

THE GREEN WATCH

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



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WINTER

Glara Board's message

To One & All, near and far, warm wishes for Christmas and through the holiday and into 2014 from the GLARA Board....

At the time of preparing this note, winter had started to tease Green and Watch Lake residents with first frost, then snow, and consistent temperatures to freeze our lakes, lagoons and small ponds. The bears are snuggled in for hibernation, song birds and squirrels chatter at empty feeders, icicles are starting to form on some eaves, looking about, it is rather peaceful – time for reflection and appreciation.

A summary of the year to date is effectively captured through what Fred and Marie Kuyek and Bruce Gilmour experienced at this fall's BC Lake Stewardship Society conference hosted in Logan Lake. They took strength and gratitude from hearing the stories of trials and successes of other lake stewardship groups. Strength in realizing the journey GLARA residents have shared in related to enhancing the values held so closely around the lakes, has been a journey of time and effort very well spent! Also the gratitude from being made aware of how GLARA's efforts and vision for the health of the watershed have become known and respected. So thank you for your support and participation.

Goals for 2014 include the continuation of timely and responsive communication with levels of government. An opportunity the Board is closely watching is the introduction at the local level of an invasive species program. Continue to look to GLARA's home page for updates and a photo contest created to draw the lens of any photographer. What image would you try to capture on a camera lens that precisely explains the experience or value (s) that drew and sustain your love for Green and Watch Lakes?

On behalf of the Board, your participation individually and as a member of any of the lake associations that advance the health and active enjoyment of the area, thank you for your part in protecting the values that draw us together. With very warm wishes,



Your GLARA Board

Please check out our website at www.glara.ca



BC Lake Stewardship Conference

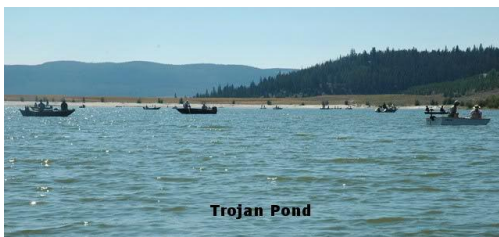


16th Annual BC Lake Stewardship Society conference hosted in Logan Lake

Logan Lake Councilor Audrey LeBlanc opened the conference. The BCLSS's Vice President Rick Nordin presented on current BCLSS activities. A retrospective on Logan Lake history was provided by Marge Sidney. Heather Larratt energized the group on the topic and the urgency in creating province wide support for preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species. Therese DesCamp of the Slokan Lake Stewardship Society, presented on the challenges facing stewardship groups. Andrew Klassen wrapped up the morning session by presenting on the Logan Lake winter oxygenation injection system.

After lunch, Tom Biebighauser presented on the critical if not essential function wetlands serve to clean storm water run-off. After a short walk, the afternoon field trip featured examples of wetland restoration initiatives to filter and clean water. Several nearby constructed wetlands on the Meadow Creek Golf Course Property (one built a few years ago and two freshly built the week of the conference). Darryl Arsenault wrapped up the daytime talks with a presentation on a restoration project on the Cottonwood Family Campground on Shuswap Lake. Ken Ashley delivered a thought-provoking keynote on the challenges facing small lakes in the southern interior, as well as the various restoration techniques that have been pioneered worldwide. PDFs of the PowerPoint presentations from the conference are available on the BCLSS website at: http://www.bclss.org/library/library/cat_view/116-2013-conference-presentations.html).

The Sunday field trip included a tour with several stops at the Highland Valley Copper mine. Delegates visited several wetland restoration areas including Trojan Pond, a renowned trout fishing lake. The morning wrapped



Trojan Pond

with a lunch graciously provided by Highland Valley Copper. After lunch several attendees opted to continue with the tour to another restoration site on mine property. The need for increased awareness on sustainability of our



Tour of Bethlehem Mines



Fred Kuyek

environment is growing as our province continues to experience rapid population growth with corresponding pressures in the supply of settlement space, employment, and natural habitat for wildlife and the conservation of ecologically sensitive areas and preservation of historic and culturally important landmarks. Financial support for this year's conference ensured the event was a success by providing the opportunity for concerned citizens, natural ecology stewards, and government agencies to gather information and understand the issues surrounding lake and watershed sustainability.

Submitted by participants Fred and Marie Kuyek, and Bruce Gilmour.

PHOTO CONTEST



Announcing the first (maybe annual) Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association Amateur Photography Contest. This contest is open to all GLARA members and their children.

When they are received, all entries and the name of the photographer will be displayed in the *Photo* section of the GLARA website (www.glara.ca). Winning or honorable mention photos that can be cropped to a narrow landscape format will be honored as the background image on the main page during the season they represent.

First prize: Apple Mini iPad

Second prize: Dinner certificate for two at an area restaurant. (to be announced in May Newsletter)

The contest closes on June 30, 2014. The winners will be announced on the web site by July 31, 2014

Contest Rules:

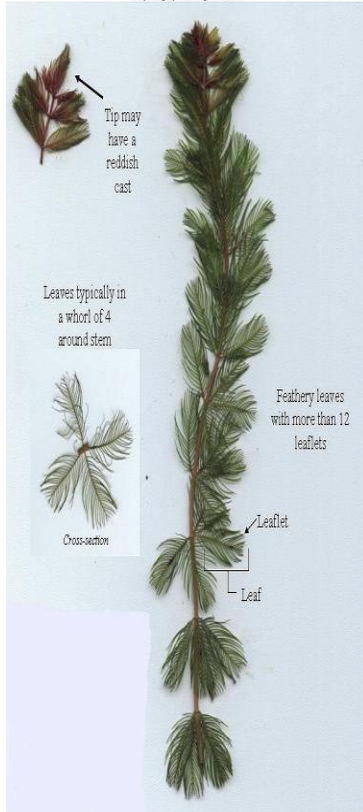
- 1) Name of GLARA member and property address must accompany each entry.**
- 2) Photo subject must be of a Watch Lake or Green Lake seasonal activity.
- 3) Entries must be in jpeg format and reduced in size to no greater than 1000 pixels in either width or height (whichever is greater).
- 4) Please, no sunsets. Everyone has a favourite and they are impossible to judge.
- 5) Members of the GLARA executive are ineligible to enter.

** **A GLARA member** is a paid up member until at least May 2014. If you are not sure of your membership status, email Marie Kuyek at greenwatchlake@gmail.com and she will reply by email with your membership expiry date. Non-members can receive a GLARA membership application form by contacting the above address.

BC Waterways at Risk from Invasive Species

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL

Myriophyllum spicatum



The lakes, rivers and streams that are trademarks of British Columbia's pristine wilderness, are at real and urgent risk from invasive species (terrestrial plants, aquatic plants). Once established, invasive species can be impossible to eradicate, leaving affected areas with permanent ecological, economic, and social impacts. In the absence of predators and disease that keep populations in check in their native origins, invasive species aggressively out-compete native species, thereby depleting biodiversity of the affected area. Their presence in waterways is linked to fish and waterfowl disease. Infestations can degrade aesthetics enough to devalue waterfront property. Infestations also create costly repairs to municipal water intake structures that are damaged by invasive plant material.

One species of high concern in BC is the zebra and quagga mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha* and *D. bugensis*), small fingernail-size mussels that are identifiable as the only freshwater mussel that attaches to hard surfaces. While they can transfer easily by boats from Ontario or Nevada/California areas, currently there are no known occurrences in BC. These small mollusks rapidly attach to hard surfaces and can subsequently clog water-intake structures, impact recreation, alter food webs and affect water quality — altering entire ecosystems.

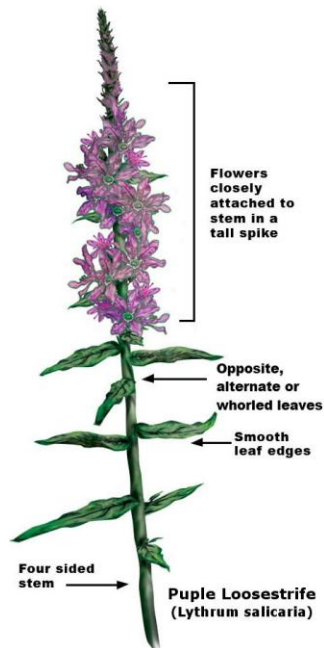
ZEBRA MUSSEL



QUAGGA MUSSEL



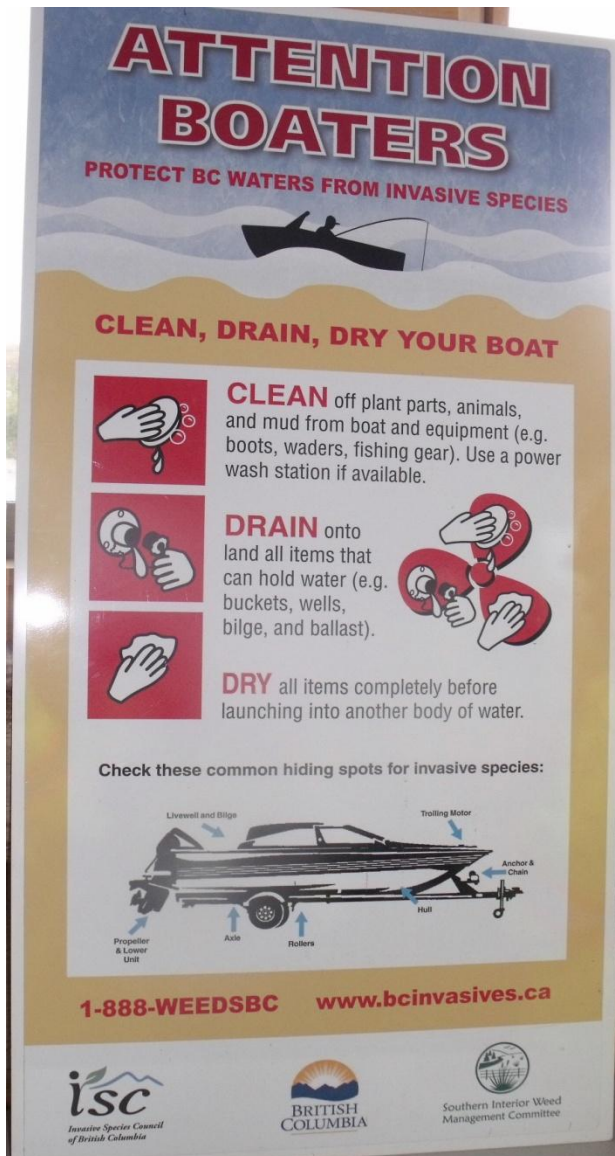
Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) is an invasive plant to watch for and report. These plants form thick mats on the water surface that obstruct boating and swimming activities, clog intake pipes of boats, foul fishing lines and nets, and out-compete native vegetation. Eurasian water milfoil is known to spread to new areas from pieces tangled in boat motors and trailers.



Also topping the list of aquatic invasive plants of concern in BC are fierce competitors in wetlands and popular in water based gardens — purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*). These water-loving invasive plants, while striking in appearance, form dense stands with thick root mats, can destroy wildlife habitat, displace native species, and clog canals and ditches. Due to its tenacious nature, the World Conservation Union (IUCN) lists purple loosestrife as one of the world's top 100 invasive species. These beautiful aquatic perennials often spread to new locations through the purchase and trade of aquatic plants. As well as gardening and water-based recreation, aquatic invasive plants can spread swiftly with the movement of people, pets, wildlife, and the transfer of other goods through the aquarium and fish-bait industries— prevention is key!



In response to the threat of new and known invaders to BC waters, the Invasive Species Council of British Columbia (ISCBC) with regional partners launched a 'Clean, Drain, Dry' program in 2012.



This program actively engages with boaters and community organizations to encourage boaters to clean, drain, and dry all boats and equipment prior to launching into new waters. These preventative actions will prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species to new areas. This is a prevention program that is operational across the Pacific Northwest States, to ensure that invasive mussels do not establish in otherwise uncontaminated areas.

The public is encouraged to become an active "Spotter" and join the province wide Spotters' Network, which is an opportunity for individuals to help detect, report, and be on alert for invasive species in their community. As a Green and Watch Lakes area resident, by being out on the water no matter in what form, your eyes as a steward of water quality and quantity by conducting water quality monitoring may be interested in being 'Spotters' to help safeguard BC's waterways from invasive species.

Contact the ISCBC at 1-888-933-3722 to become involved with the Spotters Network or to report sightings of invasive species. Regional organizations offer information on local problem plants and species, and individuals can 'Report-AWeed,' using the Province's online tool in three easy steps to report a suspected new sighting of an invasive plant species in BC. All possible sightings of zebra and quagga mussels should be directed to **Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP): 1-877-952-7277**. GLARA's spring update will be looking to introduce opportunities to learn more and to participate in keeping our back country, shorelines, and lake bottom healthy and inviting for only the species native or indigenous to the area.

Bruce Gilmour

Membership Crisis on the North Side

Much of this article was published in the WL-N.GL VFD Summer Newsletter and has appeared in other articles in the local newspaper. Unfortunately we have had little response. We currently have a roster of 28 members. Of the firefighters 14 are also trained as first responders and an additional 3 members are first responders only. Our Auxiliary also has about 25 active members who work hard to organize fund-raising events.

In all, this is a good turnout for a community of our size and it looks good on paper, but some members are only part-time residents and a few others travel south during the winter months. Many are retired, like all of us they are getting older, and feel that someday they will have to retire from active duty as well.

Understandably, this casts a dark cloud over the future of our department. We are approaching the member crisis that has plagued other areas and unless we find new members to begin training, we may be facing an eventual closure. The loss of our Fire Department would have very serious impacts on our community. First of all, it would mean an end to rapid medical aid with no fire emergency response at all and, secondly, all of our



fire insurance rates would jump to the highest possible category. This increase would, no doubt, be greater than the \$160 we currently pay to keep our fire department active.

Watch Lake and North Green Lake residents can help. We encourage any residents, either full or part-time, to drop by a Tuesday practice or give a call to Chief, Andy Palaniak at 250-456-7460 e-mail: wlnglvfd@gmail.com and see how you can donate just a few hours of your time to the protection of your community. Anyone with carpentry, mechanical or first aid skills would be particularly welcome. The Auxiliary too can always use people who can spare a bit of their time to help out at special events. If you can help out here please contact Giselle Polisenio at 250-395-9082 e-mail: gppolisenio@gmail.com. The firefighters meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. to practice their firefighting skills and to perform maintenance on the equipment. Practice scenarios are set up so that members get as much live-fire experience as possible. We really do need your help and just think of all the perks you get in exchange for a few hours of your time:

- free cap, tee shirt and jacket
- turnout gear, helmet, boots, all-purpose firefighter's tool radios and coveralls are provided
- also provided for capable applicants is self-contained breathing apparatus
- all First Responder and Firefighter training including driver's license upgrade (if necessary) and CPR is provided for all, free ride in a fire truck with lights and siren, and most important of all, you gain the respect and admiration of your neighbours for contributing to this vital community service.

Visit the department on any practice night and meet the people who proudly devote some of their time to the protection of our community or our visit the website to learn more about the people and equipment that are there for your protection 24 hours of every day of the year.



South Green Lake Volunteer Fire Department – Fall 2013

The SGLVFD has had another productive year, with the completion and final inspection of our new building, plus the completion of the refit of our new 1994 Superior Pumper.

We currently have a roster of 22 volunteer firefighters, but are always looking for willing and able bodied people to join our team. The opportunity to join the fire department is open to all residents of South Green Lake (recreational and full-time). If you would like to help keep your community safe, please call Peter McKie @ 250-456-6806. If you're new to the community, it's an excellent way to meet your neighbours.

The Ladies Auxiliary keeps busy throughout the year, but the majority of their time is spent preparing for the Annual Bake Sale (held each May long week-end). Bake-ins were held once a week throughout April, where over 300 pies were prepared and baked. We are always looking for gently used items to sell at our Garage Sale. If you have any household items to donate, please give us a call and we can arrange to pick them up.

Our Community Day, held Saturday of the August long week-end, was a huge success. Residents and guests came to check out the fire hall. There were activities throughout the day, starting with a run in the morning and continuing with a fish pond and other events for the smaller children. All the future firefighters went home with a fire hat and badge. Donations raised from the sale of hot dogs, pop and ice cream will be donated back to two local charities.

We thank you for continuing to drop of your beer, pop and juice bottle returns at the Fire Hall and the 70 Mile Transfer station. The revenue received from these bottle returns enhances our annual operating budget and is greatly appreciated. A huge thank you to everyone who participates in the bottle sorting.

We are proud of our accomplishments over the past twenty years. It's amazing what a community can achieve when it works together.

Thank you from the Board of Directors, Volunteer Firefighters and members of the Ladies' Auxiliary



Green Lake Snowmobile Club



The Green Lake Snowmobile Club was founded in 1975 by a small group of enthusiastic riders who recognized the many wonderful opportunities for snowmobiling in this area. The club has grown in the ensuing 37 years and has continued to be a participant in the preservation and maintenance of trails in and around Green Lake. Our extensive trail system is maintained year-round by dedicated club members. These trails link to a wide-ranging network of adjacent trails, providing a variety of terrain to explore.

The club has also built and maintained a 2200+ sq.ft clubhouse on the south side of Green Lake. The clubhouse is used for monthly

club meetings, dinner/dances, charity events and community functions. It is also available for rental at a reasonable cost for family reunions, weddings or other social events. The clubhouse has a full kitchen, large eating area with tables and chairs for up to 100 people and a sitting area with a wood stove. For those who would like to spend more time outdoors, there is a large covered porch at the front of the building as well as picnic tables and a fire pit.

The Green Lake Snowmobile Club is also involved in a variety of charitable and community events. We have a long history of involvement in the Winterfest charity benefitting the B.C. Lions' Society and the Easter Seals. Each year a Poker Ride and Fun Day are held, with all proceeds going to assist children with disabilities. The club also participates in the annual Santa Claus Parade in 100 Mile House and regularly donates to the local Food Bank and Women's Shelter.

The main focus of the club continues to be the promotion of snowmobiling as a safe, fun winter activity for the whole family. Weekly club rides are great opportunities for those people new to the sport or the area, to become familiar with the local trails and conditions. Our monthly dinner/ dances are a chance for people to meet their neighbors and make new friends. The club welcomes anyone interested in using the trail system – you don't have to own a snowmobile to join!

If you would like more information about our club, please check out our website at:

www.greenlakesnowmobileclub.ca. If you would like to speak to a member of the club, please phone 250-456-7751 and leave a message – a club member will call you back.

Water Report

This year we did 11 water tests on Green Lake starting in May and ending in October.

May 2	.5 meter	6°C	May 2	24 meters	5°C
August 12	.5 meter	21.5°C	August 12	24 meters	9°C (warmest)
October 13	.5 meter	10°C	October 13	24 meters	9.3°C



Rock buoy

The results for 9 of the water tests done this year are posted on the GLARA website, the other two will be posted in late December. The rocks buoys were taken out of the lake by Alan Boyd and Mark Bulman on September 30 and will be put back into Green lake in June sometime, weather permitting. We have 3 rock buoys in Green Lake and one of them went missing in August sometime. We have been unable to locate it, keep your eyes open while snowmobiling on the lake this year and if you see it please give Alan Boyd **(250-456-7651)** or Fred Kuyek **(250-456-2230)** a call. If anyone would like to do testing next summer on Watch Lake, please give Fred Kuyek a call.

Check out the GLARA website at: www.glara.ca



70 Mile House Solid Waste and Recycling Facility: Winter hours October 1 to March 31

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
open 8 am - 4 pm	closed	open 8 am - 4 pm	closed	closed	open 8 am - 4 pm	open 8 am - 4 pm

70 Mile House Solid Waste and Recycling Facility: Summer hours April 1 to September 30

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
open 8 am - 4 pm	open 8 am - 4 pm	open 8 am - 4 pm	closed	closed	open 8 am - 4 pm	open 8 am - 4 pm



Watch Lake Landfill Winter hours October 1 to March 31

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
open 8 am - 4 pm	open 7 am - 4 pm	closed	closed	open 8 am - 4 pm	open 8 am - 5 pm	open 9 am - 4 pm

Watch Lake Landfill Summer hours April 1 to September 30

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
open 8 am - 4 pm	open 7 am - 4 pm	closed	open 8 am - 5 pm	open 8 am - 5 pm	open 8 am - 6 pm	open 8 am - 5 pm



Lone Butte Transfer Station Winter hours October 1 to March 31

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
open 8 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 5 pm	open 7 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 5 pm	closed	closed	open 8 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 6 pm	open 8 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 6 pm	open 9 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 5 pm

Lone Butte Transfer Station Summer hours April 1 to September 30

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
open 8 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 6 pm	open 7 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 6 pm	closed	open 8 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 6 pm	open 8 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 7 pm	open 8 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 6 pm	open 8 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 6 pm

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