



GREENOUGH HARBOUR NEWSLETTER – NOV- DEC 2017 “NEWS FROM THE ROCK AND BEYOND!”

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Welcome

Welcome to our 7th newsletter for the residents of Greenough Harbour. Our continuing mission is to provide updates on what the board for the Greenough Harbour Preservation Association is doing on behalf of all residents (i.e. news from beyond the Greenough Rock) as well as news about the community and world at large as it relates to our little piece of heaven.

All board meeting minutes can be found on our website under the Community tab <http://www.greenoughharbourcommunity.ca>. If you haven't registered yet for the website, you will need to register before you can access the meeting minutes.

Suggestions for newsletter topics are always welcome and can be sent to Mike Warkentin at m_warkentin@rogers.com or posted on our website under a generic post or under the category Community/Newsletter.

Board Updates from Doug

The last newsletter came out in October, so Doug is deferring any updates till the Jan-Feb newsletter. He did provide the following teaser:

The significant items in the newsletter after this next one will be summarizing the final comprehensive zoning by-law changes, a resolution to changing the by-law on block 64, the new GB Tel tower, plans for the boathouse, use of block 66, remedial work on lot # 1, and others.



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Sincerely Doug Rouse

Winter is Coming!

The snow will be starting to fly soon, and there are some tips to consider.

First off, keep your septic tank covers covered. In other words don't shovel the snow off them. I read somewhere that the lids should be cleared so that gases escape. Well don't believe everything you read on the internet. Two years ago, it was so cold that the water in one of the floats that moves up and down with the level of you know what the tank, froze solid. This caused the alarm to go off as the tank sensors were indicating the tank was too full. Try heading out at 2:00am in sub-zero weather to turn off the alarm before it wakes everyone, and hitting the switch to do a manual flush, just to repeat it again the next time someone got up in the middle of the night to flush!

Well that was a fun winter!

Secondly, keep your decks and balconies shovelled. I have heard some stories of the snow being so heavy on a wood deck, that the deck started to come off the side of the house.

Thirdly, if you are thinking of doing some tree clearing, get approval from the GHPA first and then consider keeping trees that are blocking your north-west view of the lake. That is where the predominant winds (and thus most of your snow) come from.

Fourthly, mice like to come in doors in the winter for warmth, so wander around the outside of the house and check for any holes where they might enter. They only need a hole about the size of a dime (for an adult mouse), or the size of pen for an adolescent (it's the skull size that is the limitation). One common entry point is from the crawl space up through the pipe hole for the kitchen sink so block it with steel wool.

Finally if you are having your driveway plowed by Murv Myles:

- Murv comes by when there is an accumulation of 5 inches
- Murv will raise the blower, so not too much gravel is blown into the forests
- Where garages exist, he clean the area in front to allow car access
- He will also clear an area around garbage bins, so garbage can be picked up
- You will be invoiced by email once at the end of the season
- The agreement is \$ 50.00 per home per visit
- Murv Myles telephone # is 519-793-3443



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Remember that Murv is also doing the municipality, so don't expect an immediate response on heavy snow days.

Make sure you mark your rocks or other large obstacles so Murv doesn't damage his blades. See a picture below as an example.



Smart Thermostats for your Cottage

Along the same line as the previous topic of Winter is Coming, a smart option to have in your cottage is a smart thermostat. That way you can keep the temperature low during the winter when you are not there to save on propane, but turn up the heat remotely over a Wi-Fi connection on the way up, so the cottage is nice and toasty when you arrive.



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There are a number of smart thermostats on the market, the two most popular being Nest and Ecobee. You can watch the YouTube video below for a good comparison between the two:



I have an original Ecobee at Greenough and love it, and recently installed one for free at my home in Mississauga through something called the Green Ontario Fund <https://www.greenon.ca/en/programs/greenon-installations>. I am a bit of a geek and follow Ecobee on LinkedIn, so found the offer very early in the game. My installer said they have installations booked into the spring of 2019 already so there may be a wait!

The latest Ecobee, Ecobee4 is now available in Canada and comes with Alexa from Amazon built in with speakers included. You can now just tell your thermostat to turn down for the night, and by the way play some soft jazz too. Nest has a nice learning feature to set a schedule for the thermostat based on your habits which is also a nice feature.

I myself like Ecobee as it's a Canadian company based in Toronto and has remote sensors that can be used to set the thermostat based on the room with the sensor, not based on where the thermostat is located.



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Greenough Harbour Website Tip of the Month – Links and the Board

To promote use of the website we will provide a tip of the month to get you started. Yes, this newsletter is bi-monthly, but “tip of the bi-month” just doesn’t work. The tip for this issue is Links and The Board. So open up a browser to <http://www.grennoughharbourcommunity.ca> and let’s get registered.

This is a set of two very brief tips.

- 1) At the very bottom of the home page is GHC Favourite Links.

GHC FAVOURITE LINKS

Bayside Astronomy Program
BlueWater Astronomy
Bruce Peninsula Biosphere Association
Bruce Peninsula Bird Observatory
Bruce Peninsula Environmental Group
Explore the Bruce
Sources Of Knowledge Forum

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Use these links to go to sites such as the Bird Observatory, the BPBA and Sources of Knowledge. If you can think of other sites that might be useful here please contact me or post it (yes you guessed it....on the website).

- 2) If you have any questions that you need an answer to quickly, the board is always there to help. Hover over the Greenough Harbour Preservation Association heading and then click on Meet the GHPA Board. Use the Contact the GHPA Board tab to send an EMAIL.



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Greenough Harbour Community

Paradise on Lake Huron in the beautiful Northern Bruce Peninsula



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The Annual Greenough Christmas Party

Mark your calendars for Sat Dec 30 at 6:30pm – Firesign 90 for the annual Christmas Party for Greenough Harbour. This year the Lendrums have again offered to host the party.

This is a tapas style party so please bring your favourite finger food and reply to Kenn and Bonnie at kenneth.c.lendrum@gmail.com with how many people are attending and what you are bringing, so as to prevent having 6 dishes of your grandma's Brussel Sprout salad!

There will be music (bring an instrument if you play), killer Chunky Chili and rumour has it, a special green surprise guest!

Upcoming Events

- Bruce Peninsula Society of Artists – Christmas Festival of Art – Sat Dec 2 10:00am - 3:00pm at the Bruce Peninsula District School in Lion's Head
- Lion's Head Santa Clause Parade – Sat Dec 2 1:00-3:00pm
- Winter Solstice – Thur. Dec 21 11:28am (Longest night of the year and shortest day)
- The Lendrum's Annual Greenough Christmas Party – Sat Dec 30, 6:30pm Firesign 90



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Anne's Inspirational Quote:

