



Ril Lake Association

Summer 2012

President's Message

We got through the May Long Weekend with just a few scratches and managed to get the cottage pretty much set up for the coming summer, how about you, are you ready for yet another great summer at Ril?

So what are your plans for this coming summer? Your Ril Lake Association Executive got together over the long weekend and has put together a few things for the summer. First of all is the return of Riljuvenate to be held over the Canada Day Weekend. There will be presentations concerning lake quality, septic, etc. This will be taking place at the Cook/ More Compound; 1040 Ril Cove Road starting at 10:00 am.

Other things on the slate this summer are the Annual General Meeting during the August Long Weekend and the annual Sailing Regatta takes place in August.

If you have any other ideas, please let us know. I can be contacted at skinorthstar@sympatico.ca

John Martin

Executive

President	Vice-president	Treasurer	Secretary
John Martin 1156 N Ril	Dianne More 1040 Ril Cove	Margaret Fielding 1114 N Ril	David Parsons 1014 James Pt



Website

Thanks to much work by Jeff Duncan and Casey Cook, the new website is up and running – www.rillake.jimdo.com

On the site you will find details on upcoming events, information about; contacts, our lake environment, septic, photos, etc. **Check it out!**

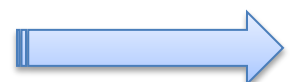
Association Membership

Dues remain at \$20. You can download the membership form from the website. Otherwise road directors will be around. Payments will also be accepted at Riljuvenate or the AGM.

Upcoming Events

Riljuvenate – Sunday July 1st – 10:00 am

Get out your best red & white duds for our Canada Day celebration!!



Riljuvenate – *continued*

Despite an unplanned hiatus last summer, Riljuvenate is back!!! Guest Speaker: Stefan Szczerbak, Planner, Twp of Lake of Bays. This year we are inviting everyone to Cook's place at 1040 Ril Cove Road. Or better yet, come by boat!!! On the south side of the lake, just look for the long brown dock with the 3 flags on the flag pole on the Ril Cove peninsula. This is our annual "start of summer" get-together to catch-up, socialize, pass on a little information, answer some questions, and take some suggestions. It is a great opportunity to visit with old friends and neighbours and make some new ones! Everyone is welcome and we encourage you to bring the whole family!! There will be displays and even a Bake Sale --- we might even be able to get Virginia (Joan) Cook to donate some of her world-famous butter tarts!!!

Benthic – Saturday July 7th – 9:00 am

Volunteers can meet at Cook's dock anytime between 9:00 am to Noon. Please feel free to join us even if you only want to learn what benthic monitoring is and ask questions. You are not obligated to participate in removal of the bugs. Benthic monitoring is a very valuable tool to determine water quality and indicates if an area is under stress. A summary of the data results can be viewed on our website located at <http://rillake.jimdo.com/>

AGM – Sunday August 5th

Guest Speaker: Ariel Zwicker, Lands and Water Technical Specialist, Ministry of Natural Resources. More details to follow.

Sailing Regatta – Saturday August 11th

The 6th annual sailing regatta will be held on Saturday, August 11, 2012. Skipper's meeting at 1:30 on Clifford's dock [1018 James Pt Rd]. Race starts at approximately 2:00. No race experience required - if you have a sailboat or windsurfer of any description, please join us. As always, all are welcome to the Clifford dock post-race for the prize giving ceremony and festivities.

Cottage Country Cardiac Response – Saturday August 11th and/or Sunday August 12th – 9:30 am

In the 90 minute Cottage Country Cardiac Response program you will learn and practice the core skills needed to respond to cardiovascular emergencies. All are welcome and there will be a nominal fee for the program. Sign-up sheets will be available at Riljuvenate and the AGM or contact John Martin skinorthstar@sympatico.ca.

Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup – Saturday September 15th - 8:00 am

<http://www.shorelinecleanup.ca/en/cleanup/event/fall2012/ril-lake>

Environmental Concerns

Phosphorus Levels

Historically we have had over-threshold readings of phosphorous and unfortunately 2011 was no exception. **Readings were 11.4 µ/L (micrograms per litre) and 11.2 µ/L, with the acceptable goal being between 5.5 and 8.3 µ/L.** All data can be viewed at www.muskokawaterweb.ca

There are several ways in which all residents of Ril Lake can help with our phosphorous levels.

1. Ensure there is a buffer zone of vegetation along the shoreline. The District of Muskoka guideline is to have at least 75% of the shoreline and at least 3 meters into the property planted with native vegetation. Trees and shrubs act as a filter and uptake nutrients such as phosphorous, thus limiting its entry into the water during storm events and spring run-off.
2. Maintain your septic system with regular pump-outs and be alert to possible leaks. One sure sign is odour and any wet or soggy areas around the septic bed.
3. Environmentally friendly cleaning products are available in most stores but please be aware of false labelling. Just because it says "green" does not necessarily mean it is chemical free. The best way to determine if a product is safe, is to look for this symbol. These three doves intertwined to form a maple leaf is the EcoLogo symbolizing Environment Canada and businesses are working together to ensure products meet stringent environmental laws and regulations.



Invasive Species

A list of several invasive species can be found on the Ril Lake Website. For more detailed information refer to the Environmental Initiatives tab on our website <http://rillake.jimdo.com/> or contact Casey Cook, 1040 Ril Cove Rd.