

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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SPRING 2015

Hello to all GLARA Members and residents of the Watch/Green Lakes area

This is our first newsletter of 2015 and we hope you find it interesting and informative. GLARA currently enjoys a healthy membership in excess of 300; however, we welcome new members and look forward to hearing from you. You will find a membership form on the back page of this Newsletter.

This year's ice-off on Green Lake was the earliest that long-time residents can remember. On Friday March 27th we experienced high winds all day and awoke the next morning to find the ice was gone, with exception of the ice in the bays at each end of the lake; it remained another week or so. This early departure of the ice along with higher water levels caused many people's wharfs to leave their shore line and float away. It was a very busy Easter for many landowners on the lake having to retrieve their wharfs. I would like to thank everyone for looking out for their neighbors and for their assistance in returning the wharfs to their rightful owners.

This year's GLARA AGM will be held at the South Green Lake Snowmobile Club on August 22, starting at 10:00 am. Hope to see you there!

Marie Kuyek, Director

The Buoy has returned!

Two years ago, one of the Green Lake "Danger Rocks Buoys" broke away from its anchor and disappeared. It has remained a mystery as to where it had gone until we received an email from Dave Gilliam. He has a place near access #16 on North Green Lake and it seems that the high water not only removed wharfs from the shoreline but also floated the Buoy back into Green lake landing on Dave's shoreline. Alan Boyd has returned it to storage at his place along with the other Buoys. The Buoys will be placed back in the lake sometime in June.



Thank-you Dave and Alan!

Aquatic Invasives

Aquatic invasive species are much like a chemical stressor such as an oil spill, once they spread they are extremely expensive to get rid of and they leave a devastating path of destruction along the way. Canada is very vulnerable to marine invaders due to its huge freshwater resources and extensive coastline. The problem with aquatic invasive species is that they have the ability to spread drastically, leaving native habitat inhospitable; they can affect boating or swimming and other water recreational activities. The most common pathway of aquatic invasives are commercial shipping boats, many species hitchhike in ballast water or sediment and in hull cavities for water intake. But other vectors include boats, aquariums, water gardens and live food fish.

Aquatic invasives can cost millions of dollars to eradicate and control; for example the Great Lakes have spent \$3 to \$7.5 billion on the control of zebra/quagga mussels. These aquatic species are very invasive; females can produce up to 1 million offspring in a spawning system and they are able to survive on a boat out of water for 30 days. Zebra mussels attach themselves to water intake pipes, boat propellers, boat hulls, docks, rocks, and even other aquatic animals. Currently these mussels are found in three Canadian provinces (Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec) and forty-four US states. Within the Cariboo Regional District, the introduction and establishment of the aquatic invasive plant species of yellow flag iris, purple loosestrife, and flowering rush has already occurred. While the number of infestation of these plants is fairly minimal in the region, the size of the infestations is such that, elimination is not feasible with the resources and control options currently available. Our management strategies are yearly surveys to determine rate of spread, clipping of seed heads where possible to eliminate seed spread and a limited use of biological control agents (only available for purple loosestrife) to lessen spread and vigor.

Prevention is critical; we all must work together to stop the introduction of these devastating species. There is much we can do to achieve this, including:

- Educate yourself, find out what invasive plants are in your area, and inform others.
- Learn how to identify aquatic invasive plants.
- Never transport plants, sediment, or live bait into aquatic ecosystems.
- Do not release aquarium plants or live bait into aquatic ecosystems.
- Dispose of submerged aquatic invasive plant material far from water and spread it out so that it can completely dry. For all other plant material, bag and dispose of it at the 100 Mile House Landfill in the labelled invasive plant bin.
- Report invasive plants to the Cariboo Regional District at 1.800.665.1636 or through the provincial Report-A-Weed app.
- Help educate other lake residents, boaters, anglers, and hunters.
- Drain water from boat (including motor, live well, bilge, and transom wells), trailers, tackle, and gear (including waders) before leaving an area.
- Inspect your boat, motor, trailer, and equipment and remove all aquatic plants and visible debris before leaving an area. Dispose of plant material responsibly.



flowering rush in Bouchie Lk, Quesnel, BC



Zebra & Quagga Mussels

- Empty your bait bucket on land before leaving any waterbody.

If you have any questions or concerns about aquatic invasive species, please contact the CRD's Invasive Plant Management department at 1.800.665.1636

Emily Sonntag
Invasive Plant Management Coordinator
esonntag@cariboord.bc.ca

Watch Lake - North Green Lake VFD **Fire Season Starts Early This Year**



With the poor snowpack from this past winter and the early warming trend this spring, the grasslands and forests have dried off much earlier than usual. This has created a very hazardous situation as we begin the annual burning of dead grass and rubbish piles.

Burning restrictions were announced to begin on April 27 and this puts an end to major burning, but be extremely careful with the smaller, allowable fires and campfires, they can get away very quickly. For details check-out: <http://bcwildfire.ca>

One of our members had hoped to burn the remains of winter deadfalls on his property shortly after the snow receded. Fortunately, he was fully prepared with shovels, water and a helper since he found that in no time his initial fire was rapidly spreading to the surrounding grass. That was it for the cleanup for this year.

A nearby rancher was not so lucky with what was supposed to be a small grass burn on his front lawn. No sooner had he started when a moderate wind developed and sparks jumped the driveway to ignite the hay field on the other side. A small yard burn soon developed into a 2 hectare grass fire. Our firefighters were rapidly on the scene, with plenty of water to drown the flames, but their efforts were hampered by the wind constantly blowing sparks up to 6 meters beyond the fire line. The fire was approaching the nearby forest when a sudden change in the wind slowed its progress and the firefighters were able to soak the surrounding area.

It has not been a good start to spring for the rancher. A month earlier there was a chimney fire in a small house he owns on an adjoining property. However, he had paid the fire dues on both properties and avoided what could have been a \$6,000 bill for fire services to unpaid properties. Moral of the story - be aware of fire hazards on your property and, of course, pay your fire dues.

If you do need to have a **small** burn on your property, remember to check the venting. For daily venting information phone 888-281-2992. The venting must be good on the day you wish to begin your burning and good or fair on the following day.

The dry hydrants, discussed in past editions of the Green Watch, were installed last fall and have been thoroughly tested throughout the winter months. Generally, the temperatures this past winter were fairly mild, but we did get a few days of minus thirty temperatures and the hydrants performed flawlessly during this time. The firefighters are now able to fill the water tenders in about four minutes year-round from the two dry hydrant locations.

Don't forget to attend the garage and bake sale at the Sonny Johnson Memorial Hall from 9:00am - 1:00 pm on May 16th. Come early and enjoy a ham and egg breakfast sandwich. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be available later. See more fire department news and information at our website: www.wlmgfiredept.org

Roy Allan

Congratulations again to the winners of the 2014 Photo contest

1st place: Trish Forester won an I Pad mini



2nd place: Val Whittington won \$50 gift certificate, Dusty Rose



Check out our website to see the winning pictures and all of the photo entries www.glara.ca



South Green Lake Volunteer Fire Department

We are continuing to upgrade our Hall and apparatus as extra funds permit. We have graveled the parking lot to keep the dust down and are upgrading our firefighting tools and gear. Our five year plan is to improve our water tender process, allowing us faster response time to and from the lake. This includes various options, such as a newer tender or installation of dry hydrants on the lakeside. The Fire Hall will have **"fire sprinkler kits"** on display at the Annual Garage/Bake

Sale (May long week-end) and at Community Day (August long week-end). The firefighters build these kits and they are offered for sale to any interested residents. Come take a look at an inexpensive way to protect your property.

Effective April 27, 2015 there is a Category 3 Open Fire Prohibition.

Please check BC Wildfire: <http://bcwildfire.ca> or with one or the firefighters if you are unsure.

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 every Thursday for the month of April, we have over 300 pies for sale (apple, blueberry, cherry, strawberry/rhubarb & rhubarb), as well as butter tarts and other baked goods. 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.

We thank-you for continuing to drop off your beer, pop and juice bottle returns at the Fire Hall and the 70 Mile Transfer station. The Transfer Station has a wire cage beside the glass drop-off containers for any donations. 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 that the Volunteer Fire Department continues to move forward during these challenging times of new laws and regulations governing volunteer departments. Thank-you to all our members who continue to attend our bi-weekly practices, take ongoing courses and maintain the "fleet". Well done!

Thank-you from the Board of Directors, Volunteer Firefighters and members of the Ladies' Auxiliary. Visit our website: <http://southgreenlakevfd.ca>

Peter Mckie

BC Community Achievement Awards

On March 17th, 2015 one of our Directors in the GLARA Executive, won the 2015 BC Community Achievement Award. Jack Keough is a respected community builder whose focus is community wellness. Under his leadership as Executive Director of Yellowhead Community Services for the past 20 years, the programs and services he works on have expanded to meet the growing needs of all age groups in the North Thompson region. Jack has worked at 6 different locations for individuals, children, families, employers and community groups. The development and implementation of a transit system and more support for adults with special needs, Licensed childcare programs, literary programs and the formation of the North Thompson Community Foundation, are just a very few examples where Jack has made exceptional contributions.



Jack Keough

We are proud to have Jack's expertise on the GLARA Executive.

Congratulations Jack.

Corporal Brandon Bulziuk **Clinton Detachment**

I'd like to start by introducing myself. I am Corporal Brandon Bulziuk, the Non Commissioned Officer in charge of the Clinton RCMP Detachment. Our Detachment area covers the majority of the 70 Mile House, Green Lake, Watch Lake area. I have been in Clinton nearly 8 months since promoting here from Serious Crimes in Merritt. My wife Jamie and I moved here with our 3 children; Colton, McKenna and Hayden. We thoroughly enjoy the area and the people, who have been so welcoming.

I bring a rather diverse Policing background to the Clinton Detachment, having worked in general Duty, First Nations Policing, Drugs/Serious Crime and on the Southeast District Tactical Team. I have worked in isolation where I was responsible for policing several small First Nations Reserve islands off the West Coast. This posting led me to gain hundreds of hours of Marine Patrol experience on the ocean and excellent training in Marine Safety. I hope to share this experience with my team here and use it on the local lakes during summer seasonal Policing.

The Clinton Detachment will be operating at full strength effective May 1st and there are no plans for change in the near future. Constable Rob Marshall, Constable Ryan Goffic, Constable Gordie Jones and myself will be at your service for some years to come. We are focusing on dealing with current traffic related issues, which of course heat up in the summer months. You will see initiatives and campaigns in action around the 70 Mile House area throughout the summer. Enforcement will be visible when it comes to speed, careless driving, impaired driving and unlicensed drivers. We will also take those checks onto the water, where vessels will be checked for required safety equipment and sober/licensed operators. Another area that will require attention in the coming months is the amendments to the rules and regulations as they relate to Off Road Vehicles. Education and enforcement will be carried out in relation to each set of circumstances. Impaired operation of Off Road Vehicles will be dealt with by way of Zero Tolerance Enforcement. It is our goal at the Clinton Detachment to use the few resources we do have, to provide the safest environment for all residents of the area.

I welcome correspondence from members of the community and have an open door policy. Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

Yours in Community Policing,
Brandon M.J. Bulziuk, Corporal
NCO I/C Clinton RCMP-GRC Detachment
Office 250-459-2221
Fax 250-459-7055
Email Brandon.bulziuk@rcmp-grc.gc.ca





Green Lake Snowmobile Club

The Green Lake Snowmobile Society was incorporated in 1975. The Purpose of the Society is to promote the recreational, social and educational interests of its members. In 1976, the club received a grant of crown land from the then Ministry of Lands and Forest to erect a club house-community centre and was also granted the recreational use of a large tract of land surrounding Green Lake for the purposes of developing trails for snowmobile, ATV, horseback riding and other recreational pursuits. In 1976, a 2300 square foot clubhouse-community centre was erected which serves as a recreation and social centre for residents of Green Lake-Watch Lake and area.

The Green Lake snowmobile society promotes through its constitution the following:

- Trails and community centre for the use of meetings, events and lectures 12 months a year.
- Conducting of conferences, safety clinics and exhibitions on all-terrain vehicles and snow mobiles.
- Community Centre and grounds are made available for the use of appropriate community events.
- Community functions such as family functions, dinners, dances, plays, seasonal parties, weddings, anniversaries and birthdays are encouraged in the facility. The hall is available for rental to the community for a very reasonable rate.

The Society (Snowmobile Club) is presently a partner with the provincial government in a management agreement for the trail systems on the south side of the lake. The snowmobile club in concert with the Green Lake Watch lake OCP will to the best of our ability:

- OCP section. 3.3.12 Tourism. Protect and enhance tourism opportunities, including: existing lodges, an expanded trail network, eco-tourism and agri-tourism
- OCP section. 11 Trails. Objective 6. Acquire and protect corridors for trail, and support the development, maintenance and linking of trails that will accommodate a range of uses.

There are approximately 107 registered, paid members of the Society.

On September 15/2014 the club was successful in obtaining a Job Creation Partnership grant from the Ministry of Social Development, Province of BC.

The impact of the mountain pine beetle, notably in the Cariboo Region of the Province, is only too evident in the forests surrounding Green and Watch Lakes. While the mountain pine beetle is long gone and most of the impact has been remediated nonetheless, it is extremely noticeable on the hundreds of kilometers of recreation trails west of Highway 97 and south of Highway 24. The trails have sustained considerable damage as literally thousands of dead pine trees continue to impede the various recreational uses on these trails, and most noticeably during the winter when the weight of the snow of limbs causes these trees to topple and block trails for recreational use. Over the years members and users have worked tirelessly to clean the debris off the trails,

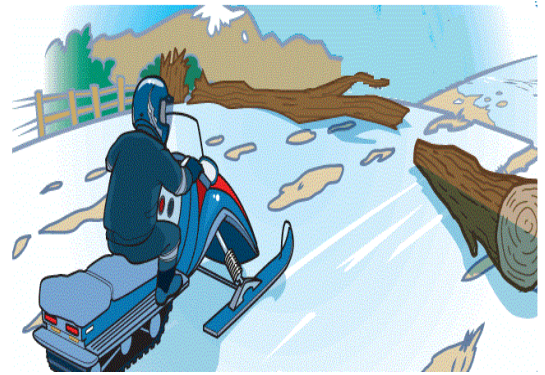


however, without a substantial and concerted effort, the trails will continue to be damaged and sometimes prove to be hazardous. One of the purposes of this JCP was to clean, widen and repair these damaged trails. In addition to the trail restoration, the JCP placed new signage on the trails and a small construction project was completed at Jeep Lake campsite, where a new outhouse and fire ring were installed.

The second major component of the JCP was the 12' x 28' addition to the current clubhouse. This addition added indoor washrooms for events and activities occurring at the facility.

The JCP employed 4 participants over a period of 21 weeks from September 15, 2014 to February 20, 2015. The first phase of the project was the addition to the existing community centre-clubhouse which also includes the installation of an approved septic system. The Society was responsible for ensuring that this system meets health standards and requirements. The construction component of this project lasted two months. In kind support from the local membership and the local businesses was instrumental in offsetting the costs associated with this addition.

The second phase of the project was the trail clearing/restoration and trail enhancement activities which took place from late November through to early February 2015. The key benefits of the JCP Project **were** a fully functioning community centre that offers a wide range of recreational, cultural, social and educational activities. Also, it's a centrally located hub for community gatherings, which is also handicapped friendly, with a restored wheel chair ramp and the addition of handicapped accessible washrooms. Along with restored and enhanced recreational trails, the jobs created offered the participants greater opportunity for long term employment.



Thank you to all the local residents and businesses who donated their time, expertise and equipment to complete this project. We encourage all residents to check our website for any upcoming events and to stop by the Clubhouse to see the improvements. We also encourage everyone to join the club. The money received in memberships will further enhance the trails and continue in the upkeep of the clubhouse.

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.

Past President, Green Lake Snowmobile Club
Peter McKie



High Water on Green Lake

Yes, the water on Green Lake is yet again higher this year! I was talking with local resident Gordon Labinsky, who for years has taken accurate recordings of Green Lake's water levels. He had some interesting facts.

Since Oct. 18/2014 the water level has gone up 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches and is still rising, slowly. On October 11/2012, Green Lake was within 4 inches of an all time low, since then the lake has risen 36 inches. How long does the water usually keep rising in the spring until it slows down and starts to recede, you ask? Gordon was telling me that last year from April 26th until July 26th the lake rose steadily before it peaked. He feels this year may be a little different from last year. Walking out behind Green Lake towards one of the ponds, the trails are dry with no water in the puddles and the normally water filled pond is dry as a bone. There isn't the ground water that is usually present at this time of year.

So, please take extra caution when having a campfire, it is very dry so far this year.



Marie Kuyek

Please check out our website!! www.glara.ca

Tansy grows in the Green/Watch Lake area

The common tansy is a perennial and considered regionally noxious under the BC Weed Control Act. Common tansy has yellow disc flowers that resemble buttons in a flat-topped cluster at the top of the plant. With fern-like leaves, common tansy can grow 0.4-1.5 metres in height at maturity. Spread mainly through seeds and roots, common tansy can be transported by birds, animals, and on vehicles that have been in infested areas. Seeds can remain viable for up to 25 years: therefore, stopping seed spread is a main concern.

Common tansy prefers sunny areas with well-drained soil, and often infests stream banks, pastures, and disturbed sites such as roadsides. Infestation may be toxic to livestock and to humans if large quantities are consumed.



Excerpt taken from the BC Invasives website:
Visit <http://bcinvasives.ca/>



Free Disposal Day at 70 Mile House Eco-Depot

The 70 Mile House Eco-Depot will be having a Free Disposal Day on:

Saturday, June 6th from 8:00 am – 4 pm

Residents may bring **"ONE FREE LOAD PER VEHICLE"** to the Eco-Depot at 70 Mile on event day. No business or commercial loads accepted for free.

GLARA Membership Renewal 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 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 form by **email** your expiry date is in the subject line of your email. **Membership fees are \$15 per year or \$40 for 3 years.**

Name(s) of member(s) applying

lake address

Full mailing address

Home phone

Lake phone

Work phone

Cell phone

E-mail address for color email newsletter & notifications

or E-mail address: "use only for small notifications, not to be used for Newsletters." \$15.00 or \$40.00 Cheque enclosed

Make cheques payable to G.L.A.R.A. Mail to: **GLARA, #99 Green Lake South Rd, 70 Mile House, B.C. , V0K 2K2.**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING GLARA

GLARA email: greenwatchlake@gmail.com GLARA Website: www.glara.ca

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