



## Ingoldsby landfill to close

# Clear bags now needed for garbage

by Gus Janca

All four municipalities in Haliburton County now require clear bags for garbage taken to landfill sites. This is in keeping with a provincial target for all municipalities to divert at least 60 per cent of garbage from our shrinking landfills by the end of 2008. Effective January 1, 2008, these rules are specifically designed to make sure that residents put recyclable items in recycling bins instead of into the landfill.

The rules can be a bit different for each municipality. Bob Romberg, manager of landfill operations for Minden Hills, says our municipality will allow residents to dispose of personal items in non-see-through bags (IGA, Valu-mart, etc. shopping bags), tucked inside the clear bags, but there can be no recyclable materials in these bags.

Also, as of the end of February, there will be a limit of one bag a week per household in Minden Hills. Residents will be charged \$1 for each extra bag, but bag tags will no longer be required.

So far, the landfill attendants have been vigilant in catching recyclables headed for the wrong place—the landfill. And for very good reason: like so many other municipalities, Minden Hills is running out of landfill space. According to Romberg, the Irondale site has only two to three years left. The Iron Mine site will likely close by the end of 2008. And, most importantly for residents of Canning Lake, the Ingoldsby landfill could be closing within six months. Not only are both the Iron Mine and Ingoldsby locations reaching capacity, but they also have surface water issues that concern the Ministry of Environment, Romberg explains.



Stockxpert

When these sites are closed as landfills, they will become transfer stations, with the garbage being trucked to the Scotch Line landfill. Optimistically, the Scotch Line site *may* have 20 to 25 years of life. But then what? Romberg speculates that our township, in partnership with other Haliburton townships, the county, and possibly even neighbouring counties, will investigate new technology for disposing of garbage. This could include state-of-the-art incineration.

Right now, the most obvious, easiest and cheapest option is to recycle absolutely as much as possible. In addition to cans, glass, plastic containers, cardboard and newsprint, Minden Hills residents are required to recycle paper egg cartons; poly-coat items (milk and juice cartons, as well as tetra packs); aluminum foil and trays; yogurt, margarine and ice cream containers; plastic film (shopping bags, plastic wrap); Styrofoam meat and baking trays; plastic and foam cups; and fast food containers. E-waste, consisting of computer components, TVs, phones and other electronic items, will also be accommodated. If in doubt about something, ask the landfill attendant.

The township also holds several hazardous waste days throughout the year to safely and professionally collect and dispose of paint, motor oil, batteries, propane tanks, cleaners, aerosol cans, solvents, pesticides and fertilizers.

Clear bags are already available in the area's stores. While you now must use clear bags, tinted ones are OK. You might pay a little bit more for clear bags, but the long-term good of this policy will be the extension of our capacity to accommodate our own garbage. The alternatives would be far more expensive than the few extra pennies that clear bags cost. As well, according to a recent editorial in the *Minden Times*, using recycled material saves an average of 66 per cent of the energy required to manufacture products from new, virgin material. There are indeed good reasons for all of us to become diligent recyclers. Quoting from the Minden Hills recycling poster: "Let's play our part now for a better community tomorrow!"

## Dog nuisances

Opening the door at 6 a.m. and turning the dog loose to bark at chipmunks and squirrels, overturn and rummage in recycle boxes, and leave excrement on other people's lawns is inconsiderate. So is allowing your dog to roam around, begging at neighbours' meals or shaking water all over them at the dock.

Some dog owners have invested in electric fencing, which is an easy way to allow the dog freedom in its own yard and stop it from annoying neighbours. A bylaw in the Township of Minden Hills states, "dogs are not allowed to run free." Being in the country does not exempt you.

# FOCA a great resource for cottagers

by Kurt André

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) held its annual general meeting and fall seminar on November 24 in Toronto. FOCA's regular newsletters covering issues of interest to cottagers are available on their website at [www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca).

FOCA is proactive in a number of areas of concern to cottagers. It promotes healthier waterfronts with its Dock Talk program, lobbies for fair taxation through Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation (WRAFT), helps cottage associations obtain reasonable insurance, and advocates on many other issues.

This year, the Kennisis Lake Association received the Jerry Strickland Award in recognition of its contributions to preserving the cottage experience on that lake. This included participating in the Dock Talk program, establishing a significant land trust, making presentations to the Trent-Severn

Waterway study, working on a lake plan and suggesting bylaw changes to the municipality. Not surprisingly, in developing its lake plan, the association identified a number of issues that were important to other cottage groups. Foremost was the preservation of water quality and the health of adjacent land. The next biggest issues were consideration of other cottagers and education regarding noise and light pollution bylaws.

Presenters reviewed the Ontario Municipal Board's role in disputes over new developments. They also explored the status of proposed mandatory septic reinspections and explained that for the time being, decisions regarding reinspections will be left up to municipalities.

Emergency Management Ontario made a presentation using the windstorm in 2006 to illustrate how important it is for families to be prepared to cope without water, hydro or other services for several

days, whether at home or at the cottage. More information can be found at [http://getprepared.ca/kit/kit\\_e.asp](http://getprepared.ca/kit/kit_e.asp).

The Ontario Provincial Police Marine Unit reminded attendees of the licensing requirements for operating watercraft:

- All Youth born after April 1, 1983 must now carry a Pleasure Craft Operator Card.
- Anyone operating a powered recreational vessel less than four meters (13 feet) in length (including personal watercraft) must now carry a Pleasure Craft Operator Card.
- As of Sept. 15, 2009, all powerboat operators must obtain a Pleasure Craft Operator Card.

The OPP will be enforcing boating regulations to help ensure a safe experience for all.

## Order your Canning Lake merchandise

by Kathie Wagg

Products bearing the Canning Lake logo offer a great way to express our pride in our lake while enjoying ourselves around the cottage or elsewhere in Haliburton County.

You will have several opportunities to purchase items this year:

- Use the order form enclosed with this newsletter and get your goods on or after the May 24 weekend.
- Buy our "stock" items—which include samples from last season—at the annual general meeting in early July; however, what you see is what you get.
- Purchase the same inventory at Fun Day on the civic holiday weekend.
- Order after the annual general meeting, with items to be delivered by the end of August.

The products make great Christmas or birthday presents, especially for that hard-to-buy-for person on your gift list.

And remember that by purchasing this merchandise, you are helping to maintain the quality of our lake and shoreline because all profits from sales go into our environmental fund. Thank you for your support.

## Mark your calendar

Here are some important 2008 dates to remember:

### **Friday, April 11**

Deadline for the spring newsletter issue, to be distributed on the May long weekend. Contact [patricia.collins@sympatico.ca](mailto:patricia.collins@sympatico.ca).

### **Saturday, July 5**

**Pitch-In Garbage (PIG) Day** – We need lots of help, so please set aside this morning to help clean up our area. Meet at Ingoldsby Park at 9:30 a.m. If any high school students are looking for a volunteer opportunity to fulfil their community service requirements, we will provide a letter confirming participation.

**Canning Lake Barbecue and Fundraiser** – Come and meet your Canning Lake neighbours at the 13th annual fundraising barbecue at the Sunny Rock Bed & Breakfast from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Hot dogs and hamburgers at 5:00 p.m. Each year we raise money for the Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

### **Sunday, July 6**

#### **Annual General Meeting**

9:30 a.m. – coffee and doughnuts

10:00 a.m. – meeting

Rigneys' Roost, 1037 Hamlin Lane (formerly 84 Silverwood Road right)

### **Saturday, August 2 (rain date Sunday, August 3)**

**Fun Day at Ingoldsby Park** – 3:00 p.m.

We need volunteers to help with this event, especially running the games and touring the lake with our megaphone reminding people to come out. If you're interested in helping, please call Lois Rigney at (705) 286-1765.

### **Sunday, August 3**

**Sailing Regatta** – 10:30 a.m., meet in the middle of the lake. Weepers and light lunch to follow. For information, contact Kurt Andre, (705) 286-6824.