

# *Spring Bulletin*

*June 4<sup>th</sup> 2018*



Ville de / Town of  
**BARKMERE**

## **MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR**

Dear Citizens of Barkmere,



Another summer begins, after a winter that simply would not finish. Let us hope that it will be beautiful and warm, and will enable us to forget about the cold, the floods, the rain, the snow, and all the other forms of precipitations in between. But your Municipal Council was nevertheless very active during that time.

We held the first ever Citizens' Forum for the village residents. It was a great success, not only with the participation, but also for the quality of the discussions, suggestions and proposals. Already some people regrouped themselves as a Committee of Activities, and are working hand in hand with the Town to organize a greater social life in our village. And we are already working on some preoccupations, like accessing activities of other municipalities, and the speed on Barkmere road which affects the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. I have already contacted the Sûreté du Québec to try and find solutions.

During summer, we will also organize a Citizens' Forum for the lake cottagers, in order to have open discussions on the needs and preoccupations of this other group of residents.

Council has also created some working committees, to study the reconfiguration of the marina, the facilities to be modernized on Goulden Island, the configuration of the parking and also a technical research committee on wharves. From a regulatory point of view, there will also be a public discussion meeting on Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> at

10:00 AM, on the subject of wharves, particularly on the repairs of existing cribs and other subjects like the allowable length. The goal of the meeting is to understand the preoccupation of the shore property owners, so that Council may introduce a draft bylaw to add a bit more flexibility on that level.

I am finishing by wishing you a beautiful summer, and will extend as much as winter did.

*Luc Trépanier*  
*Mayor*

## Public Discussion on Barkmere rules on Docks

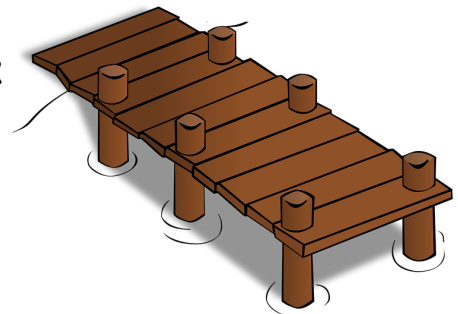
Saturday, June 9th

At 10:00 AM

### AGENDA:

- Limits on dock size;
- Limits on the right to repair cribs; and
- Anything else you want to discuss about docks

We will first go over the current rules and then ask for suggestions for changes. See you There!



## BEYOND THE BUILDING INSPECTOR: ON BEING A GOOD BARKMERE CITIZEN

By Stephen Lloyd



The main job of the 9-person CCU (Comité Consultatif en urbanisme) is to give a final, “common citizen” review of new construction projects in Barkmere. The file only gets to the CCU when all the technical specifications of the project have been validated by the Building Inspector: the size and height of the building, the required set-backs from the lake and the adjacent neighbours, building materials and construction plans that are up to Code, etc.

Then the CCU gives its approval of the project based on more subjective factors. The relevant subjective factors are themselves set out in the “PIIA By-law”. Does the “architectural look” of the structure fit in with its natural surroundings? How visible is it from the lake? Do the exterior colours fit in with the land and forest? Is there an effort made to preserve the “dark sky at night” so treasured by Barkmere residents? Is there a negative impact on the environment generally?

I am happy to report that the CCU has never had to refuse to approve a project. Just about everyone who builds in Barkmere “gets it”. They understand that being part of the Barkmere community goes beyond mere technical compliance with the rules. It also means that you have to “buy in” to the magic of the place.

One of our citizen CCU members recently remarked that it is wonderful to see how the **new** residents understand our wish to have our structures “melt into the environment” (*se fondre avec la nature*).

That is what it means to be a good Barkmere citizen. It is not just a matter of complying with the Building Inspector’s objective and specific rules. It is also about taking responsibility yourself for how your actions and projects affect the rest of the community.

In this regard, while cleaning out some old papers this past weekend, I came across a “Town of Barkmere Citizen Quiz” from 1999 – a full 10 years before our current set of hundreds of pages of detailed Barkmere by-laws were put in place. Some of the details have changed, but not by much. Being a good Barkmere citizen in 2018 is pretty much the same as being a good Barkmere citizen in 1999. Enjoy with a smile and a chuckle...

### TOWN OF BARKMERE – VILLE DE BARKMERE

#### GOOD CITIZEN QUIZ

Take four minutes to complete this good citizen quiz and then rate your score to see how close you come to being the perfect citizen at Barkmere. In case you didn’t know, the correct answers are marked with the X.

It is recognized that this quiz is directed mainly to property owners on Bark Lake and contains questions which cannot be answered by all citizens of Barkmere. Please accept the spirit and intent of the quiz.

**Yes No**

X Do I drive my boat at night with no lights?

X Do I play my radio or CD on my wharf when the noise can be heard by my neighbour?

Yes	No	
	X	Do I allow my children to ride on the bow or in the open bow of my boat?
X		Do I ever stop to pick up floating debris or logs in the lake?
	X	Do I run a generator at times that will annoy my neighbour?
	X	Do I paddle my canoe at night without a light?
X		Do all of my boats have the mandatory equipment?
X		Do I keep an eye out for strange happenings at my neighbour's cottage?
X		Do I consult de Building Inspector before construction or starting projects?
	X	Do I strip away vegetation in the 50 foot riverain zone by the lake?
X		Do I have a septic system and field that I know does not pollute the lake?
	X	Do I park my boat at the public wharves overnight?
X		Do I have my dog on a leash at the landing or at Goulden Island?
	X	Do I water-ski for a long period of time in front of my neighbour's cottage?
X		Do I educate my guests on the environmentally proper things at Bark Lake?
X		Does my raft have reflectors on it to avoid accidents at night?
	X	Do I leave my dog out at night to bark incessantly?
	X	Do I pollute the water with soaps or shampoo when I swim?
X		Do I slow down to create wake when approaching the landing?
X		Do I have a quart flush toilet installed?
	X	Do I deposit toxic waste, batteries or old tires at the landing?
X		Do I carefully avoid gas and oil spills when refuelling at my wharf?
	X	Do I purposefully make big waves when wakeboarding?
X		Do I stay clear of points and shoreline to avoid making big waves?
	X	Do I cut down trees in the 50 foot shore line zone without asking the Building In Inspector?
	X	Do I try to create a beach with fill or sand?
	X	Do I pull my kids on a tube in figure eights for extended periods of time?

**Yes    No**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   | X | Do I run my generator to power my lights for a long period during the evening? |
| X |   | Do I give canoes and swimmers lots of space when passing in my boat?           |
|   | X | Do I try to change the natural flow of any watercourse on my property?         |
| X |   | Do I volunteer to get involved with the Bark Lake Protective Association?      |
| X |   | Do I discuss the issues in this quiz with my children?                         |
| X |   | Do I give a friendly wave to passing boaters?                                  |
| X |   | Do I stop to see if I can help if another boat seems to be in trouble?         |
| X |   | Do I keep the front and sides of my property in a neat fashion?                |
| X |   | Do I have my septic tank pumped when requested by the Town?                    |
| X |   | Do I always have a “spotter” in the boat when water-skiing?                    |
| X |   | Do I “scoop” when my pet does his work at the landing?                         |
| X |   | Do I practice safe boating all the time?                                       |
| X |   | Have I familiarised myself with the location and operation of the fire pumps?  |
| X |   | Do I use phosphate free soap to wash my dishes?                                |
|   | X | Do I cut trees too close to my neighbour’s property line?                      |
| X |   | Do I give my fellow citizens a hand at the landing?                            |

**Good luck with your score**

**SCORE**

**YOU ARE**

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 38-43        | A perfect citizen and eligible for praise |
| 33-37        | Not bad but no prize                      |
| 28-32        | There is room for a lot of improvement    |
| Less than 28 | No comment                                |

## NAVIGATION

By : Andrea Leber



Safe navigation is always an important concern and plays a vital role in our enjoyment of the lake.

Here is a summary of the press release from the Sureté du Québec. You can obtain the original version and the mandatory safety equipment list at the Town Hall or from the landing attendants.

The Sureté du Québec reminds us that it will be sending patrollers onto the water during the summer and recommends the following:

- ⇒ Ensure that all obligatory safety equipment is in your boat;
- ⇒ Wear a proper life jacket;
- ⇒ Have a means of communication with you (cell phone, VHF marine radio, etc.);
- ⇒ Consider the weather before you push off the dock and drive accordingly;
- ⇒ Let someone know where and how long you will be out on the lake whenever possible;
- ⇒ Be aware of the danger of hypothermia should you fall into the lake at the close of the season.

The press release concludes by reminding us that even if alcohol consumption is permitted on boats, the limit is identical to that which applies to a road vehicle. Therefore, driving while under the influence is a crime.

We would also like to remind you that driving after sundown with no operating lights on the boat is extremely dangerous for you and others. You are required to have a bow red/green light and stern all around White light. For pontoons, the red/ green lights are placed on each side.

Please ensure that the lights work and that you have back-up lights. Marine supply stores, boat dealers and Canadian Tire carry battery-operated, portable versions of these lights that can be attached to any boat. These are essential Bark Lake items!

Reminder!

Over the summer, the town inspector will be verifying some cottages for working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Other Bark Lake essential items!

## Infrastructure, Services and Citizen Forums

By: Marc-Olivier Duchesne



### Identification Labels

The program for Identification Labels for your boat is well under way thanks to your super collaboration and that of the contractors! On this day, around 200 labels have been issued (or on the point of being issued). We estimate that the number of boats on the lake is around 400 and our inventory counts around 300. The employees of the town will begin progressively inventorying the missing boats on the lake, by going to each property. Then, we will contact you to pursue the inscription procedure with you. Don't forget that David, Jade and Olivia are there to help you and facilitate the acquisition of labels for your boats. Be it to take a picture for you, pre-complete the form, or assist you with your request for a permit at the federal government or to find a solution to complex situations, they are there for you. All the procedures and forms are available on the town's web-site, but you can also contact our people directly. The web address to contact the summer employees concerning the labels is: [barkmere.information@gmail.com](mailto:barkmere.information@gmail.com)

### Docks

We are presently completing the installation of docks in section A (between the 2 boathouses, on the left of the landing) in order to have a more enjoyable experience for all users and to make it more secure. Although these docks are accessible, the adjustments will be made before June 22. A few places are still available. Contact David to reserve your place!

### Installations at Goulden Island

We work closely with the BLPA to renew the septic installations and the shed on Goulden Island. We have received a design and construction plans from the BLPA that permit to satisfy modern requirements and be well integrated to the environment. Once the technician will have determined the type of septic system that respects the law, we will proceed to request for tenders so that construction can start, probably next September.

### Other installations

The grant financed by the taxes on fuel permits to renew our infrastructures without impacting on our taxes. Each city has an allocated amount reserved, but there is a deadline. These grants did not exist a few years ago and nothing guarantees that they will exist in the future. That is why we are proceeding to the renewal of infrastructures, according to our needs and in a responsible way.

Shortly, we will begin renovating the shelter at the landing and afterwards, that of the municipal garage which, among other things, has problems of mold and isolation. Work should be done before the end of the year.

Finally, we thank you for your ideas and comments. It helps us to prepare our installations and services to have a good time at the lake at all seasons. I wish you a great summer and I am looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you again in the near future..



## Environmental Matters

By Jake Chadwick



### **Milfoil Monitoring and Removal Programme**

I am sure you all witnessed the activities of Anne Létourneau and her dive team in July and August last summer as they conducted their intensive investigation and removal of Eurasian Milfoil. They concentrated mainly on areas where plants were found in 2016, i.e. the north shore of Silver bay from the inlet up to Cope Bay. In addition to the critical areas, Anne and her team surveyed the entire lake, including shoreline around islands. The good news is that less than 700 plants were removed last summer versus about 5,000 in 2016. This result gives us confidence that we are ahead of its possible proliferation. That said, we must remain diligent and keep up our efforts since it is virtually impossible to completely eradicate the invasive species once it has entered the lake. Therefore, we will conduct the same level of surveillance in the critical zones between early July and mid August this summer. On behalf of all Barklakers, a big THANK YOU to Anne, Sylvain and Jean-Louis for their valued work last summer.

The other good news is that we are making progress in the boat registration and vignette programme which will allow us to gather better knowledge about which boats are on the lake and ensure proper boat washing.

As a reminder, here again are the main “Do’s and Don’ts” of Eurasian Milfoil:

#### **DOs:**

- Do educate yourself about milfoil so you can help with surveillance as you enjoy your summer on the lake. There are flyers at the town hall. Links for websites providing excellent sources of information are available on the Town’s website.
- Do monitor the shoreline in front of your property! All you need is a mask and snorkel and some knowledge of what to look for. If you see something suspect – notify Town management as soon as possible and mark the area with the small marker buoys available in the shelter area of the landing. The team will visit and confirm the presence or not of milfoil and keep you informed. Do not attempt to remove it!
- Do volunteer to assist the dive team when you are at the lake by registering at the town hall! Although the team was able to manage themselves last summer, it’s good to have some back up if necessary.
- Do continue to be vigilant about ensuring no foreign watercraft enters the lake without being properly washed! This includes kayaks, paddleboards and canoes.

#### **DON'Ts:**

- Do not touch or attempt to remove ANY suspected plants from the lake! There is a special technique for the safe removal of milfoil and training and experience is required.
- Don't boat near any sensitive areas of the lake or where the dive team is working! They will be marked and/or periodic communications will be provided on the locations of these sensitive areas around the lake.
- Do not wakeboard or otherwise create large waves ANYWHERE on the lake!
- Don't encourage any visitors with float planes to come to the lake! We cannot control where a float plane has been and they can easily transport and introduce milfoil and other invasive species to the lake.



## Water Quality

We conducted the standard range of water quality tests during the summer. These included transparency tests every two weeks, phosphorus, chlorophyll A, and dissolved oxygen/temperature profiling. As mentioned in earlier bulletins, the Quebec government's "Réseau de Surveillance Volontaire des Lacs" (RSVL) programme was not operational last summer so we relied on our own testing. Below is the standard chart showing the last results of the RSVL programme in 2015 and the results of 2017. Anne Létourneau was very helpful by conducting the bulk of the transparency tests last summer. Like the phosphorus and chlorophyll A tests, the transparency tests showed overall improvement over prior year. As you can see, we improved on all three key measures and the 2017 results are in line with those found in 2012 and 2013 with the lake in either the oligotrophic or ultra-oligotrophic state. This is all good news but like the milfoil programme, we cannot become complacent. We will continue to monitor this summer. The other good news is that the RSVL programme is back and we have registered through our colleagues at the BLPA!

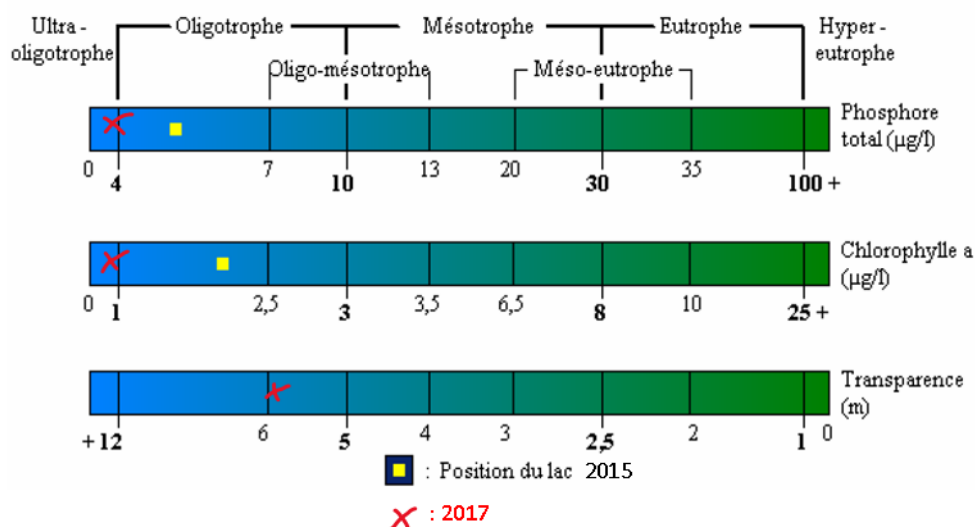
### Données physico-chimiques - Été 2015

Date	Phosphore total (µg/l)	Chlorophylle a (µg/l)	Carbone organique dissous (mg/l)
2015-06-14	8,0	3,8	3,1
2015-07-27	4,7	1,4	3,3
2015-08-16	2,7	0,96	9,3 *
<b>Moyenne estivale</b>	<b>5,1</b>	<b>2,0</b>	<b>3,2</b>

\* Valeur rejetée (exclue du calcul de la moyenne)

**Moyenne estivale 2017      3,0                      0,8                      3,1**

### Classement du niveau trophique - Été 2015



## Mini Echoes from Barkmere

By: Chantal Raymond



- There is still mulch to be put on the 4th wood game on Goulden Island in order to make it more secure. The mulch will be on Dick O'Shaughnessy's barge that will be parked at the end of the dock where the diving board is. I would like to organise a 'human chain' and get the mulch to the game that is further in the woods. For this endeavor, **we would really really appreciate your help and particularly, the Junior BLPA's help.** What best way to develop a sense of community. If everyone willing can bring an empty garbage pail, and a few shovels to fill them up. If you don't have a large garbage pail, anything works: a small garbage pail, garbage paper bags, pails (for smaller children), rakes. The idea is to get the community working. Go Barkmere, go!

## MULCH COMMUNITY DUTY

Goulden Island

Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>

02:00 PM

- The town will be demolishing the old toilet at the landing. If anyone is interested in having it to use as a shed, please contact the municipal inspector a.s.a.p. First come first served basis. You must take care of the move.
- Following the Citizen's Forum, a Culture & Leisure Committee was spontaneously formed. Jessica Miller is the President, Lyne Valois, the Treasurer, Suzanne Sylvestre, the Secretary and Ghislain Brosseau, Kevin O'Shaughnessey and Carole-Anne Michaelson are also part of the committee. I am the liaison with the town. They have organised their first event:

## Yoga Courses

**Starting Date:** Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> for 10 weeks

**Time:** 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**Cost:** \$15 per course, or  
\$120 pass for 10 courses

**Place:** Barkmere Community Centre \*\*

**Contact:** Marlène Séguin, teacher: 819-687-8566

***You must bring your own yoga carpet.***

\*\* People who cannot participate at the Barkmere courses after acquiring their pass, can make up their course by going to Arundel. The schedule for Arundel: Tuesdays and Fridays at 09:00 AM at the Canadian Legion and Saturday at 09:00 AM at the Municipal Garage.

- The Cultural & Leisure Committee asks if anybody has board games to donate. If so, please communicate with me at [communications@barkmere.ca](mailto:communications@barkmere.ca).

To the pleasure of keeping you informed of the action in Town,

Chantal Raymond

## INFORMATION ON CITY HALL

### OPENING HOURS

May to September

Tuesday to Saturday:

09:00 AM–04:00 PM

Mayor:	819-687-3373	maire@barkmere.ca
General Director and Treasurer	819-687-3373	dg@barkmere.ca
Urbanism and infrastructures:	819-681-3374	inspecteur@barkmere.ca
Communications:	819-687-3373	communications@barkmere.ca
Finances (tax bill)	819-687-3373	finance@barkmere.ca

