



Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners Association

Kennisis Breeze

2025 Summer

Activities

Come Paddle With Us

July 16th, 5:00pm

**Aug. 16th, 9:00 am
(meet at the dam)**

65th Annual Regatta

Aug. 2nd

Sailing Regatta

Aug. 3rd

Norah's Island Picnic

Aug. 4th

11:00am to 1:00pm

Dark Sky Event

Aug. 16th

Family Fun Day

Aug. 30th

**Kennisis Lake Marina
Tent**

My life long friend
told me recently
that Kennisis Lake
was a "magical
place", He was
never wrong!



Photo by Tyrus Harper

"Somewhere over the rainbow"



This is not the "Land of Oz" but Kennisis Lake can certainly offer striking views from any angle! This optical phenomenon displaying a solid full rainbow, surrounded by a second dimmer arc, with the sun peeking through beyond the second rainbow was well worth catching a picture, even if the purpose of the boat trip was to catch a fish.

To the Mississauga Anishinaabe, a rainbow symbolizes a bridge or connection between the physical and spiritual worlds (or those who have left us). It represents balance, harmony, and a connection to the Creator. It is a blessing and a sign of hope and good things to come, even new beginnings, after challenging times. The sun (fire) and water represent the Harmony in nature, reminding people of the need to respect and live in harmony with nature and with others regardless of their backgrounds. The rainbow's colors, when seen together, represent the unity and harmony of different elements, peoples, or aspects of life.

The Kennisis Lake Community very much reflects the beliefs of the Mississauga Anishinaabe and we hope that these strong values will weave through future generations as we spend time with our families, teaching our children the importance of a good community and a caring person who truly feels the interconnectedness between the individual and what the community has to offer.

June 30th 2025 provided us with an important message to begin our summer!



**2025 Summer Message From Our
Co-Presidents,
Deb Wratschko and Scott Durie**



Summer sure came on with some sizzle! Same with all the activities happening at KLCOA!

A number of our events are already completed with great success. What's Up Kennisis Webinar – Exploring our Lakes!, Ladies of the Lake Lunch, amazing Fireworks, Rock Bass Fishing Derby, fantastic Art onThe Dock have already taken place and the Regatta is coming up quickly.

As this year is the 65th Annual KLCOA Regatta – even if you're not a "regular" or don't have anyone competing, please come out anyway to the Marina on Saturday, August 2nd and cheer on your friends and neighbours from this great community. We also want to remind you about the Norah's Island Picnic on August 4th and the Dark Skies Night on Saturday, August 16th. For more details check the KLCOA Events at www.klcoa.org.

We've shared this message before, but it's certainly a topic that comes up each summer and it's worth repeating. Summer is certainly a busy time at the Lake - traffic on both land and water can be heavy. As you enjoy boating on our Lakes please be respectful of others and be aware of your surroundings and the impact your activity may be having on others on the dock and at the shoreline. Please obey the rules of road and the rules of the water. Check our website for more details on boating safety and etiquette. On land, slow down, walk on the proper side of the road (facing traffic) and share the road respectfully. Walkers, bikers and vehicle operators are all entitled to the roads.

Again this year, we look forward to wrapping up our season with our Year End WrapUp – Family Fun event on the Saturday morning of August 30th. Watch eblasts and our website for details as we get closer.

As always, our door is open for feedback, comments and suggestions at klcoainfo@gmail.com

Have a great summer!

Deb Wratschko, KLCOA Co-President

Scott Durie, KLCOA Co-President

KLCOA ANNUAL ROADSIDE CLEAN -UP



**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO THE KENNISIS COMMUNITY FOR HELPING
KEEP OUR LAKESIDE ROADS LITTER FREE.**



**Thanks to Larry, John,
John, Danelle, Chris,
Kathy, Sharon, Beth,
Grant, Deb, Kerin, Karen,
Andy, Janette, Liz,
Ann, Sam, Scott, Matt,
Craig, Margaret, Thorna,
Dave, Dana, Scott, Lisa,
Al, Liz, Penny, Debbie,
Julie, Doug, Greg, Jan,
Tom, Dean, Sarah,
Arelene, Randy, Anne.**

Please don't litter & call out those who do.

“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”

Coretta Scott King

Exciting New Program

Community Builder Recognition Program Announcement

The KLCOA Board of Directors consists of 16 dedicated volunteers working for YOU. Our vision is to maintain a healthy and sustainable lake environment for generations of enjoyment.

We hold many well attended community events such as our Annual Regatta, Fireworks, Art on the Dock, Rock Bass Fishing Derby, Ladies of the Lake Lunch and the Family Fun Day event at the end of summer to name a few.

In addition to social activities we are also involved or planning to become involved in many Stewardship initiatives that support our vision. Some examples of these are water quality testing, traditional rights of way, fire smart plan & education, invasive species education, the abandoned dock program, Get the Lead Out - Eliminating lead fishing tackle to protect loons and the community road clean up to name a few of the approximately 20 projects.

We can't do this important work without your financial support!

Please consider becoming part of our

[Community Builder Recognition Program](#) by contacting:

Susan Marlow

KLCOA Community Builder Coordinator

smarlow55@gmail.com

647-866-4319.

KLCOA thanks the families and friends who contributed to this new program to help support our various initiatives. Interested families may contact Susan Marlow any time throughout the year.

*Thank
you!*

To our COMMUNITY BUILDERS

GOLD level

The Snucin Family
Anonymous Donor

BRONZE level

Shepherd Environmental,
(Laura Shepherd)
Jon & Helena Sims
Duncan & Judy Kent
Suze & Alan Van Gyen
Susan Marlow & Lou Duggan



FEATURING: The Snucin Family

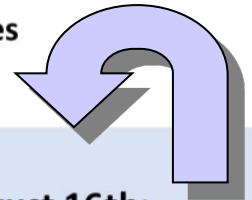
"Our family has been on the lake for 24 years, enjoying the many things it has to offer in terms of boating, swimming, variety of watersports, and the hiking and cycling trails.

In recent years the Marina has become an increasingly active social hub, and we always really looked forward to the annual Regatta. Our family has been active participants every year, and it's been great to see the involvement, and enjoyment of the next generation, watching them develop. Our participation in 150 + canoe race will soon only need two of us."

TROW - KLCOA Paddling Days



- Come and paddle with us for a day:
 - Learn about paddling routes in and around the Kennisis Lakes (including day paddles or longer multi-day trips)



EVENT #1:

**Tuesday July 16th:
5:00pm at Haliburton Forest**



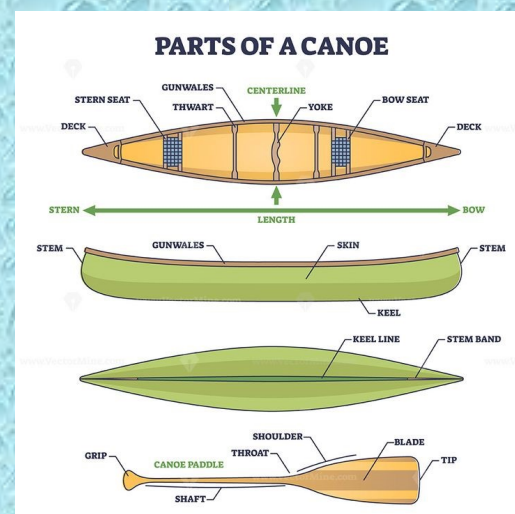
EVENT #2:

**Saturday August 16th:
9:00am at Kennisis Lake Dam**

Transport Canada required safety items while canoeing (or kayaking):

- An approved PFD or lifejacket for each person on board
- A sound making device (we recommend a whistle on your PFD)
- A bailing device (or pump)
- A minimum 15m buoyant heaving line (a commercially available throwbag is best)

See www.KLCOA.org for details and to sign up



<https://ca.pinterest.com>

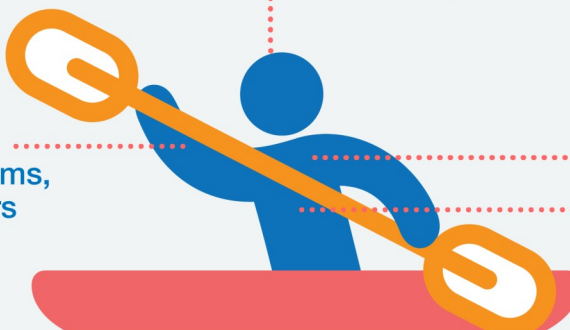
Paddling: good for your mind and your body

UPPER BODY
Strengthens arms,
back, shoulders
and chest

MIND
Lowers your
stress levels

HEART
Improves
cardiovascular
health

CORE
Improves
balance



OntarioParks.com/hphp

TEAM Cottage Country

Shirley Rule

Broker

705-754-5432

shirley@shirleyrule.com

Samantha Miller

Sales Representative

705-854-1229

sam@samanthamiller.ca

Your Local REALTORS®
haliburtoncottagecountry.com


CHESTNUT PARK.
REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE
CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Chestnut Park® Real Estate Limited, Brokerage | chestnutpark.com

Roads Report by Larry Harris

Watts Rd. reconstruction has begun. As of June 24th. Ditching and culvert replacement should be completed around the end of July (approximately).

Road resurfacing will be done by Miller Paving sometime in September.

Please take care when driving in this area. There are road workers and gravel road conditions on a windy and hilly road.



Greater Haliburton Team
REAL ESTATE

MEET THE TEAM



BREANN BUDEL REALTOR®

☎ 705-306-0543

GLORIA CARNOCHAN REALTOR®

☎ 705-754-5414

WHITNEY MUENZEL PHOTOGRAPHER

☎ 705-754-1932

CONTACT

☎ 705-754-1932

✉ kennisisoffice@gmail.com

🌐 www.kennisisredstone.com

📍 4502 Kennisis Lake Road,
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0

CENTURY 21

Granite Realty Group Inc.

BROKER/REALTOR

KNOWLEDGE.
EXPERIENCE.
RESULTS! **21**

GREATER HALIBURTON TEAM -
YOUR KENNISIS LAKE AGENTS!

For over 30 years, we've lived, worked, and built strong connections right here on Kennisis Lake. We know every bay, every shoreline, every neighbor because this isn't just where we work, it's where we call home. With a proven track record of successful lakefront sales and a "clients first" approach, the Greater Haliburton Team is trusted for delivering results!

With integrity, care, and expertise. Waterfront property isn't just a dream, it's one of the best investments you can make, no matter what the market is doing! When you're ready to buy or sell, trust the team that knows Kennisis Lake best and always puts you first!

Greater Haliburton Team

Deep Roots. Strong Connections. Real Results.

“Our willingness to wait reveals the value we place on what we’re waiting for...”

Charles Stanley

WHAT'S UP KENNISIS?

Thank you to those who were able to attend this webinar "Explore Our Lakes", on June 11th Portages, water trails and traditional rights of way around our Kennisis Lakes were discussed. Thank you to our director, Gino Ariano, for leading this webinar. If you wish to watch this webinar, check future eblasts for the posting on our www.klcoa.org.

Your KLCOA stewardship committee reminds members that our YouTube channel offers 4 KLCOA webinars for your viewing based on your feedback from the 2021 survey "KENNISIS ALL OF US".

Bugs in the Muck:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsc4AsgWzfE&t=141s>

Our Water Quality and Blue Green Algae - What You Need to Know

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIAf5TTGo7Q&t=329s>

Healthy Septic Systems

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdIGjLuY74o&t=15s>

Water Quality Monitoring on Kennisis Lake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpoQZTE7E6c>

For additional info, contact jimprince@sympatico.ca



Moving the Highlands TEAM

PROFESSIONAL • DISCREET • PERSONALIZED SERVICE

SERVING HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

TEAM LEADER

Terry Carr

Sales Representative

CELL: 705-935-1011

EMAIL: terry@movingthehighlands.com

Drew Staniforth

Sales Representative

CELL: 705-854-2732

EMAIL: drew@movingthehighlands.com

RE/MAX
Professionals North

BROKERAGE - INDEPENDENTLY OWNED + OPERATED

MovingTheHighlands.com



Our Priorities are Your Priorities...



WOODS TREE SERVICE

Andrew Woods

ISA Certified Arborist

Fully Insured

Your local arborist on
Kennisis Lake.

Call, text or email for a
free quote.

705 457 8677 / wtshaliburton@gmail.com

KLCOA Sailing Regatta

Save the Date

Sunday Aug. 3rd 2025

1:00pm start

Course to be determined

Contact:

jimprince@sympatico.ca



KLCOA Sunday Sailing Series

We are presently looking for a Sunday Series coordinator for the 2025 season

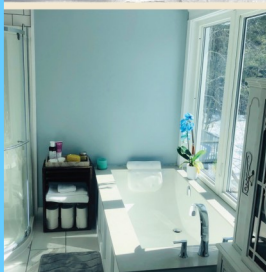
Interested?



Contact Jim Prince
jimprince@sympatico.ca

castle
building centres

*Have A Dream But Need Help
Making It A Reality?*



COTTAGE COUNTRY BUILDING SUPPLIES

cottagecountrybuildingsupplies.com
1-844-308-4212 | (705) 489-2212
15492 Hwy. #35, Carnarvon

EMMERSON LUMBER

www.emmersonlumber.com
1-888-339-3325 | (705) 457-1550
63 Maple Avenue, Haliburton

FOCA explains about Phragmites

Common Reed

(*Phragmites australis subsp. australis*)



This subspecies of common reed, also known simply as Phragmites, is commonly found in ditches along Ontario's highways and roads, as well as bordering wetlands. It occupies habitats similar to cattails, generally thriving in areas with wet soil or shallow water, but not venturing very deep into waterbodies. The non-native subspecies (*australis*) is highly competitive for resources and can create large, dense stands that may displace some native plants and animals. This is particularly true in roadside environments that are already stressed by high concentrations of salt from de-icing measures and runoff containing pollutants. Non-native phragmites is a brackish (salt-tolerant) species with mechanisms to withstand these harsh conditions, whereas most of our native roadside species find such conditions inhospitable, making it easier for the non-native species to establish and spread.

Key ID features:

- grows very tall (can exceed 5 metres) and forms dense patches
- stems are a yellow-green colour
- large, feathery seed head with darkened tip
- new leaf growth is blue-green, turning a golden colour in late fall and over winter

There is also a native subspecies of common reed (*Phragmites australis subsp. americanus*) that resembles the non-native common reed and the two can hybridize, making identification challenging. Native common reed will have stems that are reddish-brown at the base, a seed head that is less feathery and more branched looking, and leaves that are green rather than blue-green, while also being thinner and shorter.

Before attempting any management, ensure that the species you are concerned with is actually the non-native subspecies, as management of the native common reed will require different permitting and can have ecological consequences.

Additional resources:

- the **Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative** has produced an excellent resource to help distinguish between native and non-native varieties
- particularly in northern regions of Ontario, you may be able to apply for DNA screening through the **Invasive Species Centre's Phragmites DNA Screening Program** to confirm the variety
- for detailed management information, consult the **Province's Best Management Practices Guide**

Get links to these and other partner resources on our website:
<https://foca.on.ca/phragmites>



Common reed (left to right): habitat; plant; seed head; and phragmites management

Kennisis Lake Phragmites Stand Removal

During the 2024 Invasive *Phragmites* survey project three stands were removed or partially removed under controlled conditions.

It is recommended that these locations should be monitored in 2025 to observe the effectiveness of removal, to record any new growth and to document any future removal efforts.

What A Beautiful Addition to Your Shoreline:

Haliburton County Master Gardeners shares details about this striking plant , Blue Flag that we see along our shorelines recently.

Blue Flag Iris (*Iris versicolor*)



Iris is a showy perennial, looks like the garden iris with down-curved violet flowers with yellow, heavily veined sepals. The leaves are tall and sword-like.

Habitat and Growing Conditions: Prefers sun or partial shade with wet feet. Commonly found in marshes and shallow water. Grows 90 – 120cm in height and spreads 60 – 120cm. Its deep blue flowers usually appear in July. It is a perennial that spreads by fleshy rhizomes. Deer and rabbit resistant.

Environmental and Health Benefits: Hummingbirds, native bees and butterflies are attracted to the nectar of the flowers and provide pollination services.

Comments: Muskrats will not eat the poisonous root rhizomes, and neither should people.

Over 20 Years As Haliburton's Leading Vacation Rental Experts!

*Rent Your Cottage
the Easy and
Responsible Way!*



- 24-hour emergency call line.
- Handle all guest communications and marketing.
- Leading experts on responsible renting practices.
- Focus on matching guests with the right property (over 65% return guest rate).
- Take control of who you rent to with our detailed screening practices (focus on family groups).
- Emphasis on guest education ensures informed guests and happy neighbours.
- Enhanced owner protection with detailed rental agreements.
- Expert knowledge on local STR by-laws.
- Allow us to simplify the STR license application process.
- Your time is important, let us do the work for you!

ALL-SEASON
COTTAGE
RENTALS INC



Call Today! 705-754-1506
jt@haliburtoncottages.com
www.haliburtoncottages.com

TICO
TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF ONTARIO
License
#50015366

OCRMA
Ontario Cottage Rental Managers Association
Founding Member/
Executive Board Member

PRINT LOCAL ... A WINNING PARTNERSHIP FOR YOU & YOUR COMMUNITY • A PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE KLCOA!

FOUNDED IN 1946



**PARKER PAD
PRINTING**

Where Great Ideas Soar!



- LOGOS & BUSINESS CARDS
- LETTERHEAD & ENVELOPES
- FLYERS & POSTERS
- LARGE FORMAT PRINTING
- BLUEPRINTS IN-HOUSE
- SIGNAGE & BANNERS
- BROCHURES & RACK CARDS
- POSTCARDS & DOOR HANGERS
- PRESENTATION FOLDERS
- INVITATIONS
- WEDDING PACKAGES
- NEWSLETTERS & DIRECTORIES
- COUPONS
- LABELS & DECALS
- ADS & SOCIAL MEDIA DESIGN
- GIFT CERTIFICATES
- TICKETS
- BOOK PRINTING
- INVOICES & FORMS
- CHEQUES
- CALENDARS
- IN-HOUSE DESIGNER
- & SO MUCH MORE!

**PARKER PAD & PRINTING IS A LOCAL PRINTING COMPANY
WITH AN IN-HOUSE GRAPHIC DESIGNER AND EXPERIENCED STAFF
WHO CAN HELP YOU WITH ALL OF YOUR DESIGN & PRINTING NEEDS**

We are your one-stop-shop for everything print – conveniently located in Haliburton – so no shipping fees! We can print from your supplied files or design anything custom for you, and our friendly staff will help make the entire process super simple for you.

Full-Service Finishing Department featuring Numbering, Booklet-Making, Lamination, Wire-Binding, Hole-Drilling, Stapling, Folding and NEW this year: Rounded Corners. Start to Finish, our attention to detail is sure to impress!

Also, with our large parent company in Markham, we have access to a full range of services including a mailing department, digital cutting/package, larger presses with added options (NEW: Gold, Silver, Spot Clear + Fluorescent Pink Inks!) and so much more ...

153 Mallard Road, Haliburton | 705.457.2458 | www.ParkerPad.com  

Call Greg today for a free, no obligation, opinion of value.

"Greg was extraordinarily professional, knowledgeable and we knew he was going to go above and beyond for us. From the initial research to the marketing, Greg put together an excellent strategy and executed it with perfection. We were extremely happy with Greg representing us as sellers and highly recommend him."

Joe Quatraro

"The man is tenacious. Greg's outstanding results are not by chance or by opportunity. Razor focus and a well-executed market strategy generates superior outcomes for buyers and sellers. Don't settle for a good Realtor®, choose Greg for exceptional representation."

Patricia Cousins

"Greg is extremely personable, knowledgeable and responsive. Having worked with several particularly good realtors over the years, we have to say that Greg is the best and we would definitely use him again."

Peter Fredericks and Patricia Russell

"He is knowledgeable, honest, and has the utmost integrity. He truly creates a relationship and trusted partnership between the client and himself. Greg stands out beyond, beyond! I can't say enough about him as a professional, I can say he's a delight to work with and I am honoured to share a 100% endorsement of Greg McInnis as the ultimate real estate professional."

Marilynn Booth

"The value Greg brings is one of true partnership where the stress and time it takes to complete a transaction is minimized through his hard work, efficiency, expertise, and support. You are in good hands with Greg – he makes real estate exciting and worry-free at the same time!"

Susan Good, Dave Mann, Lauren Wale and Chris Wale

"It is my pleasure to recommend Greg for all your real estate needs. I can't say enough good things about him. He is knowledgeable, proactive, trustworthy, always reachable and incredibly good at what he does."

Celia Ciotola



Greg McInnis BComm, REALTOR®, Sales Representative

C: 705.854.2111 | greg@gregmcinnis.com | thatcottage4life.ca

Recipient of the Chairman's Award for the Past 8 Consecutive Years
Chestnut Park Top Award for Sales Performance 2016 - 2023

Chestnut Park® Real Estate Limited, Brokerage | chestnutpark.com
This is not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract with a brokerage.


CHESTNUT PARK
REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE
CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

30 Years Ago

Kennisis History

by Natalie Wood

The Mother of All Storms STORM OF THE CENTURY

THE BIG STORM OF 1995

"FRIDAY EVENING OF JULY 15TH, 1995, IT WAS UNBEARABLY HOT AND AT MIDNIGHT THERE WASN'T A SOUND OTHER THAN THE WAIL OF THE LOONS. THEY KNEW SOMETHING WE DID NOT".

(HALIBURTON ECHO)

A Devastating Storm Hits Kennisis Lake Area

The week leading up to Saturday, July 15th, 1995, was hot and humid. The Friday was a tremendously hot, record-breaking weather day. That week at the lake was a great place to cool off and frequent swims were gloriously welcomed. The Swanson's, a long-time Wilkinson Road family, have always meticulously kept a cottage calendar, where they jot down daily cottage life happenings. The boxes of the Swanson calendar for the days leading up to the big storm, were filled with words of "too hot to cook", "unbelievably hot in town", and "swims before and after dinner". That night, cottagers climbed into their beds after one last nighttime lake dip, fitfully falling asleep in the oppressive and stagnant heat only to be jolted awake by a fierce and forceful storm. Striking the Kennisis Lake area at 2:30 AM, a fierce derecho swept across Central Ontario. Sunrise came early that Saturday morning as



cottagers surveyed the damage. Views to the lake, once blocked by huge trees, now were wide open and clear. Branches, up rooted trees, roof shingles, canoes and everything a cottage has outside were strewn everywhere. Everyone began to check on their cottages, grounds, and neighbours. Environment Canada stated that a *rare set*

A hot humid week

A Still heavy air

An eerie calm

A heavy Wind

A sound like a freight train barreling down the tracks.

Giant trees snapped like twigs.

Sheets of lightening tormenting the sky

3 minutes felt like hours.

A landscape changed.

of meteorological conditions developed across Southern Ontario from July 13th to 15th. A record high heat and humidity had moved in at low altitudes while the upper atmosphere remained cool and dry, creating the perfect conditions known to produce violent thunderstorms. The path of the tornado was up to 700 metres wide and 9.2 km long. Murray Fearry, the Reeve of Dysart, exclaimed "we have had a major disaster up here and it's going to take a while to get things back to normal".

Trees Fell Like Dominos & Lightning Bolts Strike the Skyline

"Total silence before all hell broke loose!" Sandi Moore English

Ontario Hydro had recorded over 6000 lightning strikes in one hour and winds of up to 200km an hour. (Haliburton Echo, July, 1995). Any cottager who was at the lake remembers that night like it was yesterday. It is hard to believe it has been 30 years since that storm. Cottager, Victor Whiteley, commented to the Haliburton Echo, when they came to survey the storm, *"I was wondering if I'd had a dream or if it was a nightmare"*. The all-encompassing sound is what the lake community remembers, a noise like nothing experienced before, a whooshing noise like a barrelling freight train, combined with the sound of a tremendous amount of water rushing. Several cottagers remarked that at first it was quite the light show and gathered at the cottage windows to watch and then, quickly realized they needed to seek shelter immediately.



Joanne George & the family car

Other storms have hit the lake before 1995 and plenty have come through since, but the impact of this one storm and the destruction it caused, changed the Kennisis landscape in an instant. Now fondly remembered as a badge of honour, it was no small feat to deal with the aftermath. The tornado uprooted full growth pine and hemlock trees and smashed them down onto cottages and cars and tossed some into the lake like they were wee saplings. Boats were sent flying into trees or flipped upside-down. The municipality of Dysart declared a state of emergency in the aftermath of the storm in the Redstone and Kennisis Lake areas. The storm left residents without water, electricity, cars smashed under trees and some cottages were left unliveable. The storm caused 10,000-20,000 square kilometres of damage. (Cottage Life) It was estimated that the newly named "Mother of all Storms" caused over \$5 million dollars in property damage at the lake. (Toronto Star)



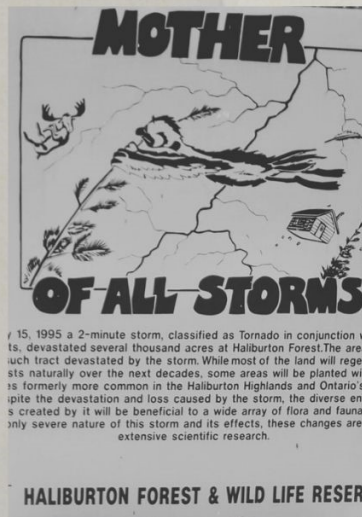
"We had 3 tents filled with kids that night. The tree damage was huge but thankfully no one was hurt." Beth DeMarsh



The KLCOA president was Bill Elliot and he remarked that an insurance adjuster estimated that Kennisis Lake cottages had \$5 million worth of damage. (Toronto Star)

Most damage was because of fallen and uprooted trees. The wind speeds which reached up to 200km an hour snapped trees like toothpicks. Two of the larger islands in Kennisis lost 78% of tree growth. (Highways and Hailstorms). The Haliburton Forest lost approximately 2000 acres of forest in minutes. The Echo reported that *"the landscape was scarred and no dollar value can be placed on the environmental toll. In a short span of 15 minutes centuries of nature's history in the Highlands was erased."*

Environment Canada meteorologist, Michael Leduc, commented days after the storm *"that most of the damage was caused by straight line winds that were part of the huge thunderstorm complex, not by spiraling winds of a tornado, it's a rare event to get strong winds over such a large area."* (Cottage Life) The Haliburton Echo's August 1st newspaper created a special pull-out edition on the storm. Many cottagers still have pristine copies of this paper.



The lake community who witnessed the storm firsthand still talk about it like it happened yesterday. Any violent storm that threatens your most beloved place and loved ones can be terrifying. Luckily the damage from this storm was only to the landscape and property. In 1995, cell phones were an anomaly and social media was unheard of so cottagers began to walk the roads and check on their neighbours. That was no easy feat, as so many trees were down as well as hydro wires. Little Kennisis cottager, Sandi Moore English recalls *"We were lucky as the tornado sort of went over us as our place is in a knoll. It was devastating to see the damage. I was so disoriented as everything had changed. My mother-in-law climbed over down trees from her home on the big lake to ours"*. For brand new Kennisis cottage owners, Griff and Linda Speers, that eventful Friday night was their first at the lake. Griff Speers remembers that

"It was deafening. The lightning was constant. And then the wires came down and there were sparks everywhere."

"the neighbors walked by on the road all that day and welcomed us to Kennisis. My response was this must be the worst it can get! From here things can only get better! 25 years later we realized that we could not have made a better choice in Kennisis. It has been a wonderful gathering place for family and friends all these years. We are now on our 6th cottage guest book proving we made the right decision."



Days after the storm, Brian Donaldson, senior advisor with Ontario's Ministry of Municipal Affairs, surveyed the area. He commented in the Toronto Star, saying "that it's like a giant lawnmower came along and cleared everything. It really takes you back to see the amount of tree loss."

Long-time Kennisis Road cottager, Janet Whiteley, thought that night was the end of their beloved cottage, and she feared the worse as the storm began its rage. When you hear Janet's storm story firsthand, you can immediately understand the impact that night had on her and her family. The Whiteley cottage was featured in many news reports as it suffered incredible damage. Janet said that they had a massive pine that was growing through a hole in the porch. As it came down with the wind, it landed on a corner of the roof yanking the cottage from its foundations and moved it several feet towards the lake. As that pine toppled, two other mature pines began to lift both sides of the building, basically folding the cute little cabin like a greeting card. (Cottage Life Magazine) Janet remembers her husband, Victor, yelling "we're going, we're going! The cottage is going!" Thankfully, the couple was unhurt, their car however, was not so lucky. Their cottage had just been renovated and a new bathroom and workshop were finally finished and declared it perfect by Janet just before the storm hit. The Whiteley's cottage was straightened, levelled, and put back together thanks to the great help and hard work of many hands and when standing in it now, you would never know it had such an eventful and traumatic early morning.

Mary Green remembers that night well and said "it was a warm evening. The noise woke us all up and the sky was almost constantly lit up, howling winds, constant thunder and the trees were whirling around everywhere. The next morning, helicopters were overhead assessing the damage. Everyone with a chainsaw was out carving a small tunnel through the down trees on the road, which was impassible after the storm. No power or phone for a month, hydro polls were broken in two or three pieces. Some of the islands had half their trees mowed down, houses were cantilevered cars and boats crushed all in less than 15 minutes. Our place was fine, we were lucky."

Trees crash down beside children in tents! All Safe!

The remarkable outcome of this violent storm was that no one was hurt at Kennisis. The DeMarsh family had tents filled with children on their Little Kennisis property that Friday night as so many tall trees came down, narrowly missing every tent. It took a while for the outside world to realize the extent of damage Kennisis and Redstone received as phone lines were down, trees smashed vehicles and hydro lines, poles and downed trees made road travel impassable. Municipal work crews came out in full force that Saturday afternoon as did any cottager who owned a chainsaw, and all roads were opened by late Sunday the 16th. It took longer for hydro to get restored as more than 100 poles were down around the lake area. It took more than 10 days for many residents to get their electric power back. Hydro spokesperson, Alan Manchec, called Kennisis a war zone and a 24-hour police presence was necessary to keep sightseers, gawkers, and potential looters away from the lake area.

Adding it all up:

*Kennisis Lake
tornado damage
likely \$5-million*

by STEPHEN SHAW
Staff Reporter

The tornado that cut a swath through the Highlands last weekend left behind about \$5-million damage to the Kennisis Lake alone.

As insurance adjusters tabulated claims reports, damage estimates began pouring into the

July 15

BREAKING NEWS

Severe Storm

**“COTTAGERS IN FOR A SHOCK”
 “VIOLENT STORM LASHES COUNTY”, “STATE OF
 EMERGENCY”, “WILL IT EVER BE THE SAME AGAIN”
 “STORM OF THE CENTURY”**

Cottage Life Magazine's October 1995 issue's front cover, complete with a five-page spread, was on the storm. Never did the term weekend warrior seem more appropriate than it did that Saturday morning, the way the Kennisis community responded to this disaster with everyone helping each other, checking in on each other and working together to rebuild their beloved lake surroundings. Eating all the melting ice cream was a bonus. Power outages along the severely damaged swath over central Ontario would last for several days for many, and up to 12 for some. A report from the Insurance Bureau of Canada indicated that July 14th - 15th, 1995 tornado resulted in a \$53 million of damage claims in Ontario. This was the costliest severe thunderstorm event to occur in eastern North America during the 20th century. The derecho raced across 1280 km path in Eastern North America in 12 hours with an average speed of 107 kph and resulted in 14 deaths and 100 injuries, Kennisis was spared and there were no grave injuries.

*“I remember it like it was
 yesterday it felt like a train
 coming through the cottage
 stuff was flying everywhere and
 yet some things never moved”.*
 Diane Elizabeth Timbers

*“I arrived at the cottage just after the storm, with
 three teenagers from Manitoba and no power! We
 spent a special week eating all the meat from my
 parent's deep freeze, reading by candlelight,
 swimming, and enjoying the natural beauty of
 Kennisis lake”.* Shelly Brown Price

13 HOT + HUMID! Lunch at Marina after Swimming lessons. J. naps S.M. + swim. J. skis, kids + S try. M. up + down C. almost up! Too hot to cook to M. Kecks for dinner Dinner back on	14 VERY HOT + HUMID! J. home at noon 9:00 M. gets maroon badge + C. gets yellow To Schells for lunch Swim. To hal for tube Cools, library + grocery branch Unbearably hot in town. All swim before dinner Kids swim after dinner Bugs awful. To marina + Haliburton	15 BIG STORM Our place O.K. but trees down everywhere Car dented by falling branch Power out for at least 5 days Home with food + laundry until power is back on
--	--	--

The Swanson Family Calendar

“The South Shore in front of our cottage was cleared of huge trees. The storm flattened my dad's car but thankfully left our cottage intact. My dad watched the storm coming in slow motion and witnessed a wall of water coming towards him. He said it was surreal. He went outside and met with the neighbours, all in their pajamas, trying to fathom what had just happened. We tried to be brave and optimistic but, of course, we would much rather still have those ancient trees”.

Marie Ysselstein

"We lost power for 14 days and borrowed a generator which we shared with three cottages I helped clear the roads with 13 other people and it took us five hours to get through from Windermere to the first bridge." Keith Rodd

"We were still awake as the storm approached and we heard what sounded like a freight train coming through. Bursts of white light so bright that lit up the whole lake. We were holding buckets to collect the rain coming into the cottage. The next morning we saw the devastation and went over to the Marina to use the bell telephone booth to call family. We barbecued all our freezer food and brought some cold beverages to the hydro workers" Cyndi Vermeersch Burley

"We had 300-year-old hemlocks just scattered on our property. Our boat was tossed two properties over and flipped upside down. We could not get out by road or water for a couple of days." Jo-Anne Osterbauer

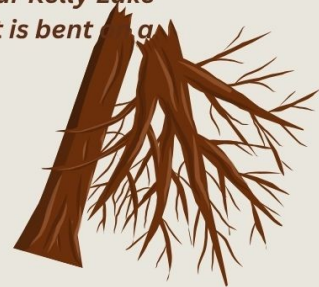
"My parents were at the cottage at the time. Mom recalls it being a very, very warm evening. They had left the fan on but woke up to no power, hence no fan. Then the sound of a freight train came. Mom said she could hear "snap snap snap" as the trees were breaking. In all, we lost about 22 hemlocks, but our beautiful golden birch survived. The only real damage was to the back of dad's station wagon from a swing board that hit it". Beth Richardson

"We were up at the cottage that evening. It had been very hot and humid. We left the screen doors open. During the storm our newspapers were flying all over the room and stuff was hitting in the windows. A large hemlock came down and missed the cottage by inches, but it took out the side deck and bent the hydro mast. The storm did not last long but was devastating to the East Shore. We went for a boat ride in the morning and were shocked to see that 90% of the trees on the islands near Kelly Lake were down like matchsticks. We still have a hemlock on our property that is bent at a 45° angle, which reminds me of the great storm." Rick Good

"We saw the weird green coloured clouds rolling over us like barrels. The negative pressure drop was so severe we could not open the bedroom to get to our son ...& it was over! So scary!"

Jeanette Kling

"We received a phone call from our neighbour informing us of the tornado and the damage that had occurred to our place. We immediately drove back up to view the disaster. It was indeed heartbreaking to see all the trees that had come down. One tree had broken through our living room window, and another came down on the side of the cottage where our bedroom is". Patricia Tomev



"We arrived July 12th around 9:30 pm and it was extremely warm and had all the windows open. Both of us worked on the house as per usual and we also went out in the boat for some rest and relaxation. It was really hot and humid! On the 13th we had our septic pumped out. As you can see life was normal, except for the heat and humidity. On the 14th we continued to work on the cottage in the heat of humidity. That evening we sat on the deck until 9:45pm and it was unbelievably hot and humid, no breeze. Usually, we listened to a program at 10:30 pm on the Huntsville radio station and for some reason we couldn't get it, so we moved the radio around the place to see if the reception could improve, but it didn't. Finally, off to bed around 11pm and I woke up somewhere between 2-2:30am and there was lightening. It was like strobe lighting. The thunder could be heard in a distance and the wind started to pick up. Looking out our front bedroom window I could see the movement of the trees and didn't like what I saw. I woke my husband up and told him something wasn't right with the weather. He told me it was just another storm. Fearing the power would go out I made my trip to the watercloset and went into the living room and looked out of the windows-- a scary scene. My husband continued sleeping while I stood and watched the water churn, trees bending almost to the ground and suddenly heard the sound of a train, and watched as the tornado came into our little bay and passed through to the southeast of us. After about 20 minutes, it suddenly was quiet, so off to bed I went and fell into a deep sleep, only to be awakened around 5 pm by chain saws. I grumbled about who was out at that hour cutting down trees, so got up to look and couldn't believe my eyes. Our dock was turned completely sideways, and we had lost two big trees on the west side of the property. A big tree had come down beside our neighbour's house two doors down and they couldn't get out of the house. Needless to say, our power was out, and we didn't have any phone service. Looking around the place we felt very fortunate we didn't have more damage. Around noon we decided to head to Haliburton to have something to eat. What a trip, driving around fallen trees and hydro lines. Haliburton was full of people looking for food, gas, phone use, and washroom facilities. As we drove through West Guilford both of us were shocked to see all the beautiful pines that had stately sat along the road since I was a child were gone. They were laying on the ground. On the surface it appeared that all was going to go back to normal after this storm, but it took a long time for things to return to what is a new normal. All day Saturday we heard planes and helicopters flying overhead assessing the damage. As children my husband and I lived through hurricane Hazel, and this has left a bigger impression on us. On July 21st my husband called Hydro and learned that our section of the lake had power, but there were many, many places still without power. We were stopped in front of the dump by the police. We had to prove we had a cottage and then were given both verbal and written instructions regarding the rules that had been put in place because of the tornado. We also took a trip to the east end of Kennisis and couldn't believe the denuded islands. Trees were no longer standing but were all laying on the ground" Nancy Veinot

"Our little island and house were OK, but the storm spun twisted and snapped a line of trees along the spine of the neighboring island." Kate McGowan Schultz

"I remember my grandpa not letting my 9-year-old self come out of the back bedroom as they were all sure all the front windows were going to go to blow in. The whole cottage was groaning and shaking." Jason Jones

"Wow I can remember it so well I learned how to cook a lot of new foods on the BBQ. We also had communal dinners with all neighbours so no food went bad." Gail Goldenberg

Everyone who experienced the storm of '95 in the Highlands has a story to tell

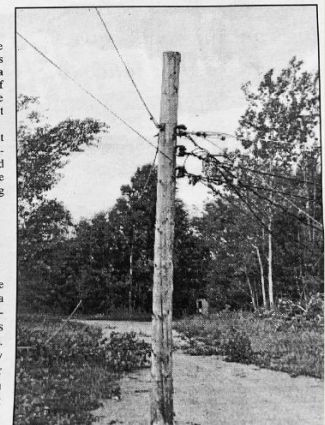
by TOM HODGSON
Haliburton Lake

Everyone who was in the path of the now famous storm of July 1995 has a story to tell. Most of Haliburton Lake escaped the devastation of the tornado that hit Kennisis and Redstone.

On Friday evening July 15 it was unbearably hot and at midnight there wasn't a sound other than the wail of the loons. They knew something we didn't.

Summer storms can be memorable and capricious. Who can forget this one?

What we didn't fully realize was that beginning July 13 a rare set of meteorological conditions had developed across south and Central Ontario. record heat moved in below cool dry air in the upper atmosphere - a combination destined to produce violent understorms.



"The 15th of July 1995 was my mother's 46th birthday and we were all up at the cottage to celebrate. Fortunately, the only damage we had on our property was to our trees. Our neighbours on either side of us were not so lucky. I remember it was so hot and sticky that night. I distinctly remember not being able to sleep and cursing when we lost power because that meant the fan in my room was now useless. Within 5 minutes all hell broke loose, all of us were hugging the farthest wall from the windows in the basement counting the lightning strikes and hoping it would be over soon. It was a wild night; one I will never forget. It took 45 minutes and two chainsaws to cut a path to the lake so we could haul up water". Valerie Lancia

"I remember the night of the storm well, my wife Andrea, together with our children Meghan and Damien, all woke up in the middle of the night to the wind and thunder. We watched a giant ball of lightning move down the lake from the west." Greg McMaster

A BAD DREAM: When Victor Whiteley was awakened by the wind on Friday night, he found his Kennisis Lake cottage in a V shape. The force of the blow, combined with the upheaval of the storm, had blown the cottage into a V shape. Kennisis and Redstone Lakes were the hardest hit in the area.

Trees fall like dominos, knock out power

by **STEPHEN SHAW**
Staff Reporter

Dysart et al has declared a state of emergency in the Kennisis and Redstone Lake cottage areas in the wake of Saturday morning's violent electrical and wind storm which left a trail of destruction in the Haliburton Highlands from Kinmount to Dorset.

were damaged knocking out 16,500 hydro consumers.

Tornados and funnel clouds were reported in the towns of Orillia and Lindsay. Powerful winds, reported at 100 km/h, caused substantial damage to areas throughout the county, particularly in the Haliburton and Redstone Lake areas, the most severely hit by the storm.

THE ECHO

TORNADO

Centuries of growth lost in minutes

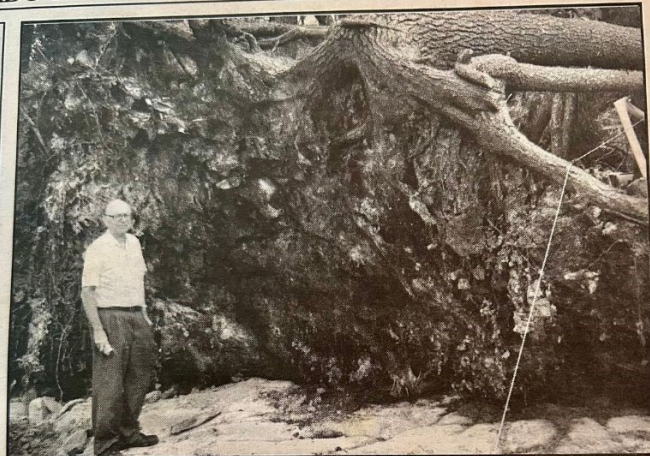
by **STEPHEN SHAW**
Staff Reporter

The tornado that ripped through the Haliburton Highlands last weekend scarred the landscape of one of the county's most pristine areas for decades, perhaps centuries.

Literally, tens of thousands of mature maple, basswood, hemlock, birch and pine trees, some 300-years-old, were uprooted and left in a tangled maze of twisted and broken limbs in the wake of the Saturday's storm.

WILKINSON DR. AFTERMATH

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1995 PAGE 3



UNEARTHED: Wilkinson Dr. cottager Fred Peirol stands beneath a 10-foot high mass of shoreline lifted when last Saturday's tornado uprooted a row of trees along his waterfront. The cost to rebuild the north side of his home which was destroyed by fallen trees is estimated at \$20,000.

Hit by storm's fury

By **JACK MARCHEN**
Examiner Staff Writer

HALIBURTON — While Jo-Anne Osterbauer and her two teenage daughters huddled under a mattress in the living room of their Kennisis Lake cottage, two huge hemlock trees crashed against the roof.

Another hemlock crashed on on her husband George's truck. The tree's roots hooked under her car and, like a huge bumper jack, hoisted it six feet up.

George Osterbauer and a guest stood in the living room watching lightning flashes as tree branches violently swirled in the wind.

A big thank you to the lake community who shared their stories

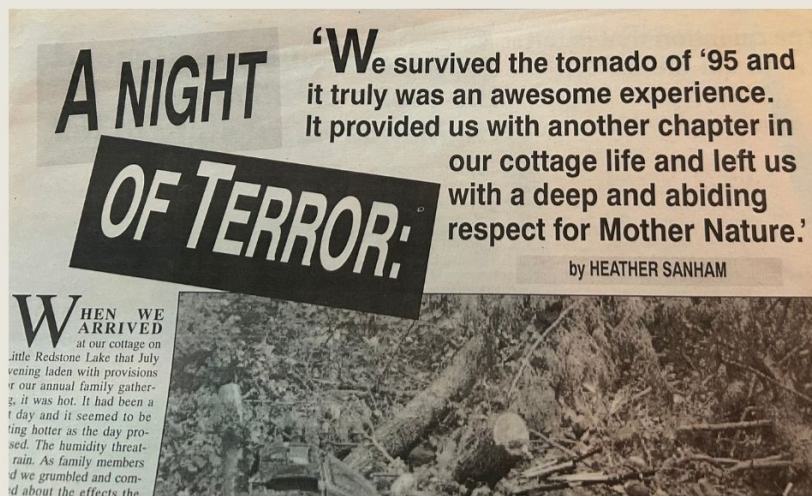
Report from the Ariel Survey

“One staff member of the regional weather centre in Toronto was sent to carry out an aerial investigation of the wind damage caused by severe thunderstorms that went across central Ontario in the early morning of Saturday the 15th of July ‘95. There were several damaged producing thunderstorm tracks across this area during the outbreak”.

- Long track of total damage
- couple of islands stripped
- half mile wide damage swath stripped flat
- 100 poles knocked off
- power out one week
- some trees in different directions

References

- Downs, Peter. Storm of the Century. The Haliburton Echo. July 18, 1995.
- Driscoll, John. Cottage Area Slow to Recover. The Examiner. July 20, 1995.
- highwaysandhailstones.com/tornado/kennisis-lake-on-f1-tornado-of-july-15-1995/
- Hodgson, Tom. Everyone Who Experience the Storm of '95 has a Story to Tell. The Echo's Country Life. July 9, 1996.
- Kuhn, Rob. Ariel Damage Survey. Meteorological Service of Canada. 1995.
- <https://lakeofbayslane.wordpress.com/category/the-storm-of-a-century-july-15th-1995/>
- Marchen, Jack. Hit by Storm's Fury. The Examiner. July 20, 1995.
- Milne, Andrew. Violent Storm Lashes County. The Minden Times. Monday, July 17th.
- Pratt, Laura. The Storm. Cottage Life. October 1995.
- Sanham, Heather. A Night of Terror. The Echo's Country Life. July 9, 1996.
- Shaw, Stephen. Trees Fall Like Dominos, Knocking Out Hydro. The Haliburton Echo. July 18, 1995.
- Van Rijn, Nicolas. Cottagers in For a Shock. Toronto Star, Friday July 21, 1995. A10.
- The Haliburton Echo SPecial Edition. August 1, 1995.





AVAILABLE AT: KENNISIS MARINA, HALIBURTON LAKE, HALIBURTON FOREST, MINDEN & HALIBURTON

HARMON'S CRAFT BREWING

ENJOY HARMON'S NON-ALCOHOLIC CRAFT BEER ON THE WATER THIS SUMMER!

WE'LL DELIVER TO YOUR COTTAGE!

ORDER ONLINE!

CRAFT BEER FLAVOUR, WITHOUT THE BUZZ!

HARMONSBEER.COM

@harmonscraftbeer

Norah's Island Picnic

Please join us on August 4th for a picnic from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Bring your own lunch to this very simple event to celebrate the partnership between Haliburton Highlands Land Trust and KLCOA..




Abbey GARDENS food hub

Into The Blue Wood-Fired Pizza

"To Plant a Garden is to Dream of Tomorrow."

~ Audrey Hepburn

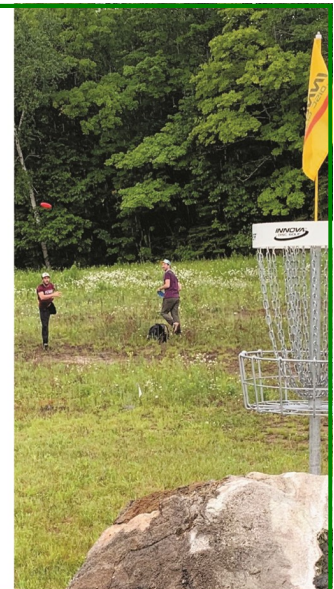
f i

We invite you to explore

ABBEY GARDENS Disc Golf Trail

Discover 18-Holes of professionally designed disc golf beauty, complete with **forested** shots, **wide open meadows** for the cannon armed, and a collection of shorter, ace-run holes for the glory.

Ridiculously reasonable Day Rate and Kids 12 & under play for FREE with a paying adult.



KENNISIS LAKE ASSOCIATION DEAL:

Present your paid Day Pass + Share Code **KLCOA25** =

At our Food Hub & get **25% off** one of our **Handmade Sandwiches**

Or at our on-site Pizza Truck & get any **Handmade Woodfired Pizza** for just **\$12.00**



Life's short, soak it all in!

LIVING HEALTHY, LIVING HAPPY

The Pump Shop is your destination for hot tubs and spas specifically suited for your cottage or home in Haliburton. The Pump Shop also provides a wide selection of Hot Tub accessories, parts and servicing for many Hot Tub makes and models.

WE ARE ALSO YOUR
FULL SERVICE
WATER SPECIALISTS



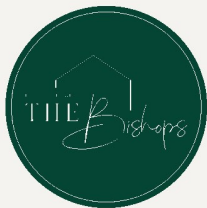
THE PUMP SHOP

5161 County Road 21, Haliburton
P. 705.457.2638
www.thepumpshop.ca

Exceptional Reach Extraordinary Results

Proudly serving and supporting Kennisis Lake
and surrounding area.

Call us for all your Real Estate needs.  WE ARE PROUDLY CANADIAN OWNED AND OPERATED.



Drew** & Kristin* Bishop

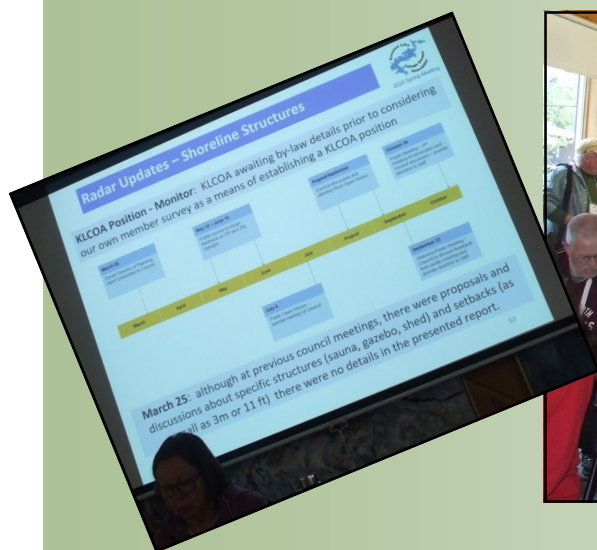
Drew D: 705.457.7150 | Kristin D: 705.457.7108

O: 705.754.0880 | www.DrewBishop.ca

Chestnut Park® Real Estate Limited, Brokerage
4490 Kennisis Lake Rd, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0

**Broker *REALTOR®

KLCOA Spring Special Meeting May 17th 2025



KLCOA held it's 2025 Special Meeting for Members at the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve on May 17 2025. Thank you to Haliburton Forest for providing the space for our meeting and all of the members who attended.

The face to face meeting provided much needed time to connect and chat with neighbours and offered opportunities for members to ask questions to our co-chairs, Deb Wratschko and Scott Durie or our guest speakers. Upcoming events, water quality, invasive species management, septic health, a financial overview, sponsorship programs, safe boating practices, KLCOA lands management, fisheries update, our group buy program, a Kennisis Lake roads update, the Kennisis Lake history book update and photography requests as well as "what's on our radar" (see p.22) were topics covered in the meeting. Thank you to the guest speakers offering important information. It was a valuable, informative meeting! ...

(continued....)



Guest Speakers

Mayor
Murray Fearrey

Councillor
Carm Sawyer

**Haliburton Forest and
Wildlife Reserve**
Malcolm Cockwell and
Tegan

Stewardship Director
Jim Prince



Kennisis Lake Marina
Jim Dale
Gary Bouwmeister
Lisa Dale

**Haliburton Highlands
Hospital Services**
Melanie Klodt Wong



Thank you to our speakers who took time to prepare information to share with us. We learned a great deal about the work being done at our lakes and the various opportunities that we can explore from our partners around the lakes. KLCOA was congratulated by Melanie Wong from the Haliburton Highlands Hospital Services for the outstanding financial support from our generous community (see p.28 for more details)





ACM Designs Inc

Haliburton's Top Design & Decorating Firm

OUR AWARD WINNING RESIDENTIAL, COTTAGE,
AND COMMERCIAL DESIGNS ARE INSPIRED BY
OUR STUNNING SURROUNDINGS, BUILT TO
EMBRACE THE INCREDIBLE WINTERS AND
SUMMERS ON THE WATER

From Concept to Completion,
We Take Care of Every Single Detail



1067 GARDEN GATE DR. HALIBURTON

| WWW.ACM-DESIGNS.COM

| 705.457.5253



Boshkung Tree Service

- Dangerous Tree Removal
- Pruning • Stump Grinding

FULLY INSURED • FREE ESTIMATES

(705) 489-2580

John Fedeski, Arborist

Through thick & thin, storms & wind, servicing Kennisis Lake Area since 1985

Dear KLCOA Members,

Thank you for supporting rural healthcare. The Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners Association transformational donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation allow investment in crucial resources to support the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors throughout the County.

Because of donors like you, the past 12 months have been truly extraordinary! We successfully completed the Here for You in the Highlands campaign to make diagnostic imaging available locally, including CT, mammography, new ultrasound, Picture Archiving Communications System and an urgently needed X-Ray suite. With CT already operational, the balance of the equipment will be up and running sometime this year – the first mammogram was performed in late February. These important diagnostic tools help recruit health care workers and improve health care outcomes for you, your family, and your community.

Over the past 25 years, the KLCOA has donated \$8,904 to the HHHS Foundation and we recognize your generosity by including your association on the Donor of Distinction wall located at HHHS Haliburton and the Minden Health Hub at the Builder Level. As well, it is important to note that the Kennisis Lake community was **the most impactful community** to the diagnostic imaging campaign. **As we comb through the data, we estimate that over 130 property owners contributed a total of over \$950,000.** That's astounding!

Your generous investment in rural healthcare showcases your collective commitment to your community and reinforces the important role that champions play in advocating for local resources. Thank you for your sustained support over the past quarter century.

Sincerely,

Melanie

Melanie Klodt Wong

Executive Director, Foundation

**Haliburton Highlands Health Services
Foundation**

7199 Gelert Road, P.O. Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M1S0

mklodtwong@hhhs.ca | hhhs.ca/foundation

(o) 705-457-1580 x 2240 | (c) 647-401-3543

[Support Local Healthcare – Donate today](#)



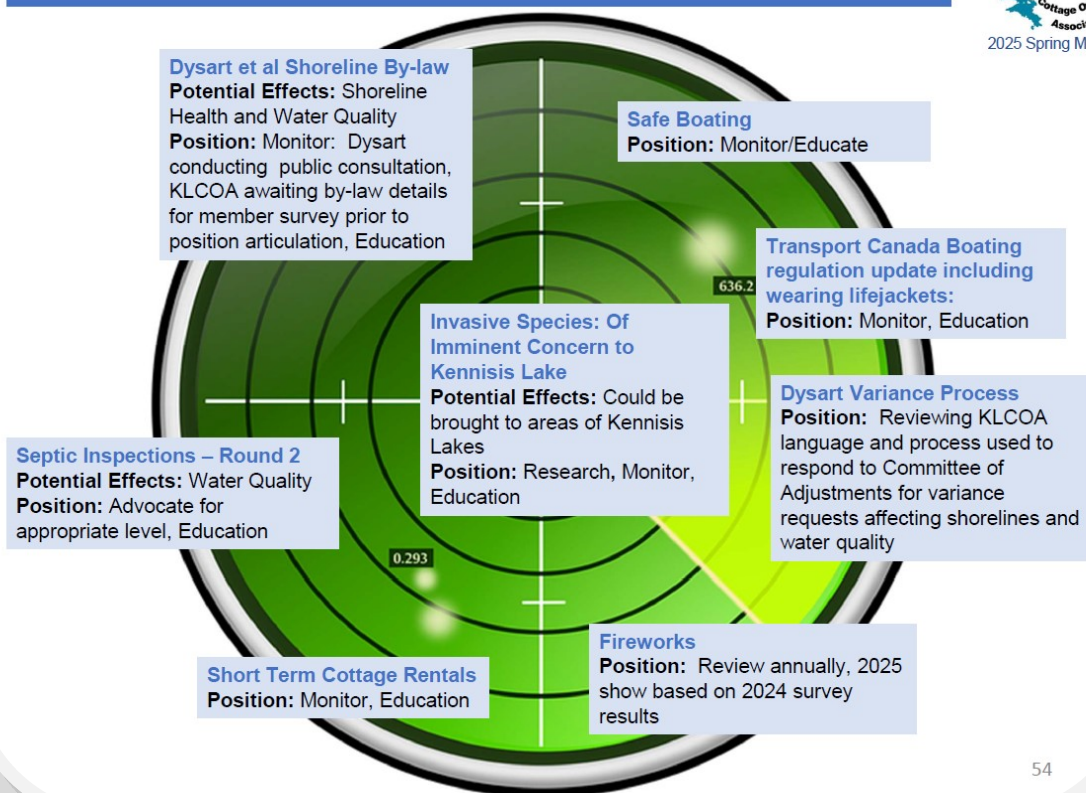
.....A Snapshot of the Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners Association Purpose

The Association's by-laws formally define the purpose of the KLCOA as:

To promote a strong sustainable community of property owners on the Kennisis Lakes through leadership, education and communication for the benefit of our Members and to protect the natural environment for future generations by:

- Promoting, educating and communicating the general interests of our Members both internally and externally;
- Encouraging the social engagement of our Members by organizing a variety of lake-community focused events;
- Fostering, promoting and teaching environmental stewardship among all cottage owners;
- Promoting physical and recreational activities among our Members;
- Advancing programs, policies and plans that benefit our Members and community;
- Monitoring development activities in the area to ensure consistency with the purposes of the Association;
- Engaging with government and others on issues impacting the community; and
- Undertaking other complementary activities not inconsistent with the above purposes.

What's on our Radar!



[Water Quality Testing for Haliburton County Lakes](#) is conducted by students and faculty from colleges and universities, partnering with Haliburton County organizations. From 2022 to 2025, this project has grown to include 25 Haliburton Lake Associations.

Thank you to Jim Prince, cochair for U-Links and Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch (WWEW) and Andrew M. Gordon, R.P.F. Director U-Links for leading this project involving our Kennisis Lakes and sharing results.

Testing the Waters Program

2022 - 2023 – Started with 10 Lake Associations

2024 - 2025 - 25 Lake Associations across 39 Lakes and 61 sites

Supported by
Haliburton County,
Lake Associations and
other Partners –
Thanks!



7

Testing the Waters Program – From Data to Lake Health Messaging

Using this Information for Maintaining and Improving Lake Health.

WQ Data puts tools in the hands of Lake Associations to encourage their community to protect the watersheds in Haliburton.

Messaging Example:

- Most WQ results show excellent to good results when compared to Stocking Lake in HF - the Reference Lake.
- Total Phosphorus trending steady! 👍
- Water Clarity in our lakes is declining over time 📉

What can waterfront property owners do to sustain our good Water Quality :

- Managing septic systems properly
- Keep our shorelines natural

Haliburton County Water Quality Monitoring
Pilot Program Summary
A Review of Study Design and Sampling Protocols



Frank Figuli and Sadie Fisher
Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch Program, 2023

July 2023



WOODLANDS
& WATERWAYS
EcoWatch

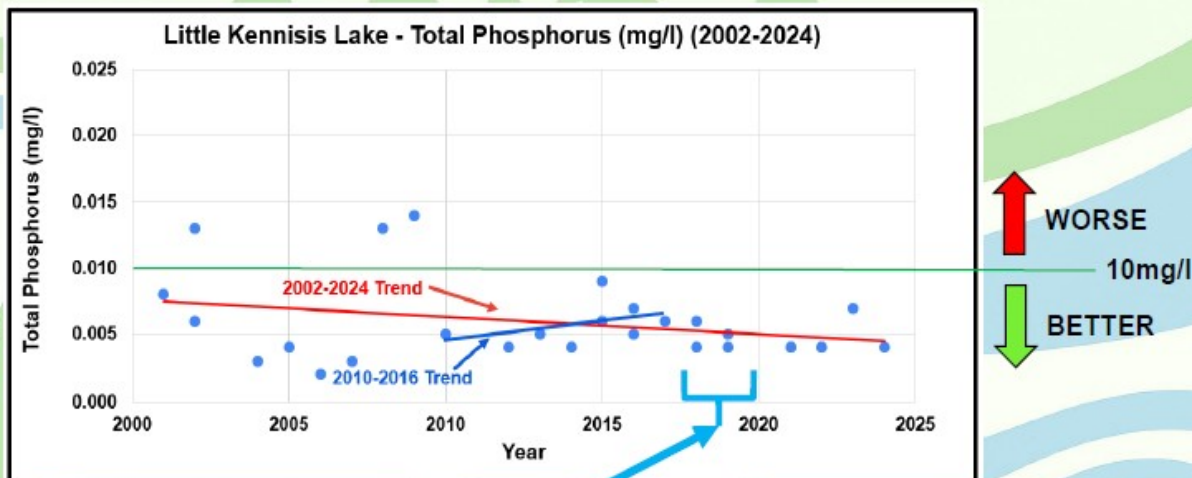


U-LINKS
CREATING THE COMMUNITY-BASED RESPONSE

12

Testing the Waters Program – Data to Information

1992 - 2024 Total Phosphorus Results – Little Kennisis Lake



The Municipality of
DYSART ET AL

SEPTIC INSPECTION PROGRAM

14

4

The Highlander | June 19 2025 | Issue 694

Highlander news

Thank you to The Highlander for highlighting this program to help inform the community of the efforts of 150 volunteers including our Julie Bramm and Tracy Stewart.

Testing the waters program expanding

By Lisa Gervais

County councillors, at their May 28 meeting, got an update on how the 'Testing the Waters' program is going in the Highlands.

Andrew Gordon, director of U-Links, and Jim Prince, co-chair of U-Links and chair of Woodlands & Waterways EcoWatch made a presentation to the meeting.

U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research has been working on various projects in the County since 1999; bringing together Highlands' organizations with students and faculty from mainly Trent University and Fleming College – much of it environmental.

The two said water quality is one of the primary contributors to our enjoyment of fishing, boating and swimming, property values, and the economy, especially tourism. They noted Watersheds Canada picked Haliburton for its national conference in early May.

The biggest threats, they said, are general lake health, including drinking water and fish populations, septic systems, shoreline vegetation removal, invasive species, microplastics, and the impact from watercraft.

Gordon and Prince also talked about blue-



The 'testing the waters' program, in 2024-25, has grown to 25 lake associations, across 39 lakes, and 61 sites. *Submitted.*

green algae, noting "a significant increase in reported blue-green algae blooms in the last eight to 10 years."

They entered into a fee for service agreement with the County a couple of seasons ago to provide an overview of the physical and chemical indicators for water quality. They started in 2022-23 with 10 lake associations, and in 2024-25 have grown to 25 lake associations, across 39

lakes, and 61 sites.

The two said while there are four other testing programs in the County (Lake Partner Program, MECP trout lake monitoring, MNRF broad scale monitoring and Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners Association with the LPP), Testing the Waters samples three times a year, including winter ice-on sampling, the only one to do that. They monitor clarity,

total phosphorous, ammonia-nitrogen, nitrate+nitrite – Nitrogen, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, sulphate, pH, total alkalinity, conductivity, hardness, dissolved oxygen and temperature.

In producing their reports for lake associations, Gordon and Prince said the focus is on what waterfront property owners can do to sustain good water quality, such as managing septic systems properly, and keeping shorelines natural.

The two said the program works, providing an example of a septic problem on Little Kennisis Lake discovered when doing the testing. Dysart's septic inspection program, which found one third of systems damaged – then fixed or replaced - has improved phosphorous numbers. The two said it is only through building a sampling database that trends can be identified, and hopefully rectified.

"We're almost at a point where we can take a snapshot of the County and tell you 'this lake looks like a hotspot area right here, we've got some problems going on, this area over here is clear' and with that we'll be able to make some management recommendations as to what you might be able to do to improve the water quality in that particular area."

2025 Ladies of the Lake Annual Lunch

Thank you to
Liz, Sheelagh
and team for
making this
event happen
for the Ladies
of the Lake!



"Oh Canada, our home
and native land" ,,,,"



The 4C's Food Bank needs
our help!

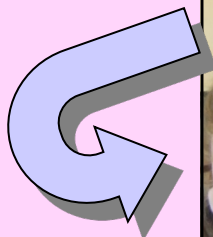




OH!
So
much
fun
and
good
food!



Our 3
prize
winners!



Our KLCOA 2021 Kennis Lakes community survey told us:
99% of respondents said that "Maintaining Our Excellent Water Quality" is Very Important or Important and
91% of respondents feel that "Encouraging Natural Shorelines" is Very Important or Important.

Need more information?
naturaledge.watersheds.ca allows you to determine which plants grow best in zone 5B.



Black-Eyed Susan

Plant height:

- Max 1.5m
- Max 2m

Moisture level:

- Dry
- Normal
- Moist
- Drought Tolerant

Light conditions:

- Full sun
- Partial sun

Soil type:

- Sandy
- Loamy
- Clay
- Humus
- Rocky

Redstone Rentals



LET YOUR COTTAGE EARN MONEY FOR YOU!

RENT OUT YOUR COTTAGE TO COVER COSTS!

We understand that owning a property in the Haliburton Highlands can be costly. Renting can be a great way for property owners to get the most out of their cottages, but where should you start?

Call/text Ted or Ben, or email info@redstonerentals.com and we'll be happy to help you get started!



(Reg. #50020943)

Owned and operated by long-time resident of Redstone Lake

TICO certified
(Reg. #50020943)

Helping owners rent their property since 1994

Specializing in the Redstone and Kennis Lakes Area

Detailed renter screening

Renters only confirmed upon your approval!

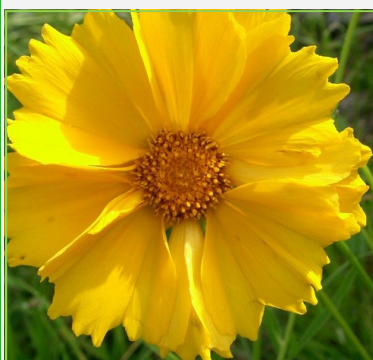
REDSTONE RENTALS INC

www.redstonerentals.com

Ted: (705) 754-1511

Ben: (905) 926-4200

info@redstonerentals.com



Lance-Leaf Coreopsis

Plant height:

- Max 1.5m
- Max 2m

Moisture level:

- Dry
- Normal
- Moist
- Drought Tolerant

Light conditions:

- Full sun
- Partial sun

Soil type:

- Sandy
- Loamy
- Rocky



Pogonia ophioglossoides, also known the **snakemouth orchid**, **ader's tongue** or **rose pogonia**, is a species of **orchid** occurring from **central Canada** to the **east-central** and

eastern United States. This species occurs in wet habitats. It is the **type species** of the genus *Pogonia*, and is the **only species of its genus native to North America**

We found one while doing the Kennisis Lake Aquatic Plant Survey!!



HEATING SOLUTIONS

Install Confidence and Improve Indoor Air Quality with our High Efficiency Systems
NEW CONSTRUCTION | RETROFITS | SERVICE
EXTENDED WARRANTY PLANS



FIREPLACE INSTALLS

Visit Our Fireplace Showroom
SALES | SERVICE | INSTALLATION
PROPANE | WOOD | ELECTRIC
WETT INSPECTIONS

SALES, SERVICE & INSTALLATION

Walker's
HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS



81 Mallard Rd, Haliburton

705.457.2375

www.walkershvac.com

PROPANE | OIL | WOOD | ELECTRIC

RPM
MARINAS

Haliburton
Redkenn
Balsam



LEGEND
BOATS



YAMAHA



**Proudly Serving
Kawartha Lakes
and Haliburton
County**

Sales • Rentals • Service
Parts • Storage

rpmmarinas.com



Balsam RPM
6657 Highway 35
705-454-3372

Haliburton RPM
5122 County Rd 21
705-457-1473

Redkenn RPM
4355 Kennisis Lake Rd
705-754-9262



2025 Rock Bass Fishing Derby

(Sponsored by U-Links and KLCOA)

Congratulations to all of the participants who spent the day on July 5th, striving to catch as many rock bass as possible to remove this invasive species from our lakes. Thank you to Linnea Humphrey for posting these pictures for us.

This year the focus was on invasive species awareness in our lakes and the hazards of using lead fishing tackle. "Lead is a neuro-toxin which attacks the nervous system and can lead to blindness, decreased reproductivity, seizures and death. Lead is fatal to loons and other aquatic birds." (www.fishleadfree.ca)

Many thanks to Mike and Kelly Neely for organizing the event again this year.





Waterfowl including Common Merganser, Mallard, American Black Duck, Canada Goose, Loons, Swans, Great Blue Heron, Gulls & Terns have all ingested lead tackle. **Check your tackle boxes for lead tackle and work towards replacing them with lead-free tackle.**



**Serving Haliburton
& Kawartha Lakes**



705-286-1178 705-454-3744
 6798 Hwy 35 Coboconk, ON
www.shepherdenvironmental.ca

Septic and Holding Tank Pumping
 Fast Response
 Experienced Servicemen
 Real Estate Inspections
 Complete Sewage Systems Installed
 Residential • Commercial
 Waterloo Biofilter Systems
 Conventional Systems
 Sewage System Designs
 Portable Toilet Rentals

**YEAR ROUND
SERVICE**



MYERS CHIMNEY

A Division of 2277341 Ontario Inc. Since 2007

myerschimney@hotmail.com
www.myerschimney.com
705-286-1245

Follow Us



Visit Our Showroom
2224 South Lake Rd., Minden
by appointment



CHIMNEY SWEEPING

- We provide an inspection with every sweep that meets the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA211)
- Members of: The National Chimney Guild since 2016
- Staff are WETT certified in the category of chimney sweeping
- Professional stove glass, brick and gasket replacement service



WETT INSPECTIONS

FOR INSURANCE OR REAL ESTATE

- Staff are WETT certified for basic, technical and intrusive inspections
- We are fully insured to perform WETT Inspections (CGL and E&O)
- View our proof of insurance certificate on our website or facebook page



Please help us inform cottagers and residents that we need to keep our lakes safe, by following our dock etiquette guidelines!

KENNISIS LAKE COTTAGE OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

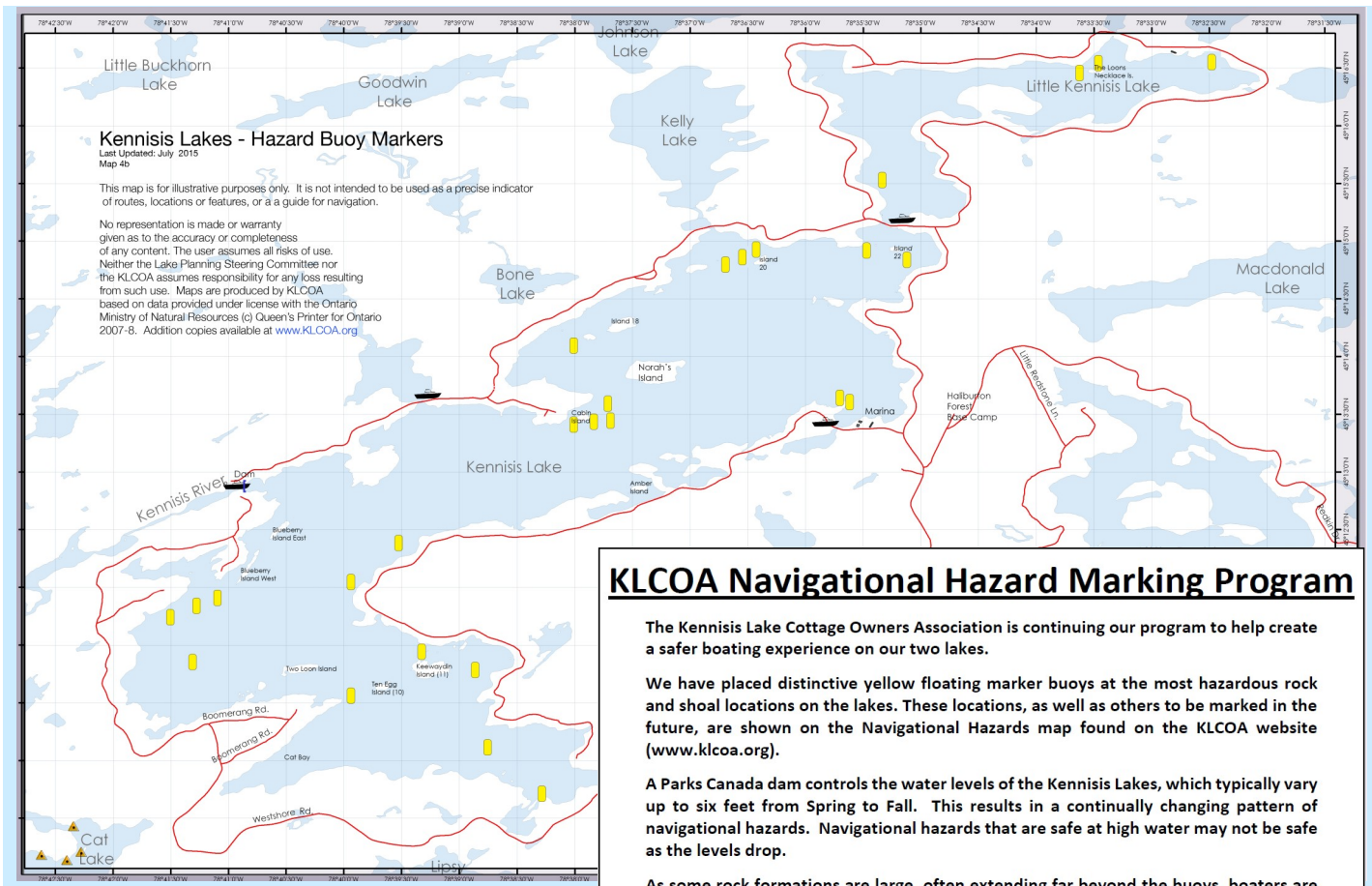


DOCK ETIQUETTE

**BY WORKING TOGETHER AND BEING ACCOUNTABLE TO EACH OTHER, WE CAN
ALL ENSURE PROPER DOCK ETIQUETTE**

- 1) Label each individual dock with your name and address – consider a phone number or email address. Several options are available including:
 - use a waterproof “bag tag” zip tied to a dock cleat
 - write on the dock with a permanent magic marker
 - attach a name plate to the dock
- 2) Retain your old docks in front of your own property – do not tow to a public area. If they are no longer needed consider offering them on Facebook Marketplace or some other social media site.
- 3) Decommission your old docks on a timely basis – do not let them disintegrate on your shore and then become a Spring debris hazard. Hire a professional or your new dock company to dispose of your old dock.
- 4) Ensure any docks placed in a public area for winter storage are clearly tagged with your name and address.
- 5) If you leave unattended anchors or lines in the lake ensure they are clearly marked with a buoy to avoid being caught in a propeller.
- 6) If you find a dock, post pictures on social media and also send to KLCOA to post in an e-blast.





KLCOA Navigational Hazard Marking Program

The Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners Association is continuing our program to help create a safer boating experience on our two lakes.

We have placed distinctive yellow floating marker buoys at the most hazardous rock and shoal locations on the lakes. These locations, as well as others to be marked in the future, are shown on the Navigational Hazards map found on the KLCOA website (www.klcoa.org).

A Parks Canada dam controls the water levels of the Kennisis Lakes, which typically vary up to six feet from Spring to Fall. This results in a continually changing pattern of navigational hazards. Navigational hazards that are safe at high water may not be safe as the levels drop.

As some rock formations are large, often extending far beyond the buoys, boaters are advised to give the buoys a wide berth.

The buoys are placed in the lake annually in the spring and removed for the winter in the fall.

We would welcome suggestions from the Kennisis Community about additional locations you deem hazardous to boating.

NOT ALL HAZARDS ON THE KENNISIS LAKES ARE MARKED!

IT IS THE INDIVIDUAL BOAT OPERATOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO AVOID NAVIGATION HAZARDS!

The program does not guarantee or even suggest that unmarked hazard locations can be safely navigated. The primary responsibility for a safe boating experience rests with the individual operator of a watercraft. Boat operators should follow the instructions on safe boating learned when preparing for and obtaining their Pleasure Craft Operators Card. All boaters should use common sense when travelling near shorelines, islands and areas displaying tell-tale signs of possible shallow water and/or underwater hazards, which may not be marked with buoys.



The KLCOA and its directors and officers take no responsibility for injury to boaters or damage to boats as a result of contact with navigational hazards.

We are indebted to the Federation Ontario of Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) which has shared with us their considerable research of the regulatory and liability issues associated with this program.

According to the Canadian Coast Guard,
<https://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/>

“mariners are cautioned not to navigate too closely to a buoy and risk a collision with it, its mooring, or with the underwater obstruction which it marks.”

If your vessel runs down, moves, damages or destroys a navigational aid, or you come across a damaged buoy, please report it and contact the KLCOA as soon as possible, using the information provided on the tag.

Please stay safe and enjoy your boating experience on our beautiful Kennisis Lakes.



HALIBURTON
TIMBER MART®

DOCK Hardware & Accessories

Wake Watchers • Multinautic Aluminum Docks • Techstar Plastics

5148 County Road 21, Haliburton • (705) 457-2510 • Toll Free 1-877-425-5862
• www.haliburtonlumber.com • sales@haliburtonlumber.com

**WAKESURF WAKEBOARD WAKEFOIL WATERSKI TUBES WINDSURF WINGFOIL
PADDLEBOARD BIKE WETSUIT KITEBOARD KAYAKS E-FOIL PFD'S/VESTS**

LOCATION: KENNISIS LAKE
RIDER: STEVE MARTIN

NORTHLINE

ASK ABOUT OUR LOCAL DELIVERY TO KENNISIS LAKE
BY NORTHLINE OWNER AND LOCAL KENNISIS LAKE COTTAGER, STEVE MARTIN
PHONE #: 1-800-665-9463 EMAIL: STEVE@NORTHLINESPORTS.CA
















WWW.NORTHLINESPORTS.CA
1-800-665-9463
STEVE@NORTHLINESPORTS.CA



Is Your Cottage Costing You?

Why not rent to offset the costs?

Our seasoned professionals make the process stress-free!

- We offer full-service management
- Servicing the Highlands since 2006
- An extensive roster of repeat guests



Ready to List Your Cottage?

Call: (705) 754-4678 Email: welovecottagecountry@gmail.com

kennisiscottagerentals.com

Licensed Travel Agency
50025991



HALIBURTON

Custom Canvas

A DIVISION OF HALIBURTON MARINE

CUSTOM BOAT TOPS | UPHOLSTERY | CANVAS REPAIR

**111 INDUSTRIAL PARK RD
HALIBURTON, ON**

INFO@HALIBURTONMARINE.COM
705.457.1128

CANVAS SERVICES

HALIBURTON
Marine & Storage
HALIBURTONMARINE.COM

TROY/AUSTEN

REAL ESTATE TEAM

705.455.SOLD (7653)

RE/MAX
PROFESSIONALS
NORTH

Brokerage - Independently Owned + Operated

TROYAUSTEN.CA

83 Maple Ave. suite 10 Haliburton, Ont.
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 KLCOA CORPORATE SPONSORS!



Haliburton Forest
& WILD LIFE RESERVE LTD



*Where
Great
Ideas
Soar!*

FOUNDED IN 1946

**PARKER PAD
&
PRINTING LTD**

153 Mallard Road, Haliburton | 705.457.2458 | www.parkerpad.com



K and R Self Storage

kandrselfstorage@gmail.com 705-754-2255

Natural gardens and shorelines designed and installed

using plants native to the area

For more info and a free guide to natural gardens in Haliburton County, visit groundedgardens.ca

grounded
GARDENING FOR LIFE

KLCOA thanks our sponsors who have supported us for the 2025 season!

Thank you for contributing your part in our journey!

"Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much."
- Hellen Keller

TRUE NORTH

strong & free



Furnaces	<h2>NORTHERN HVAC CO.</h2> <p>FAST RELIABLE SERVICE</p> <p>www.northernhvacco.ca 705 489 2001 Keeping Your Home Comfortable</p>	Hot Water Tanks
Heat Pumps		Ductwork
Gas Piping		Chimney
Fireplaces		Boilers
Air Conditioning		In floor Heating