

Kapikog lake end of summer hand out 2020

Kapikog Cottagers Association PO Box 167 Mactier, POC 1H0

At the recent AGM we were asked to publish a hand out for the benefit of our cottagers and their visitors to provide some helpful information regarding best practices for Cottage life on our lake.

Key subjects are Safety, Neighbourly behavior, Protection of our Forests and lake resources and Bi-law information.

Boating Safety : there are a number of resources to help us all understand the law as it relates to boating – one link is offered below

<http://boating.ncf.ca/speed.html>

Some Key points are:

Have “water on the water” and save the “beer for the pier.” Drinking while boating is dangerous and illegal and incurs the same legal penalty as drinking while driving a car.

Always have properly fitted lifejackets on hand for all passengers in your boat young folk should be wearing theirs. Each year we see the water police on the lake, and they have been known to issue fines if you do not have the right safety equipment or right sized life jackets on board for all passengers.

Be wake Smart – each of us is responsible for damage to docks or other boats caused by the wake of our boats – Boating speed limits are 10 km per hour within 30 meters of shore. Pace off 30 meters to give yourselves an idea how far that isit’s significant.

Show Courtesy – power boats must give way to smaller craft to ensure they do not swamp or tip them. They must also watch out for swimmers to ensure their safety.

Personal watercraft like sea doo’s can be lots of fun! Please be conscious that they are noisy, and also dangerous if driven too close to one another, close to shore, to other boats and to swimmers. It might be fun to jump waves with them ..but to do so for hours on end near other cottages is not well received.

Stay alert! At high speeds, it is hard to see swimmers, water skiers, divers and other PWCs in time to avoid them.

Fireworks are legally set off on only 3 dates of the year. May 24, July 1 and July 4th and the day before and the day after each of those days. No fireworks are permitted on those days after 11 pm. If fire ratings are high or Extreme no fire works at all are permitted on the “allowable” days.

People lighting off fireworks at times other than those listed above are breaking the law. If a neighbour calls to complain.. you are subject to fines from the Archipelago Region. Many Cottagers love the beauty sense of celebration and excitement of fire works .. but the opposite is also true ... many cottagers do not like them at all –they their children and pets are disturbed by the noise and the late hour many people light them off at ..and they are concerned about their impact on wild life, lake pollution and the increased risk of fire. So please do your part and comply with the Archipelagos guidelines.

Many people ask if they can still have a campfire when the fire rating is high. Due to the risk of forest fire Cottagers may not have a fire when the fire ratings are high or extreme. People having fires at their cottages during high or extreme fire rating periods are breaking the law, taking undue risk and subject to fine.

Water quality –is critical to the health of our lake, the fish and wildlife and to our enjoyment of and the value of our properties. There are a number of key points to be aware of noted below in red due to their importance to our lake Health.

Make sure your septic system is functioning well– if you have questions or need advice on this you can contact the archipelago for help if you don't know and would like a regional employee to help you get this assessed please call Cale Henderson at the Archipelago offices. 705-746-4243 Ext. 305 chenderson@thearchipelago.on.ca

Be conservative in your water use

Keep the vegetation at your shoreline natural (natural vegetation helps keep the water clean and pure).

Do not use any fertilizers or pesticides at all on your property as they will eventually end up in the lake.

The Archipelago region has a bylaw forbidding the use of fertilizer and pesticide in the region with steep fines due to the significant risk to lakes and rivers.

Do not use detergents or shampoos in the lake and select biodegradable products for use inside your cottage – do not bath with soap in the lake – if you must soap up after a swim rinse yourself with a pail of water on the shore so the shoreline plants can diminish the impact of the detergents on the lake water.

It is recommended to use only four-cycle engines and not to allow any oil or gasoline spills in the lake

Avoid high speeds and wakes near and in our bays and wetlands as their health is critical to the quality of our water.