

#### 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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# **SUMMER 2016**

Dear Glara Members,

Welcome to a high water year at Green Lake! There certainly doesn't seem to be any evaporation effect due to an amazingly wet June and July. Gardens are happy as are the local fire halls and not to forget an honorable mention to our favorite wildlife, mosquitos.

At our last AGM we mentioned having a study done by a Registered Biologist to do an assessment of the Green Lake/ Watch Lake Area watershed in order to give our community some scientifically based guidance on what improvements could be done to the area. This Phase 1 Biological Assessment is completed and posted on our GLARA website for your review. We wish to present this at the AGM for discussion and solicit opinions from our membership.

In summary, the report describes the Green & Watch Lake Area as being in general good health. Several riparian areas were identified for possible field evaluation but almost all the riparian areas are on private land. The report also noted that the area has a high proportion of roads relative to the land mass. It was suggested that we look at being a proponent to the local forest companies to deactivate some of these roads as vehicular traffic places stress on the local wildlife.

Invasive species continues to be of concern as early detection seems to be the only means of control. Several local areas surrounding us have been battling invasive species with a variety of methods for years and were mentioned in a discussion with the report author. It was a cautionary tale for Green/Watch Lake residents as we seem to have escaped so far, but we are surrounded by those who have been affected in one way or another. For myself, I find most of these invasive species are difficult to detect without training and awareness and feel the need for help. For example, even for those trained in identification, natural versus Eurasian milfoil often needs a DNA analysis!

We look forward to your input at the AGM and hope you may attend.

The GLARA AGM is being held at South Green Lake Snowmobile Club again this year. Please keep **Saturday, August 20th - 9:30 am** open on your calendar and plan to attend.

Sincerely, Dunham Craig

## **Invasive Species report**



While our rainy summer has been a hot topic for differing opinions this season, the generous amount of precipitation that the Cariboo has recently experienced has one unanimous fan base: plant life. Cool spring conditions have helped invasive plants thrive throughout the region, most noticeably along roadsides (hello Oxeye daisy!), in gardens, and in areas of soil disturbance, such as campgrounds. Providing resources to assist in the identification and prevention of invasive plants,

the Invasive Species Council of BC (ISCBC) has been attending farmer's markets and summer fairs, relaying information and materials on the ISCBC and the PlantWise program. Cariboo fishing derbies were also on the schedule, providing ISCBC the opportunity to extend the Clean, Drain, Dry program messaging and resources aimed at boaters, and informing the public about aquatic invasive species impacting, or threatening, our local bodies of water.





The 2016 BC boating season began with the enhancement of the pilot Invasive Mussel Defence Program that expanded from 12 inspectors in 6 locations, to 32 inspectors in 8 locations across the province. Requiring mandatory inspection of watercraft across BC's borders, the program primarily targets guagga and zebra mussels, on top of other aguatic invasive hitchhikers. In June, the council hosted a successful Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop in downtown Quesnel, where a panel of experts presented to 28 participants from surrounding communities and organizations on provincial updates, current research, and the next steps to manage and prevent further spread of aquatic invasives. The timing of the workshop was fitting, as a week prior, the 'Western Canada Invasive Species Agreement' was signed by BC, Alberta, Yukon, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, promising greater collaboration on prevention and response, with an initial focus on aquatic invasive species, in the West. Especially as summer progresses, the influx of boats, both motorized and paddle-powered, cannot be missed on Cariboo lakes, and now with a brighter spotlight on aquatic invaders, all lake users and enthusiasts can be that much more aware on how to prevent the spread of invasives. For recent news, identification tools, and upcoming events, please visit www.bcinvasives.ca, and remember to spread the word, not the weeds!

**Invasive Species council of BC** 



#### <u>Watch Lake – North Green Lake VFD – Summer News</u>

As far as responding to fires is concerned this summer season has, so far, been very quiet for our fire department. A couple of weeks of warm, dry weather in May brought about early fire restrictions, but, with the following showery weather, the ban was lifted in time for outdoor fires and fireworks on the Canada Day weekend.

Needless to say, the wet weather throughout July has kept the wildfire danger low and given the firefighters some time to relax and concentrate on training programs.

The new engine is now fully equipped and the firefighters have all been given an orientation in its operation and in the functions of the pumping system. All the adjustments have been made to get it running in the most acceptable ways for everyone. This truck has already proven to be the perfect companion vehicle to the Volvo pumper and the two of them should serve the community for many years to come. With no callouts, there has been plenty of opportunity for training. Practice sessions have included training in the use of foam induction on Engine 11 and in the tank on Engine 21. Review of the use of SCBA units and spill kits takes place regularly. Pumping procedures from the in-ground tank and the dry hydrants have been reviewed with everyone taking a turn to be sure the whole crew is familiar with the water delivery systems.

Drawing water from the lake using the dry hydrants at Accesses 14 and 20 is often practiced, but with summer activities taking place on the water visitors are often ignoring the no parking signs and blocking access to the hydrants. This could be a serious problem in the event of a fire and the RCMP have authorized the Fire Chief to have offending vehicles removed.

On a lighter note, the Auxiliary's annual garage and bake sale on the May long weekend drew great attendance and the breakfast sandwiches were once again extremely popular. Another bake sale and open house took place at Hall #2 on July 30 and the breakfast



sandwiches once again were featured. Our cooking crew is planning to provide a pancake breakfast on the Sunday morning of the three-day Summer Buzz event taking place at Little Horse Lodge on August 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>.

On the July 1<sup>st</sup> weekend the firefighters participated in the Canada Day celebrations at the Flying U Ranch. Everyone there took advantage of the brief period of good weather and enjoyed the hospitality of the Ranch. The firefighters took three of the trucks and put on a "waterworks" display complete with a rainbow.

Our fire department, like all others, is well trained, well equipped and ready to respond to any emergency in our community, but we hope we never have to. Let's all enjoy the summer holiday season to its fullest, but let's do it safely.

#### **Roy Allan**



### **South Green Lake Volunteer Fire Department**

Even though it has been a quiet fire season, the volunteer members continue to work on the training modules implemented by the "Playbook" requirements. So far we have completed 8 of the 11 modules. We are fine tuning the water supply truck, ensuring more water to the fire scene quickly. We have also completed S-100, first aid and

emergency driver training over the last few months. In conjunction with the first aid training, we purchased a new AED and training package. We now have two AED'S located at the fire hall.

Our Annual Community day (July 30th) was very well attended, with over 300 hot dogs and 360 ice cream cones being consumed. The younger children participated in a fish pond, races and climbed on the equipment, under the supervision of our volunteer fire fighters. The net proceeds of Community day will go to the BC Professional Fire Fighters Burn Unit. A big thanks to all of the volunteers who helped make this a very successful event!

**Peter McKie** 

## **Clinton RCMP Report**

The Clinton RCMP are reminding vacationers and local Green Lake residents that operating an ATV or unlicensed motor bike on roadways is contravening the Motor Vehicle Act and penalties for no insurance are \$598. Please ride safe and ride sober. We will also be patrolling the area throughout the summer with a heavy presence of police on the long weekends.

The Clinton RCMP continue to receive reports from residents of the Green Lake area of people trespassing on their lake front property. Signage and verbal warnings to the trespassers are appropriate solutions and if the problems continue, reports to the RCMP are welcomed.



We remind the public to leave your phone alone when driving a motor vehicle. Distracted driving by texting and talking on your cell phone is one of the leading causes of motor vehicle collisions.

Clinton RCMP are reminding the public to be aware of phone scams that are prevalent in today's society. In particular, be aware of one such scam where a person identifies themselves as a representative from Canada Revenue Agency and demands money to be paid or a warrant will be issued. These types of calls are scams.

On June 16, 2016 Clinton RCMP, Green Lake and 100 Mile Fire Department and BC Ambulance attended the 5900 block of Green Lake Rd N regarding a plane crash. A small two-seater plane crashed while attempting to land. 1 male passenger was pronounced deceased on scene while another male pilot was air lifted to hospital with life threatening injuries. The Transportation Safety Board continues to investigate.

**Cst. Rob MARSHALL, Clinton RCMP** 

Office: <u>250-459-2221</u> Fax: <u>250-459-7055</u>



#### Message from CRD Area L Director

Dear friends, I hope everyone in the Green Lake, Watch Lake areas are enjoying their summer, although it is a little bit like Vancouver weather I am sure everything will return to normal, and the grass will be turning brown and fall will be upon us before we know it.

Good thing, less forest fire activity. As chairman of the CRD broadband committee we are meeting with various telecommunications companies, to increase the attainability and the quality of cell phone and Wi-Fi in the South CRD areas and the CRD as a whole. School will start soon, please watch out for the school buses and children on the side of the roads. Heating your house season starts soon, please clean your chimneys if you use wood, and check your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide sensors. Stay safe.



#### Sincerely, Brian Coakley, Director CRD Area L

## **Buckside Hill Site of Green Lake Park; Public Meeting**

I received a phone call from Donna Barnett after I requested minutes from the "Buckside Hill Site" public meeting. She explained that there were no minutes to be given out, but she did give me an overview of what took place.

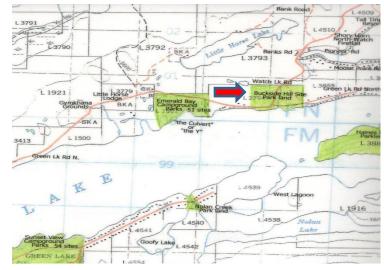
The meeting took place on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm at the South Green Lake Snowmobile Club. There were 35 people in attendance. The meeting was called to get input from the public about "Buckside Hill Site Park" and also inform people of what the park was all about. Donna apologized again for the short notice of the meeting and the mix up with the location that it would be held at. A few of the topics that were discussed at the meeting were: garbage, boat launching, parking, signage, trails, fire maintenance and outhouses.

Donna stated that there have never been signs at the site and this will be looked at. Also she let people know that it is a "Class A park" which has certain restrictions, like having outhouses and a boat launch. There were discussions about the walking trails and fire mitigation and what needs to be done. The area is the location of a spawning channel so barriers may be put in place to stop people from launching

boats. There is also the issue of garbage. The Government will be taking all of the suggestions and restrictions and putting together a plan for the park. They will present it to the public this fall sometime and will be announcing the meeting well in advance of when it will take place.

I will keep everyone updated on the plans for the Fall meeting when I am notified.

Marie Kuyek, GLARA director

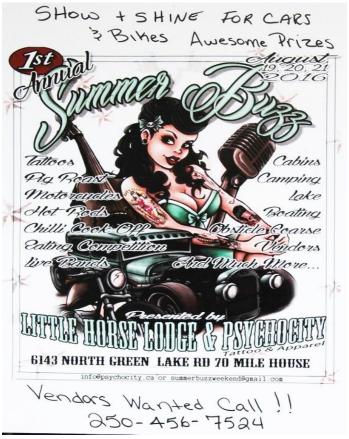


## **Green Lake / Watch Lake Area Maps**



Available to buy; 11" x 17" laminated maps of Green Lake/Watch Lake Area at the GLARA AGM meeting, August 20th, 9:30am at the Snowmobile Clubhouse on South Green Lake Road. \$5.00 each





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