

Guidelines for Renters and Visitors Sand Lake Estates



**A collection of suggestions to make
your visit to
one of our cottages
more enjoyable
for everyone**

**Compiled by the
Sand Lake Estates Inc.
Executive Team**

Welcome to the Lake

First of all, welcome to the lake. You are either visiting or renting one of the cottages that form part of the Sand Lake Estates Cottage Association. Each of the cottages is fully owned by a member of our association. We incorporated the group in 1972 to deal with common issues (road maintenance, trees, wildlife, etc.) and to more fully enjoy our mutual association with the lake itself. Over the years we have developed a set of common practices that make life easier for everyone – and serve to protect both our physical environment and the good relationships that exist between us. We'd like to make you aware of these "best practices" so that you will understand how "things work" here at the lake – and perhaps be better able to fully enjoy the cottage experience.

The items listed here are in no particular order of importance – they are written as they have occurred to us in multiple conversations. We'd appreciate if you would read through and become familiar with them. We think they will make your life a lot easier and help maintain good relationships between us all.

1) Use of the Roads

The main roads (Walnut Point Road, Pine Ridge, and Eden) are jointly owned and maintained by the Association. We spend a considerable amount of our financial resources each year keeping them up to standards required by the fire department and ambulance services. We'd ask that you treat them well. By this we include maintaining a speed of no more than 25 km (15 miles)/hr. This ensures that tires don't spin (this wrecks the roads quickly) and it makes it safer for the many cottagers who walk daily on the roads. Also, please be aware that the roads are private and the Association assumes no liability for accidents or losses of any kind associated with the use of the roads.

2) Garbage Services

Garbage is collected every week on Monday morning. If you happen to be here over a weekend between Victoria Day and Thanksgiving and are staying on for the week, you can put your garbage at the end of your driveway and it will be picked up on two conditions:

- a. It has to be in a see-through clear or blue plastic garbage bags so that the contents are clearly visible (the black or green bags won't be accepted);
- b. You will need a garbage sticker attached to the bag. These are available at the Gordanier grocery store in Elgin and at the Rideau Lakes Building Centre in Crosby at a cost of \$2.50 each.
- c. There is a limit of 2 bags per week of garbage (tags required) and 5 bags a week of recycle (glass, paper, cans, etc. – no tags required)

- d. Bags must be placed at the end of your driveway by 7:00 AM and must be clearly visible to the driver (not behind a fence or hedge, etc.)

A word to the wise about putting the garbage out: there are animals (raccoons, skunks, porcupines, deer, etc.) who love to root through garbage bags in search of rotting delicacies. Most of these animals are nocturnal (they forage at night). Best to put your garbage in a garbage lockup (there are several along the roads) OR put it out in the morning of the day of pickup. Whatever you do, DO NOT LEAVE IT OUT UNPROTECTED OVERNIGHT. You will spend a lot of time cleaning up if you do.

N.B. Garbage collection moves to the corner of Davis Lock Road and Walnut Point Rd or Pine Ridge Road after Thanksgiving for the fall/winter season.



3) Recycling

Recycle items are picked up alternating every 2 weeks. Cans, plastic, glass, and waxed cardboard need to be placed in a clear or see-through blue plastic bag. Paper and cardboard need their own clear or transparent blue plastic bag or bundled and tied. The alternating schedule for pickup is available at the Gordanier grocery store from the checkout cashier.

Empty liquor or beer bottles can be taken to a designated return centre or to the nearest Brewers Retail store directly.

4) Kitchen Protocol

Before you leave, make sure to check the fridge and remove any and all leftovers that might go bad. This includes that great bag of apples or carrots that someone might like (since the next people into the cottage might be several weeks down the road). Feel free to pass on things that will be useful to others but that will not go bad (those great spices that you bought for the killer tacos, the honey-Dijon mustard that spoke to you in Elgin, etc.). Think this one through – if there is the possibility of it going bad, either take it with you OR refer to the section above on garbage services. PLEASE!!!

5) Dishes (YES YOU!!!)

Everyone loves to arrive at the cottage with no dishes in the sink. Please wash all of the dishes prior to departure (regardless of whether this approach to life applies to daily routine).

6) Closing of Doors and Windows at night (and upon departure)

Did we mention that we have furry friends in the neighborhood? If you have a porch or door that is near ground level (or that an animal could cozy up to), make sure that the door or window is closed. To be clear, closing the screen does not count – that is viewed by our animal friends as an invitation to entry!!! Those of us who live with experience of this lake have ALL had incursions of the midnight kind from 4-legged friends who simply pushed their way through the screen and dined on the next morning's muffins as we slept through the attack. Don't let this happen to you. As hot as it gets, don't forget to close those entry-level doors and windows TIGHT.



It should also go without saying, but when you leave, please close all doors and windows and lock the cottage up. There are some 2-legged critters out there as well who understand well the protocol of end-of-the week cottager turnover.

7) Fishing

Fishing on any lake in Ontario requires a license. You can pick one up at the hardware store in Elgin. Some lucky exceptions: a) those under the age of 18, and b) those over 65. You will need to prove your age if you fit in either category. Otherwise pick up a license. The cost (2017) for an Ontario resident is \$16.75 for the year and for a non-resident is \$32.69. Licenses for non-Canadians are \$51.65. All of these three options require an “outdoor card” which costs an additional \$9.68.

8) Boating

Besides making good sense, the law requires that all boaters have with them a life jacket when riding in a boat. The lifejacket must be appropriate for the size of the individual or it doesn't count. While you do not legally have to have it on, "best practice" suggests that this is a good idea, regardless of how good a swimmer you are – unconscious "good swimmers" suffering from a boat accident don't fare so well in our lake waters. Other safety items required include a bailer, whistle, 50' floating rope, and flashlight. Fines for not having these items, along with required lifejackets is approximately \$250 and we have already had boaters fined in 2017 on the lake. It apparently pays to be safe!!!

Water-skiers, wake-boarders, tubers, etc. also must be wearing a lifejacket and must have both a driver AND a "spotter" in the boat that is towing them. Anyone in Ontario driving a pleasure craft with a motor over 10 HP must have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card. Persons between the ages of 12 and 16 must operate their motorized boat under the supervision of someone older than 16. You can complete an on-line course and test to get your license easily and with a little study (great to do as a family activity because everyone learns good habits together). You can find a course at <http://www.boatinglicense.ca/canada/ontario.aspx>

Since we are part of the Rideau Lakes Canal chain, there are some sections of the lake that have posted (and enforced by police and now park rangers) speed limits of 10 Km/hr. It is important to note those postings and respect them.

You will also note the many loons that we have on the lake. It has taken many years to build the local group of loons to the size that it is now. Please slow your boats and avoid close contact with the loons to help us keep these beautiful creatures alive and well on the lake.

With increased popularity of wake boarding, it should be noted that wakes have a dramatic affect on shorelines and fellow lake users, boaters, and the nesting loons. Boaters are reminded: reduce your speed to less than 10km/hr within 30 meters (100 ft) of shorelines and water ski, wake board/surf and tube 200 meters (600 ft) from shore. Here are some great reminders of your operator and legal responsibility: <https://www.bewakeaware.com/>



Important Emergency Numbers

Fire/Ambulance/Police/Poison/Emergency
call **911**

Ontario Hydro for Power outage: 1-800-434-1235

911 Location Information

This information should be completed by each owner for use by guests and/or renters.

Civic Address:

Access Road: Davis Lock Road

Contact Telephone Number:

Owner's Name:

GPS Coordinates:

Other Numbers:

Rideau Lakes OPP:613-283-6911

Poison Hotline: 1-800-268-9017

Hospital - Kingston: 613-548-2333

- Smiths Falls: 613-283-2330

Ministry of Natural Resources: 1-613-332-3940

Township of Rideau Lakes (TRL): 613-928-2251 or 1-800-928-2250

TRL After Hours Reporting (i.e. Road washout):1-877-798-5725

Fire Condition Hotline (for open air burning):613-928-2251, Ext. 600