

Low water condition in Nottawasaga strike early

The Nottawasaga Valley Water Response Team (WRT) working in conjunction with the Provincial Government advises that the average flows within the Nottawasaga River and its tributaries are below or near a Level I low water condition.

The WRT has been activated in response to this summer's hot, dry weather to assist the local community with the implementation of actions to reduce and better manage water use.

The current Level I low water condition is based on calculations which confirm that current flows are less than 70% of the lowest average summer flow at gauging stations within the watershed.

All watershed residents are being encouraged to cut down on water use for agricultural and domestic uses by

10%. Municipalities are encouraged to educate residents and consider voluntary restrictions on water use.

The lack of rainfall has brought the low flows early as the months of August and September are historically the time period when the Nottawasaga watershed experiences the lowest flows of the year.

The current two week forecast suggests ongoing dry conditions. If caution in water use is not practiced, the flows may decline to a more serious condition in which mandatory water use restrictions are imposed.

Residents within the watershed are encouraged to visit the following Internet address for details on the Provincial Water Response program.

<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/water/p774.html>

Essa moves towards licensing of small businesses

by Richard Blanchard

Essa council has moved towards a licensing system for the township's small businesses but support for the proposal was not universal.

Council voted to four to one in favour of the plan but the township's deputy mayor Terry Dowdall said that the plan would create more problems for small businesses in the municipality.

"It's a pretty big issue. I know that there are a lot more small businesses, operating from homes in the township, than what you would think," said deputy mayor Terry Dowdall.

Council had rejected a licensing system during the last term of council but mayor Dave Guergis said that the township needed some sort of framework in order to provide some means of control if problems resulted from the home-based businesses.

"You know the sort of problems that we had had recently with a couple of small home based businesses," he said.

"Licensing them gives us a say in their future proposals," said Guergis.

Dowdall responded that he felt that it was going to result in another layer of red tape for small business people. Thornton area councillor Rick Newlove said that he wanted the process as uncomplicated as possible.

"I don't want people required to come in every year for a license but I'd like to have some sort of control on them," he said. The proposed bylaw would require small businesses not to change the residential character of the property, limit the amount of floor area devoted to the home business no more than 15% of the gross floor area of the home and limit the hours of operation so that they could not operate all night.

Council agreed to the licensing proposal in general. A bylaw will come to council at a future meeting.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

A directory of what is happening in your community

The community event calendar is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce upcoming events. Deadlines are no later than Monday for that week's issue to COMMUNITY EVENTS, P.O. Box 310, Beeton, Ontario L0G 1A0

Submissions by mail, fax or e-mail and will not be received by telephone.

ISSUES & INTERESTS

The York-Simcoe Naturalists is a young club looking for new members. Contact: Cathryn Rees at 905-775-7021, e-mail: wilcor@sympatico.ca.

South Simcoe Community Information Centre "CONTACT" at 146 Victoria St. W. Alliston. Call (705) 435-4900, Fax 705-435-1106. Website: www.csolve.net/-contact, or Email: contact@focuscdc.on.ca. **Be a face in the fight against cancer** The Innisfil Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society needs volunteers. Their involvement enables the Canadian Cancer Society to fund cancer research, provide information, services and to support people living with cancer. Call: 436-1060 or 726-8032.

The Canadian Mental Health Association of Barrie-Simcoe supports the development and continuance of self-help groups as a viable community resource for individuals experiencing difficulties. Self-Help groups can provide; support and understanding through difficult times; an opportunity to meet with others who have experienced similar difficulties; information and education; a safe and comfortable environment; suggestions regarding coping strategies that help to get through difficult times.

For further information contact the Canadian Mental Health Association, Barrie-Simcoe Branch at 705-726-5033 or 1-800-461-4319.

Donations are needed for Music Fun Night at the Gilford United Church. If you have any old or unused music instruments like tambourines, shakers, chimes, drums or other fun instruments, call Dawn at (705) 456-2555.

MONDAYS

Friends of the Innisfil Library, Stroud Branch, meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m.

Gilford and District Horticultural Society meets second Monday of the month from March to November at Churchill Community Centre at 7:30pm. New members are always welcome. Call Judith Rogers at 431-9278 or Kathy Barraclough at (905)853-8785 for more info.

Al-Anon meetings take place every Monday at Innisfil Community Church at 8:00 p.m. If you have a problem with someone else's drink, come and join the discussion group. **Innisfil Pipes & Drums** meet for practice at the Legion in Bell Ewart, 1017 Robinson St. at 1 p.m. Always looking for new members. Phone Ken at (705) 456-3717.

TUESDAYS

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance at the Thornton Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and the Alcona Library from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team call Marilee or Kathy at (705) 728-0897 for more information. This initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Cookstown Computer Club drop-in program for elementary students, 4 to 5 p.m. at the library.

T.O.P.S. (Take off Pounds Sensibly) from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Library, Robert St., Thornton. For information call 739-9226.

Stroud Seniors invite persons 55+ to join them for an afternoon of bid and progressive euchre, refreshments and companionship. 1 to 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall, Painswick. Call 436-1628.

St Paul's Anglican Church, located on the corner of Mapleview and Yonge Street, has two new youth and young adult programs. From 6:30 - 8:00 pm will be informal musical jamming sessions for anyone with a voice or instrument. If you are learning to play an instrument or like to sing and would enjoy having some fun and social time with similar minded people, come and join us. For more information, please call (705) 722-7755

St. Paul's Church, Innisfil (corner of Mapleview and Yonge Street), Playgroup for tots, moms, dads, caregivers, and grandparents from 9:30-11:30 am. Come for a social time, friendship, play and snacks. For information, call (705) 431-1694.

The Beta Classes will be held at the

Innisfil Community Church starting January 9th at 1pm. Beta is a life changing program and the twelve week course will enable you to live free from fear, stress anxiety and the pain of past hurts and traumas. This program is offered at the Church from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. For more information, call Sherri McLaughlin at (705) 436-1611.

WEDNESDAYS

Friends of the Innisfil Library, Lakeshore Branch, meet the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. New members are most welcome.

Euchre, bid euchre, Scrabble and cribbage is played at Alcona Seniors club every Wednesday at 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the ABC Hall on the 25th Sideroad below Innisfil Beach Rd. Refreshments and fun days. Bring a bag lunch.

Euchre every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30, Newton Robinson United Church in aid of Gwen Taylor Library. Refreshments.

Weight Loss Group. The Alcona Chapter of TOPS meets at 7:15 at Goodfellow Public School. Call Joan Davies at 436-3197 after 6 and on weekends.

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance. On Wednesdays, the mornings are alternated between the Churchill and the Cookstown Libraries from 10:00 a.m. to noon., and every Wednesday afternoon at the Stroud Branch from 1:30 - 3:30. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team Please call marilee or Kathy at (705) 728-0897. This initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Euchre at St. Peter's Anglican Church, Churchill is held every Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the parish hall. Please call Reg at 705-456-6801 for information.

The Cookstown Co-Operative Playgroup is at St. John's Anglican Church in Cookstown located on Hwy 89, east of Hwy 27. All preschool children and their care-givers are welcome, as well as new members. The hours will be 9:30 to 12:00 every Wednesday & Thursday. Come out with your preschool aged children (senior kindergarten and younger), have a snack, make a craft and meet some new friends. For more information

please call Brian Haas at (705) 458-8468. See you there!!

THURSDAYS

Euchre - Progressive and Bid, every Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion - 1017 Robinson, Bell Ewart 705-436-1144, Betty.

Register for Book Book a six week afterschool program for ages 6 and up from 5-6 p.m. Call Innisfil Public Library, Cookstown Branch at 458-1273.

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance at the Alcona Library from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Please call Marilee or Kathy at (705) 728-0897. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team 728-3757, this initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Barrie Chapter of Schizophrenia Society of Ontario family support group meets the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Canadian Mental Health Association, Barrie-Simcoe Building, 39 High St., Barrie. For info contact 726-5033.

Painswick Horticultural Society meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at St. Paul's Anglican Church. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. New members welcome. For info call Linda Lewer at 436-3908.

The Parish of Churchill and Cookstown youth group meets every Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Youth between the ages of 9-12 years are welcome to attend regardless of denomination. Please call Pam Gervais for information at (705) 735-3484.

St Paul's Anglican Church, located on the corner of Mapleview and Yonge Street, has two new youth and young adult programs. From 6:30 - 8:00 pm we are beginning a study comparing the gospels and learning how and why they developed. For more information, call (705) 722-7755.

FRIDAYS

The Cookstown United Church Community Youth Group will begin meeting as of October 20th. They will be meeting weekly from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at the Cookstown United Church on 37 Queen Street. Come for crafts, games, movies, fellowship and fun! All are welcome. For more information, call (705) 458-9701.

SATURDAYS

Barrie Farmers' Market, outside and inside Barrie City Hall. From 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fresh produce and fruit in season. For info please call 739-4204.

SUNDAYS

Cookstown United Church welcomes all young people from preschool to grade 8 to join in Sunday school at 11am. Sunday's are cool at Cookstown UC, so come and join as we grow in faith and have fun. New this year - join us in making scrapbooks celebrating God's gifts in our lives. For more information, please call Rev. Heather or Kieran Power at (705) 458-9701.

Overeaters Anonymoyus meets at the Mapleview Community Church at 7pm. Do you eat when you are not hungry? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? It's not what you eat, it's what's eating you! For more information, call Anne at (705) 436-7921.

The Teen Youth Group of the Parish of Churchill and Cookstown meet at St. John's Anglican Church every other Sunday in the parish hall from 12:30 - 2:30 pm. All teens aged between 13-18 years are welcome to join regardless of denomination. Please call Pam at (705) 735-3484 for information.

SATURDAY, JULY 7TH

The Second Annual Lobster Corn Boil, a fundraiser for a local cheer-leading team, will be held between 1 and 9pm. Fun for the whole family, there will be inflatables for the kids, lobster, corn, burgers, hotdogs, pop, juice, water and alcohol. For info, call (289) 231-1102. Volunteers are needed.

Car Garage/Trunk Sale at Nantyr Shores will be held by the Innisfil's Woman's 3-pitch league. The sale runs from 8am until 2pm and there will be unique items for sale as well as a delicious bake sale table.

Giant Garage Sale at Sandycove Acres at The Wheel from 8:30am until 2pm.

MONDAY, JULY 9TH

The Gilford and District Horticultural Society will have their annual meeting at 7:30pm at the South Innisfil Aboretum. Frank Solty will give tips on planting, pruning and caring for your healthy trees.

FRIDAY, JULY 13TH

The 5th Annual Golf Tournament for Am Shalom will be taking place

at Innisbrook Golf Course. For more information go to www.amshalom.ca

SATURDAY, JULY 14TH

A Garden Tour will be held, taking in ten beautiful gardens in the Innisfil area. The Friends of the Library (Stroud) and the Painswick Horticultural Society invite you to attend this fifth annual event. The event takes place between 10am and 4pm rain or shine. Tickets are only \$10 per person and are available at the Lakeshore and Stroud Libraries, or by calling (705) 436-5292.

THURSDAY, JULY 19TH

The Prostate Cancer Support Group, Man to Man, will meet at 7:30pm at the Canadian cancer Society Office, 64 Cedar Point Drive, Unit 1406 in Barrie. The group meets on the third Thursday of every month. Ladies are welcome and will meet separately. For more information, call (705) 726-8032.

SATURDAY, JULY 28TH

The Grange Cafe is back and bigger! For information or to become involved, call Lefroy United Church at (705) 456-2098 or Andrea at (705) 436-2098.

That Sinking Feeling. Innisfil's Dragon Boat team will be raising money for RVH at their car wash at Sobey's in Alcona.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21ST

The Annual GICC Golf Tournament will be held at Innisbrook Golf Course. Registration starts at 11am with a 12:30pm shotgun start. The fee is \$140 per player and spots are going fast. Call (705) 431-4199.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

A day trip to St. Jacob's. You'll enjoy the lovely scenery and the Mennonite country from the comfort of a coach bus. We will browse and shop in St. Jacob's and then the Farmer's Market. We will be having dinner at Anna Mae's Mennonite Restaurant where you will enjoy dinner, dessert, taxes and gratuities (for \$12) and then we'll head home. We may stop in the Town of Fergus. The cost is \$30 per person and seats will go fast! Call Angie Chisholm (705) 456-1595 or Bob Cathers (705) 721-8310 and book your seat. Must be paid for by September 2nd.