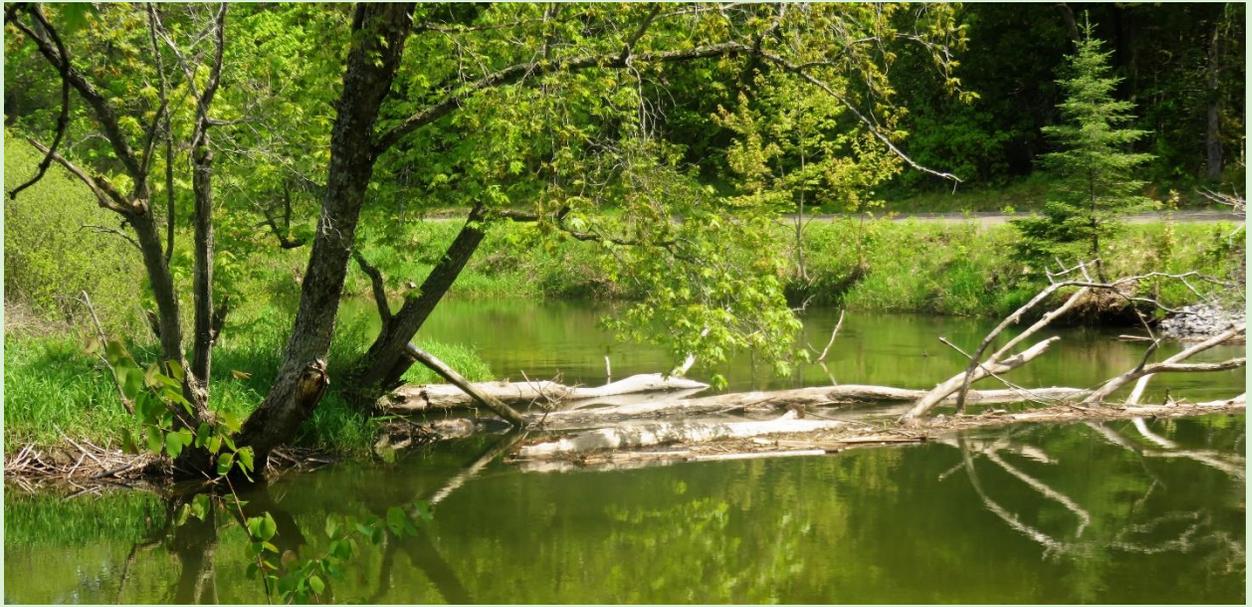


The Freshwater Connection



Publication of the Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition – Summer 2020

Open Your Cottage Safely This Year By Cam Elgie

With the warm weather arriving, many in Ontario head to their cottages (camps if in Northern Ontario) in anticipation of the great summer ahead. With this comes responsibility of opening up camps safely, with minimal impact on the environment.

As a first step you should check your septic system. It is critical in keeping our lakes safe to ensure proper repair, upgrade or replacement of a septic system is done annually. Depending on the amount of use, septic tanks should be emptied every 2 to 5 years. If you're unsure if your septic system is safe, please contact Algoma Public Health for assistance.

Many take pride in a well-maintained camp. If cleaning windows, siding or decks, it is strongly recommended to use phosphate free soap.



Recommended brands include:

All Purpose Cleaner Pine-Sol, Windex Multi-Surface	Liquid Laundry Detergent Cheer, Gain, Ivory, Purex, Sunlight, Persil, Tide, Zero
Bathroom Cleaner Comet, Scrub Free, Tilex, Greenworks	Laundry Stain Remover Spray n' Wash, Tide to Go
Liquid Dish Soap Ivory, Palmolive, Sunlight	Soap Pads SOS
Shampoo and Conditioner St. Ives Swiss Formula, Neutrogena, Pro Vitamin (Pantene), Life Brand, Head and Shoulders, Pert, Johnson's Baby Shampoo	Soap Bars Irish Spring, Dove, Body Shop, Pears, Camay

caaquebec.com

This is usually the perfect time to launch your boat. If you are mixing fuel, be sure to do it away from the shoreline, preferably in a gravel driveway and not near a body of water.

While getting your property ready for summer, it is recommended to check eavestroughs for debris. This will ensure safe discharge of excess rainwater. Over the winter, branches, and leaves cover paths. Take the time to rake a clean path for walking.

Fire safety should also be a top priority. When heading out, bring extra batteries for your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector and develop an escape plan with your family on what to do in case of a fire. Further, It's good practice to have the telephone number of your local fire department onhand and your emergency sign number in case of emergency.

If you have a cookstove, fireplace or sauna stove, this is the time to make sure the chimneys are clean and ready for use. For further information, contact your municipal office. This is also the time to clean your BBQ to make sure it is safe for the busy BBQ season ahead.

Lastly, check with your local fire department, municipality or Ministry of Natural Resources to determine whether open air burning is permitted. If open burning is allowed, fires should be built on bare soil or exposed rock. Remove leaves and twigs from around the area and always keep a bucket of water, sand and shovel close by. Supervise your fire at all times.

By following the above recommendations, you will be ready for the great summer ahead!

Tree Planting in Central Algoma By Chuck Miller



Tree Seedling Planting

Thank you to Sault College for donating 430 tree seedlings to CAFC. Thank You also to all the volunteers who planted trees on their properties. These trees would normally have been distributed at the Sustain Algoma event that was cancelled for 2020 due to Covid 19.

This year's distribution was done minimizing in person contact. CAFC offered the trees in bulk numbers and asked people to request trees via email and have the trees delivered to the end of their driveway. Planting trees is always a very hopeful activity for the future. The Sault Star picked up the story - link is below.

www.saultstar.com/news/local-news/sheer-commitment-got-it-done

Become a Member



Your annual membership fee will provide a base budget for work of CAFC and demonstrate the commitment of local partners working towards a common goal. A strong diverse group is an essential component in meeting the goals of the Central Algoma Region. Support us at <https://www.centralalgomafreshwatercoalition.ca/>