women)

**PLEASE RSVP** by email to [elamuskoka@gmail.com](mailto:elamuskoka@gmail.com)

*We hope to see you there!!*



## Member Discounts

### **Baysville Septic Service:**

Discounts are available for pumpouts in the same area (e.g. neighbours)

Scott Kendrick  
705-767-2350

### **Call Of The Wild Sanitation:**

\$25 discount off the regular pumping price, plus an additional \$25 multi-tank discount should more than one household book on the same day

705-646-5756  
[info@callofthewildsanitation.ca](mailto:info@callofthewildsanitation.ca)

### **Budget Propane:**

Fixed Price Protection Rates are usually published in August.

Contact Budget Propane for their Echo Lake/Lake of Bays discounted rate.

*EXISTING customers:*

Jeannie MacDonald  
[jeannie@budgetpropane.net](mailto:jeannie@budgetpropane.net)

*NEW customers:*

Jason Nadrofsky  
705-321-1096  
[jason@budgetpropane.net](mailto:jason@budgetpropane.net)

# MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual Membership Dues are now being accepted for 2024.

To send via e-Transfer:

1. Log into your online or mobile banking app and select your account.
2. Choose or add [elamuskokatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:elamuskokatreasurer@gmail.com)
3. Amount: \$20.00
4. Security Question: What lake are we on?
5. Answer: Echo2018
6. Confirm, and you are done!

To make other arrangements, please contact us via email.

# PLEASE KEEP YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE

Please verify that your contact information is correct on the Echo Lake Association website:

<https://echolakeassociation.ca/members-only>

To ADD your contact information, select *Membership Application* from the menu and complete the form as required.

To CHANGE your contact information and/or permissions, please email [elamuskoka@gmail.com](mailto:elamuskoka@gmail.com)

**If you have new neighbours,  
please encourage them to email us!!**

You don't want to miss out on anything! With lake studies, Association updates and more, we need to have accurate and complete contact details for all our members.

# WORTH REPEATING

## SHARING IS CARING

Our loons, mergansers, ducks and geese have returned and NOW is the time for nest building, egg laying and rearing of their young inside and outside the nest.

Everyone's favourite, our Common Loon, usually lay two eggs in May or June, and both parents incubate them for about four weeks until they hatch. Loons cannot walk well on land, so they build their nests very close to the water's edge.

PLEASE, while boating, avoid creating a wake in areas where loons are likely to be nesting. If wakes are constantly swamping or destroying nests, loons may abandon the nesting site.

Steer clear of known nesting areas. If you see a loon nest, give it plenty of space – keep a distance of 50 metres or more. Loons vocalizing or in a head-down flattened position over the nest are likely feeling threatened and should be given more space.

## FIREWORKS BY-LAW RESTRICTIONS AND SAFETY REMINDERS

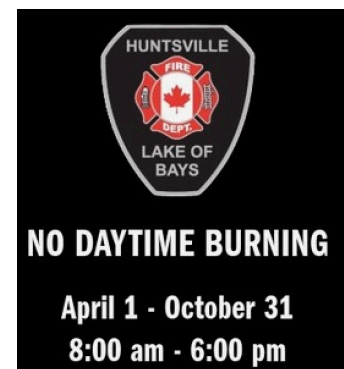
**Regulations:** As per the Township's *Noise Control By-law (2021-029)*, <https://www.lakeofbays.on.ca/media/kuhnqsy/2021-029-noise-by-law-amended.pdf>, fireworks can only be discharged from dusk until 11:00 p.m. during statutory holiday weekends and Canada Day, provided there is no fire ban in place.

Before setting off any fireworks, check the *Fire Danger Rating* as it can change rapidly. For updates on the Fire Danger Rating, visit <https://www.lakeofbays.on.ca/our-community/fireemergency-services/>

**Pets and Wildlife:** While fireworks may delight many, they can be distressing for our furry friends. We encourage pet owners to create a calm and secure environment indoors for their pets during fireworks displays.

Additionally, considerate gestures such as informing neighbours with pets about planned fireworks can help alleviate their concerns.

**Safe Discharge:** Choose an open area clear of flammable materials, keep a water source nearby, and never allow children to ignite fireworks.





Remember to observe a maximum speed limit of 10 km/h (6 mph) within 30 meters (100 ft.) from shore.

Our shorelines will thank you!

## SAFETY FIRST

The OPP want to hear from the community about dangerous boating. Please call if you see unsafe, reckless or illegal boating behaviour such as speeding too close to shore, wildlife or persons.

OPP: 1-888-310-1122

Call 911 if it's an emergency!

## BLUE-GREEN ALGAE?

If you suspect a blue-green algae bloom, contact the Spills Action Centre at 1-800-268-6060

Christy Doyle, Director of Environmental & Watershed Programs, District of Muskoka

(705) 645-2100 x4278

christy.doyle@muskoka.on.ca



## STR (SHORT-TERM RENTALS) ...

An STR licence is required within the Township of Lake of Bays.

For more information, please visit <https://www.lakeofbays.on.ca/invest-and-build/short-term-rentals/>

## ... AND OTHER BYLAWS

Echo Lake is home, and paradise, for many of our members.

We all have a responsibility to respect the needs of everyone regarding noise, privacy, fire, boating, dark sky environment - the list goes on. If you have a concern, there's probably a bylaw for that: <https://www.lakeofbays.on.ca/municipal-services/by-laws-and-administrative-penalties/>

**Reporting:** To report any violations of noise regulations or other by-law related concerns, submit your information through the Township's *By-law Complaint Portal* <https://ca.cloudpermit.com/gov/map/CA-3544027/lake-of-bays>

For further inquiries or information, please contact the Township's *By-law Department* at 705-635-2272 ext. 1246 or 1253.

## BOAT SMART

Get your BOATSmart or Pleasure Craft Operator Card!

The Canadian Power and Sail Squadron Course is a comprehensive training course found at: <https://www.cps-ecp.ca/pcoc-boating-license/>

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE EVENTS, PLEASE CONTACT THEM DIRECTLY

## LAKE OF BAYS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

<https://events.lakeofbays.on.ca/>

### Recurring

#### Pickleball

M/W/F 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Address: 10 University Street, Baysville

### Saturday, June 1, 2024

#### Cairn Camps Family Fun Day

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Address: 3200 Muskoka Rd 117, Baysville

#### Baysville Community Plant Share

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Address: 10 University Avenue, Baysville

### Saturday, July 27, 2024

#### Baysville's 34th Annual Walkabout Festival

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

## ECHO LAKE AGM

### Saturday, August 24, 2024

#### Echo Lake Annual General Meeting

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Address: 2 Dickie Street, Baysville

## LIVING LAKES CANADA

<https://livinglakescanada.ca/event/2024-summer-speaker-series/>

Experts, artists, storytellers, and researchers from across Canada and beyond will share insights on lakes, ecosystems, climate, and their diverse experiences – all in quick 30-minute sessions. Q&A sessions follow each presentation.

### Wednesday, June 26

#### Indigenous Rights and Environmental Justice: Insights from Author and Human Rights Defender Clayton Thomas-Müller

8:30 - 9 pm ET

### Wednesday, July 24

#### Fire and Flow: Exploring Wildfires and Watersheds with Geographer François-Nicolas Robinne

8:30 - 9 pm ET

### Wednesday, August 28

#### Art Meets Science: Climate Action and the Power of Art with Jill Peltó

8:30 - 9 pm ET

### Wednesday, September 25

#### Nerdy about Nature: Making Watershed Science Accessible through Social Media with Ross Reid

8:30 - 9 pm ET

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## FRIENDS OF THE MUSKOKA WATERSHED

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<https://fotmw.org/>

To identify environmental threats, develop practical science-based solutions, and connect with policy-makers to put these solutions in place. We also strive to cultivate an awareness of these threats and solutions through educational outreach within the Muskoka community. We do this to ensure that those who live in, visit, and love the Muskoka watershed can continue enjoying this natural ecosystem forever.

### **Sunday, June 23**

#### **Annual General Meeting & Presentation**

Dr. Neil Hutchinson will share his latest research about toxic road salt and the negative impact it is having on Muskoka watersheds

1:00 – 3 pm ET

Port Carling Community Centre, 3 Bailey St., Port Carling

### **Sunday, July 6**

#### **Lake of Bays AGM**

Algal blooms have returned to threaten some lakes in Muskoka despite the generally effective management of phosphorus inputs. Dr. Norman Yan of Friends of the Muskoka Watershed will explain that these novel occurrences of algal blooms do require new research and may have lake-specific causes.

### **Tuesday, August 6**

#### **Muskoka Chautauqua**

"Trends in Water Quality Management in Ontario - A Personal Perspective From One Who Was There" by Dr. Neil Hutchinson, Director at Friends of the Muskoka Watershed. "Good News Stories" by Dr. Norman Yan, Director at Friends of the Muskoka Watershed

1:00 – 3 pm ET

Port Carling Community Centre, 3 Bailey St., Port Carling

### **Monday, August 12**

#### **Lab Coats and Maple Trees**

An educational (and fun) hike through FOTMW test forests at Camp Big Canoe.

10:00am – noon ET

Port Carling Community Centre, 3 Bailey St., Port Carling

### **Sunday, September 15**

#### **Peer Beneath the Surface**

Join us for a cruise. Use a net to catch and learn all about the tiny "animals" keeping our lakes clean.

10:00am – noon ET

Port Carling Community Centre, 3 Bailey St., Port Carling

**If you have an event you'd like to share with the  
Echo Lake community, please email us!**

# RESOURCES

## TOWNSHIP OF LAKE OF BAYS

<https://www.lakeofbays.on.ca/contacts-directory/>

- Administrative/General
- Building/By-Law Services Department
- Chief Administrative Officer
- Corporate Services
- Council
- Finance
- Fire Department
- Libraries
- Parks and Facilities
- Planning Department
- Public Works Department

## HYDRO ONE

### Outage Map:

<https://d8bkncdvcv6jca.cloudfront.net/>

### Report An Outage:

<https://hydroone.ifactornotifi.com/ui/m/outage-reporting>

1-800-434-1235

## WATERSHEDS CANADA

<https://watersheds.ca/>

Information on planting native vegetation, maintaining a shoreland buffer, invasive species, stewardship projects.

- Fish Habitat Programs
- Freshwater Stewardship Community
- Planning for our Shorelands
- Nature Discovery Programming
- Lake Links

## MUSKOKA CONSERVANCY

<https://www.muskokaconservancy.org/>

- NATURE CONSERVATION
- NATURE PROGRAMS
- NATIVE PLANT SALE

### Little Sprouts

Learn to love nature right here in our own back yard. Open to all ages and is family inclusive.

### Nature Quests

Year-round guided tours - birdwatching, amphibian identification, forest therapy walks, mammal tracking, and so much more!

### Native Plant Program

Planting native species can have beneficial effects for the surrounding areas and allows for a large diversity of species to utilize the area.

### Land Stewards

Volunteers are assigned a property to monitor and report back the results.

### Fishing Line Recycling

Reduce waste by discarding old fishing lines into labeled tubes so that the line can be recycled.

## WILDLIFE

The first 24 to 48 hours after a wild animal is found is the most critical. They usually have been without food or water for a while and are confused and afraid. Connecting with a wildlife professional quickly can save their life.

Use this site to locate a wildlife rescue centre in your area or a centre that specializes in a particular species:

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

## REPORTING AND CITIZEN SCIENCE

### **iNaturalist**

Every observation can contribute to biodiversity science, from the rarest butterfly to the most common backyard weed. Findings are shared with scientific data repositories like the *Global Biodiversity Information Facility* to help scientists find and use your data. All you have to do is observe.

Download the app (both Android and Apple devices), or visit <https://www.inaturalist.org/>

### **Seek by iNaturalist**

Use the power of image recognition technology to identify the plants and animals all around you.

There's an option to submit your identification to iNaturalist directly from the app.

For more information, go go [https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/seek\\_app](https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/seek_app)

Download the app (both Android and Apple devices).

### **e-Tick**

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

Features great information, resources and tools including an interactive map of sightings, and information on how to protect yourself, how to remove a tick and what to do if bitten, and lots more.

Download the app (Android and Apple) to simplify reporting and to access important resources and information.

### **Invasive Species In Ontario**

Hundreds of invasive species have infiltrated our lakes, rivers and forests. This puts our native fish, plants and animals and their habitats at risk.

For more information on ways you can help stop invasive species, visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-ontario>

On the water, in the garden, at the cottage or on a trail, you can help stop the spread of invasive species:

- Anglers action plan
- Boaters action plan
- Cottagers action plan
- Gardeners action plan
- Hikers action plan

Follow these steps to help track, control and stop the spread of invasive species in Ontario:

- Manage invasive plants on your property
- Stop invasive species - don't let it loose
- Garden responsibly
- Stop aquatic invasive species - clean, drain, dry
- Clean your gear and pets - play, clean, go
- Use local firewood - buy local, burn local

*If you come across an invasive species, report it:*  
1-800-563-7711

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/invasive-species-in-ontario>

<https://www.eddmaps.org/>

>> Also available as an app (Android or Apple)

*Report illegal activity:*  
1-877-847-7667

You can also call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 if you wish to remain anonymous.



# Echo Lake Reminders



Observe a maximum speed limit of 10 km/h (6 mph) within 30 meters (100 ft) from shore



Ensure responsible lighting, pollution mitigation, and conservation of the dark sky environment



Respect quiet hours between 11pm and 8am



Keep the lake healthy. Properly dispose of garbage and cigarette butts



Follow safe boating practices



Daytime burning (8am to 6pm) is prohibited from April 1st to October 31st



Fireworks are limited to July 1st and Statutory Holidays from dusk until 11pm. If a fire ban is in place, NO fireworks are permitted



Feeding wildlife does more harm than good



Boat wakes erode shorelines and cause habitat destruction, and promote algal blooms



Do not allow dogs to roam, be off-leash, or bark excessively

[echolakeassociation.ca](http://echolakeassociation.ca)

[elamuskoka@gmail.com](mailto:elamuskoka@gmail.com)

This is available as a FRIDGE MAGNET. Extra magnets are in the courier box at the top of 1096 Lawson Road (while supplies last)

# BOATER'S CODE

Respectful boating guidelines from Safe Quiet Lakes

1. I will never operate my boat beyond the level of my skills.
2. I will be aware of and obey all laws and regulations governing operation of my boat.
3. I will operate my boat with caution and courtesy to others at all times.
4. I will minimize my wake impact on shorelines, docks, structures and people.
5. I will always steer well clear of other boats, swimmers and wildlife.
6. I will set a speed and heading that is safe and comfortable for my passengers and others on the water.
7. I will provide safety instructions and offer appropriate life jackets or PFDs to everyone who travels in my boat.
8. I will carry all equipment necessary to operate my boat safely and within the law.
9. I will not consume drugs and alcohol in my boat or allow my boat to be operated by anyone who is impaired.
10. I understand that boating is a shared experience and I will not create excessive noise or operate my boat in a manner that disrupts the peaceful enjoyment of the lake by others.



Courtesy of Safe Quiet Lakes  
[safequiet.ca](https://safequiet.ca)

**Did we miss anything? Let us know!**