

Spring 2020
Volume 15

Three Mile Lake Barnacle

Your "In-Depth" Lake News

Annual General Meeting via ZOOM video / tele-conference – Wednesday, June 24, 2020 @ 7:00pm

Due to COVID-19 restrictions we will not be permitted to hold an in-person Annual Meeting this year. Instead, the TMLCC will be arranging for a Zoom meeting (video and tele-conference) on a mid-week evening. Please bear with us as we adjust to this new reality!

You can pay your annual Membership securely via e-transfer! PayPal / credit card option also still available on our web site, www.3milelake.org ! Go to the 'Members' link...

Our Facebook group has now reached 440 members. We are finding this is the best way to communicate quickly in our community...but please stick to the "Group Rules". Join at www.3milelake.org

MAILING ADDRESS: 167 Sunnylea Ave., Katrine, ON P0A 1L0
Email: info@3milelake.org Web: www.3milelake.org

Public Consultation – Proposed Park Township Reviewing Potential Park / Boat Launch at Three Mile Lake Road & Sunnylea

Armour Township is considering the possibility of creating a park and / or potential boat launch on their property at the "T" intersection of Three Mile Lake Road and Sunnylea Avenue. Residents of the lake have been encouraged to provide their concerns, feedback, comments and suggestions by June 30, 2020. Normally this would be done through a public meeting, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, it is necessary to receive feedback via either email or direct mail (dropped in the lock-box at the Township).

TMLCC's main interest at all times is protection of the lake itself. This would be true of any development of any kind. The association has worked with the Township over many years to ensure that specific items related to development on the lake are included in the Official Plan and included in various by-laws for proper enforcement. We have spent a great deal of time and effort over many years tracking and monitoring lake quality. We are seen as setting a high standard for our attention to lake water quality, education and communication, and safety. It will be through this lens that we provide feedback to the Township. At the same time, it is fair that the Township consider options that could provide benefit to everyone in the community. This is, after all, their property and they have an obligation to enhance and manage their investments, just like any other landowner.

The main options being considered are a park (picnic area, parking lot – no-cost option), a boat launch (replacing the one at Three Mile Lake Road and Rat Lake Road – costs unknown), or both. They could also decide to do nothing at this time. We will ensure that any option regarding a boat launch would include extensive input from TMLCC (boat and car safety, control over invasive species, discussions around the viability of the proposed location).

Please provide your input, positive or negative, to the Township by June 30, 2020.

COVID-19 Impacts

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a different kind of start to cottaging this year. The efforts made by seasonal residents to follow public health guidelines and "stay in place" are appreciated, and our area has been very fortunate to avoid a serious outbreak. The Federation of Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) has been an excellent resource for guidelines and communications during this time. Media and social media have, at times, cast a shadow of "us versus them" between local full-time residents and seasonal residents at cottage-country locations across the province. This is not useful. Common sense and a common concern for all of our neighbours has prevailed but there are certainly some learned lessons in the event that we are in this situation again. Cottagers are encouraged to follow the guidelines of public health, certainly, and also take advantage of FOCA communications and updates. You can follow FOCA from our web site or directly at www.foca.on.ca.

Email: info@3milelake.org

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**Contact Information to
Keep Close By...****Emergency Services****(Fire, Police,
Ambulance)...911****Non-emergency local
O.P.P. detachment
(Almaguin / Burk's
Falls)...705-382-2015****Armour Township
(building permits, by-
laws, local roads,
snow removal, landfill,
etc)...705-382-3332****Burk's Falls Landfill
Site Summer Hours –
10am – 5pm Thursday
through Monday
(closed Tues / Wed)****The Burk's Falls Towne
Theatre ... schedule will
be posted on web site –
currently closed due to
COVID restrictions****Burk's Falls Arena 705-
382-3811 – currently
closed due to COVID
restrictions****Your TMLCC Executives
and Directors:**Vacancy (President)
Vacancy (Vice-President)
Barb Leonard (Treasurer)
Vacancy (Secretary)
Bromley Henning (Lake
Steward)**Directors:**Wendy Bristow
Albert Bollenbach
Vivian Harvey
Carolyn Hodgins
Gord Isbister
Wilf Schneider
Tim Taylor

The **coliform** levels were tested twice during the summer at five different spots on the lake and the good news is that all results were below the threshold for recreational waters. The maximum allowable value is 1000 cfus (colony forming units).

Cfus	TML-1	TML-2	TML-3	TML-4	TML-5
07/04/2019	19	5	156	5	5
08/18/2019	11	16	13	5	182

The **E.coli** levels were also tested twice at the same five spots in the lake. The E.coli levels were all well below the recreational water threshold of 100 cfus.

cfus	TML-1	TML-2	TML-3	TML-4	TML-5
07/04/2019	28	<3	<3	11	<3
08/18/2019	<3	<3	11	5	46

High **phosphorus** along with nitrogen can be a driver of algae blooms. Typically, one would like to have phosphorus levels below 20 µg/L.

Date	Test results µg/L	Average of results µg/L
06/06/2019	23.2, 37.0*	23.2
07/03/2019	12.8, 14.4	13.6
09/02/2019	10.0, 12.4	11.2
10/01/2019	11.8, 12.2	12.0

*(Assumed bad sample due to discrepancy with first sample - removed)

Thank you to our new Lake Steward, Bromley Henning, and volunteer Rudy Klassen for managing our lake water testing! Due to COVID restrictions at the Lake Partners Program, we will be limited on the testing we can perform this year; however, we will continue to perform all tests which we can manage and assess ourselves.

Directors' Call...we currently have vacancies at three key positions on the TMLCC executive – president, vice-president and secretary. Nominations and elections will be held at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 (7:00pm via Zoom). Bromley Henning will be managing things in the interim and will be running the meeting on June 24.

Changes / Clarifications Made to Lakefront Property Development...in order to protect our lakefront and encourage best-practices to maintain shorelines, clarification was made in the tree-cutting by-law for any trees within 15 metres of the high-water mark. Strict penalties are now in place to help ensure that no clear-cutting of waterfronts occurs. You can read the full by-law by visiting www.armourtownship.ca or contacting the Township at 705-382-3332 for more info.

Following 16 years as president of the TMLCC, I will be stepping down effective June 9, 2020...change is good for any organization 😊 It is best that I not try to mix my duties on the association with my duties as councillor at Armour Township, and this will allow me more time to focus on Council duties. It has been my pleasure serving this great community, and I want to thank all of the other volunteers on the lake who have helped us over the years. I will continue to support Three Mile Lakers and the entire Almaguin Highlands region through focus on several key areas. These include the healthcare service needs of the region; the need for high-speed internet (to support virtual healthcare, e-learning and virtual work); and the planning and development that allow the community to flourish and grow while still maintaining the natural beauty that surrounds us. All the best, and I will see you around the Lake!
Rod Ward

Email: info@3milelake.org

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