

## KAPIKOG LAKE COTTAGE OWNER'S ASSOCIATION

# Kapikog Tracks



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## President's Message by Stuart Ferrie

The summer season is now in full swing. It has been nice seeing so many people at the lake, enjoying time on the water or by the dock.

On the Victoria Day weekend we enjoyed the first event of the year, the Welcome Back get together. There was an excellent crowd at the Legion Hall in Mactier, and everyone had a great time connecting and re-connecting with their neighbours and fellow cottagers. It was certainly the best spring event since Covid and compared well to many pre-covid events. Thank you to Jay Parker for organizing this event and to all the people who joined us. We are already beginning the planning for next year.

Another event impacted by Covid was the summer event for children. I am pleased to announce that this event will be returning this year after an absence of several years. It will be held on Saturday August 9th. Further details on this event follow later in this newsletter.

On Saturday August 16 we have the Annual General Meeting, which is another time to get together with your fellow cottagers. We are seeking one new Board member to join the existing Board. If you are interested, or even just have questions about what is involved, please contact an existing Board member or send an email to

[info.kapikoglake@gmail.com](mailto:info.kapikoglake@gmail.com).

(continued on next page)

The Cottagers' Association runs on the energy of volunteers. We are looking at expanding in a number of areas, but can only do so if the volunteers are available to drive the projects. Following are some examples of people we are looking for.

**Oral History Coordinator** – This person would meet with some of the original Kapikog pioneers and capture an oral history of what it was like in the early days of Kapikog Lake. This could form an historical resource for years to come. To make this project happen, we need someone interested in the Lake's history, and good at drawing out the recollections of our senior cottagers.

**Children's Coordinator** – Having children connected to the lake and to each other can help build friendships that might last a lifetime. The Children's Coordinator will lead the organization of a summer event for children, and possibly other events which will be fun for children and allow them to meet other children from around the lake.

**Teen Coordinator** – There is a drop off in participation among young people as they become teens. Some of this is natural and unavoidable, as they grow and develop their own interests. However, we would still like to provide activities which are of interest to them and can keep them connected to the lake and to others their own age on the lake. The Teen Coordinator would have some insight into the mindset of teenagers, and creative ideas that can foster their involvement in the lake community.

We are excited about the possibilities for good things to happen with each of these volunteer positions, however without volunteers to fill them, the underlying activities cannot take place with our existing volunteer resources. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact a member of the Board to discuss them further or send an email to

[info.kapikoglake@gmail.com](mailto:info.kapikoglake@gmail.com).

We hope you all have a great summer on the lake.



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## Children's Fun Day Event! ☀️

Join Us for a Fun-Filled afternoon at the Association Children's Fun Day!

We are happy to announce the long-awaited return of a youth-focused, community-building event from our past:

The KCLA Children's Fun Day on Saturday, August 9th (10th is the rain date)!

The event will be held at the Township parking area from 1:00 PM to approximately 3:00 PM and is designed for children in the 5 to 12 age range, though everyone is welcome to join in spectating/cheering!

Please review the proposed event activity ideas below and select 1 or 2 activities per section that your child would like to participate in, along with the number of children attending, the participants names and your name, civic address number (the number on the green signs) and contact email. Please email the information to Terry Forth at [terry.kapikog@gmail.com](mailto:terry.kapikog@gmail.com), **by July 20th** so that he can finalize the plans.

Our team will be using the list of respondents as a guide for the material requirements as well as for attendance purposes. We will narrow down the list based on overall interest and send the finalized list of activities back to you before the event date. Additionally, we will confirm the event is proceeding by 10am on Saturday, August 9th, to the email that you provide, regarding any weather concerns, etc.

We need volunteers to help make this event happen! If you can help out please send your name and email address to Terry at the email address above. Additionally, if you have any of the activity supplies and would be willing to lend them for this event, please let Terry know in your reply.

We truly appreciate any support that you can provide, as we will be contributing materials that we have to help out.

We look forward to seeing you there!

(More on the next page)



# Children's Fun Day Activities! ☀

Date: **August 9th, 2025**

(or rain date August 10th)

Time: **1PM to 3PM**

Location: **Township dock parking lot.**

At the Chill Out Station there will be cold water and freezies, under a shade tent. Please bring your lawn chairs.

A parent or guardian is to be present with your children during the event.

Unless otherwise indicated, materials and game equipment will be provided for participants.

The following is a list of activity stations.

## 1. Water Games Station

**Sponge Toss Relay:** Teams race to soak up water with sponges and fill a bucket as fast as possible. Get wet, get silly, and cheer on your team!

**Sponge Toss:** Partners toss sponges back and forth, taking a step back with each successful catch. Last sponge standing wins!

**Target Splash:** Use water squirters to knock over a line of cups or hit targets for points. Great fun and lots of laughs. You're welcome to bring your own water squirter, as we only have a limited supply.

## 2. Craft Table Station

**Nature Collage:** Gather leaves, flowers, and other nature finds to create your own masterpiece on paper.

**Friendship Bracelets:** Make a colorful, hand-made bracelet for yourself or a friend.

**Paint-a-Rock:** Pick a stone and paint a message, pattern, or creature—whatever your imagination dreams up!

## 3. Mini-Games Corner Station

**Ring Toss:** Try to toss rings onto pegs from a distance. Compete for accuracy and prizes!

**Bean Bag Toss / Cornhole:** Two teams or individuals take turns tossing bean bags at a raised, rectangular board with a hole in it. The goal is to either land the bag on the board (1 point) or through the hole (3 points). The first player or team to reach 21 points wins the game.

**Hula Hoop Contest:** Participants will compete to see who can keep their hula hoop spinning the longest—no hands allowed! It's a great mix of balance, rhythm, and fun.

## 4. Chill Out Zone Station

**Lakeside Trivia / Bingo:** (Self-explanatory)

## 5. Group Event Station

**Scavenger Hunt:** Participants, with their parent or guardian, are given a list of items, clues, or tasks to find or complete within a specific area and time frame. Players work individually or in teams to search for these items or solve the clues, with the goal of collecting everything on the list.

Brad Hutchinson

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## Save the Date!



**Children's Fun Day : Saturday August 9th, 2025** from 1pm to 3pm at the Township dock parking lot (Rain date is Sunday August 10th).

**Annual General Meeting for the Association : Saturday August 16th, 2025** from 10am to Noon at the Township dock parking lot.

## Association Dues Now Due

Your dues are critical to the activities of the Association, which has a dual focus of safe recreation and enjoyment for all cottagers on our lake, and ensuring the health and long term viability of the lake. The dues amount of \$40 remains unchanged from previous years.

Please e-mail questions/concerns to Cheryl Randall at [cherylrandall@aol.com](mailto:cherylrandall@aol.com).

The preferred payment method is by Interac EMT/e-transfer. Unfortunately, auto deposit is not supported. When setting up the transfer

please use the following challenge question  
“What is the name of our lake?”

Answer: “Kapikog”.

Please send your e-transfer to:  
[treasurer.kapikoglake@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.kapikoglake@gmail.com)

Payment by cheque is also accepted, and can be mailed to the Association address at:  
PO Box 167, Mactier, ON P0C 1H0

Cottage Association Membership payments are due now and cover the period from May 1st, 2025 through April 30th 2026 inclusive.

## Wanted – Fire Pump Host on Cline Drive

Currently there are three fire pumps on the lake, provided by and maintained by an Association volunteer. If you are not familiar with these, see the following link: <https://kapikoglake.com/emergencies/>

A few years ago, the KLCOA Executive approved adding a fourth pump in the northwest area of the lake. To date, the Executive has not

found a cottager interested in hosting it. If you have a cottage on Cline drive, are an Association member and are interested in hosting it, please email your name and cottage address to [info.kapikoglake@gmail.com](mailto:info.kapikoglake@gmail.com). Note that if the Executive doesn't get a host, by the end of August, this initiative will no longer be pursued.

## Councilor's Message by Dan MacLeod



### 2025 Property Taxes

Property Land Taxes for Kapikog cottagers will increase by 1.8% this year. This is the lowest increase in the townships that surround Parry Sound.

### Budget - How taxes are dispensed

\$0.22 to fund external services (District Social Services Administration Board, OPP, Health Unit, MPAC, Ambulance, Belvedere Heights)

\$0.26 to local school boards

\$0.52 to the Township

### Logo

After 45 years of service the old logo has been retired. A new logo was created to better reflect the Archipelago's natural resources. Also with the simpler design, it is not as intricate, is easier to look at and cheaper to create.

### Site Alteration and Tree Preservation Bylaws

The final version of these new Bylaws is a balance between the issues they were to solve and not being excessively restrictive, particularly when it comes to tree cutting. If you have a dead tree or one that poses a hazard

to your building, you can cut it down. These bylaws came into effect on April 1st, 2025. There is a wealth of information on these Bylaws at <https://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/p/site-alteration->

[Editor's note: Summaries of the Bylaws can be viewed within the *Educational Material* selection].

### Food Cycler Benefits and Landfill Lifespan

Results indicate that the annual volume (waste plus cover material) during 2024 was approximately 500 m<sup>3</sup> (17,658 ft<sup>3</sup>). This is a 29% reduction from the 2023 results which were 700 m<sup>3</sup> (24,720 ft<sup>3</sup>).

The decrease in volume may be due to reduced need for cover material, reduced household disposal, reduced construction waste, or increased diversion (i.e. recycling, using the Food Cycler). The volume is at the low end of the previous 5-year range of 500 to 2,300 m<sup>3</sup> (17,658 to 81,224 ft<sup>3</sup>).

The remaining capacity for the site is 19,105 m<sup>3</sup> (674,686 ft<sup>3</sup>) of waste and cover material, which correlates to a lifespan of 17 years, utilizing the 5-year average annual volume of 1,100 m<sup>3</sup> (38,846 ft<sup>3</sup>).

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Township staff are working with Azimuth Environmental and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) on optimizing the property to support an additional 40,000 m<sup>3</sup> (1,412,586 ft<sup>3</sup>) of capacity into the future. A pre-consultation meeting remains as MECP has completed a hydrogeologist review but has not yet completed a surface water review. The optimization for additional capacity was initiated in February of 2024.

### Waste Disposal Cards

All users of the Township's waste disposal facilities must present a waste disposal card to the attendant. Should you require a card, you can request one from the Township website or by calling the Township office. See the following webpage for more information on how to get a card: <https://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/p/waste-recycling>

### Waste Newsletters

The 2025 Waste Newsletters have been drafted and published. This year's newsletters have a new appearance, aligning to our branding material with a modern layout. Staff have shared the newsletters throughout the Township. If you have not received one, it can be found at the following link: <https://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/p/newsletters>

### Phragmites

Recently, Georgian Bay Forever (GBF) created a Georgian Bay Phragmites Management Area as part of the Ontario Phragmites Action Pro-

gram, developed by the Invasive Species Centre through the support of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

The goal of this collaborative effort is to bring together communities, organizations, municipalities, First Nations, and other entities working on Phragmites management around Georgian Bay, to share their knowledge and resources. Throughout the year GBF will facilitate in-person, hybrid, or virtual meetings to go over topics of Phragmites management, invite guest speakers, and have roundtable discussions on successes and challenges being faced by organizations. This was briefly discussed at GBF's recent Council deputation. The Archipelago staff will be active participants in this collaboration, and we also hope to connect GBF to the appropriate Ministry of Transport (MTO) contact to participate in the collaboration, but we are still awaiting a response on who that contact is.

The Georgian Bay Biosphere (GBB), through their consulting service called Generations Effect, has provided a proposal for one week of service to inspect, report, and cut inland phragmites on Healey Lake Road. GBB's staff will take a leadership role but will work closely with Township staff. We have already had one report from a Kapiokog resident. Please report any invasive Phragmites, if you happen to see any growing.

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[Editor's Note: You can find out how to identify the invasive variety of Phragmites at the following website:

<https://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/p/environment> and then select *Phragmites*].

## Roads

The seasonal road to year-round road assessment and study is in progress to determine if a seasonal road can be upgraded to a permanent one. The final report is scheduled to be introduced in the third quarter.

There will be speed radar signs put out again this year. These signs produce valuable data including quantity of vehicles and speed. I would ask that you do not try for a high score!

Archipelago staff will be clearing the brush from the roads this season, however we do not have the resources to pick up brush from private properties.

## Snowmobile Trails

The trail agreement finalized this year, with snowmobile clubs, is a three-year deal. Since an agreement is already in place for this upcoming snowmobile season, there will be no permit-related delays in using the trails.

## Bell Fibre Internet Project Update

The hope is to have internet service in our area by this September. Nothing in writing but that is the thought.

Bell Canada's approved vendors for the work done in the Township are Pickard Construction, UTS Consultants, and Mike's Communi-

cations. Questions about this work should be submitted to these vendors directly.

The Township of The Archipelago advises residents to be aware of service provider impersonation scams. The ongoing work on internet connectivity is exclusively focused on constructing new fiber-based internet infrastructure and does not entail any solicitation for internet services.

There are no financial commitments required from residents to benefit from the province-funded Accelerated High-Speed Internet Program (ASHIP) aimed at deploying fiber optic internet in the South Archipelago. Mainland work crews have been visible, and new roadside signboards have been placed to engage residents in potential expanded infrastructure on their property. Mike's Communication is associated with Bell's larger undertaking and is a reported subcontractor to Bell Infrastructure. I highly urge Kapikog ratepayers to contact Mike's Communications to ensure the internet infrastructure is brought to your dwelling. This service is free.

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As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or our township office.

Regards, Dan MacLeod

[dmacleod@thearchipelago.ca](mailto:dmacleod@thearchipelago.ca)

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**SOLD OVER LIST**

Wawashkosh Island  
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**SOLD OVER LIST**

Wawashkosh Island  
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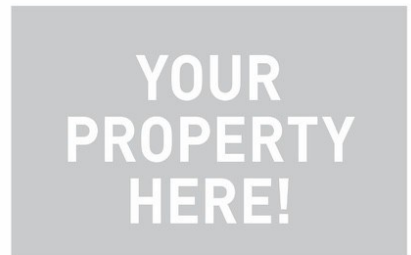
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## Calling all Kids in the Biosphere! By GBB Staff

### Are you ready for exploration and adventure?

The Township of The Archipelago (TOA) continues to offer the Kids in the Biosphere program in partnership with Georgian Bay Mnidoo Gamii Biosphere. This free program provides participating families with activities to keep them outside and learning about nature all summer long. Kids in the Biosphere began in 2013 and has reached over 600 families!

Families within the TOA register with the program at the beginning of summer and pick up an activity kit with materials and activity instructions. The self-guided activities are designed to last all summer. Beyond nature observation, the activity kits invite families to conduct science experiments, help local species, and take climate action. Families can also complete their activity scorecard and submit photos of their discoveries throughout the summer.

Activities are mainly self-guided, but there are opportunities for families to interact with Biosphere staff and guest experts.

We are back for summer 2025! If you are interested in an activity kit, visit <https://www.jotform.com/GBayBiosphere/kitb-kits>

to register and find out where to pick them up!

Have questions?

Email [kids@georgianbaybiosphere.com](mailto:kids@georgianbaybiosphere.com).

For more information about what the Biosphere has to offer youth, please visit [georgianbaybiosphere.com/kids](https://georgianbaybiosphere.com/kids).



[jotform.com/GBayBiosphere/kitb-kits](https://www.jotform.com/GBayBiosphere/kitb-kits)

## ACTIVITY KITS AVAILABLE!

**For Township of The Archipelago families!**



Questions? Email [kids@georgianbaybiosphere.com](mailto:kids@georgianbaybiosphere.com)





## Is That a Rock on the Road? by Andrew Sixt

On a trip back from Mactier in early May, my wife and I happened to spot what looked like a rock on Kapikog Lake Road.

Once we got closer, we realized that it was a small snapping turtle, making its way straight down the road. By the sand on its back, it might have recently come out of hibernation.

Despite some hostile resistance, we managed to get the turtle off the road and close to the shore of Little Kapikog lake.



A few days later while walking on Cline Drive, we had a similar experience. Can you spot the turtle in the picture below?







This turtle (Maybe a Blanding's or Northern Map turtle) was much shyer and was easier to move off the road.

Please be on the lookout for wildlife, when traveling on roads in the area. Sometimes the smaller animals are hard to spot at a distance.

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## Website Update by Andrew Sixt

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Over the winter, the Association website was reviewed, and a plan was developed to update it and what type of content will be published. In general, the content will be Association focused with select content on other things that are thought to be of interest to members.

The newsletters and emails will continue to

be the primary means the Association executive uses to provide information to members. The first round of updates was completed earlier this year, with more updates planned after the summer cottage season. The website can be viewed at:

<https://kapikoglake.com/>





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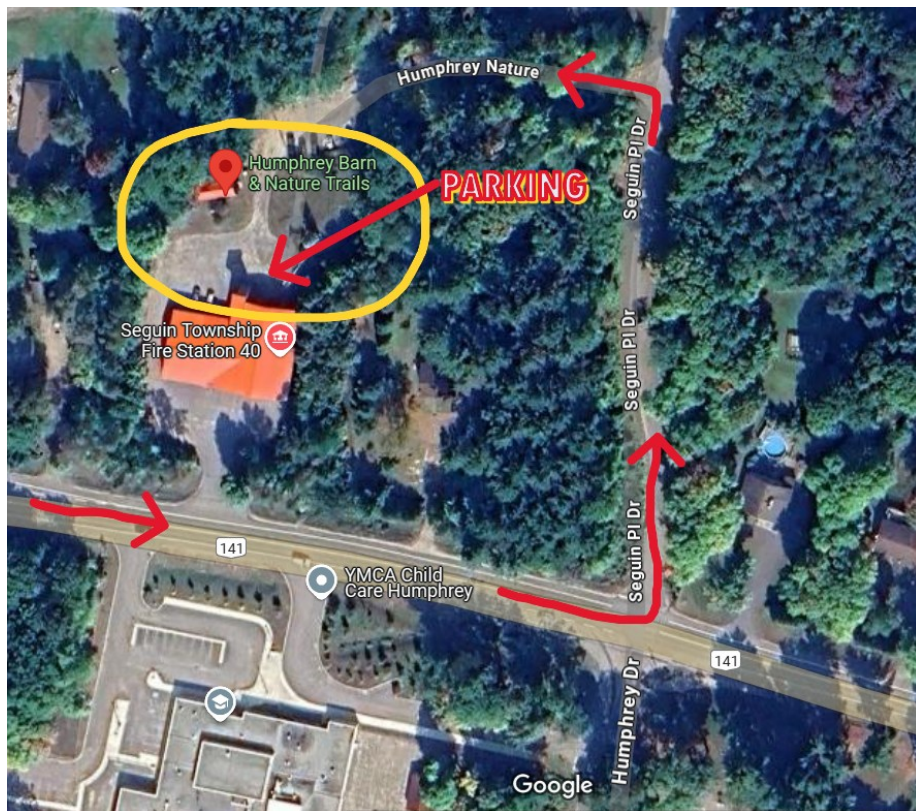
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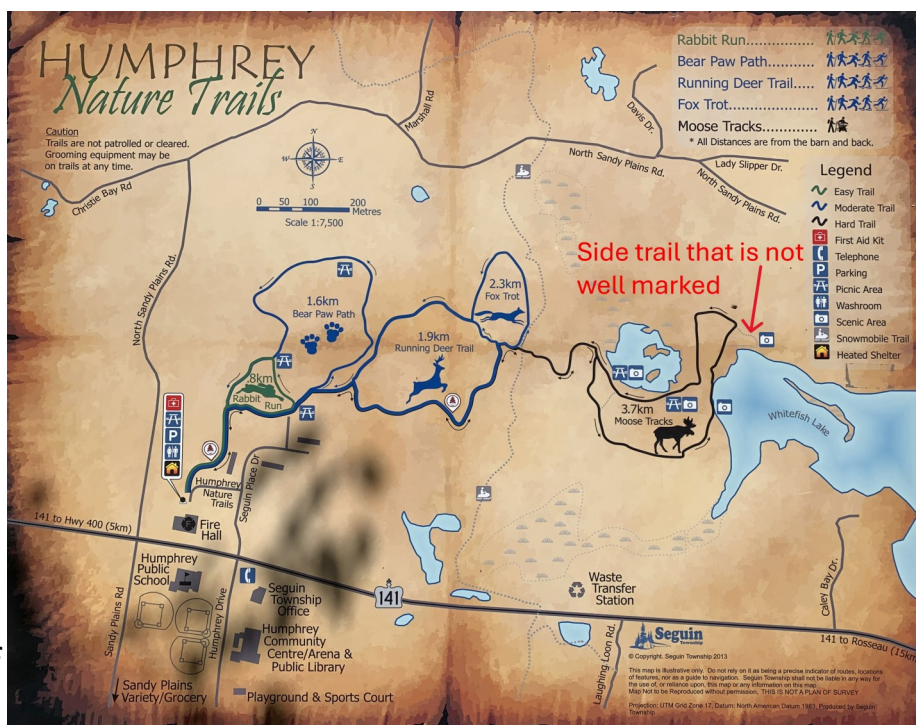
## Humphrey Nature Trail Review by Andrew Sixt

On a sunny spring day, my wife, dog and I decided to explore the Humphrey Nature Trails. The trails are located in the village of Humphrey, behind the Humphrey Fire Hall. Parking is available at the trail head. It's about a 25 minute drive from Kapikog. The map below shows how to get to the parking lot from highway 141.



There are five connected main loops and a short loop as shown on the map.

Our travels started off at the parking lot, where the start of the trail was well marked. In addition, there was a barn that was open, although its primary use appears to be a shelter/warm up place for Nordic skiers and snowshoers in the winter. My wife gave the outhouse a 3 out of 5 star rating (which is pretty good for what I'm accustomed to hearing for public washrooms!).







We followed the Running Deer route and then branched to Moose Tracks. There were nice views of Whitefish Lake and a beaver pond along the Moose Tracks trail, where we stopped for a snack and drink. There was a short side trail, marked with dots on the map. This trail path was faint and not well marked, so if you are not an experienced bush navigator, I would recommend sticking to the main trail. On our return route, we followed the north branch of the Running Deer route.

We found this to be an enjoyable and easy hike, that was level in most places. Parts of the trail were gravel, near the parking lot, and other sections were earth and rock, with a few muddy sections so appropriate hiking footwear is recommended. The trail was easy to follow but I found it useful to take a photo of the map at the entrance for reference. For more information, go to the following website <https://www.seguin.ca/en/explore-play/trails.aspx> And then select *Humphrey Nature Trails*.