



WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER

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David Matthews

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Welcome to 2022 , Happy New Year - President's Note

Beth and I just had our first weekend up in Cognashene this winter. There is lots of ice, as in thickness, and its black ice. In some areas reports of 16 inches thick. This is good for those who spend time sledding around in the winter, not so good for those who hope to get up by boat in early April. There is ice between Cedar Point and Christian Island in the Christian Island ferry route which indicates we have a healthy start to winter.

Other good news is that the water level is down relative to last year.

Dennis is starting into his second winter patrol and I think most are getting the results. Please contact Jim Bowden if you are not getting the reports. support@cognashene.com

Your board of directors just recently had a meeting and there is lots of activity and preparation work happening for the summer. We have decided that we will have a recreational program this year. The board felt that it is important to ramp up the program again as it is an integral part of Cognashene life and many are looking for things to do and things to learn. The scale of the program will depend on the Ontario Government COVID guidelines. We are now actively looking for staff to help with the swim program and volunteers to help with miscellaneous projects. We discussed that if the program has to be reduced than we will do things like walks on Beausoleil or activities that can be carried out under the guidelines. The strategy is to have some program activities as it was agreed that the community needs to start to get together again which is important mentally and socially.

We also agreed that we should plan for a regatta. The most important issue here is that we need a volunteer to run the regatta. From experience there is lots of volunteer support to run the raffle, adjudicate at the finish line, prepare the site but we need someone to spear head the regatta.

Please step forward if you are willing to run the regatta. If we can't find a leader for the regatta it may not happen.

There is a plan to run the Art on the Rocks again. Most of the artists will need be from the local area so they can transport themselves to the event. If you would like to present/ sell your creations, please contact Catherine Gillespie.

Other news is that our Township of Georgian Bay council has seen some changes. The planning department has almost a full staff turnover and there is a new Director of Planning. Bill Sayers is busy opening the lines of communication so we can continue to have good rapport with the planning department.

And of course, this is an election year for the councilors and mayor. We need to make sure we have strong representation from the water access population so let's make sure we support those from our community that are throwing their hat in the ring.

Remember that you are all members of the GBA. There is lots of information on their web site which I know you will find interesting and informative. Please take some time to cruise the site.
<https://georgianbay.ca/>

I'm feeling optimistic that we will get back to some normal this summer.
At this point we will plan to have an annual meeting in person so I hope to see you there.

president@cognashene.com

Tom Halpenny

COGNASHENE COTTAGER ADVERTISING

The Cognashene Cottager and Honey Harbour Hoots are looking for advertisers. Your ad will be placed in both publications and distributed to approximately 1000 cottagers.

Deadline is firm: February 23rd.

For information about AD RATES as well as AD SIZES and FORMATS

Please contact

hoots2021@icloud.com

and/or

cottager@cognashene.com

Barb Russell

GBF - Educational Outreach Coordinator - Student Employment

This summer, Georgian Bay Forever is looking to hire 2 students in the environmental field to conduct work on Georgian Bay as Education Outreach Coordinators, working with the community and managing invasive Phragmites in the Bay. Job details attached in separate PDF.

Pay is \$16/hr, start May 30th, and end September 2nd, based out of Honey Harbour.

Apply by February 28th

Nicole Carpenter
Project Coordinator

**GEORGIAN BAY
FOREVER**
Protecting your water.



Cottage Directory

If you haven't already renewed your CCA Membership, it's time! **The deadline for inclusion in this year's Cottage Directory is Sunday February 20th.** Renewal and updating your contact information can be done quickly and easily by visiting www.cognashene.com.

The Board is also getting ready to update our CCA map to show each cottage location emergency 911 number. Please ensure your account information includes your correct tax bill "street address" (e.g. 14 Island 267). There is also a new line in your account information to indicate if you have a dock bubbler, or similar de-icing equipment in operation where there is open water in winter, to protect the safety of our winter patroller. Please contact Kara Hunter at membership@cognashene.com with any questions or for assistance.

Kara Hunter



REC PROGRAM STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Hello Beach Families!

First and foremost, let me introduce you to Jenna Harild who will be joining me this summer and taking over for me next summer. Jenna has a lot of experience with swimming lessons and camps and we are very lucky to have her join us at the Cognashene Recreation Program!

We are really looking forward to having some sort of program run this summer. We don't exactly know what that will look like at this point in time due to staffing and protocols. The website is currently set up to accept applications, so from now until February 10th, get your applications in! We are looking for a head of program, lifeguards, instructors and volunteers. Feel free to email recprogram@cognashene.com if you have any questions. We look forward to providing you with further information in the spring newsletter.

Robyn & Jenna

Lymantria Dispar Dispar (Gypsy Moth)

As many of you already know, LDD (*Lymantria dispar dispar*) or “Gypsy Moth” has been feasting on the lush foliage surrounding our homes and summer properties for the past few summers. A number of you have reached out to me and other directors on the CCA Board, voicing your concern over what should be done to stop this destructive little caterpillar. To all of those that have reached out, I thank you. It joys me to see so many of you truly care about the health of our forest. LDD is of serious concern to me and I hope we can find a community wide solution that is safe and effective.

There has been a recent push by many in the community to manage this infestation with an arial application of the insecticide Btk. The goal of this article is to highlight some of the alternatives to arial spraying and hopefully provide some guidance on where this infestation is headed over the next few years.

Overview

LDD is considered an invasive species by the federal government. There are only a few known native predators of LDD in southern Ontario, making it difficult to control. Over the past three years we have seen a significant outbreak of LDD in Southern Ontario. LDD outbreaks occur every 10-15 years, and last for 1-3 years depending on natural controls. LDD is a large-scale defoliator, feeding on the foliage of over 300 plant species.

Identification

LDD Caterpillars can be easily identified by there distinct markings. From head to tail, the LDD has five pairs of blue dots, followed by six pairs of red dots. The Caterpillar stage lasts from late April until early June. In July and August, the caterpillars cocoon and eventually emerge as a moth. While in the moth stage, it is common to see spongy egg masses on tree limbs and on the trunks of infested trees.

Management

Below is a list of control methods you can use if you identify LDD on your property.

- **Keep you trees healthy:** general maintenance, watering, and pruning can help keep your trees healthy and safe during an LDD infestation.
- **Trapping / Picking:** During the day, LDD will descend from the branches to seek shelter in the folds of bark at the base of the tree. Wrapping part of the trunk in burlap or an environmentally friendly adhesive (sticky side out) can help to trap the caterpillars. Once captured, carefully remove the caterpillar and place in a bucket of soapy water.
- **Egg Mass Scrapping:** The spongy egg masses can be scraped and soaked in soapy water. Be careful not to transport or discard of these egg masses improperly, this could lead to further spread.
- **Pheromone Traps:** Pheromone traps can be purchased on Amazon or at your local hardware store. These can come in many forms but are typically lined with a pheromone strip. These strips attract the moths in flight, trapping them inside.

Outlook

As mentioned above, outbreaks typically don't last more than 1-3 years. Birds, certain soil fugue, and insect born viruses act as natural limiting factors that are working to reduce the prominence of LDD in Southern Ontario. The long-term health of the forest will not be impacted by mass defoliation from LDD, forests are natural very resilient and can withstand a remarkable amount of stress.

Conclusion

The arial application of Btk can harm native caterpillar species such as the threatened Monarch butterfly. LDD outbreaks are cyclical; their populations have historically increased and decreased in a predictable and measurable way. Natural limiting factors will undoubtedly end this outbreak, much like they have in the past. As such, there is no need for human intervention. I urge everyone to please consider adopting the control methods listed above. Spraying an insecticide to manage this issue sets a precedent for the future, our community needs to lead by example and protect our forest ethically.

The following links may be used for further reading on LDD. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me: Jackgiroux98@hotmail.com

Links:

- <https://www.ontario.ca/page/gypsy-moth>
- <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/on/rouge/nature/conservation/spongieuse-ldd>
- <http://www.invadingspecies.com/gypsy-moth/>
- <http://www.london.ca/residents/Environment/Trees-Forests/Pages/Gypsy-Moth.aspx>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A70AoBORNQ4&feature=youtu.be>

Jack Giroux



Protect your Family!

Every Second Counts!
Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) can happen to anyone, anyplace at anytime. The reality is, without a defibrillator (AED) the chances of survival are almost zero. When SCA strikes the clock starts ticking, an AED needs to be used within 10 minutes for the greatest chance of survival.

This is why it's so important to have an AED that can be quickly accessed - especially when you are in a rural or hard to reach location.

Committed to Training
We want to ensure that everyone who purchases an AED will also have the confidence to use it and perform good effective CPR. This package includes savings towards our popular 'Shock on the Dock' training where our fun and energetic trainers come right to you! Or, try our online awareness training program from the comfort of home - featuring 3D modelling, videos and interactive lessons.

Full AED Support
We track and remind you when your pad and batteries are due for expiry. We are here to support you in the event you ever have to use your AED.

Home & Cottage Package
This AED package includes everything you need for the home or cottage:

- HeartSine Samaritan 350P Defibrillator
- 8 Year Manufacturer Warranty
- AED/CPR First Aid Kit
- AED Tracking & Full Customer Support
- Video Training Resources
- 4 year Pad and Battery Pack
- FREE pad replacement if the AED is used in an emergency.
- *Pay it Forward:* If a life is saved with this AED we will donate an AED to an organization of the survivors choice.

Special Package Price:
\$1,295
retail value: \$1,599



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Empowering People to TAKE ACTION

1-866-347-7824 | info@actionfirstaid.ca

CAD PRICING, VALID 2021

2022 REGATTA

The CCA board is in search of new leaders for the 2022 regatta. This incredible community event has been suspended for 2 long years. We are hopeful that it can come to life again this year. There are a good number of people who are willing to be on the committee and do tasks but we need a coordinator or a pair of them. Remember how important the regatta was for you when you were young(er). If YOU are willing to step up or have a name to suggest that the board can approach please email Gillespie.cath@gmail.com or call 716.517.0855 We want to get the event restarted this year!!

Catherine Gillespie

Ticks & Lyme Disease

North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit has released information on the rise of Lyme disease from Ticks as well as advise on removing ticks. In the article linked below details methods to prevent ticks & how to remove.

<https://www.parrysound.com/news-story/10459404--unusually-high-increase-in-lyme-disease-for-north-bay-parry-sound-district/>

David Matthews



Art-on-the-Rocks began in 1991 on "Aunt Edna's Island/Artists Island" in the Hangdog Channel in Cognashene. Initially, there were a few local artists who participated. The year after a very windy show day, in 1997 it was moved to Maxwell/Whalen Island on the main Muskoka landing Channel.

The Cognashene Cottagers Association sponsored the 29th annual Art-on-the-Rocks© on July 28, 2019. In 2020 and 2021 the CCA board decided against holding the event. Hopefully, this year the pandemic will be under control and the provincial rules will allow there to be gatherings and the Art on the Rocks© can make a comeback.

The organizers and the board have proposed a modified show this year emphasizing local artists who can transport themselves to and from the event. If you are interested in participating or know someone who is a talented artist, please contact Catherine Gillespie 716.517.0855 or Gillespie.cath@gmail.com

NEW CCA BOARD MEMBERS

Hello,

My name is Jenna Lynde (nee Harild) and I will be working alongside Robyn this summer as part of the transition into my Recreation Program Director role commencing 2023. Professionally, I am a full-time high school teacher and a mother of two little boys so have had lots of experience multi-tasking and dealing with the unexpected!

The summers of my youth were spent learning to swim on Kirby Beach and exploring the local natural attractions in our little corner of Georgian Bay. As a past program participant, volunteer, and instructor, I look forward to supporting the community and its' young people in program participation and instruction.

The absence of the Rec Program these past two years has been felt by many people - and I know as parents we look forward to the return of the Program this summer. It will be a year of transition and new beginnings for the Program as we look to rebuild and establish new norms in a hopefully (post-pandemic) world.

I look forward to seeing you on the beach this summer.

Jenna



Hello All!

I would like to officially introduce myself to all of you, I am Matthew Hawley and the new CCA Director of Communications. I have been sending out e-blasts for a while now, but this is my first chance to talk directly to all of you.

I count myself very fortunate to be a Cognashene member and part of Georgian Bay for generations. I work as the National Visual Coordinator for a great Canadian retailer, and have experience in other roles and companies in the corporate retail world.

I would like to thank Tom Halpenny for asking me to undertake this role. I also thank previous Communication directors Lori Hutcheson and Laura Adams for their advice, help and assistance as I begin my duties. I look forward to sending all of you exciting news and information about our community. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or would like to have any information in upcoming newsletters at communications@cognashene.com

I know we all await Spring and the beginning of the cottage season, let the countdown begin!

Matthew

