



CLEAR LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Torrance, Muskoka, Ontario

www.clearlakemuskoka.ca



SPRING NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

Hello everyone! Winter was a real beast this year. The weather wasn't the best this weekend, maybe the weather spirits were lamenting another lost Leafs season. Let's hope for a long, hot, sunny summer!

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CLPOA AGM – SATURDAY, JUNE 28 2025

Our annual AGM will once again take place on Saturday, June 28th, at 10 am at the Torrance Community Centre.

Refreshments will be served, and we hope every cottage will be represented. Come early, carpool with neighbours or walk over. It is a good chance to visit fellow cottagers. Note: Zion Presbyterian Church, a strong member of the Torrance and Clear Lake community for decades, will once again host a fundraiser Bake Sale that day. Be sure to bring a few dollars for treats to take home to the cottage.

CLPOA MEMBERSHIP DUES

Thanks again to Sharon Cleverdon who spent many hours last year collecting membership dues. We continue to see high participation rates and many people paid their dues early or at the AGM - this saves countless hours following up in person. A reminder that at the 2023 AGM **we increased the cost to \$40 per year**. These fees will help support all of our programs - water quality testing, beaver management, marker buoy maintenance, liability insurance, membership records, contact lists and mailings, and donations to support groups deemed beneficial to property owners.

Please pay your membership dues (**reminder - now \$40**) before the AGM by one of the three methods outlined below:

OPTION #1: E-TRANSFER (INTERAC EMAIL MONEY TRANSFER)

- Set up CLPOA as Recipient (membership@clearlakemuskoka.ca)
- No security Question/Answer--CLPOA's bank account is set up for "Auto Deposit"
- Your E-Transfer will identify to us that you are the sender
- CLPOA's bank will send you confirmation that your deposit has been received
- You may choose to add a message--payment is for a cottage address or family name(s)

OPTION #2: TD BRANCH to TD BRANCH TRANSFER (No Charge)

- CLPOA's TD Canada Trust information: Branch #1997, Account #0000667
- If you use Online Banking with TD, call Easy Line at 1-866-222-3456. Add CLPOA as a Personal Payee for the purpose of transferring money. (This is not the same as a Bill Payment—it is a Payee for transfer purposes only). You may then transfer \$30 from your TD account to CLPOA's TD account online or by telephone.

- **IMPORTANT**--Please email membership@clearlakemuskoka.ca to confirm your branch-to-branch transfer. This is the only way we can know that the deposit came from you.

OPTION #3: CHEQUE payable to Clear Lake Property Owners' Association

Address: CLPOA c/o Sharon Cleverdon, 1073 Clear Lake Rd., Torrance, ON P0C 1M0

REGATTA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 2025

The annual Regatta will be held on the August long weekend, once again kicking off with a boat parade at 11:00 AM. We are still finalizing the location for the food and games portion. As always, we are looking for volunteers (to prepare/cook/serve food, in the water helping with kids' games, and giving out 1st-2nd-3rd place tokens at the race finish and the prize table).

WINTER STORM

By now everybody will have seen the destruction wrought by the ice storm this past winter. The ice accumulation broke branches and toppled trees, and every property will have some amount of cleanup to take care of. A huge thank you to the Hydro workers who put in countless hours repairing damage quickly and efficiently.

With the downed trees and limbs, please take extra care in your first trips out on the lake. There may be new, submerged hazards near the shoreline and some debris may still be loose and floating in the lake.

Many residents have taken the time to pull large items aside and broken them down with a chainsaw or wood chipper. Please do not dispose of any of that in the lake. The District is still offering fee relief for disposing of chippable wood at Transfer stations until May 31st.

When it comes to managing food that may be spoiled from extended power outages resulting from the recent storm, please follow these steps to help manage and sort this waste appropriately:

1. **Separate and Sort:** It's important to separate spoiled food from other waste and use your green bin for as much of the compostable waste as possible! This is the best container for the job, and to help assist curbside residents during this time, residents may also place excessive amounts of food waste curbside in compostable bags inside a rigid container (up to 125 litres and a 25 kg maximum weight) clearly marked "Organics" to help our curbside contractor get those materials away from your property, and part of our composting operations.

2. Food Waste – Free of Charge!: Any food waste that is too much to handle for your green bin, or a priority to get out of your home, can be brought to any District Transfer Station and disposed of for free. No need to use a special green bin; use whatever container is handy for you to empty it within the dedicated earth bins on-site at the facilities. There is no limit on the amount of food waste you can bring to our facilities during their operating hours
3. Watch for Tricky Items: Raw meat unfortunately cannot be handled in our composting process – this material will belong in the garbage. Please also be sure to remove any wrappers, trays, etc., and have those disposed of in the right stream. Meat Styrofoam trays, plastic meat trays and plastic film, if able to be rinsed, can be placed within the recycling stream (all plastic film must be contained within a plastic bag and placed in your blue box or blue transparent bag).

The Township of Muskoka Lakes experienced many delays in propane delivery due to tree debris on the road intermixed with downed power lines. The Township worked with utility providers to assist in accessing properties and cleaning up the public road network. Hydro was made aware daily of access to properties and the urgent need to move downed lines to allow for more access. As you can imagine, Hydro was limited in their resources and had to prioritize the work.

To properly prepare for a future storm and to minimize the effects of a delay in power restoration:

- Confirm that your home generator fuel provider can keep your generator fuel topped up, call them and ask if they would suggest a larger tank or if they had any issues accessing your property during the storm
- Learn how to use your generator sparingly, both to give this appliance a rest and to minimize fuel usage
- Think about switching the generator to a longer-lasting fuel or using a fuel that doesn't compete with heating appliances
- Ensure that you have good "working" carbon monoxide (CO) alarms at your property. Generators create CO and this CO pools nearby the generator and can enter the home if the generator is placed too close.
- Ensure that your home alarm system has a battery backup to minimize false activations when power is restored
- Ensure that the private road and driveway are maintained to give access year-round

- Check your civic address marker to ensure that it is visible from the street and clear of vegetation

Hydro One also recommends that private property owners make themselves aware of their responsibilities as it relates to vegetation management on their property. They have a webpage dedicated to this here: <https://www.hydroone.com/about/corporate-information/vegetation-management/caring-for-your-property>

Additional waste-related inquiries, including debris wash-up questions, should be directed to the District of Muskoka, and they have set up the webpage below that has many helpful tips: https://www.muskoka.on.ca/en/health-and-emergency-services/Spring_Ice_Storm_2025.aspx

HUNTSVILLE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

The Huntsville Festival of the Arts are celebrating their 33rd anniversary season with some fantastic concerts & events including Jim Cuddy, Serena Ryder, Howie Mandel, Lighthouse, Nuit Blanche North and more. You can see the full line up at <https://huntsvillefestival.ca/whats-on/summer-festival/>. We should be able to acquire tickets at a 15% discount. Please let us know if you are interested!

ENVIROHUB DAY

The District of Muskoka is hosting EnviroHub Day on May 31 – a free community event all about coming together, learning from each other, and growing a stronger, greener Muskoka from the ground up. Hear from a team of environmental experts, explore interactive booths, and discover simple ways to take action. This event is designed for all ages. For more information, visit <https://www.muskoka.on.ca/en/environment/envirohub-day.aspx>

TORRANCE BARRENS CLEANUP

The annual cleanup will occur on Thursday, July 3 starting at 10:00 AM. Garbage bags will be provided, but please bring your own gloves.

CANADIAN CLEANING PRODUCTS

If you are also taking a closer look at where the products you buy are made, take a look at <https://www.getcleanpeople.com/> for lake-safe cleaning products. These have no parabens, no phosphates, no added dyes, no chlorine, and are made in Canada. If you have found other Canadian-made products that you would like to share with your fellow cottagers, please let us know!

FIREWORKS REMINDER

Please remember that the Township of Muskoka Lakes has updated the Regulation of Fireworks By-law. Fireworks are now only permitted on the following holidays between dusk and 11:00 PM:

- Victoria Day and the Saturday and Sunday of that same holiday weekend
- Canada Day and,
 - o **Where Canada Day falls on a Monday or Tuesday, the preceding (before) Saturday and Sunday**
 - o Where Canada Day falls on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the proceeding (following) Friday and Saturday
- New Year's Eve/Day (dusk – 12:30 AM)

Fireworks being set off on these days are permitted between dusk and 11:00 PM except for New Year's Eve/Day where fireworks are permitted until 12:30 AM on New Year's Day.

REMINDER - BOAT RAMP - HOURS 9am-1pm & WASH YOUR BOTTOM

Please respect Boat Ramp hours. Tell your marina, visiting friends and renters that these hours must be recognized. It is a very small stretch of shoreline between cottagers enjoying their properties to either side and a narrow road to travel. Even though our ramp is no longer on private property but instead uses public access to the lake, the ramp was built by the Township on the condition these hours be followed. Ensure boat hulls are carefully washed down before entering the lake. Any bilge must have been emptied before trailering to the ramp. It's a boater's keen responsibility to prevent invasive species from entering Clear Lake.

TIE UP YOUR RAFTS

Please make sure you securely tie up your dock/raft/kayak. There were many items lost last year putting boaters at risk of hitting waterborne obstacles. Also, to aid in returning lost items please put your name on things where possible.

PADDLE UP THURSDAYS

Once again this year, every Thursday night we invite our members to paddle or row the lake. Come out in your paddle boat, kayak, or canoe and meet up with fellow paddlers to get on the water and enjoy the lake.

Ian McClellan, on behalf of CLPOA Board of Directors, Lisa Pennycook, Simone Skopek, Jeremy Silver, Ron Algate, Charlie Wilkins, Natale Catalano