

TEMAGAMI TIMES

THE VOICE OF THE TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA)

WINTER 2013

Science Experiment In Progress: Proceed With... Awareness

By Murray Richardson, Island 795 cottager and faculty member in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON

Lake Temagami has a reputation for excellent water quality, so why is water-quality monitoring still important?

A great experiment in aquatic ecosystem science is currently underway in Lake Temagami. I am not referring to the recent water quality monitoring efforts of the TLA; no, there are no scientists in charge of the particular experiment to which I am referring. Rather, it is an inevitable consequence of global climate change; and the operative word here is change. In fact, change itself is about the only thing that can be predicted with any certainty when it comes to under-

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Unseasonably warm temperatures and rain in January turned the frozen lake into a skating rink (left). A week later, below-freezing temperatures and snow turned it back to a typical Temagami winter scene (right). Photo: Peter Healy

— Temagami-Nipissing Forest Merger on Horizon —

By Andrew Healy

The Temagami Forest is the last Crown managed forest in Ontario, but maybe not for long. The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), with the help of the new Forest Tenure Modernization Act (2011), is proposing to merge the Temagami Forest with the Nipissing Forest, turning forest management over to Nipissing Forest Resource Management Inc.

The MNR has been looking to get out of the business of managing the Temagami Forest since the late 1990's, by converting the Crown managed unit into a Sustainable Forest License (SFL) held and managed by a private forestry company; however, the Temagami Forest is a particularly difficult unit to manage and private industry wasn't exactly lining up to take it over. Aside from the obvious recreational and environmental interests in the area, other challenges include being a small unit with relatively low wood allocation and harvest rates, difficult access and challenging topography.

It's no secret that the forest industry in Northern Ontario has seen better times. A drive along the Highway 11 corridor from North Bay to Nipigon (a mere 1000km!) will illustrate the hard times and slow decline of once booming logging and mill towns. While there are

"Obvious concerns are that Temagami's unique recreational and ecological protections could be at risk, or that local community input could be less effective."

larger economic issues at play outside of their jurisdiction, the MNR is attempting to improve the situation by creating a more economically efficient system for wood allocation and pricing. One way they intend to accomplish this is by reducing the number of management areas, thus finding efficiencies in forest management planning, public consultation and auditing.

So what could this mean for Temagami and the Temagami Forest? At this stage it's difficult to tell as many of

the details have yet to be worked out. Obvious concerns are that Temagami's unique recreational and ecological protections could be at risk, or that local community input could be less effective. Friends of Temagami's Bob Olajos remained optimistic that this wouldn't happen, as "...we will be watching the process unfold to ensure the protections built up in Temagami will remain."

Rudi Ptok, Chair of the Temagami Forest Local Citizens Committee (LCC), believes the merger is not a done deal as numerous attempts to merge the forests in the past had failed. Mr. Ptok noted that there are differences in forest management practices between the two areas, and that taking over the Temagami Forest would be ... "no Christmas present to [Nipissing]."

Mr. Ptok reiterated the concern about reduced opportunities for community consultation, stating that ... "the bigger the forest gets, the smaller each individual gets," and emphasized that "distance alone will be a factor" for

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THE TEMAGAMI TIMES

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THE TLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The term of office for a Director is 3 years. Elections are held every year in the summer.

President's letter

Our important water monitoring data are telling us about the health of Lake Temagami. Lake researchers tell us the worst thing for a lake like Temagami is nutrients. Nutrients cause aquatic plants to grow more than they normally would. When the more abundant plants die and decompose, oxygen levels are lowered. This in turn has a negative effect on fish and other aquatic life.

Temagami of course is a living system and nutrients naturally find their way to the lake from the surrounding forest, as they have for thousands of years. But people can introduce nutrients to the lake, too, especially from their septic systems. Our gray water from the kitchen and bathroom sinks, tubs, and showers, as well as human waste, is rich in nutrients. Functional septic systems are designed to keep those nutrients from leaching into the lake. So the question is: how functional is your system?

If your outboard motor or fridge at the cottage doesn't work, you know it in a hurry! But a cottage's septic system is often out-of-sight-out-of-mind, and might not be as functional as you think. Is it as old as the cottage? Do you know when it was last checked?

The TLA is partnering with the Municipality, Cassels and Adjoining Lakes Association (CALA), and Timiskaming Health Unit (THU) on a project to promote septic system awareness and education. A current proposal to the Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund, if funded, would provide support for septic system education. Regardless of the outcome of the proposal, septic system knowledge and functionality are something everyone should be interested in.

Let's make 2013 the year everyone remembers where their waste goes, and learns more about their septic system.

Chip Kittredge
Island 1158

The TEMAGAMI TIMES welcomes signed letters or emails on any subject.

The editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity and relevance. Letters containing libelous remarks, personal attacks or inaccurate information will not be published nor will open letters or copies of letters sent to public officials or governments. The opinions expressed are the letter writers' own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Temagami Lakes Association. As contributing authors write articles for the Times on a voluntary basis the TLA cannot take responsibility for errors or omissions which may accidentally appear in Times articles.

SKYLINE RESERVE

The mainland surrounding Lake Temagami and Cross Lake is to be zoned as a landscape ecology zone to preserve the beauty, restore the integrity and preserve the wilderness aspect of the Temagami Forest. This ecology zone would consist of 2 reserves which would be protected from natural disturbance e.g. fire and insect infestation, but would have separate management goals and prescriptions.

The two reserves would be the following:

1. Skyline: The Lake Temagami and Cross Lake reserves must protect any part of Lake Temagami or Cross Lake with no visual evidence to the naked eye that any activities such as timber cutting or mining have taken place. The minimum dimension would be 200 metres. It would be preserved in its natural state and its permissible uses would be very limited.

TENETS FOR TEMAGAMI



2. Ecological Buffer Reserve: This would surround the skyline reserve to protect the natural forest and wildlife habitat ecosystems of the Temagami region. It would have a broader range of controlled activities but no new public roads would pass through it except in the village of Temagami.

ROAD ACCESS

The current ban on construction of new public road access points to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake is supported by our three groups. We define the existing public road access points to consist of the village waterfront, Finlayson Park, Strathcona Landing and the Lake Temagami Access Road landings. We agree that, where possible, parking areas must be screened from the main body of the Lake. Shiningwood Bay, Cross Lake, Austin Bay, Blue Bay and any other illegal access points are to be closed using scarification methods. Existing gates are to be maintained and new

ones are to be installed to prevent new public access roads to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake.

New ski-doo trails accessing Lake Temagami/Cross Lake are to be no wider than ten feet and for winter ski-doo use only. Proposals for these access points to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake are to be reviewed and sites inspected by the new governing body prior to construction.

MAINLAND DEVELOPMENT

There should be no mainland development on Lake Temagami and Cross Lake with the exception of those potential lots immediately adjacent to the Township of Temagami that are able to be serviced by the Township's central sewage treatment facility. All other future development will occur on islands, the number and location to be determined by the revised official plan which will be sensitive to current ecological standards.

Needed: Men and women to submit nominations for TLA Board of Directors

The Temagami Lakes Association is administered by an Executive Secretary who reports to a Board of Directors comprising nine members of the association. This Board of Directors meets monthly by telephone for the most part. Each board member tends to chair a committee involving something that interests them or that they personally feel very important to the lake community. The members of your Board of Directors are listed on page 2 of this paper.

Board members, according to the by-laws of the association, may sit for only two terms of three years. Each year there are three seats on the Board that come up for nomination and election. All class A, F or Life members are eligible to stand for election.

Please consider taking an active role in your lake association. Nominations are now open for three seats on the Board this year. An official nomination form will be sent to all voting members in April; however, if you are interested now or would like to discuss the idea further please contact the Executive Secretary, Peter Healy, at tl@onlink.net or 705-237-8927.

Summer Grocery Delivery to the Hub Possible this Summer

The owners and staff at Our Daily Bread would like to thank everyone for their patronage over the last year and a half. We are thankful for the success attained. We are looking into expanding our services to our clientele on Lake Temagami.

We are considering delivery service to the end of the Temagami Access Road, once or twice weekly, depending on the in-

terest. We are looking at a minimum order of \$50, excluding tobacco products with a delivery fee of \$5. A minimum of 10 orders per trip is needed.

Please take time to email (temagamidailybread@gmail.com) or call us (705-569-3600) if you are interested. If you could tell us, how often you would be purchasing and the approximate amount as well as what day(s) would suit you best and the weeks that you would be needing this service, we will be able to determine the feasibility of a delivery service.

Thank you,
Dick, Joanne and staff

Property Patrol Report for February 2013

By Peter Healy

Freeze up this winter was pretty good with snowmobile access to and from the landing from Bear Island around Christmas, while the rest of us were able to access Islands early in the New Year.

Property patrols began on Jan. 8 with good travel through Shiningwood Bay and around the Hub. Then things changed as temperatures rose to record highs (5 degrees C) on Jan. 12, the rains came, snow melted and ice became problematic in many places. It was time to bring snowmobiles off the lake and wait for colder weather. Good books and good humour got us through the next week while Island bound.

It was not until the third weekend in January that the cold weather arrived and

did it ever arrive. For a long week we experienced temperatures that went to -40 C at night and rose only to -25C during the day. This is far too cold to travel far on snowmobiles so once again we were stuck in our cabins trying to stay warm.

The good news from this spell of cold was that the ice started to thicken, we could hear it banging all day as it expanded. Pressure cracks appeared upwards in some places and pulled apart in others leaving open water between the 'plates' as they separate. One has to be very aware of varying shades of ice colour when travelling alone where no one has gone before.

After the cold came more snow, blowing snow so bad that visibility was extremely limited making it impossible to see pressure cracks or other 'obstacles' on the ice. A few days later the snow

stopped, temperatures rose again and it started to rain. We now needed another cold snap to tighten up the ice and freeze the slush, which is a foot deep in places. This is a weird winter with no consistent weather that allows safe travel to all parts of the lake.

My inspection of over 125 properties, however, found no evidence of break ins that had not already been reported in the fall. The most serious problems on some Islands were as a result of our national pest the beaver. Fortunately they seem able to take down trees without damaging buildings. The most serious property damage I found was as a result of an owl going through a window - something not good



A beaver fall at the end of the trail.
Photo by: Peter Healy.

for either.

Fishing is very good at this time for those who go after whitefish and walleye. Lake Trout season opens Feb. 15 and the ever popular Ling Fling is on Sunday Feb. 17. As we have good ice travel conditions we are looking forward to another successful "ling fling" in support of the Temagami fish hatchery program.



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Protection of Property Committee TLA to Test and Provide Security Cameras for Sale

By Peter Healy

The newest technology in the field of Security Cameras includes components that now make these ideal for property security in isolated areas of Lake Temagami. Such features as the following make these very useful to property owners:

- Invisible 'no glow' black flash so it cannot be seen to be taking a photo
- High photo quality
- Long battery life
- Ability to connect automatically to local cell towers (future potential in Temagami area)

The TLA will be acquiring one of these cameras to test capability and will offer them for sale this summer through a partnership with Le Febvres: Source for Adventure in North Bay.

Marine Safety Committee A Failure to Convince – Voluntary Wearing of Life Jackets

By Angus Scully, Chair

All boaters know that they must carry approved life jackets or Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) for everyone aboard. While providing safety checks for TLA members and other boaters, I have found that there are fewer deficiencies every year. The Pleasure Craft Operator's Card (PCOC) training and licensing program has improved boater knowledge.

But the two main causes of death related to boating are still alcohol use and failure to wear a PFD.

For years a variety of organizations have urged boaters to wear their PFDs. This appeal to voluntary compliance has had limited results – there is nothing near a tipping point. Observation of boaters on Lake Temagami does show some increase in the number of boaters wearing their life jackets and there are now a number of youth camps having their canoe trippers wear PFDs on the lake. Overall most boaters are not wearing PFDs even in severe weather conditions or at night.

This failure to convince has led safety organizations and police to recommend mandatory wearing of PFDs. The Federal authorities, which have jurisdiction, seem to be reluctant to move. The experience of training people about new safety equipment regulations and the introduction of the PCOC suggest there is a fear of moving too quickly - of getting ahead of public acceptance. This hesitance has been there regardless of the political party in power. While there has been a tightening of the testing procedures for the PCOC, there is no sign of stricter licensing or of mandatory wearing of PFDs.

The failure to convince people to voluntarily wear life jackets has led other jurisdictions to introduce compulsory requirements for specific conditions.

Here are two examples.

PENNSYLVANIA

From Nov 1 to April 30 anyone in a boat less than 16 ft (4.8m) or in a canoe or kayak must wear a life jacket when the craft is underway or anchored.

This is a partial recognition of the impact of cold-water shock and hypothermia. Don't forget such good sense rules when boating on Lake Temagami in the spring or fall. There is often a cold-water shock causing an intake of breath even in summer!

It is worth remembering that inflatable PFDs are not recommended in below freezing temperatures.

COMMON REASONS FOR NOT WEARING A PFD

- ✓ I don't need one – I can swim
- ✓ They are too hot
- ✓ They are too bulky
- ✓ I haven't needed one in over 40 years on the lake
- ✓ I can reach them if I need them
- ✓ I have a big boat and I feel safe
- ✓ I've never worn one
- ✓ I can look after myself



Planning Committee TLA Supports Zoning By-laws

By Andrew Healy

Many of Lake Temagami's cottages have been held in the family for two to three, even four generations! The old family cottage is more often than not the glue that holds a family together. However not everything about owning or sharing a family cottage is sunny days and starry nights, and of the many challenges not having enough space seems to be the most common.

In previous generations there was a quick fix to this problem: build another sleeping cabin, maybe a loft in the boathouse, even add another dock for the extra boats. In fact, there are properties on the lake that have four or five sleeping cabins, many with their own kitchens, toilets and docking!

Prior to amalgamation and the development of the Official Plan (2004) and Zoning By-law (2006), cottage owners were permitted to develop their property with very little restrictions. The TLA played an active role in the development of the "new rules", and felt they were able to strike the right balance between permitting development and preserving the "Temagami experience."

One of the key portfolios within the TLA Board of Directors is the Planning Committee. The role of the Planning Committee is to ensure that development applications are conforming to the intent of the Official Plan and following the Zoning By-laws.

When applications for Minor Variances, Severances or Zoning By-law Amendments are submitted to the Municipality, the TLA and other interested parties are forwarded a copy of the application for comment. The Planning Committee reviews each application in order to determine whether a comment is necessary, which in most cases it isn't based on the minor nature of the proposed development.

Deciding which applications to comment on can be tricky; especially considering the close-knit lake community and that an applicant could very well be a TLA member, neighbour or friend. In the event

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NEW SOUTH WALES – AUSTRALIA

More extensive rules have been introduced in parts of Australia. Since 2010, the state of New South Wales requires:

- All persons aboard craft less than 4.8m must wear a PFD between sunset and sunrise
- All children under 12 must wear a PFD at all times when aboard a craft less than 4.8m long and must wear one on a vessel less than 8 metres in length when it is underway.
- All persons in a canoe or kayak more than 100m from shore must wear a PFD
- On any vessel or watercraft when directed by the skipper, PFDs must be worn.

If you do not wear a PFD when in your boat, give some thought to these partial regulations at least and keep in mind your family, your friends, and your community – they care about your safety.

ALCOHOL & BOATING IN ONTARIO

In short – don't drink and drive your boat. Open alcohol is not permitted in a boat at any time. Houseboats must be anchored.

The rules are the same as in cars. What you can do in your car with alcohol you can do in your boat. What you can't do in your car – you can't do in your boat.

How cold was it this winter?



Daytime temp of -30 C (-20 F), now that's cold. Photo by Peter Healy.



My antifreeze is frozen. Photo by Peter Healy.

Fish and Wildlife Committee

TLA Loon Nesting Platform Project Set to Launch in Spring 2013!



A loon nesting platform being made. Photo by: Justin Metz.

By Justin Metz & Pete Calverley, TLA Directors

This past fall, two TLA directors took on the task to construct the Loon Nesting Platform project as part of our ongoing commitment to the preservation of Lake Temagami's Fish and Wildlife. The construction of this platform and project details were made in close collaboration with Bird Studies Canada, a non-profit expert on wild bird conservation.

Our Loon Nesting Platform is essentially a floating "raft" made from native Temagami Cedar. The trees were carefully selected, trimmed and cut to create 4 identical sized logs. These logs were then notched together to create the foundations for the nesting platform. They are currently being left out to dry over the winter.

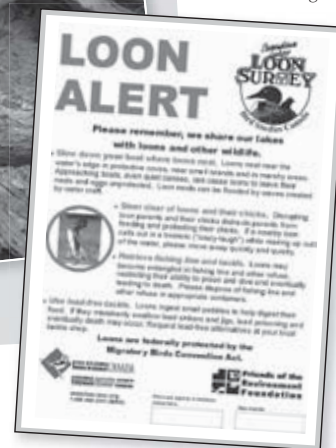
Heavy wire mesh will be stapled across the platform to provide the base on which we will place heavy sod, decayed wood and indigenous plants to

create the nesting habitat in the spring at ice out. The nests will then be anchored 50-100 feet from shore once completed.

The actual launch locations of these nests are still under review to determine the very best chance of success. Each will, regardless of specific location, be launched as close to ice-out as possible in a bay, sheltered from prevailing winds, boats and human contact. The TLA is still accepting any historical information lake residents may have on loon breeding/nesting habits that they have

recorded over the years. Once launched, our project leaders will observe the nesting platform frequently in order to monitor its condition and study its findings.

Lake residents this year will start to see small Loon Alert signs posted at marinas, boat launches and around the Town of Temagami that will contain loon friendly tips for lake users. We are very excited about officially launching these nesting sites and continuing our preservation of Temagami's fragile ecosystem. If you have any questions or information on loon activity on the Lake, please feel free to contact us at tla@onlink.net.



Loon Alert signs, such as this one, will be posted at various locations on the lake. Photo courtesy of: Bird Studies Canada.



A loon nesting platform under construction. Photo by Justin Metz.

TLA Supports Zoning By-laws

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retains the services of a professional planning consultant to assist us in assessing the significance and also in preparing comment to the Municipality. Referring the application to the planning consultant ensures the TLA Board remains as impartial as possible and also that we are getting expert advice in order to provide meaningful comments.

One of the more common applications is to either increase the size of a sleeping cabin, or to add services (kitchen or bathroom) to a sleeping cabin. Generally speaking, the zoning by-laws permit two sleeping cabins on a property in addition to the main residence, one at 775 square feet and one at 388 square feet. Only one sleeping cabin is permitted to be fully serviced with a kitchen and bathroom.

Couple this space with the permitted 5000 square feet of the principle dwelling and you have a considerable amount of space to house the many branches of your family! What the by-law doesn't allow you to do, however, is to have an independent cottage for each member of your family on one property, which is essentially its intent.

The Planning Committee recently re-enforced the TLA's position on sleeping cabins in a letter to the municipality, stating that... "Sleep cabins are primarily intended for extra sleeping accommodation as an accessory use to the main cottage or dwelling..." and that... "the TLA believes that the standards set in the zoning by-law for sleep cabins are sufficiently generous and should be adhered to,

that an application seems to stretch the rules too far, the TLA Board

so as not to set any potential precedent encouraging over-intensification for other applications on Lake Temagami."

One of the other places families may look for more space is in their boathouse. The two-storey boathouse issue can be a contentious one. Many lakes in Ontario permit this type of development and there are existing two-storey boathouses on the lake with sleeping accommodations that predate the Official Plan. The Zoning by-law does permit new boathouses (150 feet minimum frontage required), but does not permit sleeping accommodation or bathroom facilities within boathouses.

The TLA has also recently supported the Zoning by-law with regards to boathouses, stating that they are "...part of an overall direction in the Official Plan which seeks to minimize the visual impact of recreational residential development on the island shorelines of Lake Temagami," and that... "such proposed boathouses with bathrooms and sleeping accommodation effectively would become cottages right on the water's edge, contrary to the intent and policies of the Official Plan."

Over the past two years, the Municipality has undertaken a review of the Comprehensive Zoning By-law, and has subsequently proposed minor amendments. The TLA Planning Committee has carefully reviewed the proposed amendments, which should have little impact on the lake community. We feel that the existing by-laws are providing the appropriate balance as intended, and we would like to thank the Municipal Planner and members of the Planning Advisory Committee who review each application with the best intentions for Temagami in mind.

A Seasonal Gift for Lake Temagami

Several TLA members had been considering various ways of taking the 'store bought present' out of Christmas. Could the traditional gift be replaced with a meaningful gift for family and friends that might also enhance the favorite environment of the recipient?

Inspired by the importance and success of TLA's water quality monitoring program, "the gift of water quality on Lake Temagami" was created. TLA members made seasonal gift contributions to the Water Quality Monitoring Fund in the name of a friend, relative or recently deceased family member. All donated funds will be used in 2013 to pay our summer staff to do the testing or the expenses incurred for laboratory testing.

We are grateful to the following individuals and families for including Lake Temagami Water

Quality in their holiday plans:

- *The Van Vymen Family*
- *The Wastrom Family*
- *Chip and Anne Marie Kittredge*
- *John and Holly Robbins*
– in honour of Justin Metz
- *The Schrade Family*
– In honour of Michael and Heidi Schrade
- *Anonymous donation*
– in honour of Don Grannary
- *Martha Kittredge Bonti*
– in honour of Thacher Wastrom and Gil Loud
- *A. Bredovskis*
- *Jack Goodman*
– in honour of Robert C. Goodman
- *Numerous anonymous donations to the TLA Water Quality Monitoring Fund*

2013 TLA Student Jobs

EMPLOYER: Temagami Lakes Association (TLA)
Position: Students (2) - Environmental Monitoring, Maintenance & Administration
Location: Lake Temagami, Ontario
Job Term: Approximately 15 weeks
Anticipated Start date: May 13th, 2013
Wage: \$13 - \$15/hr depending on education and experience.
Schedule: 35hrs/week, some weekends required.

JOB DESCRIPTION/DUTIES:

- Implement the TLA's Water Quality Monitoring program, including: collection of field data and lake water samples; distribution and liaison with laboratories; and reporting on results.
- Assist with the management and operations of the TLA Headquarters Building, which provides services and products to members. Operate TLA marine radio and communications services as well as other administrative duties.
- Coordinate the TLA's Campsite Clean-up Program, including: performing campsite and hiking trail maintenance; installation of privy toilets; and the development of a map and recreational user info.
- Assist with other environmental stewardship initiatives and membership events as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Currently enrolled (or recently graduated) in a related field of study from a recognized university or college.
- Experience working outdoors and performing environmental fieldwork.
- Experience collecting and analyzing water quality samples an asset.
- Knowledge and interest in water chemistry, biology, outdoor recreation and environmental issues.
- Excellent communications skills including the ability to operate marine radio clearly, provide excellent customer service to members, and write technical reports.
- Posses a Pleasure Craft Operator's Card and have experience operating boats & outboard motors.
- Knowledge and experience boating on Lake Temagami an asset.
- Experience with hand and power tools an asset.
- Valid First Aid and CPR Certification an asset.

Please submit resume and covering letter by March 15 to: Peter Healy, Executive Secretary
 Email: sla@onlink.net

References will be requested of those candidates selected for interviews.



Lead Sinkers and Loons

By Chip Kittredge, Island 1158

An Ontario study of loon mortality reported by the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey cited the #2 reason for loon death (27% of observed mortality) is lead poisoning (the #1 reason was trauma: collisions with boats, cars, powerlines or entanglement in fishing nets). Lead fishing weights of many

kinds were found ingested by dead loons resulting in lethally high lead tissue levels.

A similar pattern was found in New England, where ingestion of lead fishing gear is the single largest cause of mortality for adult loons. Veterinarians at Tufts University - School of Veterinary Medicine examined over 483 dead adult loons from fresh waters and determined that approximately 44% of these birds died as the result of lead poisoning from the ingestion of lead fishing gear (including split shot). Just a single lead sinker can poison a loon.

A bird with lead poisoning will have physical and behavioral changes including loss of balance, gasping, tremors and impaired ability to fly. The weakened bird is more vulnerable to predators and may have trouble feeding, mating, nesting, and caring for its young. It becomes emaciated and often dies within two to three weeks

after eating the lead.

There are at least two ways loons are ingesting lead sinkers. One way is when loons take minnows being used as bait. In eating the minnow, the loon breaks off the line and then swallows the hook, line, swivel and sinker. A second way appears to be when loons ingest small pebbles from lake bottoms and inadvertently swallow lead sinkers or are actively selecting them for some reason (perhaps because of their unique size, shape or shininess).

This is not an issue unique to Temagami. Nationally more than 5 million Canadians go fishing, spending over 50 million days fishing on open water annually. Lost or discarded sinkers and jigs represent an estimated 500 tonnes of lead and up to 14% of all non-recoverable lead releases in Canada.

Lead fishing weights less than 50 g and smaller than 2 cm are generally the size found to be ingested by wildlife. Ingestion of a single lead sinker or lead-headed jig is sufficient to expose a loon or other bird to a lethal dose. Lead sinker and jig ingestion

has been documented in 10 different wildlife species in Canada. Environment Canada and Parks Canada prohibited the possession of lead fishing sinkers or lead jigs weighing less than 50 g by anglers fishing in National Wildlife Areas and National Parks.

The Temagami Lakes Association knows that the call of the loon is an important part of the Temagami Experience, and wants to minimize the pressures on the loon population. Anglers can do their part by instead using commercially available non-lead sinkers that are made of steel, tungsten, or other materials.

For more information:
Lead Fishing Sinkers and Jigs in Canada: Review of their Use Patterns and Toxic Impacts on Wildlife.
Occasional Papers No. 108
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/Publications/default.asp?lang=En&xml=60CDC53A-54AB-4FCC-82F1-61CF5BE16345>

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Science Experiment In Progress: Proceed With... Awareness *continued from page 1*

standing how lakes like ours might be impacted by global warming in the years and decades ahead.

There is a sad irony to this idea that the global climate system is imposing an uncontrolled, top-down experiment in aquatic ecosystem science in our lakes, including Lake Temagami. In 2012, federal funding cuts forced the closure of several of Canada's most famous environmental research stations, including the Experimental Lakes Area (ELA) in northwestern Ontario, just east of Kenora.

The ELA was a remote field camp operated by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, renowned worldwide for a fertilization experiment that finally allowed scientists to unequivocally link algal blooms to excess phosphorous levels in lakes. In a more recent study, scientists simulated the potential effects of drier climate conditions on Boreal lakes by literally diverting all of its inflowing streams around its margins to its outlet.

High profile experiments such as these aside, the end of ELA also means the termination of a rare, 40-plus year historical monitoring program focused on climate, water flows and water quality data collection, not to mention the end of a highly productive training ground for many of our future environmental researchers, managers and leaders. The irony, therefore, is that although a scientific experiment of epic proportions is now underway in our lakes and rivers, federal funding cuts to environmental research and monitoring are making it increasingly difficult to monitor, understand and predict fundamental ecosystem changes happening in our lakes and rivers as a result of global warming.

So what kind of changes might be in store for Lakes such as Temagami? The possibilities are too numerous to list, and too complex to predict with any accuracy. But studies by researchers from ELA and other parts of the world can help paint a partial picture.

Perhaps most certainly, is that there will be lengthening of the open water season. Transportation issues aside, a change in the open water season could have a cascade of effects on the lake's temperature regime, including its seasonal cycle of summer stratification (the physical development of two layers of water of different temperature and chemistry) and mixing dynamics. A longer open water season and higher average air temperature will also lead to an increase in average water temperatures.

These physical changes can set off a chain

reaction of chemical and biological responses within the lake, but the highly interconnected nature of aquatic ecosystems makes such outcomes particularly difficult to predict. Warmer water temperatures and a longer growing season can enhance conditions for biological growth, including bacteria, plankton, algae and fish. This enhanced growth potential could cause reduced water clarity from increased production of photosynthetic biomass.

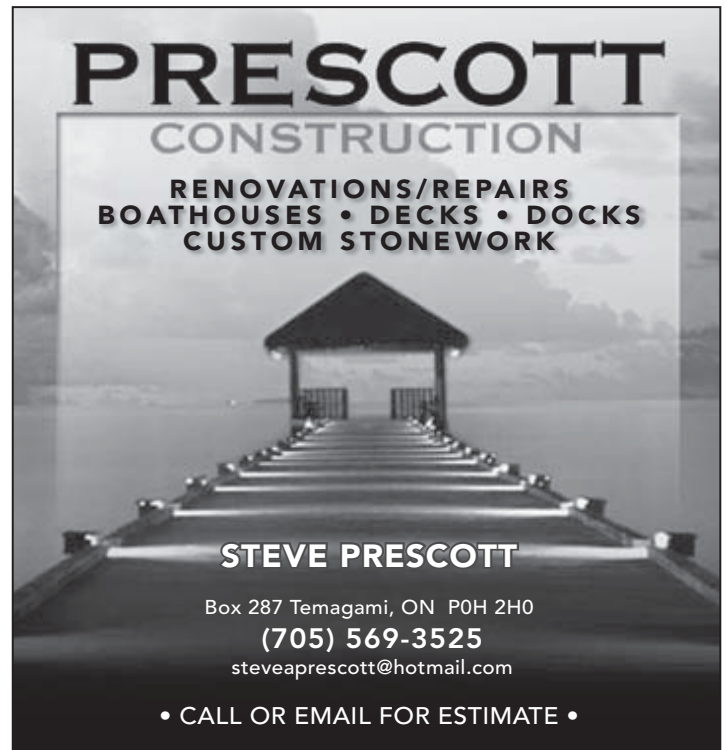
Also, one of the widely accepted hallmarks of global warming is an acceleration of the water cycle, which will lead to more extreme weather conditions, including longer, drier periods of drought, and more intense precipitation events. These extreme conditions can fundamentally alter chemical cycling of elements, nutrients and other contaminants, such as sulphur and mercury from atmospheric pollution.

In light of the various types of change that might be in store for Lake Temagami, the current TLA initiative to monitor water quality is timely. Of particular importance is that it be undertaken with the long-term vision of understanding gradual changes that can be hard to detect through sporadic and uncoordinated sampling campaigns once every few years. Weather and climate fluctuations occur on annual and even decadal time scales, making it very difficult to tease apart normal fluctuations in lake conditions from potential longer-term trends linked to global warming.

Some climate change impacts to the lake will not be unequivocally discernible without a long-term record spanning up to two or more decades. Meanwhile, one short-term activity that will be illuminating is a trend-analysis of historical freeze-up and breakup dates on the lake, based on records of our lake residents.

With budgetary cuts to environmental programs and the closure of ELA could the TLA become a leader among Ontario lake associations by forging ahead with our own long-term scientific monitoring program? Such an effort will require participation from our members and other community stakeholders and could form an exciting model for participatory environmental science.

Lake Temagami's reputation for crystal clear waters and amazing depth can sometimes make it difficult to appreciate the importance of water-quality monitoring. A sustained campaign of annual water-quality sampling that spans multiple decades into the future, with proper scientific oversight should be of utmost priority. In the shorter-term, this will provide important baseline information to help us monitor impacts of shoreline and resource development. In the longer-term, it will ensure that the grand experiment in ecosystem science that is currently underway beneath our very noses does not proceed without proper documentation and oversight.



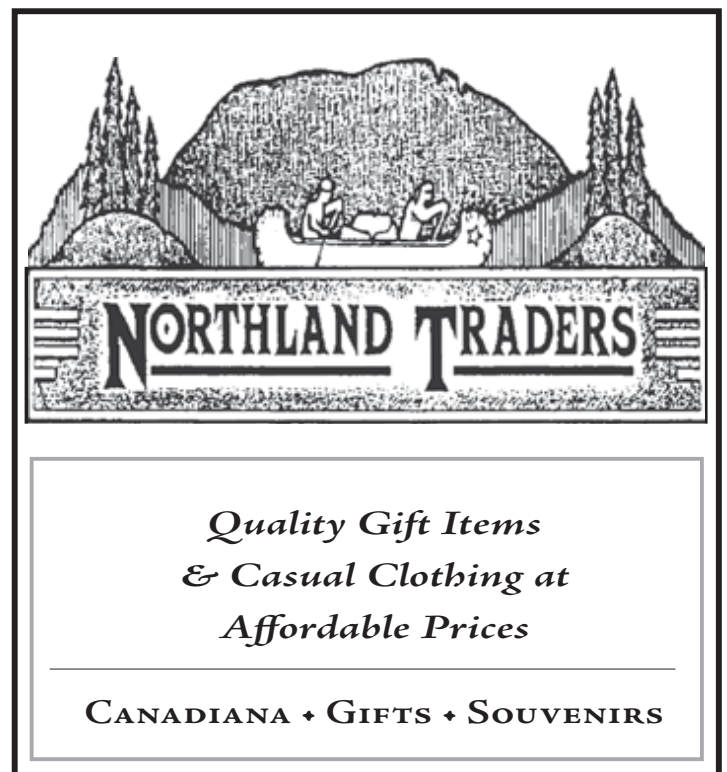
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The Wonders and Joys of Winter on the Lake

(It's often been said that Lake Temagami in the winter is a different lake, an experience and an environment that relatively few cottagers have ever enjoyed. And what an experience it is, as testified by this holiday greetings one cottager emailed to friends.)

I know that you may not understand the joy, the overwhelming sense of magic that fills my soul when I hear the deep resonant sound of the ice groaning as if stretching, mixed with icy breath of the north wind

sweeping across the lake under the almost daylight brightness of the moon and the millions of stars in a clear sky overhead.

This is how we welcomed the New Year last night, out on the lake, together, each of us appreciating the mystery in the changing of the seasons and being especially thankful for this particular freeze-up.

A gift, one that doesn't come often, but enough in one's lifetime to recognize and whole-heartedly embrace. The perfect freeze....the water drops in temperature,

a huge blanket of light fluffy snow falls, a full moon, a deep cold spell with little or no wind or snow that lasts just long enough for the lake to completely freeze over, followed by light snow and northerly winds. A winter wonderland and safe travelling.

The lake community comes alive, those who have been in for the freeze and those who are returning are out and about, putting in trail markers, meeting up in town and at the end of the road where conversations abound on the thickness of the ice,



how much ice you need to travel, who travelled where, who travelled when and where your trails are. An observation, as one ages so too does the thickness of the ice: you need to be safe.

Temagami Community Market Growing in 2012-13

By Dianne Laronde, President: Temagami Community Market

I would like to thank everyone for their participation, donations and support in the Market for 2012. Without the kind of assistance and generosity we received, this Market would not be possible.

The Municipality of Temagami once again supported all the Market's efforts in any way they could and I say a huge "THANK YOU!"

Each year the Market opens is always an exciting time for me. It is so wonderful to see the many talented people involved in this effort and all the new vendors wanting to share their amazing creations. Last summer and into the Christmas season, we drew vendors from Kirkland Lake to Callander, Sturgeon Falls and beyond! The Train Station parking lot was full with vendors each Saturday and more and more treasured patrons both new and returning. Completely wonderful to see!

At the Christmas Bazaar in December, we had so many vendors, I thought we would run out of space! Everyone enjoyed the event and, through this, we will be adding more new people to our vendors list.

I would like to thank last year's executive: Heather Tate, Ashley Bailey and Quelia Cormier for the time and efforts they put into the TCM. Also, welcome to the new executive: Carolyn Laronde, Community Chair and advertising; Glenn Toogood, Vice President; and Diane Toogood, Secretary/Treasurer.

In closing, we are always ready to welcome new vendors and volunteers and look forward to seeing everyone this summer.



A sunny winter day captures the silhouette of the photographer as well as tracks in the snow and scenery at Garden Island. Photo: Peter Healy.

Drinking Water Testing Available in 2013

By Peter Healy

Once again, numbers permitting, the TLA will offer members an opportunity to have their drinking water tested for bacteria. This service would allow TLA members to sign up to have their drinking water sampled from their intake, tap, or both (cottager preference) by the TLA staff. Samples will be sent to an independent and privately owned lab for analysis of bacteria content (mainly coliform and E. coli which are present when there is fecal contamination).

You will receive a report of your drinking water quality from the lab that conducted the analysis. This will allow you to know the quality of water you are consuming at your residence, and more importantly, if there are any associated health risks based on bacterial contamination.

If interested in this service please use this form to sign up. Given the size of our lake and the time constraints

we must work with to deliver the samples to the lab in North Bay, we must have cottages signed up in advance to allow this service to happen.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our efforts on behalf of clean water for Lake Temagami.

Temagami Lakes Association

Bacteria Sampling of Drinking Water

The Temagami Lakes Association is offering to sample member's cottage drinking water for bacteria from July 1st to Aug. 2nd. If interested please fill out the form and either e-mail, fax (877-281-4687) or drop it off at the TLA building at least a week before your selected dates. Forms are also available at the TLA building and on our website.

Services (please check one):

\$60 for initial test either from tap, or intake

\$90 for both tap and intake test

Cost includes: Travel to and from your island, transport of sample to lab in North Bay, lab analysis costs (approximately \$30/sample) and results sent to you.

Name: _____

Island Number and cottage address: _____

Cottage Phone Number: _____ Email: _____ Radio Call sign: _____

Address you would like the results mailed to: _____

Weeks you will be available to have water sampling conducted:

July 7-13 July 14-20

July 21-27 July 28-Aug.2

Payment method (please check one):

VISA/MASTERCARD (exp. _____)

CHEQUE/CASH – drop off at TLA building



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TCF Wants to do More with Community Groups

Submitted by the Temagami Community Foundation

Here's a memo to community groups and/or folks with an idea and desire to make something good happen in their communities: The TCF may be able to help.

That's TCF as in the Temagami Community Foundation, which a decade ago was created to serve the Temagami region – permanent residents, seasonal cottagers and the First Nation.

Over the years, it's done just that, giving grants totaling some \$200,000 to scores of groups, organizations and projects around the Township. Projects such as the summer Art Camp, the Angele Project

of a few years ago, the Temagami Area Fish Involvement Program, the Temagami Elders Portrait project, the local history initiative at the Temagami Public School, and many more. In fact, there's hardly a community project or organization that hasn't been helped in some way by a TCF grant, usually in the \$500 to \$2,500 range.

So much for the good news.

The even better news, however, is that it's time for new grant applications to be received and – this is a totally new wrinkle – the TCF is now searching for organizations, formal or informal, with which it might collaborate or partner. Organizations that will draw upon the skills and dedication of volunteers to gen-

erate both enthusiasm and commitment to their communities.

"The TCF wants to support, encourage and facilitate community initiatives that support an organization's goal while also collaborating with other groups, people or charities," said Cathy Dwyer, the TCF's executive director. "The grant process starts with a one or two-page proposal, and we'll work with a requesting organization to further develop the concept."

In other words, what's important is that the proposed project or initiative meets a real community need, promotes discussion and dialogue, fosters shared responsibility, involves

volunteers and creates excitement.

As in the past, the TCF will not fund individuals for personal support, capital campaigns, operating deficits, political or religious activities or fundraising dinners or event sponsorship. TCF's areas of concern are environmental awareness and stewardship, community arts and culture, First Nations and sustainable community economic development programs.

Proposals should be sent no later than April 29 to the Temagami Community Foundation, P.O. Box 338, Temagami POH 2H0 or by email to: info@temagamicommunityfoundation.com. Further information is available by phone at 705-569-3737.

Lake Temagami Fire Protection Committee Update

Submitted by Will Goodman

In April of 2012, the Temagami Municipal Council approved an Ad Hoc Lake Temagami Fire Protection Advisory Committee to gather information, develop options and assess the possibility of enhanced fire protection services on Lake Temagami and present recommendations to Council.

The Committee has been working diligently on developing a draft report for Council and public consideration. The draft report

is expected to be released to the public in March of 2013. There will be copies made available for viewing at the Municipal Office, the Temagami Public Library, the TLA Headquarters, and on the Municipal Website at www.temagami.ca.

The committee is recommending that there be two Special Council meetings (dates to be announced) to receive comments from the public in July and August. These meetings are not intended to be for debate, but to receive comments and clarify any information.

It is intended that once all comments have been received and considered, the draft report will be revised. Council will then review the document and make a decision.

Come one... come all members and non-members from all of the arms of the Lake Temagami community!

CHAMPAGNE CORN ROAST & B.B.Q.

'Rain or shine'

Saturday, July 27th

3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

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- Huge Silent Auction (*on-line bids available*)
- Bake Table
- Display of water quality testing equipment & procedure

Lots of parking and boat tenders will be available.



MEET UP WITH FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS FROM ALL ARMS OF LAKE TEMAGAMI AT THIS GREAT EVENT.

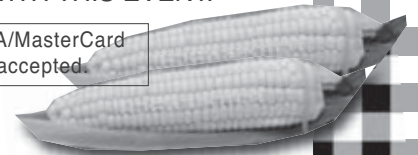
DONATIONS/VOLUNTEERS

We are seeking donations to the silent auction of a minimum of \$50 and upwards.

*** Sports Events Tickets * Vacation Villas * Wine**
...or make a donation of money for the auction committee to purchase local art for the silent auction in your name.

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST WITH THIS EVENT.

VISA/MasterCard accepted.



Contact TLA for further details call (705) 237-8927 or email: tla@onlink.net

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Temagami Forest Merger on Horizon

continued from page 1

LCC members to participate. Following a presentation by the MNR, the LCC made it clear that they would not support the merger.

Losing management of the Temagami Forest would be another example of the continued down-sizing of the MNR and the loss of government expertise in managing natural resources. To maintain expert knowledge within an organization you need to be the foresters, auditors and

technicians, not just a license issuer. Having a Crown unit also allows the government to conduct broader research and try new forestry practices.

It is clear that there is a long way to go before a merger is finalized. The Draft Forest Tenure Modernization Plan is showing an amalgamation date of 2019, which is a good thing as public consultation to date has been selective and minimal at best.

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What's Happening this Summer at Ojibway?

Ojibway Lodge (located on Island 1147) offers a warm, easy atmosphere with lodging in camp style cabins, most with amenities and daily cabin service. Three delicious meals are served family style in the dining room with breathtaking views of the lake. A cozy lodge provides social space for evening cocktails, board games, cards and casual gatherings.

- ✓ July 21 and 22: Paddle Carving Workshop - come for two days and leave with your own hand carved paddle
- ✓ August 3: Islander Pot-luck dinner - bring a favorite dish and enjoy the company of fellow lake dwellers
- ✓ July 26 to August 8: All Women's Canoe Trip - a trip for women, guided by women, in the Wolf Lake region of Ontario
- ✓ August 18 to 24: Artist's Retreat
- ✓ August 25 to August 31: Photography workshop with renowned photographer Dan Burkholder

Come spend the day at the workshops, or, simply stop by, relax and have dinner!



Call us for more information!

Tanya McCubbin, Ojibway Manager tanya@keewaydin.org www.ojibway.org
winter: (705) 840-3792 summer: (416) 548 6137 (please call ahead for dinner reservations)



Temagami Lions Club News

By Ike Laba

HOSPITAL FUND

The Temagami Lions club made a commitment 1½ years ago to raise \$50,000 within five years in support of the North Bay and Temiskaming Shores General Hospitals. The funds raised would be shared equally between the two hospitals. To date we are close to raising 50% of the commitment. This fundraiser benefits all residents within our community whether they are full time or seasonal residents.

The Lions appreciate any donation you wish to give towards this cause. If you wish to donate, please send your cheque to the Lions Club, P.O. Box 39 in Temagami, but make the cheque payable to the Temagami Community Foundation. If you require more information, please contact Wayne Adair at 705-569-3319. Any person donating towards the Hospital fund will receive a tax receipt.

HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

The Lions Annual Hockey Tournament weekend, January 25 to 27th, hosted eight Old Timers teams and eight Open Teams. This yearly event has become a friendly re-union for many teams. A special thanks to all the volunteers, youth and adults, who assisted in making this weekend a great success. Also, special thanks go to Lions organizers who devoted much of their time to make this a successful event.

CLOTHES LINE DROP BOX

Recently the Lions club in conjunction with the

Diabetes Association initiated a Clothesline Drop box program for the Temagami area. The drop box is located at Temagami's Our Daily Bread grocery store, which is owned by Joanne and Dick Van

Mayor John Hodgson spoke on the benefits of the program to this area; up to 11% of the area's population is diabetic. He stated that the Municipality would also benefit by keeping some usable items out of the landfill. Bob Sykes, President of the Temagami Lions Club, represented the club at the press release.

Thank you to the sponsors of the Lions Seniors Christmas Dinner that was held on December 16th.

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Northland Paradise Lodge

One Stop Trading Post
Orient Garden Restaurant
Our Daily Bread
Prescott Construction
Story Environmental
T. J. Evans Construction
Temagami Auto Clinic
Temagami Chamber/Commerce
Temagami Lakes Assoc.
Temagami Marine
Temagami Trucking
Temagami Petro Can

NEW MEMBER REQUEST

Lions Club members are continuously working as a team for the betterment of our community. If you are interested in getting involved, we can use your help. Please contact President Bob Sykes @705-569-4412 or any club member.

At the Clothesline Drop Box (from left to right): Ike Laba, Bill Cranley, Mayor John Hodgson, Operations Manager Helen Collinson, Lions President Bob Sykes, and store owners Joanne and Dick Van Manen.
Photo by: Sabrina Picard.

Manen. On January 24th representatives Helen Collinson (Operations Manager Clothesline Program, Sudbury) and Bill Cranley (pickup driver) for the Diabetes Clothesline program did a press release in Temagami on the values of the clothesline program.

They encouraged everyone to bring their gently used clothing, cloth items and footwear to this new Clothesline donation box as 100 % of net proceeds raised directly support the Canadian Diabetes Association and world leading diabetes research, education and advocacy.



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MUNICIPAL UPDATE

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Waterfront Infrastructure Improvements

We are pleased to announce that the Municipality has commenced a major renovation to the waterfront by the Welcome Centre building. This project is a priority because of safety concerns presented by the aging infra-structure. The project will be done in two phases. The first phase involves the replacement of cribbing and decking on the waterfront docks; the second will be for replacement of the retaining wall, bridge and decking. As a result of a competitive bidding process, the contract was awarded to MX Constructors Inc. from Sturgeon Falls.

These infrastructure improvements are possible with the assistance of funding received through FedNor and the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation. With the funding now confirmed, the Municipality will also replace the floating docks to complete the waterfront revitalization. The docks that are taken out will be repaired and refurbished, then used to provide additional docking facilities at other municipal access points.

The work will be substantially finished by May, with some landscaping being completed by early summer. This renovation will benefit those coming into town by boat; enhance the experience for residents and visitors using the waterfront; and improve accessibility.

Vision Refined and Adopted by Council

In 2012 Council presented their Vision for Temagami to the residents of the Municipality and asked for their input. On the whole the response was positive and supportive. As a result of the feedback, revisions were presented to Council for adoption in January of 2013. The refined Vision document is now adopted by Council and will be used as a basis for decisions on future plans, projects and initiatives.

The vision statement, which summarizes what Temagami's future could be, is "The vision for Temagami is a healthy community, which balances quality of life, growth of its businesses and quality of its world class natural environment."

Going forward, a new report on council's agenda will track the progress that is being

made in achieving the vision. Residents can view this report in the council packages posted on the website, or obtain a copy from the Municipal Office.

Changes to Waste Disposal Site Hours

As a result of the Solid Waste Management Master Plan completed in 2012, the municipality will be increasing hours and providing more oversight at our waste disposal sites.

The Lake Temagami Access Point (LTAP) transfer station will be monitored by an attendant for additional hours, the amount of which will vary depending on the season, up to 7 hours per day on certain days in the summer months. The attendant will help to ensure that waste and recyclables are disposed of in the proper manner and will provide education and direction for people using the transfer station.

The hours at the Briggs landfill site on the Lake Temagami Access Road will remain the same and the current practice of the attendant also monitoring the LTAP transfer station during some of those hours will continue. If the gate is closed during the posted operating hours, persons wanting access to the site will need to see the attendant at the transfer station.

The hours will change at the Temagami landfill site on Milne-Sherman Road to Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings from 8:00am to 12:00 noon. The site will also be open Sunday mornings from 10:00am to 2:00pm in the summer months.

In Marten River, the Sisk landfill site hours will be changed to Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday afternoons from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. The site will also be open Sunday afternoons from 3:00pm to 6:30pm in the summer months.

A part-time waste transfer station will be operated beside the Welcome Centre, for use by the residents of the Northeast Arm of Lake Temagami. This service will be available from the Monday of the Victoria Day (May) long weekend until the Monday of the Thanksgiving (October) long weekend. The hours will be Sundays and Thursdays from 12 noon until 6:00pm and in the event of a

long weekend, on the Monday instead of the Sunday. For the remainder of the year, the garbage truck will be parked behind the PetroCanada between 10:00am and 10:30 am on Tuesdays for disposal of domestic bagged garbage by these residents.

The new landfill site hours will be effective once approval is received from the Ministry of the Environment and notification is given. Please check the municipal website for updates.

Open Burning By-law Set Fines Increased

Last summer we experienced very hot, dry weather that resulted in several Restricted Fire Zones (RFZ) being imposed on this area.

Since there were a number of compliance issues through the region, local fire departments, including Temagami, have recommended increasing set fine provisions in their Municipal Open Air Burning By-laws. The intent is to match the Set Fines for contraventions to the Forest Fire Prevention Act that the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), increased in March 2011, particularly those for burning in a RFZ.

On January 31, 2013, council passed an amendment to increase fines for contraventions of the Municipal Open Air Burning By-law # 11-976. By increasing these set fines, Council is responding to the need to protect our wilderness and our residents.

The Set Fine for burning in a Restricted Fire Zone, or during a Fire Ban imposed by the Fire Chief is now \$500. Other set fines in the burning bylaw have also been increased from \$155 to \$200 to match the provincial set fines. The provincial court will also add a victim surcharge of up to \$110 on top of these fines.

We encourage everyone to help protect our community from the devastating effects of forest fire by complying with the Municipal Open Air Burning By-law. It can be found on the Emergency Services page on the municipal website www.temagami.ca or a copy can be obtained from the Municipal Office.

Please also note that burning permits are required for all open air burning, excluding campfires, during the Forest Fire Season, which runs from April 1st to October 31st.