

LAKE STEWARDSHIP AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE OF MCKELLAR TOWNSHIP*

Agenda

7:30 PM

THURSDAY, November 9th, 2023

Join Zoom Meeting

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*Educational resources posted by this committee are available on the Township of McKellar Website here:

<https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf>

Item	Time	Please note: These are ongoing agenda items. Only items marked with an * will be discussed at the next meeting.
1. *		Land Acknowledgement: In the spirit of reconciliation and co-operation, we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Mississauga people. Its boundaries fall within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaty of 1923. We are grateful to live here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years. To honour the suffering of Indigenous people and the love and wisdom they have carried for thousands of years, we pledge to work in community and harmony with each other and the environment we inhabit and work towards Truth and Reconciliation.
2. *		Roll Call*: Tony Best (); Ross Crockford (); Peter Duffey (); Jennifer Ghent-Fuller (); Melanie Jeffrey (); Axy Leighl (); Carl Mitchell (on LOA); Suzanne Poff (); Nick Ryeland (Y); Rick Speers (). We need 5 committee members to have a quorum () We will have another round of introductions. This is the first meeting for Peter Duffey and Rick Speers. Does anyone have a declaration of pecuniary and/or personal interest and general nature thereof?
3.1 *		Motion to accept the minutes of Oct 12th, 2023. (These will be sent Nov 8 th). Moved: Seconded: Approved: () Amendments:
3.2 *		Motion to accept the Agenda as presented. Moved: Seconded: Amendments: Approved:

3.3*	<p>Nov 9. Strategic Planning – Please review the November 2023 LSEC Achievement Assessment document that was sent to committee members in the last week of October and come prepared to make suggestions. We will decide on our main activities for the coming year. We need to decide on (2 to 3?) priorities and establish who will work on each topic.</p>
4. Goals	<p>General Updates on Current Issues.</p>
4.1	<p>Waterfront/ Shoreline protection – Oct 12, 2023. New policy adopted.</p> <p>October 5, 2023 – Jennifer sent committee members a draft policy in the past few days for review.</p> <p>References used to write the amended policy include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Natural Shorelines and their Role in the Protection of Water Quality and Aquatic Habitat: State of the Science Report. Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Limited, Aug 18, 2021. 2. The Science Behind Vegetated Shoreland Buffers: Why the Ribbon of Life Matters, Watersheds Canada, 2022. 3. Shoreline Buffers and Water Quality, South Carolina Native Plant Society, 2020. 4. Lakeshore Capacity Assessment Handbook: Protecting Water Quality in Inland Lakes, Ontario Government, retrieved October 10, 2022. 5. A Shoreline Owner’s Guide to Healthy Waterfronts, Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association, 2019. 6. Planning for our Shorelands, Watersheds Canada, 2022. 7. Lake Protection Workbook: A Self-Assessment Tool for Shoreline Property Owners, Lake Links (Watersheds Canada) 2022. 8. A Regulatory Guide to Achieving Environmental Net Gain at the Waterfront, Watersheds Canada, 2022. <p>July 6, 2023 – Axy will send out a draft policy by July 17th. We will review it at our next meeting on August 10th and decide whether it is ready to share with Council at that time. Council members have expressed interest.</p>
4.2*	<p>Water Sampling</p> <p>Nov 9 – On Oct 17, the Lake Steward made a presentation to Council of the results of the water sampling program for 2023. The data has been forwarded to Council and placed online under Environment. The sampling program was under the budget set by LSEC.</p> <p>**Proposal Nov 9 Tony would like to propose that we establish a study group to review surface water testing needs. The purpose would be to look at exactly what are the current desirable types and frequency for testing.</p> <p>October 5, 2023 Three rounds of sampling for E. coli and for Phosphorus and Calcium have been completed for the season. Profile data was also collected for 16 sites three times this summer. Data will be sent to the Township for posting. Sampling and profile data were collected for Manitouwabing, Armstrong, Grey Owl, Mary Jane, McKellar and Moffat Lakes.</p>
4.3*	<p>Septic Education –</p>

	<p>Nov 9 – Concern has been raised confidentially by a local resident about the condition of septic systems in Air B n rental B residences. Propose that we make laminated versions of the July flyer available in the library for area landlords.</p> <p>July 6 – A flyer entitled “Help Your Septic System and Our Lakes” has been printed and delivered to the Township Office. The invoice has been submitted and paid to Aquagraphics. It was included in the tax mailing at the end of July.</p> <p>A question was raised about septic inspection by a member of the public. Jennifer has made a preliminary call to the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Association and will follow up, as will Nick. <i>(follow up indicated that no further action could be taken).</i></p> <p>A call was received in June from a McKellar Township resident who will be remaining anonymous. There was a release of raw sewage into Lake Manitouwabing from a burst septic tank on April 15 that was visible on the melting ice. The North Bay Mattawa Conservation Association (NBMCA) was contacted, but by the time they were called, the ice had melted and the sewage was gone so they were not able to take any further action. E coli tests were completed in the area in June. The site level was slightly elevated and was over the provincial standard of 200 CFU/100 ml downstream. There is no mandated septic inspection in McKellar Township. This committee investigated the possibility a few years ago, but the cost of acquiring each septic registration in the township from NBMCA, the cost of paying the salary of a septic inspector (even one shared by other area municipalities) and the process to set the system up was agreed to be beyond the capacity of the Township at that time. Discussion included the diesel spill in the spring at which the health department, the Ministry of the Environment and the police attended, and this was contrasted to the government response to the sewage spill. We also discussed the possibility of asking the Township if one of its employees could go out to witness a future sewage spill and report it on behalf of the Township as quickly as possible. Perhaps a hotline could be set up and/or the By-Law officer could be involved. Currently, individual residents are relied upon to do the reporting; they are assured of anonymity by the NBMCA, but that does not extend to a possible court case. Individuals may suffer from personal harassment for reporting a neighbour and this is not acceptable. The committee also discussed a need to devise/discover a reporting mechanism for 24/7 reporting and advertise this to residents.</p> <p>The main concern is that a majority of township residents draw household water from the lake and treat it with various methods before drinking it. Discussion was also had on the need to advertise free tap water testing by the health unit and the water testing, likely at a cost, by Water Depot in Parry Sound. Nick will investigate the service available from Water Depot. We have a video on water testing available online.</p>
4.4	<p>Presentations - YouTube videos from this committee are posted here: https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf along with other videos</p> <p>Our postings (listings and a table of contents) are uploaded on the township web page under “Residents/Environment.” Jennifer has been gradually updating the page with Mary Smith’s help. https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/environment.aspx</p>
4.5	<p>Microplastics/Microfibres/ Washing Machine Filters – video on our YouTube channel posted</p>
4.6	<p>Earth Day / Clean Up Our Lakes –</p>

	<p>October 5, 2023 – Melanie will let us know when she is ready to do a presentation on recycling.</p> <p>July 6 - The “Clean Up Our Lakes” sign is badly damaged.</p> <p>Recycling was raised as an issue. There should be clear guidelines as to what plastics are successfully recycled and whether to remove labels etc in order to maximize the success of plastic recycling in our area. Melanie is an expert in this issue and offered to give a presentation at a future meeting. Request was made to record this session to be included in our resources.</p> <p>The Clean Up our Lakes campaign is scheduled annually for the end of April to end of May – suggestion was made to include roads and add it to the slogan – “Clean up our Lakes, Rivers and Roads” for publicity this spring.</p> <p>June 8 2023 - Moved that We hold the Clean Up Our Lakes campaign in 2024 without ordering bins. Moved: Tony Seconded: Sue approved</p>
4.7*	<p>Fishing / Wildlife – Nov 9 – Tony will give a brief update on the day long Watersheds Canada meeting in Perth that he attended.</p> <p>Sept 14 – Lumber and some T bars have been given to this group by committee members in addition to their independent receipt of township funds.</p> <p>July 6 – Al requested help with bird boxes for raptors that are on the decline. Sue and Al will work together on this. Steve Bradley has built a bird nesting boxes for raptors in response to a request from Tianna Burke.</p> <p>Additionally, it would be a good idea to build turtle nesting protection boxes. Al will draw up a list of materials needed, and we will all draw on the stores in our garages to fulfill the needs. Tony will work with Al on this.</p> <p>Loon counts. MLCA carried out a loon count over the July long weekend. Responses came in with loon sightings in various areas of the lake. Jennifer will be working with one of the respondents to summarize the input for this and for the next two long weekends. The plan is to submit information to Birds Canada and eBird.</p>
4.8	<p>Fish Catch reporting signs for Armstrong Lake - are up at Armstrong Lake beach. June 1 2023 – sign is well back from the portable outhouse and visible.</p>
4.9	<p>Catch and Release Signs are up at township launch sites. Copies of the Catch and Release sign are on the back of the Safe Boating flyer and were printed for distribution by the Township with the tax mailing to all households at the end of February 2023.</p>
4.10	<p>Benthic Study – Sept 14th – The property at 85 Cole Point Trail, which has been used as a sampling site for the benthic studies for the past 4 years has been sold. Jennifer has spoken with Katrina at GBB and will write to the Clerk to inquire about the new owner to inquire whether they will allow GBB to continue to use that property as a sampling site. 2023 sampling has been completed and the report will be issued by GBB shortly. May 11th – funding is included in the 2023 budget March 9, 2023 Jennifer distributed an evaluation of the value of the 2022 Benthic report along with a suggestion that LSEC recommend to Council that this research be continued. Proviso: that</p>

		the data from the Lake Manitouwabing studies be posted on an existing publicly available website at no extra charge to the township or the MLCA. We passed a resolution supporting the continuation of Benthic sampling by the GBB.
4.11		<p>Pesticides/Fertilizers – July 6th – an example of a brochure that would include pesticides Turtle nesting protection boxes. Built for people to use and store. Committee members liked the idea of promoting the planting of rain gardens and filter strips mentioned in the brochure below = to decrease the amount of nutrients seeping into the lake. CCE Lawn Care for Water Quality Brochure 2020.pdf (skaneateleslake.org)</p> <p>Pesticides – we will fold a discussion of pesticide use on lawns into the work/education on waterfront vegetation. Melanie and Jennifer.</p>
4.12		<p>Invasive Species – Oct 12 – Chair has had discussion with Greg Gostick about the occurrence of phragmites beside Centre Rd at the previously identified spot.</p> <p>Sept 14th – Sampling was completed in August for detecting the presence of two invasive plants: European water chestnut and water soldier by eDNA, through the auspices of FOCA.</p> <p>July 6th - Al Last, assisted by Jeremy Sintzel, has been putting up the new Invasive Species signs from FOCA at the boat launches.</p> <p>June 8th – Council approved replacing the old Protect our Lakes from Invasive species signs and replacing them with the new signs from FOCA. We also need to map and list where the signs are placed in the township. Need someone to place signs again.</p>
4.13		<p>Dark Skies – From Oct 13/22 minutes on planning: Sue and Jennifer will continue the work on Dark Skies.</p>
4.14		<p>Water Levels – A paper detailing previous work on water levels is posted on our section of the web page.</p>
4.15		<p>Pollinator Patches / Gardens– Oct 5th – Tony watched the geese to identify how they access Minerva Park and Jennifer has written to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to request permission to plant low shrubs in those areas. Sue and Jennifer met with Greg Gostick to discuss locations for the plants and the buried power cables. Planting took place Sept 28th at 0900. We had nine plants and will need to complete planting in the approved areas with more plants in the spring. Thanks to Anna Michieli for volunteering to help plant and weed!</p> <p>July 6th – The Pollinator Patch Garden at the Community Center has been reconditioned; GBB personnel were invited to come. They are now taking over the care and tending of this garden again. Sue received a request to do some clean up at the Minerva Park Garden. We wrote to the Township Clerk to say we would do this. We have funds to fill out the plants. We will book a day in September and advertise for volunteers to work on this garden in addition to removing some deadwood now. We need to be certain that no other organization has this responsibility.</p> <p>Resolution 2023 #6</p>

The following goals and objectives were adopted in June 2021 by the Lake Stewardship and Environmental Ad Hoc Committee. Shortly thereafter, the committee was made a permanent committee by the township.

The committee is invited to conduct strategic planning by deleting goals and/objectives that are no longer relevant, planning which objectives we should proceed on in the coming year, and creating new goals/objectives for items that should be considered and acted upon.

November 2023 Comments are in blue italicized font.

Goal 1.

The Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee will advocate for clean water and healthy lakes in the Township by regularly assessing water quality in conjunction with the Manitouwabing Lake Community Association, the Public Health Unit, the Lake Partner Program, and the Georgian Bay Biosphere through assessment of indicators of potential contamination and providing educational suggestions about the factors which promote clean water and the beauty of our environment.

Objectives:

- 1. Maintain a moderate level of nutrients and productivity in our lakes.**

Council Actions:

- 1. In conjunction with the volunteers of the Manitouwabing Lake Community Association and the Lake Partner Program, use our water testing protocol and test the phosphorus levels, the clarity of the water and the E.coli levels near the shorelines and the health of the lake bottom.**

This program has continued and been extended to include, not only the phosphorus testing by the Ontario Government Lake Partner Program, but sampling and testing by MLCA and the Township for phosphorus, calcium and other profile parameters.

We wrote a flyer on Blue Green Algae and how to prevent it that is distributed at the market booth

- 2. Institute a program of septic system inspection and regular maintenance to decrease the seepage of phosphorus into the lake.**

After much study and debate and consultation with other area townships, we were unable to institute regular mandatory septic inspection. We opted to conduct an education program instead. Further research revealed that areas which are covered under a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan have regular mandatory inspection through their local Conservation Authority under the auspices of the Ministry of the Environment. The costs of initially getting/buying our septic records from North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority were prohibitive. Sharing the cost of a septic inspector would have been additional and helping finance repair/replacement would also need to be taken into account. The LSEC printed and distributed copies of the Provincial Guide,

Septic Smart (https://www.rvca.ca/media/k2/attachments/Septic_Smart_English.pdf

in the summer of 2022, and had a pamphlet on use of the septic tank distributed by mail with the taxes in July 2023. <https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/resources/Help-your-septic-system-and-our-lakes-FINAL.pdf>

Danielle Ward from Adams Bros. gave a presentation on septic systems
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3SZLLr9F4Y>

Both of these were distributed to all households in the township.

We received a presentation on washing-machine filters – the YouTube video was placed on the web site. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SIMgc5QA-ZY>); MLCA made a demonstration filter for the market booth in the summer of 2022. MLCA has an agreement with the supplier for a discount for members who purchase a filter.

We received a presentation on water treatment – treating lake water for household consumption
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQldfiF1dtc>

3. To continue to study our lakes with the GBB.

The Georgian Bay Biosphere is contracted to do four benthic samples annually; three are paid for by the township and one by MLCA. One of the properties used for this sampling has been sold. A request to continue sampling was forwarded to the new owner by the Township, but no response has been received. We can either find another site (Jones Bay) or drop to three samples.

4. Evaluate the health of the lake by establishing the lake capacity (conduct a lake capacity study).

LSEC member, Carl Mitchell, supervised a lake capacity study in 2021 by two of his students. We have a video report ([The Implications of the Lake Capacity Study on Lake Manitouwabing - Dr. Carl Mitchell - YouTube](#)) on the Township web site.

5. Assess the impact on the lake of the raising and lowering of water levels. Work with Bracebridge Power and the MNR to review and revise the minimum – maximum water levels to preserve fish and wildlife habitats and decrease shoreline erosion.

A report on the water levels of Lake Manitouwabing was written and placed on the web site. ([Water-Levels-on-Lake-Manitouwabing-JGF-Amended-July-2022.pdf \(mckellar.ca\)](#)) There is no-one who has come forward to monitor this with Bracebridge Generation Ltd. However, there has been no recurrence of the difficulties of the spring of 2017, when the water was very low, and a cold snap caused freezing water lines and damage.

6. Discourage invasive plant species (e.g. phragmites)

We completed a flyer [4McKellar-Invasive-Species-pamphlet-draft-4.pdf](#) with suggestions on protecting McKellar Township from Invasive Species, especially phragmites, which was printed and distributed in February 2023 with the tax mailings. In early 2023 we picked up 16 more of the newer road signs on Invasive Species from the FOCA (on behalf of MLCA) office in Peterborough and these were put up at boat launches, both public and private – by Al Last and Jeremy Sintzel – the signs are designed to educate people who are launching their boats about prevention of transfer of invasive species from one water body to another.

Invasive phragmites was spotted at the roadside on Center Road in early September and Greg Gostick has been consulted about this. It has also been found in 2 private gardens.

7. Evaluate the impact on the lake of use by renters - review all aspects of cottage rentals. This item morphed into a separate committee which has subsequently ceased to exist.

8. Discourage the removal of riverside and lakeside vegetation.

We put a video of a McKellar Library Presentation, Natural Edge with Calvin Blewitt, Watersheds Canada - May 7, 2022 – on our YouTube channel and the link is on the McKellar Township website <https://youtu.be/F3177Jr4kkk>

We recorded a presentation: [Why Natural Shorelines are Key to Lake Health, Julie Sutton, Sweet Fern Consulting details how maintaining naturalized vegetation along the shoreline helps maintain the health of our lakes. - June 16, 2022](#) – (click to follow link) and the YouTube link is on the McKellar Twp web page

We distributed printed copies of the Lake Protection Workbook from Watersheds Canada to each township household

Link to online version: <https://watersheds.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Lake-Protection-Workbook.pdf>

9. Discourage the use of pesticides and fertilizers *We have not made any progress on this objective.*

10. Conduct community tree-planting programs. *MLCA continues to sell bushes and trees to township residents. The LSEC planted 9 indigenous pollinator bushes at the edge of Minerva Park in September 2023 to discourage the geese from walking up from the lake and fowling the park. It will take a few years before these are of sufficient height. We have permission to plant more in a specific location, but we will need more bushes. There is the possibility of 5 households participating in a Watersheds.ca Natural Edge program next summer. This would likely be through MLCA and we need to find out more details. We had a plan to establish demonstrator pollinator patches in the township, but were asked to withdraw this plan because of expense and perceived lack of need.*

In early 2022, we examined the possibility of instituting a Tree by-law, and examined those in other jurisdictions, but decided this would be too difficult to enforce and would require by-law officer inspections etc. We opted instead to revise the Tree Canopy and Natural Vegetation By-Law of 2019 and make it more comprehensive. (Sept 2022)

11. Review township governance, ie. The Official Plan, Zoning Bylaws and Resolutions to identify those that have an impact on this goal. *We have worked on a rewrite of the Tree Canopy and Indigenous Vegetation Bylaw which as not yet been presented to Council.*

12. Develop and deliver educational materials to the population of McKellar Township and evaluate the education. *Two booklets, three flyers printed and distributed to all households. Bookmarks printed for distribution at the market.*

Lake Protection Workbook and Septic Smart pamphlet printed and distributed to household doors – Summer 2022

2 flyers a) Boating Safety/Catch and Release and b) Preventing Invasive species – distributed to all households with Feb 2023 tax mailing

1 flyer – “Help your septic system and our lakes” distributed with July 2023 tax bill

Other flyers written for the market booth 2021 – Dark Skies, Prevention of Blue Green Algae, Waterfront Habitat for a Healthy Lake; bookmark about personal actions to protect the environment

We could encourage the reinstatement of “welcome packages” for new residents at the township office and insert environmental materials

13. Annually assess the cost of needed education and propose a suitable budget proposal. No proposals yet for 2024.

Goal 2:

The Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee will promote and maintain a healthy wildlife habitat, on land and in the water, by assessing factors which cause pollution, educating the McKellar township residents about those factors and making recommendations to Council concerning Bylaw changes or other actions to be taken.

Objectives:

1. To maintain areas in the township which are unsettled and are suitable for habitat by wild animals.
2. To remove threats to the health of wild animals, birds, fish and insects. *Ad Hoc committee helped create the butterfly garden at the community centre with the GBB.*

We participated in a workshop organized by the library and the McKellar Conservation Association to build bird and bat houses.

We received a presentation by Rob Gibson on Work Permits, Boat Houses and the Public Lands Act.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4bcSQPG91U>

Tianna Burke of GBB gave a presentation on providing habitat for birds and bats

<https://youtu.be/HjIL7QhWm18>

3. To encourage residents and visitors to abide by all hunting and fishing regulations and best practices.
4. To prevent the proliferation of invasive species.
5. To maintain the number of boat launches at the present level.

Council Actions:

1. **Decrease the use of pesticides and insecticides.** *Agreement with Hydro to cease spraying pesticides reached in 2021. No subsequent action.*

2. **Investigate whether tires deposited in the lake in 1987 to serve as fish habitats are leaking toxic chemicals into the lake water in conjunction with MLCA and the MNRF.** *We made a call out to the community for information on these tire piles. We were anonymously given a map of where they are located. We were further informed that they are underwater "structures" and permission of the Ministry of the Environment would be needed, and in fact, they would need to remove them. We have not ascertained whether they are leaking toxic chemicals. We have informed both MoE and MNRF about the tire piles and we hope they will remove them at some time in the future. The map has been deposited with the McKellar Historical Committee to be maintained in the archives.*

3. **Decrease the deposits of garbage in the lake, including plastics, bullets, sunken craft and other human-made detritus.** *See #4*

4. **Continue McKellar's Clean Up Our Lakes project on an annual basis.** *The Township has placed a bin at the Transfer Station for the past four years and a sign has been placed there for the past 2 years. This spring we decided to proceed with the campaign in 2024 without a bin as it is in the way of another municipal program. Our sign needs repair.*

5. Discourage the use of unnecessary night lighting by promoting the concept of Dark Skies. *We have a flyer on Dark Skies that we distribute at the market booth.*

6. Review township governance, ie. The Official Plan, Zoning Bylaws and Resolutions to identify those that have an impact on this goal. *Not begun.*

7. Develop and deliver educational materials to the population of McKellar Township and evaluate the effectiveness of the education.

8. Annually assess the cost of needed education and propose a suitable budget proposal

Personal Responsibilities

Avoid the use of unnecessary night lighting by promoting the concept of Dark Skies.

Participate in clean up the lake and community endeavours

Avoid putting garbage in the lakes

Plant native vegetation

Goal 3:

The Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee will promote environmental responsibility in all recreational activities on our lakes.

Objectives:

1. To maintain safety of people using the lake for recreation.

2. To prevent damage to the shoreline and the swampy wetland areas of the lake by watercraft.

3. Encourage renters and other visitors to be respectful of the neighbours and the lake environment, and to act within the township bylaws during their visit.

4. Work with the MNRF to consider ways to restock our lakes

5. Explore ways to change fishing regulations, stocking, catch and release programs, and barbless hooks

We posted MNRF discussion paper on Fishing Regulations

<https://www.mckellar.ca/en/news/resources/FMZ-15-Draft-Management-Plan-Highlights-Summary-V3.pdf>

Received a draft Stocking Fact Sheet from MNRF and have requested it be posted.

We posted signs and sent out flyers on Catch and Release Fishing with a goal of increasing the number of fish that survive being caught and released.

Council Actions:

1. Encourage respectful use of all watercraft by installing “Safe Boating” signs at boat launches.

a. Review township governance, ie. The Official Plan, Zoning Bylaws and Resolutions to identify those that have an impact on this goal.

b. Develop and deliver educational materials to the population of McKellar Township and evaluate its effectiveness.

2. Annually assess the cost of needed education and propose a suitable budget proposal

Personal Responsibilities

Practice safe boating (obtain a boat operators' license (follow boat navigation rules)

Become familiar with council bylaws, fishing guidelines and fishing best practices (barbless hooks, no lead sinkers, hyperlink)

Dec 2022 We received the agreement of staff and Council to go ahead with making copies of the Boating Safety / Catch and Release flyer and the Invasive Species flyer (each double-sided)

Protect the marshlands and fish, animal and bird habitat by not boating or producing a wake close to them.

We had a presentation from Dr. Chris Houser on Boat Wakes

https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FpLoRROGuT_8&data=05%7C01%7CChris.Houser%40uwindsor.ca%7Cb835465d3b3d4919c10a08dac4a9de51%7C12f933b33d614b199a4d689021de8cc9%7C0%7C0%7C638038531101541330%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wrhjelRbDruK6LoCE%2BT5%2BpEwFdBiitL25uepJUFxYLA%3D&reserved=0

Education Resources

<https://www.boatsmartexam.com/ca/>

<https://animals.howstuffworks.com/animal-facts/top-5-sustainable-fishing-practices.htm#>

Goal 4:

The Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee will continue to work with the Georgian Bay Biosphere (GBB) to combat climate change and reduce our carbon footprint to improve the health of our citizens, the lakes and environment.

Objective:

To understand ways in which the residents of McKellar Township are promoting and discouraging climate change.

Council Actions:

1. Encourage everyone to complete the Carbon Calculator study to establish carbon emission targets
<https://www.gbbr.ca/carbon-calculator-form/>

2. McKellar joined the GBB – climate change project- ICECAP – to reduce our carbon footprint

McKellar Township made the decision in the spring of 2023 to withdraw from the ICECAP program

3. Participate in establishing the Nature Watch data base “Ice watch” recordings of Ice In/ Ice Out dates

This data is no longer forthcoming from the former committee member who was supplying it. We need to figure out another way to collect it. Ice in, ice out, temperature.

4. Review township governance, ie. The Official Plan, Zoning Bylaws and Resolutions to identify those that have an impact on this goal.

5. Develop and deliver educational materials to the population of McKellar Township and evaluate the effectiveness of the education.

6. Implement a blue box program *There is collection of many recyclables at the transfer station. Council received a proposal to make kitchen waste processors (eg. Vitamix food cyclers) available at a reduced price to a number of area residents, but decided not to proceed with it.*

Personal Responsibilities

Complete a personal carbon calculator

Practice recycling

Education Resources (hyperlink)