



THE GREEN WATCH

The Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association Newsletter Representing property owners and tenants in the Watch and Green Lake Area

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SUMMER 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From Bruce Gilmour

At the time of this writing, a number of lake area wood waste initiatives have been started. GLARA currently awaits a response from the Ministry of Environment confirming increased regional district support for lake area residents and the removal of wood waste by approving controlled open burning, increasing permits at landfills to burn the waste, and assistance in off-setting costs. Additionally, GLARA awaits a response from BC Hydro regarding a positive reply to the communication breakdown with lake area residents in respect to power line wood waste removal. GLARA is pleased to receive a positive indication from the Cariboo Regional District for additional financial support, along with other funding sources, in assisting with the responsible removal of wood waste. The GLARA executive continues to research these resources.

We look forward to a favourable position expected from the Ministry of Environment, Parks and Protection Branch in response to the recent meeting attended by several GLARA Directors. Discussions were framed around increasing lake area directional signage to the sani-station, the construction of gray water receptacles at the day-use and over-night parks, as well as plumbed facilities for personal bathing at the over-night parks. The discussions reflected Watch and Green lake area residents' commitment to protecting the lakes from the damaging agents being introduced into the area's water environment.

GLARA is very appreciative of the commitment re-affirmed by the Ministry of Forest and Range and the forest company licensees in the area, to apprise the Greenbelt committee of projected harvesting operations. Look for further ministry and regional district updates on grasslands ecology and its relationship with forest growth.

GLARA is grateful to the Ministry of Forest and Range and the local volunteer fire departments for their on-going commitment to fire safety and prevention. Please take the initiative to stay current about local forest fire information and further education by visiting the Ministry of Forests and Range home page regularly.

GLARA eagerly awaits the TNRD and CRD announcement of the successful contractor who will complete our Official Community Plan. The OCP will reflect symbiotic human settlement planning, values and priorities, in conjunction with planning decisions related to economic growth, zoning, culture and heritage, with a long term, sustainable vision for the environment and natural ecology.

... *President's Message continued from page 1*

GLARA is equally eager to hear of the outcomes from the TNRD and CRD resolutions to be presented to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) and the Ministry of Community Services, on the immediate need to cap property tax increases at a rate that reflects service inequities, and is consistent with cost of living increase and the rate of tax increase as a percentage of the budget increase, and not as a pure function of property assessments. The GLARA executive have been burning the midnight oil on this file and has made formal presentations to the regional districts as a delegation seeking resolutions to the astronomical property tax increases which do not reflect the quality and performance of services for residents.

On behalf of lake area residents, comments have been put forward to the regional districts regarding arranging public information meetings in January and February and how they do not benefit the balance of the residents because they are not in residence! Together, we hope to identify steps to improve timely and relevant communication that will benefit all lake area residents.

Consistent with this action, the GLARA executive has been in close communication with both regional districts and the respective environmental health departments responsible for general waste management. Please keep the radar out for information and educational events in the 70 Mile House and Green and Watch lakes area on changes to waste management at local landfills and transfer sites. The meetings will present the history of the planning changes, information on the new waste management processes, and explain the process by which monitoring, evaluating, and feedback will be managed to best benefit residents.

These are some of the highlights. I would like to wrap up by extending a warm invitation to lake area residents to think about how you may contribute to the meaningful and productive role of your resident association. Time commitments and duties are determined by your subject area of interest and the time that you can provide. Whether it is a subject in this newsletter or previous newsletters, data management and membership, financial or fund development experience, special event planning, education and training, information technology, publicity, or new ideas, the executive is but a call away.

I am extremely grateful for all the support and work your GLARA executive has contributed. I am equally grateful to all lake area residents, who through their leadership and their example, have been contributing to the values that draw us together. Thank you also to the men and woman behind our volunteer fire departments, and to all those folks who silently monitor the safety of our lakes and areas, watching for suspicious activity, as well as to those who put in long hours in business, keeping us supplied with the comforts of the day. Have a delightful summer at the lake and we look forward to seeing you at the GLARA Annual General Meeting on Saturday, August 16th.

A hearty thank you to all, Bruce.

THE GREEN WATCH

is now published at least three times per year. If you have any interests or articles you would like to see printed in the next issue please contact Angela Wynton at 456.6070 or awynton@telus.net.

If you are interested in receiving a colour copy by email please contact Marie Kuyek at greenwatchlake@bcinternet.net.

You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop and look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Water Report

By Fred Kuyek

Our first water test was conducted on Tuesday, May 20th. At a depth of 24 metres the temperature was 3.5° C. At a depth of 12 metres the temperature was 4° C and at 0.5 metres the temperature was 8° C. The last test was done on Saturday, June 28th and the temperatures were as follows - at the 24 metre level it was 5° C, at 12 metres it was 8°C and at 0.5 metres the temperature was 16.5°C. The pH levels have remained at 9 for all levels. This year we are testing every two weeks instead of every three weeks.

Both Green Lake and Watch Lake were re-stocked with fish this year. On May 21st, Watch Lake received 40,000 Pannask 12.2 gram Rainbow Trout. On May 29th, Green Lake received 12, 992 Meadow Creek 4.5 gram Kokanee and 114,678 Norbury Creek 3.7 gram Kokanee.

On May 29th, with the help of Allan Boyd, Grant Speers and Greg Roberts, the rock buoys were put back into their designated spots. Allan, Grant and Greg also replaced the 10 kph speed limit signs on East Bay and West Bay. These signs were made using a new product called Alumicore and should last much longer than the previous ones did.

I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore ...
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

W.B. Yeats

Membership

Your 2008 membership fee is now due! If you receive The Green Watch newsletter by mail, please fill out the form on the back and mail it with your cheque to the address as shown. If you receive The Green Watch by email, you will have to print out a form yourself and then send it accompanied with your cheque. You can pay either yearly at \$15 or pay \$40 for three years.

Remember, in order to vote at the **AGM on Saturday, August 16th**, you must have a current paid membership. The activities of the GLARA community depend upon you, your membership and involvement. Stay current and show your support for the Directors and volunteers and all the work they do to keep your community and lakes healthy, safe, and ecologically viable and balanced.

TNRD Solid Waste Management Update

By Sally Watson, Director, TNRD, Area E

The TNRD is implementing the new Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. Key components include region-wide multi-material recycling, improved waste diversion, composting, an illegal dumping strategy and a pay-as-you-throw philosophy. This should result in a 30% waste reduction.

On May 8th the TNRD Board of Directors accepted the recommendation from the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Committee that the Commercial Demolition Land Clearing (DLC) tipping fees be implemented on July 1st, 2008 and that the residential tipping fees be implemented on January 1st, 2009. The challenges of providing recycling at all sites probably will not be met by that time. Attempts to change this recommendation, to provide a break for taxpayers who may not yet have a recycling option for their residential waste, has failed.

The TNRD invites you to a public meeting at the 70 Mile House Community Hall on Wednesday, July 16th at 7pm, to hear more about the new waste management strategy and landfill changes.

G.L.A.R.A.

Green Lake and Area Rate Payers' Association

AGM

Annual General Meeting

at Watch Lake Community Hall

Little Green Lake Road

(2.2 kilometres from Watch Lake Lodge)

10 AM Saturday August 16, 2008

For further information contact

Marie Kuyek at 456.2230

Wireless Internet Update

By Fred Kuyek

As of this date, we still do not have wireless Internet on the south side of Green Lake. However, having spoken with Peter Lunn at BC Wireless, he has assured me that we should tentatively have it by the end of July, weather permitting. A new tower has been installed on Watch Lake, just north of Shorty Horn's ranch, although it is not yet active. They are currently installing a tower in Likely. So, all things going well, there should be a tower installed on the north side by the end of July and South Green Lake residents can begin to enjoy their Internet experience.

Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves,
or we know where we can find information upon it.

James Boswell

INFORMATION DIRECTORY

CRD 1.800.665.1636

www.cariboord.bc.ca

TNRD 1.877.377.8673.

www.tnrd.bc.ca

Ministry of Environment

www.env.gov.bc.ca

Water Stewardship

www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd

www.livingbywater.ca

www.cottagelife.com

Environment stewardship

www.env.gov.bc.ca/esd

Environment Protection

www.env.gov.bc.ca/epdiv

Ministry of Forests & Range

www.for.gov.bc.ca

At this sight there are direct links to *Fire Smart* and the *Mountain Pine Beetle*

Grasslands Conservation

www.bcgrasslands.org

BC Lake Stewardship

www.bclss.org

StreamLine Watershed

Management Bulletin

www.forrex.org/streamline

Lake and Fishing Information

www.gofishbc.com

Wildfire Information

www.bcwildfire.ca

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Official Community Plan Update

By Bob Finley, Planning Team Coordinator

Thanks to the cooperation of the Ministry of Environmental Stewardship Division staff, and with the assistance of the Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association, the Cariboo Regional District and the Thompson-Nicola Regional District began a shoreline use, building location, and servicing survey. This is to establish a baseline for the Official Community Plan land and resource use analysis on both Watch and Green lakes. Gabriele Matscha, Environmental Quality Section Head, as part of the ministry's commitment to this collaborative community planning initiative, made the services of Samantha Kelly, a Summer Co-op student, available to the planning team during the second and third week of June. They conducted a survey of both lakes and environs to establish a baseline assessment of the shoreline and upland perimeter use, as well as identifying possible sources of water quality concern. This will also assist with the ministry's commitment to begin fluorometer testing under the supervision of Bob Grace, a ministry Environmental Impact Biologist, tentatively scheduled for the middle to later part of August of this year.

Watch And Green Lake Planning Assessment

By Amanda Robinson

In early June, a team of representatives from the Green Lake Ratepayers Association (GLARA), Ministry of Environment (MOE), Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) and Cariboo Regional District (CRD), collaborated to complete a foreshore survey of Green and Watch lakes. The survey was completed in preparation for a long-range community land and resource planning exercise, and for future lakeshore analysis and water quality evaluations. The information obtained from this initiative will be used to compare the broad range of developments created on each lake over the past 40 years as well as the current level and condition of development on the two lakes.

A photograph and video catalogue was created for each lake to better understand the nature of development on all lakeshore lands and foreshore areas. Particular attention was given to the amount of vegetation left along shorelines, the riparian buffer, human-induced shoreline erosion from development and boating activity, the use of retaining walls and other breakwaters, the setback distance of houses and accessory buildings from the lake, and the presence of imported sand, gravel, or treated wooden structures in or near the water.

The overall goal is to ensure that the waterfront is effectively managed and preserved in its natural state wherever practical. The information gathered by the study will also be used by the regional districts as baseline data to assist with policy development in conjunction with the Watch Lake, Green Lake, 70 Mile House and Area Official Community Planning exercise. Together we hope to maximize the enjoyment of our lakes and keep them beautiful and healthy for many generations to come.

The team wishes to extend a special thank-you to Denise Waldner and Dave Kuyek for allowing us to use their boat and to Fred and Marie Kuyek from GLARA for volunteering their time, use of the boat and for providing a warm fireplace and nourishing homemade clam chowder on those cold rainy days.

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

William Woodsworth

GLARA will update you with further information regarding the contractor selected to work on our Official Community Plan and the status of the OCP in our Autumn newsletter.

Regional District Contact Information

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Suite D, 180 North Third Avenue
Williams Lake, V2G 2A4
1-800-665-1636

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Thompson North Regional District
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Ministry of Environment
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Ministry of Environment
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1259 Dalhousie Drive
Kamloops V2L 5Z5
250.371.6200
rick.p.adams@gov.bc.ca

Barry Penner, Minister of Environment
PO Box 9047 Station Provincial Government
Victoria, V8W 9E2
250.387.1187

Charlie Wyse, MLA Cariboo South
2-487 Borland Avenue
Williams Lake, V2G 1R9
1.866.305.3804
charlie.wyse.mla@leg.bc.ca

All numbers can be reached without charge by calling
ENQUIRY BC 1.800.663.7867

... INFORMATION DIRECTORY *con'd*

Provincial Emergency Program
www.pep.bc.ca

The Land Conservancy of BC
www.conservancy.bc.ca

Rural Crime Watch
www.ruralcrimewatch.com

BC Crime Prevention Association
www.bccpa.org

Conservation Officer Service
www.env.gov.bc.ca/cos

BC Wildlife Federation
www.bcdf.bc.ca

Pitch-in Canada
www.pitch-in.ca

BC Hydro
www.bchydro.com

BC Adventure
www.bcadventure.com

GLARA is *your* organization. Let us know what you want to see, or be involved in, within your community, whether it's Watch Lake, Green Lake or 70 Mile House. Share your ideas or contribute your suggestions and get involved. Contact a director or the editor of this newsletter. We want to hear from you. GLARA email is greenwatchlake@bcinternet.net or awynton@telus.net for newsletter contributions. The next newsletter deadline is October 15th.

THE GREEN BELT REPORT

By David Schwarz, RPF

GLARA has been quite active on the forestry front over the last several months. Communication networks have been established and a number of discussions and meetings with local forest licensees, West Fraser, Tolko and BC Timber Sales, have taken place. These discussions provide GLARA with an avenue to provide input into the harvesting plans in our area. There is currently harvesting going on in the vicinity of the 70 Mile transfer station, also known as the dump. The intention of the harvesting is to reduce hazards to public property such as roads and power lines, capture some value in the timber, and establish a new crop of trees as soon as possible. All this activity is related to the devastation from the mountain pine beetle.

There is a lot of information available regarding the beetle infestation in the province and as it relates to our GLARA area. You can refer to and read *Provincial-Level Projection of the Current Mountain Pine Beetle Outbreak: Update of the infestation projection based on the 2007 Provincial Aerial Overview of Forest Health and revisions to the "Model" (BCMPB.v5)*, which can be found on the Internet. Also available on the Internet is the *100 Mile House Forest District Forest Health Strategy June 1st, 2007 to March 31st, 2008*. These publications give information on a much broader scale, but certainly can provide some information regarding strategies and forest health issues at a local level.

The beetles are still very much active in our area. I say beetles because the spruce bark beetle is now present in our area and will wreak the same havoc with the spruce as did the pine beetle with the pine. The beetles remain a very large problem in our area and only a large community effort will reduce the spread. The beetles will be flying around the middle of July, so any trees that have died since last year in all likelihood will have beetles in them that will fly and infest the next available tree. Disposal and burning is the best method of control. Another effective control is removing the bark, but this needs to be done prior to flight to be the most effective. Working together with your neighbours will help improve the situation. There are anti-aggregate pheromone baits on the market that may be effective in repelling the spruce beetle, and preventing further attack of the green trees. Again this needs to be done prior to beetle flight. The name of the pheromone bait is MCH. This is a pouch that hangs on a tree, not something that is sprayed. Again, a coordinated effort with your neighbours would be useful in order to have maximum effect. I am just trying to help the situation by making you aware of what some of the options available are, as I get asked this question on numerous occasions. To be most effective, recognize when you have beetles and dispose of the trees. This will not only protect your own trees but your neighbour's as well.

It does seem, and according to some literature, that the pine beetle has settled down a bit in our area, as evidenced by the dead trees. They have run out of food, so to speak. Having said that though, the pine beetle will attack the small pine, and that is what we need to keep an eye on as well. Keep in mind, with the loss of the pine, other trees underneath will increase their growth due to more available light.

Enjoy the summer and our Green Belt will once again be green.

Fireworks And Animals Do Not Mix

Although fireworks can be spectacular when celebrating on long weekends, in forested and rural areas they are neither appreciated nor welcomed. With tinder dry pine beetle damaged forests, fireworks are a definite fire hazard. A small spark can start a dangerous forest fire. Additionally, the extreme sounds and bangs are a terrible fright for animals both domestic and wild. Many farm animals will run about crazed and frightened when they hear the constant booms of fireworks. Forest animals will run frightened and away from their habitat to escape the noise. Dogs will run great distances to escape, or seek shelter in very difficult spaces. A lost and frightened pet, far away from home, is a family worry. So please, no fireworks around the lakes during our coming British Columbia Day celebration August 4th.

Have a happy British Columbia Day and enjoy!

Sections of the 7 kilometre cattle exclusion fence on South Green Lake



Fred Kuyek Photo



Fred Kuyek Photo



Fred Kuyek Photo

South Green Lake Cattle Exclusion Fence Update

By Bruce Gilmour

A hardy thank you to the volunteers who have installed and maintained both phase 1 and phase 2 of the cattle exclusion fence. All South Green Lake residents have benefited greatly from your hard work.

Thank you phase 1 fence volunteers Gordon Chishom, Peter McKie, Dave Goodwin, Jerry Chamberlain, Ted Auran, Lazlo Veto and Gordon Labinsky, for your muscle and time installing the fence and all your work to date.

Thank you phase 2 fence volunteers Dale Dyck, Bob Walker, Brian Stroud, Roger Graham, Len Barnes, Mike Balachanoff, Bill Henry and Dennis Nagy, for putting your muscle and time not only into installing the fence, but your additional twenty-four or so hours of fence repair in the south portion.

If anyone has any maintenance concerns or problems bring them to the attention of the fence teams. Please call Gordon Labinsky at 250.456.2310, regarding phase 1 on the north side of the bison ranch. For phase 2, on the south side of the bison ranch, please call Dennis Nagy at 250.456.6020.

Thank you to all for your financial contributions to support the repairs associated with either the naturally occurring damage or the needless damage to the fence. A bank account was created with all contributions deposited and accounting procedures put in place under fencing expenses. Fencing repairs required costs against additional fencing staples and tools such as wirepullers and crimpers.

Thank you to those residents walking the fence line and giving of their time to repair both the windfall damage and the damage associated with public mischief. The coordination and time commitment from those of you who walked the fence line from end to end, and those who traveled out to complete the repairs in advance of the release of the grazing cattle, is to be admired. A great deal of gratitude and appreciation is extended to all of you from all of us.

The cattle exclusion fence brings added value to all the south side residences. This means, we all have a role in sustaining its effectiveness for maximum benefit. If you are out there and you come across a break or a windfall, please contact Gordon or Dennis so prompt action can be organized. And a gentle reminder to all when out enjoying the backcountry, please keep the fence gates closed. Thank you to Dennis Nagy and his collaboration with the team mentioned above, for the efforts this spring on assisting in the organization to keep the function and life in the fence.

Leave No Tread Marks

Info Courtesy of Ministry of Forest and Range

The public is encouraged to enjoy public forests, rangelands, grasslands, wetlands, and alpine areas. But please, do so responsibly. Stay safe, tread lightly, and know you are obligated under the law, as well as morally, to protect our ecology and the environment.

Whenever you drive off-road, you are disrupting the ecological foundation of the environment and our natural areas – the soil. In sensitive areas, the damage can be catastrophic.

In wetlands, repeated driving of any motorized vehicle, especially at certain times of the year, can cause irreparable damage and changes to wetland functions. Off-roading can change the very structure of the soil, making it difficult for plants to take root and grow because of a lack of air or nutrients.

Off-roading in wetlands kills birds, snakes and amphibians. Damaged wetlands will impact many generations of wildlife due to the lack of plant life and clean water.

Riding ATVs, motorbikes and trucks in alpine and grassland areas destroys plant cover and causes erosion. Both alpine and grassland ecologies have very shallow layers of growing soil that takes decades to rebuild.

Noxious weeds and invasive plants take root in disturbed soil, displacing native plants and reducing natural food sources for wildlife and cattle.

Just as littering and setting fires is illegal, so is adversely damaging and impacting an ecosystem. Recent challenges to forestry legislation make individuals who damage an ecosystem subject to penalties of up to \$100,000. If cases are prosecuted in the criminal courts they carry a sentence of up to one year in jail as well as the maximum fine.

Everyone has a stake in protecting our ecology and environment. Please report all suspicious activities and environmental damage to the authorities – Report All Poachers and Polluters at 1.877.952.7277 (RAPP) or www.rapp.bc.ca or Crime Stoppers 1.800.222.8477. For more information visit Ministry of Forest and Range www.for.gov.bc.ca or www.env.gov.bc.ca, the Ministry of Environment.

**Is your MUD worth \$100, 000
and a year in jail?**



Irresponsible fun can create irreversible damage to grasslands and alpine meadows

Be a responsible off road vehicle user and educate your friends and family about protecting our lands and ecology well into the future.

Be A Responsible Rider

Info Courtesy of Ministry of Forest and Range

Be a responsible off-road rider and have a low-no impact on the environment.

- Ride only on existing mining or forestry roads
- Use only existing trails where permitted
- Stay on the trail – do not cut switchbacks or short cuts
- Respect wildlife – give animals plenty of space and distance
- Avoid sensitive ecological areas such as wetlands, grasslands, alpine meadows and streams
- Heed signs and close gates
- Pack out what you packed in
- Check your off-road vehicle for noxious weeds and other debris after every ride
- Tread lightly and help conserve the natural ecology and environment

Before riding on crown land or forestry roads visit www.for.gov.bc for important details and updated information.

From The Editor's Desk

By Angela Wynton

We hope you are enjoying your Summer edition of **The Green Watch**. We have brought you updates on both current and completed GLARA activities, and will keep you apprised of any on-going activities with updates in the Autumn edition. In the fall we will report the results of the resolutions presented in September at the UBCM, as well as information regarding the status of the Official Community Plan.

Also, in this edition, fitting to the name **The Green Watch**, we have provided more information and links regarding ecological and environmentally sound practices. Always conscious of the health of our lakes and surrounding area, we are hoping to connect you to even more safer and greener lake and environmental management practices. The Green and Watch lakes are indeed a 'green watch'. We hope to introduce and share environmentally sustainable practices and activities that preserve our beautiful surroundings and increase your enjoyment of the area. Until the fall, from all of us to all of you – have a great, green and safe summer!

It is contrary to reason to say that there is a vacuum or space
in which there is absolutely nothing!

Rene Descartes

Beauty or Beast – All Flowers Cannot Be Respected Equally

Info Courtesy of Cariboo Regional District

Many invasive plants are introduced unintentionally through gardening and horticultural activities. These plants grow rapidly, spread quickly, are tolerant of tough conditions, and can form dense patches that choke out native and desired species. As residents and cottage owners there are a number of things you can do to prevent the establishment and spread of noxious and invasive plants.



*A field of colour is a temptation to pick,
but these pretty orange flowers are the
invasive noxious orange hawkweed*

- Learn about the potential invasiveness of any new plant or flower species before you grow them.
- Do not purchase or grow known invasive or noxious weed seeds or plants.
- Avoid using wildflower seed mixes as most may contain and consist of invasive species or species unadapted to local conditions.
- Avoid picking plants from roadsides, gravel pits or other disturbed areas.
- Remember many of the prettiest wildflowers growing at roadsides are aggressive invasive species that should not be transferred to new areas or introduced to sensitive environments.
- Grow only regional native plants and flowers in your garden, as they are naturally adapted to the local ecology and environment and are non-invasive.
- Talk with friends, neighbours and your guests about the impacts and damage invasive plants and noxious weeds have on the local area.
- Find out more about how you can help control noxious and invasive weeds and plants or become a Weed Warrior by contacting the CRD Invasive Plant Management Program at 1.800.665.1636 or visit their website at www.cariboord.bc.ca .

Minds are like parachutes –
they only function when they are open.
James Dewar

The Price Of Non-Compliance!

By Jack Wainwright

New for BC Boaters in 2005 was a change away from the enforcement of minor infractions always requiring a court appearance before a judge. The BC government now uses the options provided to them under the Federal Government *Contraventions Act*. Simply stated, this means enforcement officers, RCMP and Fisheries, now have the option of issuing a ticket for non-compliance. These fines are mostly a minimum \$100 for each infraction, such as failure to have required equipment on board in good working order, \$200 for failure to have approved PFDs that fit for each person on board, and \$250 for failure to produce a valid Pleasure Craft Operators Card (PCOC) or being an underage operator. Fines are issued to the operator, owner and/or person authorizing use of the vessel. These fines also apply to any non-motorized watercraft such as rowboats, canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, PWCs, etc. Major infractions, such as operating a vessel while impaired, will still be dealt with as indictable offenses under the Criminal Code of Canada. There are no new requirements. All that has changed is the system of enforcement. Prudent boaters should check the requirements for their vessels as outlined in the free booklet *Safe Boating Guide* from Transport Canada. For information regarding boating requirements and safety please visit Transport Canada, Department of Boat Safety, Pleasure Craft Safety, at www.tc.gc.ca/marinesafety .

PLEASE SLOW DOWN!

Speeding over 10 kilometres per hour within 30 metres of the shore in non-tidal waters in British Columbia is a \$100 fine. This speed limit is not posted. It came into effect two years ago and applies to all non-tidal water in BC. Exemptions apply only to some very narrow fast rivers. Water skiers may start near shore but the boat must go straight out at 90° from shore. The boat must not speed over 10 km per hour closer than 30 metres to any shore, including dropping a skier off near the shore. A 10 km speed limit is equivalent to 5 knots or 6 miles per hour. This speed limit is for all BC lakes and rivers unless there is a different speed limit posted. BC speed limits prohibit water skiing and PWC over 10 km in East Bay and West Bay of Green Lake, and all other bays where entrance to them is less than 60 metres wide. Remember too, Watch Lake is an 8 km only posted speed limit.



Boating Course Returns To The Lakes

If you are out on the water remember you must have a boat operator's license. Jack Wainwright will again be offering locally, the Power Craft Operators Card (PCOC) program for folks to get their license. The course will be all day on Thursday, August 14th from 830 am to 430 pm. Class minimum is 6 persons and the maximum is 10. The cost is \$70. Registration deadline is August 7th. For further information, and to register for the PCOC program, please call Dan Wainwright at 250.456.2256.

Editor's Note

Readers, you may see some familiarity with this newsletter and a previous edition in 2007. We are repeating important information on both boating and off-roading to encourage increased vigilance and compliance regarding these summertime activities. Please be responsible and help us share this information with your friends, neighbours and guests. We truly wish to see as little damage as possible to our wonderful lakes, grasslands and meadows; and we wish everyone to have a very safe summer.

A Certified Wildlife Habitat in Your Own Backyard

Info Courtesy of Canadian Wildlife Federation

The Canadian Wildlife Federation has a wonderful opportunity – the Backyard Habitat Certification Program. It was initiated to recognize the hard work of Canadians to meet the habitat needs of wildlife and their efforts to create wildlife-friendly gardening. There are four basic needs that must be met in natural and wildlife habitat gardening.

- Food – There must be food to attract a diversity of wildlife, provided through a combination of seeds, nuts, or fruit-producing trees, berry-producing shrubs, grasses and flowers.
- Water – Water sources may vary from lakeshores, creeks, streambeds, natural or artificial ponds, to bird or butterfly baths.
- Shelter – Shelter, which provides protection from inclement weather and predators, may be a combination of evergreens, deciduous trees, shrubs, snags, brush piles, logs or rock beds.
- Space – Animals, and birds especially, view their habitat in three-dimensional terms, looking for diverse layers of vegetation – tall and short trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and groundcover.

Earth-friendly gardening is also a very important aspect in becoming a certified natural wildlife habitat. The key to earth-friendly gardening is to avoid the use of insecticides and herbicides. Use natural fertilizers such as manure and compost. They not only improve the health of the soil but also will not damage or impact the natural water systems.

Creating a naturalized habitat means encouraging and planting only those plants and flowers native to the region. They will require less maintenance and are better able to meet the needs of local wildlife. Most wildlife species are dependent on the presence and inclusion of trees, shrubs, and perennials native to their habitat.

Attracting birds to the backyard is an obvious benefit to creating a natural wildlife habitat. The plants should reflect appropriate food and shelter for wildlife. Fruit and nut or berry producing shrubs, as well as a variety of trees and perennial flowers, provides both food and shelter in your natural wildlife habitat.

To find out more about how your backyard or acreage can become a certified natural wildlife habitat, go to the Canadian Wildlife Federation website www.wildaboutgardening.org. The same opportunity is also available from the National Wildlife Federation in Virginia www.nwf.org.



The metal habitat sign (*left*) can be placed anywhere in your certified habitat. The certificate (*above*) can be placed in your gardening book or framed and put on a wall. These recognize your sincere effort to protect and preserve the natural environment. Both are from the National Wildlife Federation.

CRD Update

By Al Richmond, Director, Area G

The CRD will be taking a resolution to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) conference this September requesting the provincial government review and consider revising the current taxation structure in hope to provide a more equitable, effective and affordable taxation system.

Highlights of the regional building statistics report show construction value in the regional district is higher than it was in 2007 by approximately 2 million dollars. The South Cariboo is leading in development and the North Cariboo has also shown a significant increase. Most new permits are in the South Cariboo, with permit numbers increasing by 66%.

The CRD will apply to UBCM for funding from the Ministry of Health for West Nile Virus Reduction initiatives. Under the program, the Cariboo Regional District qualifies for \$52,832 in funding.

The Regional District Board passed two noise control bylaws for Areas G and L of the South Cariboo. The bylaws were developed in response to a public hearing that was held last November 2007.

A Poetic Riddle

I am the Daughter of Earth and Water,
And the nursling of the Sky.
I pass through the pores of the oceans and shores;
I change but I cannot die,
For after the rain when with never a stain
The pavilion of Heaven is bare,
And the winds and sunbeams with their convex gleams
Build up the blue dome of air,
I silently laugh at my own cenotaph,
And out of the caverns of rain,
Like a child from the womb, like a ghost from the tomb,
I arise and unbuild it again.

Percy Bysshe Shelley

(The answer is hidden in a quotation in this newsletter.)

Green Cottage Tips

Don't soap in the lake, ever. Even if a soap says it is both phosphate-free and biodegradable, don't assume it is safe for the lake. The soap can be harmful to fish and other aquatic animals; biodegradable only means that it is capable of breaking down, with the help of soil bacteria, into its constituent parts. However, you can use this type of soap if bathing on land; and be sure to dump the wash water well back from the lake so it doesn't filter down as runoff.

Stock up on greener cleaners. What goes down the drain and into the septic can still make its way to the lake. Many detergents and soaps on the market contain phosphates, so watch what you buy. Avoid using household chemical cleaners that destroy the beneficial bacteria that break down the waste in the holding tank. There are much less harmful alternatives with the proliferation of products with green certifications, such as the federal government's EcoLogo and the comeback of DIY cleaners, like baking soda, vinegar, and lemon juice. For more info on green cleaning - www.cottagelife.com or www.WatkinsOnline.com.

Cottage Life 
**GREEN
COTTAGER
AWARDS**

Cottage Life wants to celebrate cottagers, cottage-lake residents, and cottager groups in Canada who are making efforts to conserve their natural environment or reduce their footprint on it. No achievement is too small or too big! If you're creating positive change for the environment, you could receive a Green Cottager Award. So nominate yourself, your family, your neighbours, your friends, or anyone else you think deserves the label **Green Cottager**. Cottage Life will donate a total of \$5,000 to the cottage-related environmental causes chosen by the award recipients. For more info visit www.cottagelife.com.

2008 GLARA Membership Form

IMPORTANT! Before filling out this form, check your envelope - your expiration date is on your label!

If your label is flagged with **pink** this newsletter is a reminder that your membership is **about** to expire. If your label is flagged with **yellow** your membership has **expired** or if you received this newsletter by **email** your expiry date is in the **introduction paragraph**.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Name(s) of member(s) applying

Legal description of lot if known, (optional)

fire # or address & street (must have)

Full mailing address (one newsletter per paid membership)

Home phone

Lake phone

Work phone

Fax

E-mail address for color email newsletter

\$15.00 or \$40.00

Cheque enclosed

Make cheques payable to G.L.A.R.A.

Mail to: RR#1, Site Q Comp 5, 70 Mile House, B.C. , V0K 2K0.

Membership fees are \$15 per year or \$40 for 3 years.

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