



Join FOCA today!

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Cottage Life



FOCA Elert - August 2010

Mark your calendars - the **FOCA Fall Seminar** will be held Saturday November 6 at the York Reception Centre in Toronto (agenda to follow).

Come and see FOCA at the Fall Cottage Life Show: November 26 - 28 at the International Centre in Toronto.

Recent events hosted or attended by FOCA:

- FOCA's pilot series "Keeping the 'Family' in the Family Cottage" cottage succession workshops in the Kawartha and Haliburton regions were a huge success. To express interest in future workshops in other regions, email programs@foca.on.ca.
- FOCA Lakes and Forests Stewardship Workshop in Espanola
- The Muskoka In-Water Boat Show in Gravenhurst
- The Green Expo in Desbarats
- North Pigeon Lake Ratepayers Association AGM
- 3 Mile Lake Association AGM
- Muskoka Lakes Association AGM

2010 Municipal Election

Questions for Candidates

Thank you to all those who submitted questions to ask candidates in the upcoming municipal election. We received excellent suggestions, many of them are available [here](#). Find out what your candidates think about the issues that matter to you!

Biodiversity Photo Contest

Last call for submissions



What does biodiversity mean to you? Have you taken a great photo that captures some of the flora and fauna at your cottage? Send it to programs@foca.on.ca to enter our photo contest. The winning



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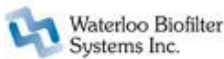


photo will be featured on the cover of FOCA's Report to Membership newsletter this fall. Deadline for submissions is September 10th.

FOCA Members Active in their Communities

Reading the newsletters of our member associations, we are pleased to see so many groups giving back to their summer communities!

Congratulations to Gloucester Pool Cottagers' Association for their fundraising success! With 177 paddlers participating, they raised \$35,770 for the Canadian Cancer Society in last year's "Canoe for Cancer" event. The route, which runs from Big Chute to Port Severn, was all smiles with over 80 canoes and kayaks, and even two dragon boats in the flotilla.



This year marks the tenth anniversary of the event and is scheduled for Sunday, September 5th. All the best for another fun-filled day on the water!

Many more cottage associations have donated funds and volunteered time in their respective communities. If your association has a community-building event or fundraising idea to share, email info@foca.on.ca. We want to hear your stories!

Families Celebrating Cancer Recovery

Now operating year-round!



*A Gift of Time Away with Family.
Celebrating Cancer Recovery.*

Cottage Dreams is a great way to make a difference in your cottaging community. This charitable organization offers cancer survivors the opportunity to reconnect with family and friends at a donated cottage. Cottage Dreams has grown from helping 6 families in 2003 to over 250 families in 2010. The program now runs all year long, so it's not too late to participate. Call today to donate a week of autumn splendour at your cottage! For details, visit cottagedreams.org or call 705-457-9100.

Giant Hogweed - Is it in your backyard?

Giant Hogweed is an exotic plant that has now been found in Ontario. The plant grows along shorelines and in moist soils



Featured FOCA Resources



Lake Planning Handbook for Community Groups

This award-winning lake planning resource is now available as a free download - [click here](#).

Take steps toward a sustainable waterfront community in your area!

and should be avoided since it can cause severe blisters to skin. Click [here](#) to access a Giant Hogweed fact sheet. Feel free to share it with your friends and neighbours in order to spread the knowledge.

This factsheet and more are available on our website on topics including natural shorelines, night skies and septic system maintenance. [Click here to see more.](#)

Take the Plunge

A Guide to Stewardship of Ontario's Waters



Are you interested in the long term health of your lake? This guide is a valuable reference tool for every concerned waterfront property owner. Order yours today by emailing info@foca.on.ca.

FOCA Members are encouraged to take advantage of our volume discount on orders of 10 copies or more.



Join FOCA today! [Visit our website for membership details.](#)

Past editions of FOCA Elerts are available on the FOCA website (click [here](#)). Share FOCA Elerts with your association membership by clicking the blue "Forward email" link below.