

The Three Beach Beat

July 2021



BGW's 2021 AGM: RETURNING TO A LIVE FORMAT

by Scott Williams, Georgina Beach

Assuming Ontario continues opening up as planned, BGW's annual general meeting will take place **Sunday, July 18** in **Owen Park**. This is your chance to meet, hear from and ask questions of your elected board members, and listen to guest speaker **Frank Dunnigan**.

Frank is a founding member of the Bluewater Dunes Protection Association (BDPA), and founder of the Bluewater Community Action Group, a coalition of concerned Bluewater residents representing BGW, Bluewater Dunes Ratepayers Association, and DBPA.

Bluewater Community Action Group is an environment-first organization that aims to protect our dunes, beaches and water from degradation caused by poorly managed growth, while respecting residents' rights and the need to enjoy our community.

During the AGM, you'll also be able to

- renew your membership
- elect directors for the 2021/22 term. Board members serve for one-year terms
- hear updates on board activities and plans

AGM details have been emailed to all paid members and posted on the website (www.yourbgw.ca).

To comply with COVID requirements in Step 2 of the province's re-opening plan, we ask that

- only one voting member of your household attend
- wear face covering while registering
- you maintain 6 foot physical distancing from other participants

BGW-Owen Park

Top of Oriole Lane
and Wendake Rd

Turn east at 1010
Tiny Beaches Rd S

Limited vehicle
parking

We also recommend you bring your own chair and an umbrella to protect yourself from the hot July sun.

See you there! If you can't make it, send a proxy to ask questions and vote on your behalf.

WILL YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM PASS AN INSPECTION IN 2023?

by Scott Williams, Georgina

That's when the Township's rotating Sewage System Re-inspection Program will focus on our area. The program inspects septic systems installed more than 10 years previously.

Homeowners will receive a letter from the Township in advance of the inspection process, which starts with a visual surface inspection during non-winter months. Common problems identified during inspections include:

- vehicles parking or driving on the septic tank or leaching bed
- trees or roots in the leaching bed
- deficient septic or holding tanks
- fire pits dug into the leaching bed
- outhouses in disrepair
- structures on top of the leaching bed
- deck posts on septic or holding tanks, and/or
- patios over leaching beds



If a deficiency is found with your sewage system, you will be notified in writing, at which time you must take the necessary steps to correct the deficiency.

Property owners whose systems are being inspected are also responsible for having their septic or holding tank pumped out by a licensed sewage hauler, who must provide a written report on the condition and size of the tank

Find out more about the program here: www.tiny.ca/Pages/Septic-Re-Inspection.aspx.

That’s the cost assigned by the Township for work caused by temporary encroachments on public beaches. Such work may involve tagging, following up with calls, re-inspecting, removing, transporting and storing items, and arranging for pickup or disposal. Items left on public beaches will be tagged as early in the summer season as possible “to avoid the subject matter growing in scope,” says the Township

This includes but is not limited to the following:

- chairs
- umbrellas/tents
- watercrafts
- barbeques
- boat launches/docks/lifts
- restricting shore or pathway access
- decks/platforms
- fire pits
- delineation (physical/invisible fencing) objects



PHOTO Josh Collesano on Unsplash

To learn more about the policy, including how to report an encroachment, download this brochure, *Temporary Beach Encroachments*, from www.tiny.ca.

MEMBERSHIP SIGN IN ... NEW FORMAT

by Bruce Cook, Georgina

We’re much stronger when we all act together, which makes your membership vital. Every dollar of your membership goes to supporting the quality of life on Bluewater, Georgina and Wendake Beaches.

The membership fee is a modest **\$60.00** for a one year, or **\$165.00** for 3 years. These fees are among the lowest in Tiny. You may have the interior covered with detectors; but weather conditions cause havoc to shingles and siding plus snow loads might need clearing. Your interior cameras do not reveal this.



Here are three easy ways to renew or sign up for your 2021 membership:

- Make an e-transfer — log onto your banking website and send an Interac payment to bgw.assoc@gmail.com
- Visit BGW’s website (www.yourbgw.ca) and pay with PayPal
- Mail or drop off a cheque payable to the BGW Beaches Association, c/o Bruce Cook at 63 Sandyhook Square, Toronto, ON, M1W 3N6 or drop through the mail slot at 1015 TBRS.

>>> We have your Tiny taxation address already on file, therefore **just provide your street and number** with payment and provide the corrections / updating on your BGW receipt acknowledgement when issued.

SHOPPING FOR GOODS or SERVICES? USE YOUR FoTTSA RETAIL DISCOUNT CARD

by Scott Williams, Georgina

BGW members have access to discounts from a number of local retailers and service providers that participate in **FoTTSA’s merchant discount program**. BGW **paid** members; just show your discount card and save.

The card is available to all yearly paid members of shoreline associations that belong to FoTTSA, as well as any individual Tiny resident who makes a donation to FoTTSA of \$20 or more.



NEW THIS YEAR: Rona has extended its FoTTSA discount offering to **ALL** Rona stores in Canada. Any time you go to a Rona store, just show the special discount **program number** on the back of your discount card.

FoTTSA’s discount program is a win for everyone. You save, and participating businesses have an opportunity to increase sales, build customer loyalty, gain a competitive advantage through greater visibility. For a list of participating businesses, check FoTTSA’s website: www.tinycottager.org/retailers-discounts.

Shop local, show the card, and let business owners know we appreciate their efforts.

COVID permitting, BGW plans to offer outdoor activities this summer, some familiar favourites and some new.

Among the activities being explored:

- beach yoga
- the annual field day (with limitations)
- kids painting day
- tie-dyeing for kids
- reviving the corn roast combined with movie night in the park



Watch for updates on BGW's Face Book page, in BGW email(s), and on our roadside A frames.



BGW "Slow down" signs are still available at no cost to BGW members. Introduced two years ago, the sign (shown in photo is also available in white) are a handy reminder to drivers. Anecdotal evidence says they work. Please make sure you place the sign within your front property line. They're also easy to store for the winter. Contact BGW board member **Jennifer Plumers**, bgw.assoc.jennp@gmail.com

NOISE FINES DOUBLED UNDER NEW BY-LAW

by Scott Williams, Georgia

Under the bylaw, excessive noise is NOT permitted Monday to Friday from **9:00 pm to 7:00 am**, and on Saturday, Sunday, and statutory holidays from **9:00 pm to 9:00 am**.

Common complaints reported to the municipality involve excessive noise from:

- loudspeakers and amplifiers
- vehicle stereos
- persistent barking, calling, or whining made by pets
- squealing tires
- yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing
- HVAC equipment that's not in proper working order, and more
- domestic tools (e.g., air compressors, electric power tools, manual hammers, and similar tools)
- lawn maintenance equipment (e.g., chain saws, lawn mowers, leaf blowers, grass trimmers, or any other similar equipment)



The noise control by-law and all other township by-laws are available online:

<https://www.tiny.ca/Pages/Bylaws.aspx>

Photo: Greyson Joralemon on Unsplash

BOARD of DIRECTORS 2020 ~ 21

Bryan Young	President
Mike Giblin	VP / Winter Patrol
Jordan Young	Secretary
Bruce Cook	Treas/ Registrar/ Website
Scott Williams	FoTTSA/ Communications
Elaine Woodcock	Membership
Jennifer Plumers	Media Coord
Cathy Petrolo	Events Coord
Brian Kearsley	Property Admin
Edward Galbo	Prty Admin Coord

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS FOR ALL THINGS BGW AND TINY

Stay in touch between newsletters with BGW and FoTTSA social media platforms.

With just a few clicks, you can follow and post on several of these sites:

- BGW Website: www.yourbgw.ca
- BGW Facebook : www.facebook.com/BGWRatePayersAssociation/
- BGW Instagram: www.instagram.com/bluewater-beach/
- FoTTSA Instagram: www.instagram.com/tinycottager_fottsa/
- FoTTSA website: www.tinycottager.org

While you're on the FoTTSA website, sign up for *FoTTSA Flash*, an e-newsletter published 10-12 times a year, featuring essential updates on issues important to Tiny's shoreline associations. It's a fast, fun read.

If you've seen surveyors on Bluewater Beach, they may be helping the township delineate the boundaries of 10 township-owned beachfront properties, including Bluewater Beach Park.

Over the course of this multi-year project, the township will also identify and address encroachments, and install posts and signage to mark the boundaries.

The properties being delineated this summer include:

- Archer Road Allowance — all boundaries
- **Bluewater Beach Park** — north and south boundaries
- Concession 9/Ossossane Beach — all boundaries from Lundy Lane to Concession 9
- Edmore Beach — all boundaries
- Jackson Park— north boundary
- Lafontaine Beach Park — north boundary
- Wahnekewening Beach — all boundaries
- Woodland Beach — south boundary
- 10 Nassau Court — all boundaries
- 42 Lackie Crescent — all boundaries 1880 Tiny Beaches Road North — waterfront boundaries



In some instances, such as Jackson Park, the boundaries are in dispute. In others, the exact boundaries are unclear. The project is intended to resolve boundary confusion.

Photo: Scott Blake on Unsplash

HAVE YOUR WELL TESTED FOR NITRATES

by Scott Williams, Georgina

This summer the Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations (FoTTSA) is conducting its fourth program to test private well water for nitrates, natural compounds that can affect our health at high levels. Since BGW is a member of FoTTSA, this program is available at cost (\$25.50 + HST) to BGW members.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines nitrates as compounds that form naturally when nitrogen combines with oxygen or ozone. They can leach into groundwater and then into wells from farm and lawn fertilizers, manure, sewage, or septage spread on farmers' fields. Nitrates are also made in large amounts by plants and animals, and are released in smoke and industrial or automotive exhaust.

High nitrate concentrations in drinking water interfere with the blood's ability to transport oxygen, and can be especially detrimental to infants, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and seniors.

Testing our well water periodically can help identify trends and potential problem areas. So far, nitrate levels in our drinking water has remained at safe levels.

FoTTSA's testing program began in 2010, and In 2017 113 households participated in the third iteration. None of these samples exceeded the limit of 10 mg/L set in Ontario's drinking water guidelines, and most (78) tested at 0.05 mg/L, meaning that no nitrates or nitrites (which turn into nitrates) were detected.

High levels of nitrate in well water often result from improper well construction, well location, overuse of chemical fertilizers, or improper disposal of human and animal waste. Sources of nitrate that can enter your well include fertilizers, septic systems, animal feedlots, industrial waste, and food processing waste. Wells may be more vulnerable to such contamination after flooding, particularly if the wells are shallow, have been dug or bored, or have been submerged by floodwater for long periods of time.

Nitrate can be removed from water by reverse osmosis, distillation, or through ion exchange resin. Nitrate will not be removed by sediment filters, carbon filters, or by the hollow fiber membrane of an ultra-filtration system.

If you are interested in participating in this year's program, watch for an email from BGW with program details.