

This Week in Fire!

by Norm Gladish
(MNR Fire Prevention Technician)

Now that the snow is gone and roads are drying out, forest access is possible for the summer months.

People who own cottages will be eager to begin Spring clean up, both inside and out. Trees blown over by winter storms can be cut for firewood. But what to do with the tops and branches? Burning them seems the simplest situation.

Inside, the mice have gotten into left-over food supplies from last summer. The floor has collected bark and twigs that didn't quite make it into the woodstove. There are some oily rags left behind from that outboard motor or snowmobile engine that you worked on a few months ago. More fuel for the brush pile, you think.

Before you burn, however, ask yourself these questions, which might save you money and regret:

1. Do you have a burning permit, as required by The Forest Fires Prevention Act of Ontario?
2. Are you following the conditions of the permit?
3. Is it too dry or windy to burn safely?
4. Do you have a few simple tools (water pail and shovel) to help contain your fire?
5. Is the location safe; far enough from buildings or vehicles and down wind?
6. Are you using a steel drum to

burn trash in?

Take these precautions before burning. They will ensure a safe and successful camp clean up.

A fuel break around your cottage is also a good idea. It is created by removing brush and thinning out evergreen trees to about fifteen feet apart, within fifty feet of buildings. Prune remaining trees to at least ten feet from the ground. Remove loose bark from birch trees. Keep the ground clear of twigs and branches. Encourage grass, clover or other cover plants with high moisture content to grow. Keep the grass cut short.

The fire break will prevent ground fires from spreading to your buildings. You will enjoy the added benefit of less bugs, as increased air flow discourages black flies and mosquitos.

Store firewood and flammable materials like gas and oil away from the main building. Fibreglass or wood boats and canoes should be kept on a rack three feet or more off the ground. This will prevent them from adding fuel to a ground fire.

Chimneys should be checked periodically for creosote buildup and cleaned as necessary. Spark arrestors will prevent hot embers from igniting forest litter.

Please remember that fire permits are required by law for all fires except for cooking and warmth from April 1st to October 31st.

Schreiber Rec news

Summer Programs

The summer Minor Ball registrations were distributed throughout the school last week. If you require additional forms, they are available at the recreation office. Please note that the registration deadline is FRIDAY, MAY 13th. No late registrations will be accepted.

The department is still seeking volunteers to help operate the program. If you can spare a few hours a week to either coach or umpire, please contact the recreation office at 824-2317 as soon as possible.

Once the ball program has finished (June 30), we hope to offer a minor soccer program. We will run this as a drop-in program to see if the interest is there. Again volunteers will be needed to run this program.

Swim Program

Registration forms will be distributed for our 1988 Swim Program throughout the schools in early June. The first session is scheduled to begin on July 4, and the second on July 25. The program will again be held at White Sand Beach.

Canada Day Race

In conjunction with the Canada Day Celebrations, a Canada Day Race has been scheduled for July 1. Start training now! The distance is 5 km and participants may walk or run. The race will start and finish at the ball park. Registrations will be available this week.

Ladies Slowpitch

Any ladies 16 years and older who are interested in playing slowpitch should contact the recreation office by Friday, May 13. The league is scheduled to begin on June 1, with games being played on Tuesday evenings. Come on ladies, join the fun!

Slowpitch

Out for a walk? Then drop by the ball park any night of the week and catch the exciting games of slowpitch that are beginning this week. Sunday afternoon and evening features the mixed league, men's league and Italian men's league. Monday evening the men's and Italian men's again take to the

field. Tuesday you can catch the women's games, and Wednesday through Saturday the ever popular mixed league. If you enjoy a good game of baseball, the ball park is where to be!!

First Aid Course


The dates have been set for the Emergency First Aid Course. The department will offer two sessions on either Saturday, May 28 or Sunday, May 29. Space is limited in each of these classes, so be sure to call early. Deadline for registration is Wednesday, May 25.

If you have any questions regarding the above programs, you may call the Schreiber recreation office at 824-2317.

do you smoke?
do you drink and drive?
do you exercise?
does the food you eat provide
for balanced nutrition?

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For further information and for forms to access this program contact:

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