

Killarney

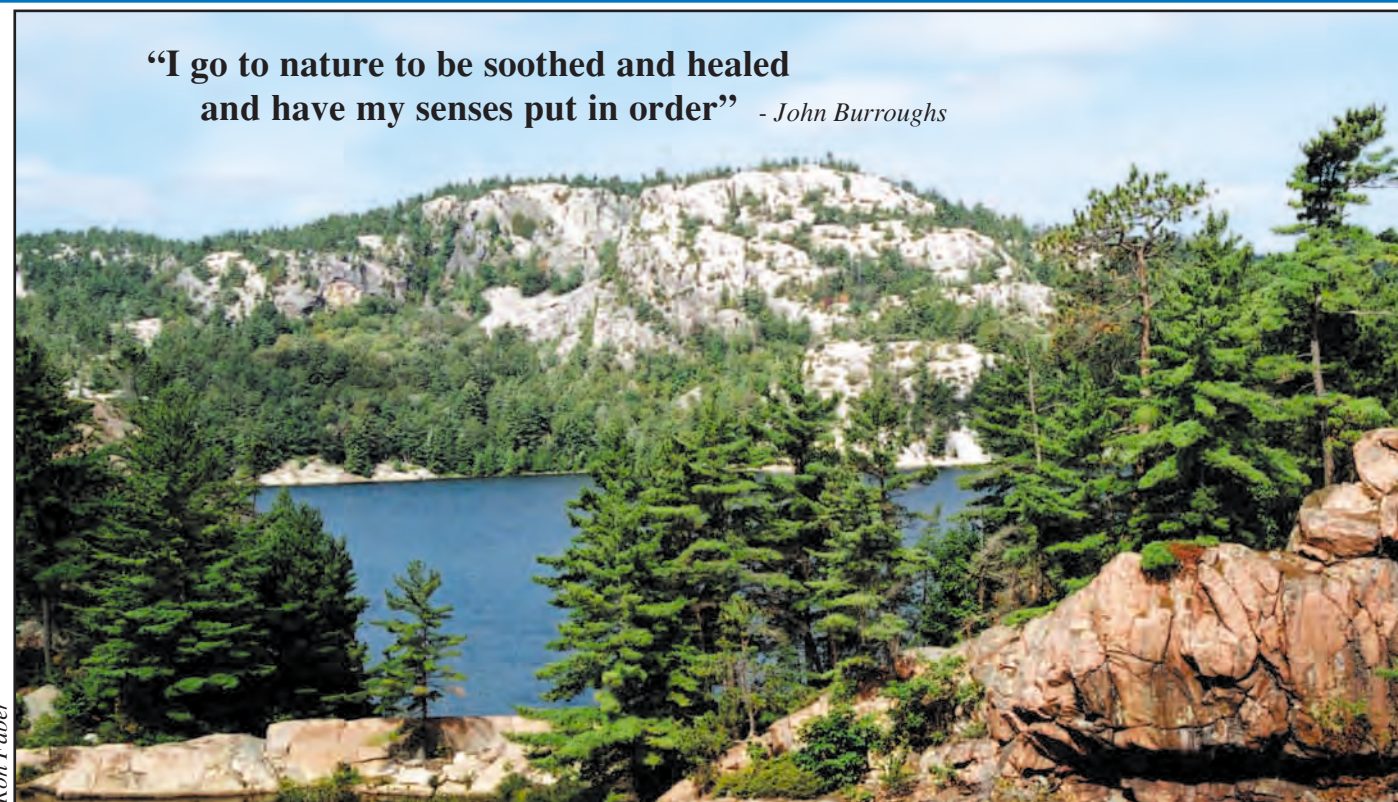
2007 Information Guide

Superintendent's Welcome

A warm welcome is extended to you by the staff of Killarney Provincial Park. The staff will strive to make your stay in Killarney safe, enjoyable and full of good memories. If this is your first visit to Killarney I think you will discover why - the combination of wilderness, white rock hills, clear blue lakes, Georgian Bay coast and the people of the village of Killarney make for a special experience that promises relaxation and a connection with nature.

I am very pleased to advise you that the protected lands in the Killarney area significantly increased on July 8, 2006. Killarney's wilderness and the French River Provincial Park expanded to 49,325 and to 73,530 hectares respectively; and the Killarney Lakelands and Headwaters Provincial Park (natural environment class), at 15,346 hectares was also established. The proposed Killarney Coast and Islands (waterway class) at 15,791 hectares currently continues to be negotiated.

There is much new to see and do in Killarney in this and future years. The canoe routes in the new park areas have been mapped and are ready to explore. Or perhaps this year you may want to consider a winter visit to Killarney as we are offering more comfortable winter camping in heated yurts. For those near the campgrounds, be sure to check our Natural Heritage Education events calendar for upcoming programs that promise to be



**"I go to nature to be soothed and healed
and have my senses put in order"** - John Burroughs

both fun and educational for the whole family. From interpretive hikes to art in the park, from programs specifically for children to nighttime guest speakers; our NHE department has a program that will be sure to interest and inspire.

The Friends of Killarney Park is pleased to release a new edition of the park map showing the new park areas and canoe routes. For those exploring from the campgrounds the Friends now also offer the first edition of a day use map. The Friends make significant contributions to the park each year including new facilities;

new activities (art show) and information; clean up; and research. I offer my sincere personal "thank you" to all those that have helped in these projects as well as other park volunteers.

For those traveling to Killarney on Highway #69 - I would suggest that you take the opportunity to explore the new French River Visitor Centre - and take a moment to reflect on the historic relationship between the Aboriginal and French people and how this tolerant and cooperative relationship has impacted on the values Canadians hold today.

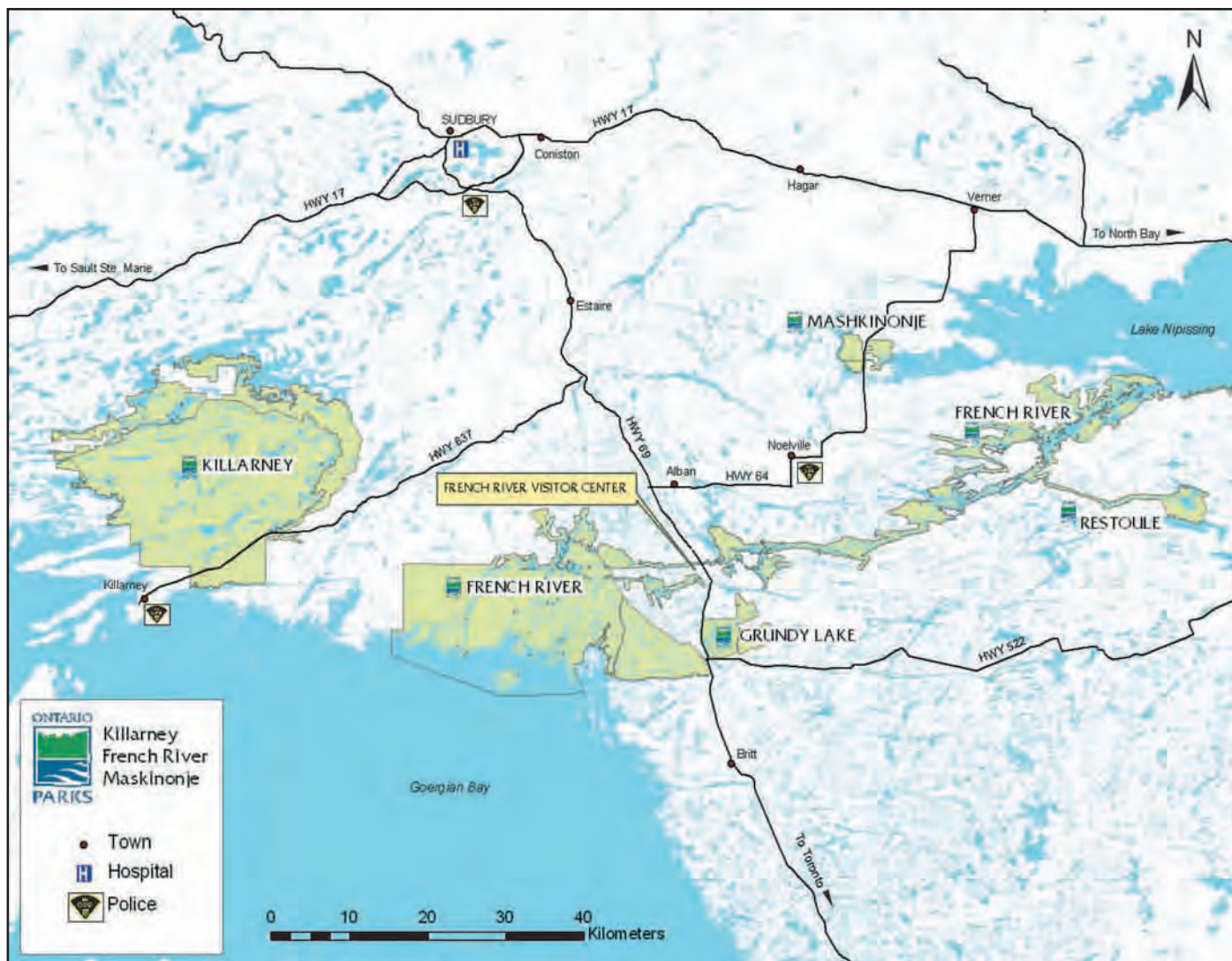
For information on Killarney Provincial Park, or Ontario Parks in general, please visit us on-line at www.OntarioParks.com or call the park information line at 705-287-2900. You should also feel free to stop and talk to any staff member. We are here to serve you and ensure the park resources are managed for future generations.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable stay.

Chuck Miller
Park Superintendent

**Your Park Permit must be visible on the dash of your vehicle.
See page 3 for more detailed list on our rules and regulations.**

Map of Killarney Area



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Killarney Provincial Park

Killarney, Ontario P0M 2A0
1-888-668-7275 (reservations)
(705) 287-2900 (park information)
www.ontarioparks.com

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Village of Killarney “Year Round”

Welcome

Welcome to the wonderful village of Killarney, located only a short 10 km ride past the park’s campground. We are renowned for our hospitality and friendliness. Stop and talk to the town folks—they’ll enlighten you on the history of our village, which dates back to 1820.

We provide basic services, groceries, camping supplies, lodges, restaurants and take out, laundromats, liquor store, police, church, garages for cars and marine, and an airstrip with a 3500 foot runway.

There’s lots to do in every season!

Summer Activities:

In July and August stroll the docks and see the beautiful yachts travelling our waters. Our Community Centre has basketball nets, a tennis court and space to roller-blade. For a totally new adventure try the 7.5 km George Island Trail, which takes you past beaver ponds, over ridges and along George Island’s Georgian Bay coast.

Looking for some Georgian Bay scenery? You’ll get a great view from Killarney’s historic East Lighthouse.

Ready for some Georgian Bay swimming? Try Pine Island Channel at the town’s unsupervised public swimming beach, located on Perry Avenue, just off the highway before reaching town.

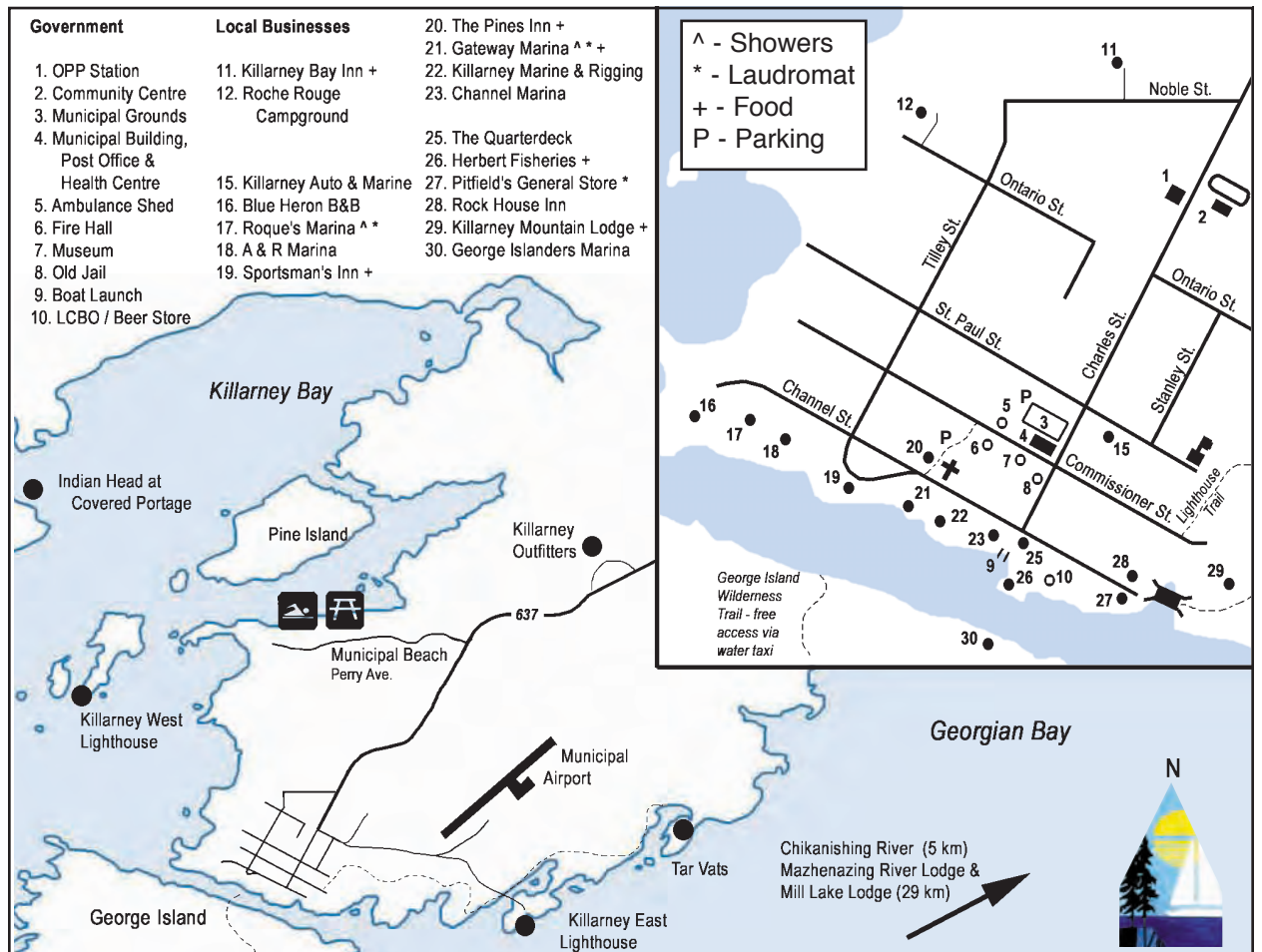
Winter Activities:

Snowmobile trails tie into the Sudbury and Alban Trail Plan, and marked trails lead over the ice to Manitoulin-Spanish, and the North Channel. The area is also a great winter destination for hardy winter campers and skiers. In winter, the Community Centre’s two rinks host curling, recreational skating and hockey. The service building offers washrooms, a pool table and video games, as well as a small cantina and eating area.

We invite you to visit us in Killarney...by boat, airplane, foot, car, canoe, kayak, snowmobile—we’re here to welcome you...year ‘round!

Sincerely

Mayor Morgan Pitfield



Killarney Snowmobile Club News: Ride With “The Pack”

Situated directly on the Trans Ontario Provincial (TOP) Trail C107D, Killarney is your Trail-Head to North Channel destinations such as Spanish, Blind River and Drummond Island, Michigan; with staked ice trails to Manitoulin Island and direct trail access to the French River and the Sudbury area trail systems. Killarney’s 100 plus kilometers of trails are kept in “TOP” shape by a new Bombardier BR 180 groomer.

Killarney is a full service snowmobile community with all the essentials for the serious or first time snowmobiler. Accommodation, premium fuel, mechanical service, a LCBO and a general store are all easily accessible by sled.

Please note snowmobiling is not allowed within the boundaries of Killarney Provincial Park other then on the designated C107D trail corridor running just south of Hwy 637.

For more information on snowmobiling in Killarney, current trail and ice conditions, trail passes, or for snowmobile club events, please call (705) 287 2011.

Why drive when you can ride!!!

Killarney Volunteer Fireman’s weekend.

July 28th & 29th, 2007

Located at the Killarney Community Centre (number 2 on above map)

Outdoor Dance Saturday July 28th, 2007

8 pm. to 1 am.

A licenced event, age of majority required.

Fish-Fry Sunday July 29th, 2007,

Noon to 8 pm.

Show up under the big top for large portions of locally caught fish with all the extras. BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY. A licensed event with excellent food, music, dancing and games for the kids.

The Killarney Health Centre is Open

Monday to Friday
9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon & 1:00-5:00 p.m

If possible, please visit the clinic during office hours, as a nurse is not available outside of the posted times.

For appointments or advice, call 705-287-2300. After hours please listen to instructions on the answering machine.

The Killarney Health Centre is funded by the Ministry of Health, but donations to the Centre are appreciated. Money raised helps to purchase much needed equipment, allowing us to provide a better service to the community and to the visiting public.

Medical emergencies—dial 911.

George Lake Campground is Location #960 - Hwy 637.

Non Medical emergencies – Call Telehealth Ontario – 1-866-797-0000

A Message from the Municipality of Killarney

No Loitering at the Killarney Landfill Site

Only ratepayers who are dumping garbage are allowed at the Killarney Landfill site, and immediately after completing the task, they must leave the area.

The bears feeding at the site are disturbed by the presence of humans, particularly those who harass them or try to feed them. A bear’s natural reaction to such disturbances cannot be controlled.

For the safety of all, the Municipality will not permit loitering at the landfill site.

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Thanks for your co-operations

Emergency Phone Numbers

Pay phones are located outside the park office and near the Killarney Liquor Store. George Lake Campground is located on #960 -Hwy. 637

Police/Fire/Ambulance:

In Killarney: 911

In Espanola: (705) 869-4240, or 911 from most North Shore locations.

Sudbury Regional Hospital

(705) 674-3181 — 24 hour service

Espanola General Hospital

(705) 869-1420 — 24 hour service

Poison Control Centre

1 - 800 - 267-1373 — 24 hour service

Nurse—Killarney Health Centre

(705) 287-2300

Ontario Provincial Police

1-888-310-1122

Park Office

(705) 287-2900

Forest Fire Reporting

1-888-863-FIRE (3473)

First Aid Kits are found at the park office and in park vehicles. Contact park staff for assistance.

Things You Should Know



Rules & Regulations- Backcountry and Campground

Killarney Provincial Park is a 49,325 hectare Wilderness Park situated on the north shore of Georgian Bay. In Killarney, park visitors meet with endless opportunities to improve recreational skills while experiencing nature at it's best. The following regulations will help you get the most out of your stay and help us protect this unique landscape.

Permits must be renewed before 12:00pm on their expiry date

Non-renewed sites are made available to arriving visitors at noon daily. Park staff are not responsible for late renewal requests.

Check Out Time

All campsites must be vacated by 2:00pm on the day of departure. However, you are welcome to stay in the park until 10:00 p.m. on your departure date.

Firewood

It is unlawful to remove, cut or damage any vegetation in a Provincial Park. Collection of deadwood is not permitted in the campground. Bagged firewood and kindling can be purchased at The Outpost at George Lake Park Office. In the backcountry, use only dead wood collected away from campsites and from the shoreline.

Restricted Fire Zone

In the event of a Restricted Fire Zone, (RFZ) open fires will not be allowed. If you are going interior, you must display your camp stove before your permits will be issued.

Showers/laundry facilities are located in the comfort station. *See map on page 20.*

The **Trailer Dumping Station** is located off Hwy 637. Follow the 2nd road to your left after exiting eastward from the park entrance. *See map on page 20.*

Garbage

Please use the yellow or black garbage bags provided or bring your own bag to pack out both your own and other garbage you may find. Pay special attention to foil, twist ties, cigarette butts and other small pieces that tend to be overlooked or accidentally dropped. Please deposit refuse at the garbage shed located in the vicinity of the comfort station. *See map on page 20.*

Recycling

Please use the clear plastic bags provided to deposit recycling in the bins near the garbage shed, *for a complete list of recycling guidelines please see page 4.*

Ontario Liquor Laws

Liquor may only be consumed on campsites. Liquor is prohibited at the beach and any other public areas.

Radio Free Zone

The designated radio free zone in the campground covers the area from Red Deer Ridge to Blue Heron Circl. In this area generators and excessive noise are not permitted.

Beaches are not patrolled by Lifeguards

Parents: children are your responsibility and should not be allowed near water unless directly supervised by an adult.

Bicycles

Bikes are not allowed on hiking trails within the park. They may be used on campground and other park roads and on any other trails and roads outside the park.

Leave soap at your campsite

For sanitation reasons please do not wash dishes at water taps in the campground. We also ask that you do not bathe in park lakes, as biodegradable soap is only biodegradable on land. Dispose of soapy water at least 60m (200') back from shorelines.

Do not feed wildlife

Never feed wildlife and keep all food, garbage and scented items (toothpaste, shampoo, soap) in the trunk of your vehicle at night, as well as anytime you are away from your site. Garbage and recycling should be deposited daily in the garbage shed located in the campground. *See map, page 20.* In the backcountry you should hang your food in a tree away from your site.

Excessive Noise

Be considerate of your fellow campers by keeping noise levels down at all times. Excessive noise is not permitted at anytime, day or night. This includes loud voices, radios, barking dogs and generators.

Fishing License are available at some area businesses. Please pick up a current copy of the *Ontario Fishing Regulations* at the park office.

Note: Special fishing regulations apply within the park and the use of live bait-fish is banned.

Fire Pits

Fires can only be built in designated fire pits. Please do not make additional fire rings anywhere in the park including all day use areas



Pet Peeves

As a responsible pet owner, you must clean up after your pet, in addition to ensuring that your pet does not disturb others. Pets must be kept on a leash at all times not exceeding 2 meters (6 feet) in length, this includes the backcountry and day use areas. Pets are not permitted on park beaches, however, they are permitted on the far west side of the main beach, at the George Lake Dam

Bell Lake Permit Issuing Station

is generally opened from the last Friday in June to the Sunday of Labour Day weekend. During this time it is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. At all other time, permits must be picked up at the George Lake office. Note: All park users require a valid park permit, including day users.

Crown Land

If you are camping on Crown Land and are not a Canadian resident, you will require a Crown Land camping permit (available at the George Lake park office).

Maximum # of People & Shelters

To help minimize the impact on campsite vegetation and soils, the maximum number of people allowed on campsites are as follows;

Campground Site. . 6
Canoe-in Site. . . . 9
Hike-in Site. 6

No more than 3 pieces of shelter equipment are to be erected on one campsite.

Mechanized Travel

The use of motorboats, snowmobiles and ATV's is generally prohibited within park boundaries.

Private Property and Indian Reserves

There is a great deal of private property and Indian Reserve Land in and around Killarney Park. Please respect the rights of these private land owners and obtain permission if you have to step on private property.

Drinking Water

There is the possibility of bacteria and parasites in any lake and stream water. To be absolutely safe, choose one of the following 3 methods for purifying all drinking water.

- Bring water to a full boil for at least 5 minutes.
- Treat water with a chemical specifically designed to kill Giardia.
- Filter your water using a water filter that is compliant with eliminating bacteria and parasites

Designated Sites

To help diminish the effects of human impact in Killarney Park, camping is only permitted on designated campsites. Sites in the backcountry are identified by diamond-shaped orange markers with a black tent symbol. The park map indicates canoe in sites with red triangles and hike in sites with green triangles.

All designated interior sites are marked with an orange and black campsite marker.



Day trippers cannot occupy backcountry campsites while hiking or canoeing. These sites are reserved for interior campers.

Respect Park Resources

Natural objects such as plants, trees, rock formations as well as archaeological and historical artifacts are for all to enjoy, please do not remove, damage or deface them. Please respect physical, cultural and historical sites and properties such as settlements, cottages, resorts, pictographs, and abandoned cabins Remember it is an offence under the Provincial Parks Act to remove or damage any park feature.

A complete schedule of Provincial Park Regulations is available for review at the George Lake Park Office upon request.

Special Fishing Regulations

To protect introduced lake trout populations until they become self-sustaining, the angling season for lake trout has been closed in many lakes. Angling for other species is still allowed in those lakes during the seasons outlined in the Provincial Fishing Regulations. If lake trout are accidentally captured they must be released.

Lakes with lake trout season closures: Bell, Three mile, Carlyle, George, Johnnie (incl.Crooked/Brush Camp), and Kakakise.

As part of the restoration plan, some lakes have been designated as fish sanctuaries where no fishing is allowed.

Sanctuary lakes (No Fishing):
Acid, Amikogaming, A.Y. Jackson, Boundary, Burke, Clearsilver, David, de Lamorandiere, Grace, Great Mountain, Killarney, Lumsden, Muriel, Nellie, Norway, O.S.A., Partridge, Roque, Ruth-Roy, Sandy, Solomon, Whiskeyjack.

Provincial Fishing Regulation Guides are available at the park office.



More...Things You Should Know

Backcountry Can & Bottle Ban

Killarney Provincial Park has a Can & Bottle Ban in effect to help control litter and to promote good camping ethics.

Packing without Cans & Bottles

Packing foods that do not require cans or bottles doesn't have to be expensive. Grocery stores offer many lightweight, nutritious, and delicious foods that can be used on a can and bottle free camping trip.

For long trips, look for products that are fast cooking and dehydrated, to cut down on weight. Examples are instant potatoes, dry soups and sauce mixes, fruit drink crystals, quick cooking rice and grains, and pasta.

Consider bringing along some fresh vegetables, fruit and eggs to be used in the early days of your trip. If wrapped well, frozen meat should also keep for a day or two. Always use caution when bringing eggs and meats. If the weather calls for extremely warm temperatures you may want to reconsider, or use these items up over your first couple of meals. Spicy meats, such as salami or pepperoni, are often a good choice as they keep longer, and small amounts mixed into a meal go a long way in terms of taste.

The Can & Bottle Ban applies without exception to all backcountry areas of Killarney Provincial Park. Cans and bottles are only allowed in George Lake Campground, and in parking areas of interior access points. This regulation applies to all Campground and Day Use visitors when out for a day paddle, or when hiking on any park trail. Books on planning menus without canned or bottled foods are available at good outdoor recreation stores.

Please Note

All containers must be burnable.

The exceptions:

- metal foil containers
- fuel containers
- insect repellent containers
- personal toilet articles
- reusable plastic bottles
- medications in bottles
- infant formula in cans



Killarney Provincial Park Recycling Guidelines

Clear plastic recycling bags are available at the front gate.

Category 1 - #1, #2, #4, #5, #6 - Plastic containers, plastic grocery bags, plastic bread bags, Aseptic (Tetra-Pack) and PolyCoat (i.e. cream cartons) containers, styrofoam, aluminium and steel cans, paper and box board

Deposit clear bags with category 1 items in the large recycling receptacle at the main garbage drop off location.

Category 1 - Not Allowed

- Blister Wrap
- Boxboard liners
- Batteries
- Brake fluid containers
- Bubble packaging
- Carbon paper
- Coffee cups
- Construction paper
- Corrosive material bottles
- Foil multi-layered bags
- Herbicide bottles
- Kleenex
- Kraft paper
- Milk pouches
- Motor oil containers
- Plastic bags
- Plastic multi-layered bags
- Pesticide bottles

- Plastic drinking cups
- Plastic egg cartons
- Plastic prescription pill jars
- Plastic toys
- Stiff/crinkly bags (chip bags)
- Straws
- String
- Syringes
- Transmission fluid containers
- Waxed cardboard
- Wood

Category 2 - Corrugated Cardboard

Flattened and loose or bundled. Deposit in bin at the main garbage drop off location.

Category 3 - Glass

Washed, lids removed. Deposit in blue boxes at the main garbage drop off location.

Category 3 - Not Allowed

- Broken Glass
- Crockery
- Fluorescent tubes, Light Bulbs
- Glass drinking cups
- Mason jars
- Mirror glass
- Window/Window glass

A heartfelt THANK-YOU from Ontario Parks

Last year, we asked you to help us reduce waste and keep our parks clean by taking your used, non-refillable propane cylinders with you, when your Ontario Parks visit is over. We were bowled over by your response.

In 2005, we collected about 24,000 empty propane cylinders throughout our parks system. That's still a lot of expensive garbage to get rid of - but it's only *half* the number of cylinders we collected in 2004. Thank-you! Used, non-refillable propane containers are considered "hazardous waste," so we can't just take them to the local landfill. We have to hire firms that specialize in recycling this kind of material. At \$2.50 per cylinder, it costs us almost as much to get rid of

the cylinders as it does for you to buy them.

By reducing our disposal costs for these cylinders, we're able to devote more of your park fees to improvements such as new picnic tables, fireplace grills and children's playground equipment. So keep up the good work! Please don't use disposable propane canisters. Convert to regular refillable propane tanks, or choose equipment that uses camp fuel. If you must use non-refillable canisters, please take them home with you and dispose of them at your local hazardous waste depot. And again, thank you!



Education that's Nearby, Natural and Fun ... 24 hours a day

- A wonderful website - a natural choice for kids, teachers and parents
- Geared to Grades 2 through 6
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- Lots of engaging, ready-to-print lesson plans and activity sheets for teachers
- Eye-popping 3D fun with interactive games and activities for kids
- Information for parents and teachers about how to plan fun and educational trips to provincial parks
- And so much more!

Visit www.Campsite24.ca or www.OntarioParks.com

FIRE ALERT!



Forest fires cost Ontarians millions of dollars. Each year about 200,000 hectares of forest habitat is destroyed by fire.

In Killarney, fires are only allowed in established firepits on designated campsites. Never leave your campfire unattended, and never smoke while hiking—if you do and a forest fire results, you could be fined or be held responsible for the cost of extinguishing the fire. During a Restricted Fire Zone you must show your cookstove before receiving your backcountry permit. To report forest fires, contact the park office, or call 1-888-863-FIRE (3473).



DON'T LET WILDFIRES BE YOUR FAULT!

Killarney



Kanoes

Toll free:
1-888-461-4446
Locally:
(705) 287-2197

We rent a full range of canoes and camping equipment, including Souris River ultralights, Scott lightweight kevlar, regular kevlar and fiberglass canoes, as well as regular and ultralight solos.

Our main location is at Bell Lake, with **free deliveries** to George, Johnny & Carlyle access points.

Check out the KPP map on our website!

www.killarneykanoes.com email: info@killarneykanoes.com
Mike Malott

Please Help Stop the Invasion!



Please help stop the invasion of the "Inukshuk". The Inukshuk is believed to have originated in the Arctic Circle; however it is spreading to Killarney Park at an alarming rate. The Inukshuk is a stone figure made by the Inuit; it varies in shape and size and has different purposes. It is used mainly to show direction to travellers, to warn of impending danger, or to mark places of respect. Since it is not common to this area, the sole purpose of the Inukshuk becomes a misleading marker for visitors of Killarney. The Inukshuk also often disguises itself as a rock cairn (a pile of rocks erected by park rangers in order to provide direction to hikers, canoeists and day trippers.) The invasion of the Inukshuk to this area has caused many visitors to become lost, disorientated and lead off the trail ahead.

How you can help!

- Please do not built your own Inukshuk on backcountry trails.
- Please notify park staff if there any Inukshuks or rock cairns that are misleading.

Low Impact Backcountry Camping



When you visit Killarney you want to find untouched forests and clean lakes. Imagine arriving at your site only to find extra fire pits, garbage and trampled vegetation. It's up to all of us to practise low-impact camping. Here are some backcountry basics we all need to remember when visiting wild places.

Home Sweet Home

Set up tents and gear on the impacted area of your site. If a tent pad is provided use it. Avoid trampling backsite areas, creating new tent pads and trails.

If you need a campfire, gather dead wood as you paddle or hike, to avoid depleting the area surrounding your site. On site, give the plants and your feet a break. Change into a pair of sneakers. They don't tear up soil and plants like the lug soles found on hiking boots.

Go jump in the lake...but not with your soap! If soap is a must, choose biodegradable. Jump in the water, lather up onshore at least 60 metres from water, and get an "unsoaped" buddy to come and rinse you off with a pot. Remember...biodegradable soap is only biodegradable on land, not in the water!

Table Talk

Did you know that meals are a lot quicker to prepare on a stove than over a campfire? And remember, stoves create little or no impact on a site, something we all have to think about in heavily used areas like Killarney.

Stoves start in any conditions. They can quickly provide

a cup of soup or tea, and you can be on your way. **Campfires have a certain lure, but the quest for wood results in serious damage to vegetation around sites.** If you have a fire, gather small pieces of dead wood as you travel. Keep your fire small. Fires may only be built in the established firepit on designated campsites. Burn your fire to embers and drown it before you go to bed. During a Fire Ban all fires are prohibited. In this case you must show a stove to obtain your permit.

Pack it Out!

Cans and bottles are not allowed in Killarney's interior. Past experience shows that they often get left behind...an unsightly souvenir for the next camper who comes along. Repack food in reusable containers and plastic bags... it packs smaller and weighs less.

Pack out or completely burn all food waste. Never bury food scraps—animals dig them up, learning bad habits. Sometimes, as in the case of bears, this creates public safety problems. Never throw fish guts in water; place them well away from your site, on a rocky area where birds can scavenge them.

The Scoop on Poop!

It's not fun to talk about, but it's better to talk about it than end up stepping in it! Human waste, toilet paper, tampons, sanitary napkins, and disposable diapers are sometimes found strewn about the park. Most interior sites have marked side trails leading to box privies, but if you are caught short with no privy nearby: 1. move 60 meters (at least 80 paces) away from lakeshores, sites,

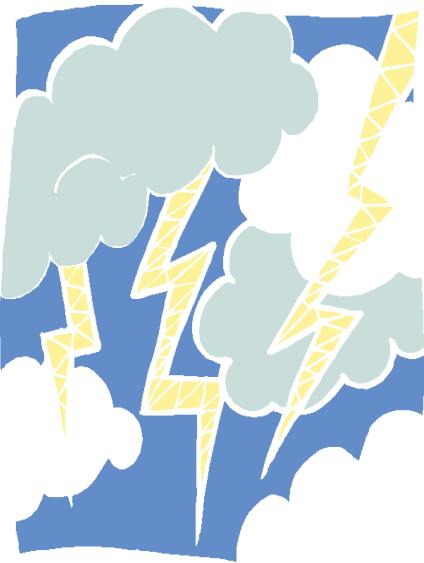
ivers, trails, etc.; 2. dig a hole 6" (15 cm) deep; 3. use it; 4. cover it back in well with the dirt you removed; 5. make sure that no trace of your "visit" remains. Use as little toilet paper as possible. Many people creatively use pine cones, sticks, etc. which can be buried in the hole. As for tampons, sanitary napkins, and disposable diapers...triple bag them in plastic and pack 'em out! While this sounds like a "messy" practice it isn't really that bad, and it is the only responsible thing to do. The multiple layers and plastic in these products have no place in the bush, and will sit there for years before they biodegrade!

Treasure Chest Etiquette...As one wise person said "The only thing that should go into box privies on interior campsites is what comes out of you, and single ply toilet paper". It's true! Treat interior privies like composting toilets—plastics and other materials interfere with the natural decomposition that needs to occur. Garbage, diapers, and other creative things that end up in box privies fill these facilities up, leaving no room for "what's supposed to be in there". In case you were wondering, park staff have to unearth those treasures that shouldn't be there in the first place. Think about it!

One Last Glance...

When you go, leave your site better than when you arrived. By packing out twist ties, rubber bands, tinfoil and other garbage left by previous campers, you can help maintain Killarney's campsites, and ensure your future enjoyment of Killarney's backcountry.

Weather Watch



While camping in Killarney Provincial Park it is extremely important to be aware of safety precautions that should be taken during any extreme weather. Storms can

arise quickly and in some cases can be damaging. Severe storms can result in hail, lightning, heavy rain and strong winds.

Environment Canada monitors weather at all times. If severe weather is probable Environment Canada provides information on their webpage, www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca as well as on radio and television. Weather alerts, as well as daily forecasts are posted at the main gate, and are updated as required. Weather for the Killarney area is broadcast on the following radio stations 92.7, 105.3, 94.1, 103.9 FM. In addition; weather watches and warnings are broadcast in real time on Weatheradio. Weatheradio is Environment Canada's network of low-powered VHF-FM radio stations which transmit a continuous stream of weather reports. The weatheradio station serving the Killarney area is 162.475.

What To Do If a Storm Arises

At the first sign of a thunderstorm, get out of or off the water! If you are at your campsite and some distance from a washroom or comfort station, a hard-topped vehicle will provide your next-best shelter. If sheltering in a vehicle, avoid touching anything metal inside and keep the windows rolled up. If the storm is particularly violent, with strong winds and/or large hail, crouch down low in the vehicle. The thing to remember is to avoid being the tallest object around and/or avoid being near the tallest object around. If you are caught outside and it is not possible to find shelter in a building or vehicle, go deep into a stand of trees and find the lowest-lying area. Crouch down and protect your head. If there are no trees or only solitary trees nearby, still look for the lowest lying area.. crouch

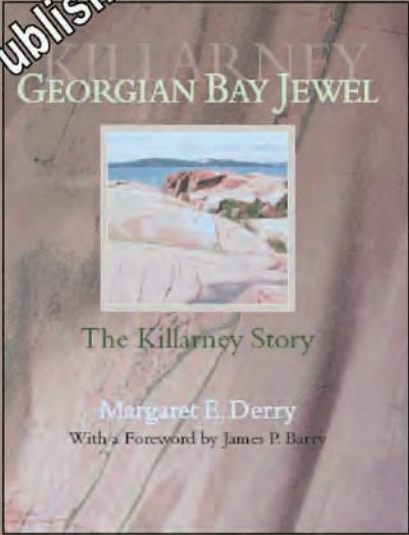
down and protect your head Do not lie flat, as this increases your chances of being struck by lightning. If you are camping without sturdy shelter or a vehicle nearby, it is even more important to survey your surroundings ahead of time to locate low-lying areas within nearby woods or fields that you can reach easily if required.

It is always a safe bet to monitor the local weather conditions, especially when the forecast mentions thunderstorms, be aware of your surroundings and be prepared for any severe weather.

**STAY INFORMED
AND
STAY SAFE!**

Just Published!

**KILLARNEY
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The Killarney Story

Margaret E. Derry
With a Foreword by James P. Barry

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Camping in Black Bear Country

Prevention is the Key

For most park visitors, seeing a Black Bear in its natural environment is an exciting experience. However, the excitement diminishes when that black bear is rummaging through your cooler or tent, in search of food.

Bears are normally shy of humans and quickly get out of our way. However, if they’ve had luck finding food at campsites, some bears lose their fear and start visiting campsites regularly looking for something to eat. These “campsite” bears can become persistent and destructive nuisances. Capturing and relocating campsite bears has met with only limited success in established campgrounds and is almost never practical in the backcountry. Often, the only option is to destroy them. Keeping a scrupulously clean campsite is the best way to avoid having to do this.

The Nature of Bears

Bears, like most animals, are constantly looking for food. Since bears will hibernate and not eat for up to five months during the winter, they need to find enough food during the rest of the year to restore their fat reserves. Although they are large and powerful, bears survive by eating almost anything that is edible. Black Bears most often eat things like aspen leaves, nuts, berries, or grubs found by ripping apart old rotting logs. Their diet can also include young deer fawns or moose calves.

It is important to keep in mind that all bears can be dangerous. However, Black Bears are almost never interested in people, only in people’s food. With a little common sense, you can minimize or avoid bear problems.

Steps to Follow If You Do Encounter a Bear

If a bear actually does come onto your campsite, here are the steps to follow:

- Confront the animal. All members of your party should be out of your tent(s), standing up, yelling, making

noise, and throwing sticks and rocks - while ensuring the bear has a clear escape route. During the day you should wave your arms to appear bigger. At night, shining flashlights in the bear’s eyes will help to confuse it. The aim is to be aggressive and persuade the bear to leave.

- If attempts to frighten the bear away fail, back away and give the bear a wide berth.
- If your dog is camping with you, keep it away from the bear. In some cases, dogs may nip at a bear and then run back to their human masters with the bear in pursuit.
- If a bear stands upright to get a better look at you, makes huffing or “popping” sounds, beats the earth with its forepaws, or even bluffs a charge, the bear is feeling threatened by your presence and is trying to get you to back off. Pay attention to such signs. Use bear spray if you have it and if the bear is within range. You should know how to properly use, store and carry this product. Bear spray, available from many outfitters, is pepper spray with a strength, and a propellant, specifically formulated to deter bears when it is sprayed in their eyes. Keep in mind that bear spray is no replacement for appropriate conduct in the outdoors.

Contrary to popular belief, female Black Bears, even with cubs, are almost never aggressive towards humans. Still, if a female Black Bear with cubs comes onto your site, you should not approach the cubs or get between them and their mother.

Predatory Black Bears

On extremely rare occasions Black Bears attack humans with the intent to kill. About 56 people in North America have died this way since 1900. The Black Bears that prey on people are almost never campsite bears accustomed to getting food from humans. Rather, they are almost always large males with little or no previous contact with people.

- Predatory bears do not make huffing or “popping” sounds, nor do they beat the earth with their forepaws, or bluff charge as campsite bears sometimes do. Instead, they stalk, or press closer and closer to their intended prey, apparently assessing whether it is safe to attack.
- If ever faced with a predatory bear, it is essential that you confront the bear. Leave in your canoe if you can, but never turn and run. Do everything in your power to make the bear think twice about attacking you. Be aggressive, yell, throw rocks, hit the bear with sticks, and use bear spray if you have it. If a predatory bear does make contact with you, do not play dead. Fighting back with everything you have is the best way to persuade a predatory Black Bear to halt its attack.

Fortunately, human-bear encounters are rare in Ontario. However, increasing your awareness about the importance of a clean campsite, proper disposal of garbage and what to do when a bear does get too close will help ensure your camping vacation is a safe and memorable experience.

In the Backcountry

If you encounter a black bear or other wildlife that has acted abnormally or exhibited threatening behavior during you stay at the park, ensure your own safety and that of your traveling companions, advise other travelers that you meet and contact park staff to report any occurrence as soon as possible.

In the Campground

Help minimize adverse human – wildlife encounters by never feeding wild animals and by removing food attractants when you are away from your campsite. Any food attractants left on your campsite unattended will be removed by Park staff for safe keeping and can be picked up at the park office.

Bringing your own supply of firewood to the park?

Please read this.

Firewood often contains insects and plant diseases. Campers who bring firewood from home may accidentally spread those diseases that threaten Ontario’s provincial parks and the health of our forests.

The Asian Longhorn beetle and Emerald Ash Borer are of particular concern. They are both recent arrivals to Canada and without natural controls here.

While the Emerald Ash Borer is currently believed to be confined to southwestern Ontario and southeast Michigan, where it has killed millions of ash trees, the movement of firewood has been the main culprit in its rapid spread in both the U.S. and Canada over the past year. As a result, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has imposed a quarantine, which prohibits the movement of firewood to

areas outside of Essex County and parts of the municipality of Chatham-Kent. The Asian Longhorn beetle has been found attacking hardwood trees between Vaughan and Toronto. Both insects can be easily spread in firewood, which may look normal, but still be infested with the insects.

How can you help:

- Do not move firewood, especially firewood obtained from areas under quarantine or prohibition of movement orders, such as Essex County, parts of Chatham-Kent and the U.S.
- Buy firewood from the area you’re visiting.
- Ask your supplier where their wood comes from.
- If you have questions, check with park staff, call the CFIA at 1-800-442-2342 or go to www.inspection.gc.ca



Asian Longhorn Beetle



Emerald Ash Borer Beetle



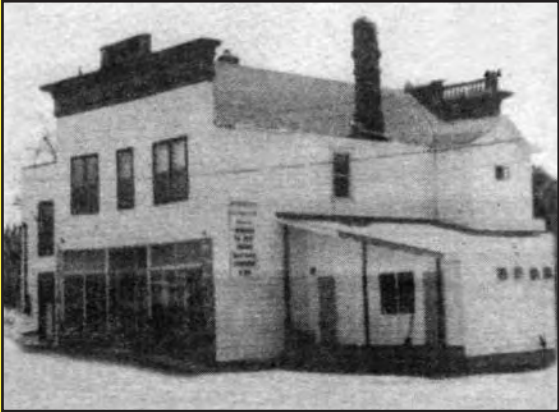
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Protecting Wildlife in Ontario Parks



Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake

Species at risk Act today so they have tomorrow

There are more than 180 species at risk in Ontario, including mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians, insects and plants. Did you know that Ontario's provincial parks are home to about 65 per cent of these rare species? With officially 92 species being designated as Species at Risk in the mixed forest region, of which

Killarney is a part, the park offers sanctuary to reptiles, birds and insects at risk including the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, Eastern Hog-nosed Snake and Blanding's Turtle, the Red Shouldered Hawk, the Bald Eagle, the Great Grey Owl, and even the Monarch Butterfly.

You can choose from a variety of adventures and experiences when you visit Ontario Parks - including educational programs about species at risk. Here at Killarney you can learn how to identify and help protect rare species,

or attend interesting and informative programs at the amphitheatre to learn about a species' life history, niche and interaction with other species. During your visit, if you see an animal, plant, or insect that you know is at risk, please report it to park staff.

To find out more, visit the George Lake Campground Office or talk to a park naturalist.

You can also visit:
www.OntarioParks.com/english/sar.html
or www.rom.on.ca/ontario/risk.html.

Killarney Lakelands & Headwaters Provincial Park

A new millennium saw a new map for Killarney Provincial Park (KPP). This map was bigger, completely updated and available in waterproof tyvek. The waterproofing was wonderful, the updates necessary and the increase in size was in anticipation of future additions to the protected landscape of Killarney. With Killarney's designation as a Signature Site within Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy many lands around Killarney had been proposed for protection within Ontario's Provincial Park system. This past summer, the fruition of this proposal and the many years of work between Ontario Parks, its partners and neighbours came into being with the designation of Killarney Lakelands and Headwaters Provincial Park (KLHPP).

This new area of protected land covers roughly 15000 ha and encompasses beautiful areas and several lakes that are larger than any found in KPP. Panache Lake is the largest lake in this area and borders almost the entire north boundary of KLHPP. This magnificent lake (15799 ha), with its multitude of inlets and bays, stretches 34 km from east to west. Panache is comparable to lakes in the Muskoka area with its fantastic cottaging and boating opportunities but is significantly less crowded than you would encounter down south. Between Panache Lake and the north boundary of KPP are a series of portage-connected lakes that offer a view of the La Cloche and similarly quiet paddling and camping opportunities to that of north-end of Killarney KPP. Some of these lakes boast a uniquely alkaline aquatic environment (pH 8.0) in the headwaters of watersheds draining into Georgian Bay.

The lakes in Killarney's north end, although not surrounded by quartzite ridges offer beautiful views of the La Cloche Range with the added bonus of being available for reservation almost daily throughout the summer. There has always been quieter, less-crowded north in Killarney and now there is even more of it to explore.

KLHPP designation as a natural environment park will allow for a broader range of recreational uses than the wilderness designation of KPP. Traditional recreational uses, such as hunting, snowmobiling and boating, will continue and established recreational facilities (access points, campsites and portages) will be incorporated into the recreational scheme of the park. Look for new campsites and portages in the newly updated 2007 Killarney Provincial Park Backcountry Hiking and Canoe Route Map.

An Interim Management Statement has been approved to provide direction for the management of park resources until such a time as a park management planning process is conducted. We welcome you to investigate this newly protected area and review the proposed decisions regarding its future.

French River Provincial Park New Visitor Centre

Looking for something new to do on a rainy day? Perhaps you have a bit of extra time travelling home? Check out Ontario Parks new French River Visitor Centre.

The Centre is located on the banks of the French River, immediately south of the French River bridge, approximately 1 hour north of Parry Sound, and 15 minutes south of Hwy 637 into Killarney.

This award-winning Visitor Centre will sweep you into the past. With exhibits for the whole family, the Centre offers an array of sights and sounds that take you from early Aboriginal times to the present.

The Visitor Centre offers not only exhibits, but also a small store, and current Tourist Information, for those who want to find out a bit more about French River businesses and special events.

While you're there you can also check out the trail to scenic Récollet Falls where numerous fur traders lost their lives. A lovely picnic area sitting under tall pines overlooks the dramatic French River gorge. Looking down to the water from the shore you can almost imagine a fully loaded Voyageur canoe, making its way downstream.

Last summer's comment book told just how much visitors enjoyed the experience. "I am so impressed with this museum. Canadians need to know about this," wrote a visitor from Toronto, while a younger visitor wrote "I love this place and I want to come back every year. It has great history and fun facts I would have never learned in school!"



So, why not see for yourself? The French River Visitor Centre is open weekends beginning Victoria Day weekend, daily in July and August, and weekends September to Thanksgiving.

For more information on the Visitor Centre and Special Events in 2007, call (705) 857-1630.



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Adopt-A-Site Program

Killarney Provincial Park invites all interior park users to help preserve and maintain Killarney's wilderness and beauty through the Adopt-A-Site Program. This program implemented in 1999, is an excellent way to you or your group to become directly involved in the backcountry management of Killarney Provincial Park. To take part campers, visitors and groups can donate a small portion of their time to maintain interior campsites, portages and trails. For more information, pick up an Adopt-A-Site handout, and sign up at George Lake, Bell Lake or Willisville Access Points. Day-Users visiting the backcountry and organized groups are also encouraged to participate. To thank you for your efforts you will receive a limited edition Killarney Provincial Park crest, reserved for those that give their time and effort generously.



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Research

Bumps on the Long Road Back

**J.M.Gunn, Cooperative Freshwater Ecology Unit
Laurentian University, Sudbury**

Lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) probably suffered more damage from acid rain than any other sportfish in North America. During the 1960s and 1970s lake trout populations were lost from approximately 100 lakes in NE Ontario, including 11 lakes in Killarney Park. Fortunately pollution levels have been greatly reduced and water quality in Killarney lakes have improved, but so far, few, if any, lake trout have survived to reproduce in lakes such as George, Bell, and Johnnie even though tens of thousands of hatchery trout have been reintroduced into these lakes in the past 20 years.

We think the problem is that resident species such as lake herring are very abundant in these lakes and simply out compete the small hatchery reared lake trout.

So, why not stock large adults?

Well that is exactly what we have been trying to do, with the help of the Friends of Killarney Park and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources – but so far, no luck. The large adults survive, but just get skinnier and skinnier and there is no sign of natural reproduction. Maybe the problem is conditioning? Maybe the adults are too domesticated from years spent in a hatchery with regular meals of trout chow, instead of having to chase down their own food.

So why not try some wild adults from a lake where they already feed on herring?

Good idea! Stay tuned and we will see how this works.



Stocking adult lake trout into George Lake Photo by E. Snucins

Rapid Evolutionary Loss of Acid Resistance following Recovery of Killarney Lakes

By Alison Derry

Human disturbance of habitats can often lead to rapid evolution, heritable changes over several generations, of environmental tolerances in groups of organisms that are able to withstand the stressor. Once a pollutant is removed and if there is cost for a population locally adapted to that stressor over the years, evolutionary theory predicts



Alison sets up a field experiment to test for rapid evolution in copepods in Carlyle Lake.

that a reversal in evolution could occur. However, few studies have addressed how species adapt after the removal of an anthropogenic stressor, especially across landscapes and over a long period of recovery (multiple years). These issues are important to restoration managers because transport of organisms (and genes) from other habitats may disrupt the ability of local populations to adaptively follow environmental changes.

My research demonstrates important connections between ecology and evolution in copepod populations after several years of recovery from acidification in Killarney lakes. Using field and laboratory experiments, I found evidence for increased acid tolerance in *Leptodiatomus minutus* populations following acidification. However, after six to eight years of lake-water recovery in some lakes, acid tolerance appears to have decreased. This adaptive reversal in acid tolerance was supported by evidence of lower survival of acid-adapted copepods when grown in lake water with neutral pH. These responses appear to have a genetic basis and suggest that *L. minutus* is highly adaptive to changes in environmental conditions.

We suggest that restoration managers should focus on removing environmental stressors, and adaptable species will be able to reverse evolutionary responses to environmental disturbance in the years following recovery. The ability of adaptable species such as *L. minutus* to evolve in response to pH change may assist the re-establishment of acid-sensitive aquatic communities and higher levels of the food chain by providing an intermediate food link as boreal lakes recover from acidification. This adaptive link may be required for a long time since the latest National Acid Rain Assessment has reported that hundreds of thousands of lakes in eastern Canada will remain acidified if current levels of acid deposition remain unchanged.

This research has been accepted for publication in the journal Ecological Applications.

Alison will complete her Ph.D from Queen's University in spring 2007.

30 Years Later – Ongoing Recovery of Killarney Park Lakes from Historical Acidification

By: Justin Shead

Tens of thousands of boreal shield lakes were damaged by acid rain from mining smelter emissions during the early half of the twentieth century. One of the first sites where damaging effects of lake acidification was observed was Killarney Provincial Park. Impacted by industrial sources of SO₂ (sulphur dioxide), these lakes suffered large-scale biological damage, including widespread losses of fish and invertebrates.

With the combination of legislated control programs and modernization initiatives by the mining industry from the 1970s to the present, Sudbury smelter emissions (SO₂) were reduced by over 90% since peak emissions in the 1960s. As a result, many lakes in Killarney Park are experiencing dramatic chemical (less acidic), and, to a lesser extent, biological recovery (the return of species that were lost due to acidification). However, recovering Killarney Park lakes face additional stressors that may impede biological recovery – the recent invasion of a predatory zooplankton, *Bythotrephes longimanus*, and increased temperatures associated with a warming climate.

The invasion of exotic species into freshwater ecosystems is a growing problem. Invasive species have altered

food webs worldwide. *Bythotrephes longimanus*, commonly known as the spiny water flea, is a large predatory zooplankton that invaded the Great Lakes in the mid-1980s. Since then, it has spread throughout many inland lakes in south-central Ontario. To date, it has been detected in at least 80 Ontario lakes. It most commonly occurs in large, deep oligotrophic (nutrient poor) lakes, similar to many of the lakes in Killarney Park. This past summer, *Bythotrephes* was detected in Carlyle, Helen and Tyson lakes. Previous sightings have occurred in Low, Bell, George, Kakakise, and Clearsilver lakes.

Studies have shown that *Bythotrephes* can have drastic effects on freshwater food webs, including changes to native zooplankton community structure and composition. This can have dire consequences in lakes where zooplankton plays a key role in aquatic food webs. Consuming algae and being eaten by fish, zooplankton are a means by which nutrients and energy are transferred to upper levels of the food web, particularly fish. It has been hypothesized that *Bythotrephes* may impact Killarney Park lakes biological recovery from acidification. The influence of warmer temperatures is less clear, but changes in species composition

associated with climate change are expected.

Using historical lake survey data on 48 Killarney Park lakes, in combination with data that I collected in the summer of 2005 and 2006, I have addressed four questions for my Master's research: 1) what is the extent of chemical and biological recovery in Killarney Park lakes?, 2) how many Killarney Park lakes has *Bythotrephes* invaded?, 3) how has *Bythotrephes* invasion influenced zooplankton recovery in Killarney Park lakes?, 4) what influence does climate change have on zooplankton communities?

To date, results indicate that pH is continuing to increase in many of the Killarney Park lakes. For example, George Lake and Little Shiguandah Lake have increased in pH from 4.9 and 5.0 (1972) to current levels (2005) of 6.6 and 7.0 respectively. However, we have detected limited and variable recovery of zooplankton communities despite water quality improvements. For example, zooplankton species richness (the number of species present in each lake) is not increasing. Nevertheless, there is evidence that despite the fact that the total number of species is not increasing there is a change in the zooplankton community composition. There is evidence of more acid sensitive species returning to lakes that were severely acidified during peak emissions. As a result, some lakes (e.g. George and

Norway) zooplankton communities are returning to a composition that is similar to that of lakes that were not acidified (e.g. Low, Helen and Ishmael). However, not all the lakes are showing such recovery. We suspect that recovery may be influenced by *Bythotrephes* and warmer lake temperatures and are continuing our data collection and analyses to explore these hypotheses. Understanding the effects of these multiple stressors is essential and challenging as they may have important implications for lake restoration and management.

For more information on this and other related projects please visit the following website - <http://biology.queensu.ca/%7Eearnotts/>



Nearby & Natural



Stop. Stretch your legs, have a picnic, hike, canoe, enjoy the view. Bike, kayak, take a picture, take a swim. Do some fishing; set up the tent, stay for the day, stay for the night, stay for the week, create a memory. The possibilities are endless with the Ontario Parks that are close by. The Near North boasts some of the most natural, historical, unspoiled beauty in all of Ontario. Your adventure will not be complete without stopping at some, or all of the parks that are nearby and natural.

Mississagi Provincial Park

Looking for more hiking and canoeing opportunities? Visit Mississagi, situated 20 minutes north of Elliot Lake. Its quiet campground offers a variety of sites of all sizes, including pull-through sites for trailers and RVs and walk-in waterfront campsites. The park's location off the hydro grid means that the campground has no electricity – a bonus for those who like camping the way it "used to be." There are also number of backcountry sites which can be accessed by either canoe or hiking. Mississagi is a natural environment class park and contains over 50 km of hiking trails. There are lakes for canoeing and canoes are available for rent. Opportunities abound to view local wildlife; there are dark skies for stargazing, and there is excellent fishing (especially for lake and speckled trout). For more information, please call Chutes Provincial Park anytime 705-865-2021 during July and August 705-848-2806.

Mashkinonje Provincial Park

Located along the West Arm of Lake Nipissing; Mashkinonje is a mix of upland rock ridges, interspersed with a vast complex system of wetlands. Community partners along with Ontario Parks opened 35 km of new hiking trail in 2005. This included an elevated marsh boardwalk. The park has long been a favourite destination for dedicated naturalists to view nature. The rock ridges provide excellent wetland lookouts. The park is best explored by hiking, or by launching a canoe or small kayak in Muskrat Creek Marsh, a protected inlet of Lake Nipissing.

The diversity of habitat that occurs,

including the shorelines and transition zone between the wetlands, makes wildlife viewing the most enticing activity within Mashkinonje. There have been over 270 species of birds identified, 33 mammal species, multiple reptiles and amphibians....come take a hike and learn about the wonders of wetlands.

Restoule Provincial Park

Nestled between two lakes south of Lake Nipissing, Restoule's high bluffs of granite and bedrock as well as dark, glassy lakes lined with red pines is a favoured habitat for herons, birds of prey and white-tailed deer. Wildlife viewing is excellent in Restoule as the park boasts a healthy population of large and small wildlife. You can visit the top of the cliff and enjoy the incredible view on the Fire Tower Trail. Explore Restoule by foot, mountain bike or canoe. One can also embark from here on a five-day canoe trip tracing Samuel de Champlain's original route.

Grundy Lake Provincial Park

Grundy Lake is a family oriented park that falls under the Natural Environment class. For the adventurous, spring and fall provide the best times of year to explore the park. Fewer people create a greater opportunity to view wildlife on one of the three trails within the park, or even catch a peaceful sunset. The spring offers fresh wildflowers while the fall provides breathtaking colours of the changing leaves. Be sure to make a reservation during the summer months where numerous beaches and warm waters await! Grundy Lake is an excellent spot to stop for a swim or for lunch on your way home.



Helenbar Lookout Trail, Mississagi Provincial Park

Please refer to the map on the cover page for park locations

French River Provincial Park

The French River is a broad, tree-lined expanse of open water. The River itself is 105 km in length, running from the headwaters at Lake Nipissing to its mouth at Georgian Bay. Along this route are numerous campsites where paddlers and boaters will find opportunities for fishing, swimming, photography, or just relaxing. Paddlers can spend hours weaving through the braided channels. The rugged topography of the Canadian Shield supports more than 450 plant species, reptiles, mammals, and birds. The French River is an exceptional destination for your next canoeing adventure.

Did you know...

Ontario has an extensive provincial parks system that is envied around the world. Most people have no idea how big our parks system really is: 329 provincial parks, covering a total area that's bigger than Nova Scotia – not to mention many countries in Europe.

Your visit is just one of an average of 10 million our parks will receive this year. Those visits help create about 7,000 person-years of employment. About 80% of what we spend to run Ontario's parks comes directly from you -- through day use or camping fees, revenue from firewood or park merchandise sales, and corporate partnerships.

The money you spend here goes directly back into parks. Among other things, it helps to pay for natural heritage education programs and research – and enables us to continue providing ecologically-sustainable recreation opportunities to all of our visitors.

Thank you for your support.

The simplicity of nature combined with the beauty of the outdoors can help us readjust and unwind from our sometimes hectic living. Being outdoors has been proven to greatly diminish the effects of stress and combined with the exercise of a hike, bike, canoe or walk; it benefits both body and mind. So, come and pay nature a visit, tune into the simplicity of our natural world. Take time out and relax.

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Friends of Killarney Park Photo Contest

And the winners are...

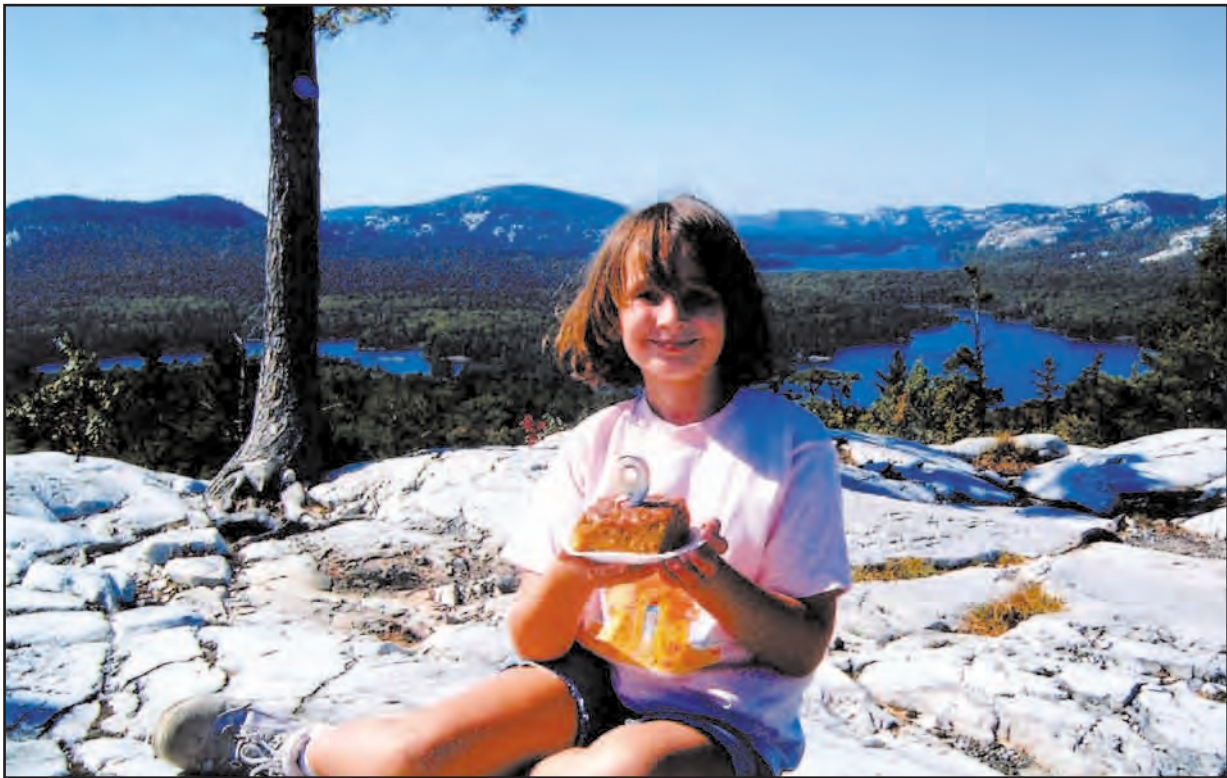
With over 100 photos to choose from, the jury's decision was not easy. We would like to thank all those who entered, and look forward to seeing your entries in 2007. Here are the winning photographs.

Capture the beauty of Killarney and enter Killarney Provincial Park's Twelfth annual Photo Contest. You can choose between two categories in this contest!

- 1) The Great Outdoors—showcase your favourite locations by capturing the nature and scenery of Killarney Provincial Park and surrounding area.
- 2) Go For it! Let's see you having fun—hiking, paddling, enjoying a view, relaxing.

Notes:

- Entries are accepted until Nov 30, 2007.
- Photographs will be returned in stamped, self-addressed envelopes only.
- Photos are juried by a panel of Killarney Park and Friends of Killarney Park staff/board members.
- Photographs may be held for one year for use in park publications and displays.
- Ontario Parks and Friends of Killarney Park reserves the right to copy and use any entries for future programs and publications.



Winner: “A Birthday Party at the Crack”, Susan Stubbs, Scarborough, Ontario

Runner Up:
“The Beautiful Portage”
Daniela Soares,
Toronto, Ontario



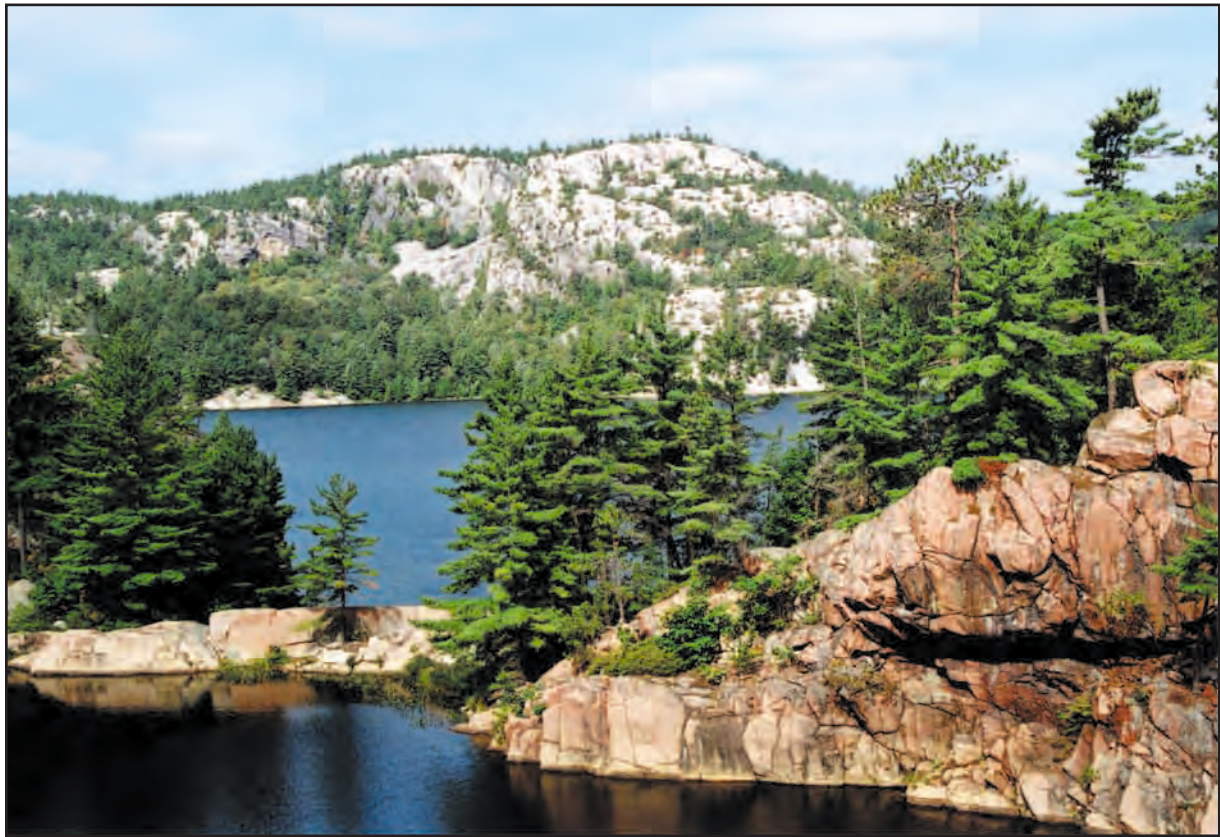
How to enter:

- On the back of each photograph entered, clearly print the photograph's title, category, location in the park, and the photographer's name and address.
- Photographs should be unmounted colour or black and white prints. An 8 x 10 format is preferred, but not mandatory.

Send entries* to: KILLARNEY PHOTO CONTEST, Killarney Provincial Park, Killarney, Ontario. P0M 2A0

*Killarney Provincial Park and Friends of Killarney Park staff are not eligible to enter.

The Great Outdoors



Winner: “Beautiful Killarney”
Ron Faber,
Barrie, Ontario



Runner Up: “Free Parking”
Bill Knapp,
Rochester, MI

What Are Friends For?



A Members Journey

With friends and family, I have been camping in Killarney Provincial Park for almost 30 years. As a thank you gift for introducing her to the park, a friend signed up our family as members. The little wallet card was cute and you can never have too many friends, so I made it my parting ritual each summer to renew my membership.

Always looking for ways to get to the park, I started attending the Clean up weekends. This volunteer event was so much fun that you knew you were a special friend of mine if you got an invite! It was a proud moment for me to see all three staff house units with the sign "Easton Crew" when I pulled up one year.

On of the many benefits of my membership was that I received regular newsletters. Through Paddles and Trails, I learned a lot about the good work of Friends of Killarney Park.

I am now the President of Friends, and am particularly proud of our significant donation to the Killarney Health Centre, the graffiti cleanup at Silver Peak, and on-going donations to support research work in the park.

Friends offered me even more ways to experience the park. At the winter activity weekend – a big hit in its third year, I got to walk across George Lake!

A recent article in Explore magazine ranked the top 40 natural wonders in Canada and the La Cloche Mountains made the list. As a member of Friends of Killarney Park, I am so proud of the contribution we make to the protection and preservation of this beautiful land. Consider joining us as a member. Who knows, you may be President one day!

Susan Easton - President
Friends of Killarney Park

Caring Together!

With the generous financial support from our donors and sponsors, Friends of Killarney Park, working with Ontario Parks, cleaned up Silver Peak. The graffiti which had been an unsightly blemish on the white peak for over three decades was nearly all sanded and polished away. The removal of several tons of scrap metal from the old fire tower was the finishing touch in restoring the pristine landscape of Killarney Park's highest peak.



Friends of Killarney Park 2007 Summer Events

July 2007 – New Killarney Park Publications Release!!

- Day Hiking & Ski Trail Map
 - 1:20 000 scale close up of the George Lake area
- Backcountry Hiking & Canoe Route Map
 - fully updated to include new Killarney Lakelands and Headwaters Provincial Park areas
- Canoe Guide 3rd Edition
 - revised to reflect travel in new park areas as shown on new map

July 13th-15th - Friends Weekend

Musical entertainment Friday evening
Friends AGM followed by barbeque lunch Saturday
Silent Auction - Friday through Sunday

July 28th-29th – Killarney Art Show
St. Joseph's School, Killarney

Safeguarding a cherished landscape:

To help safeguard the cherished landscape of Killarney Provincial Park, the Friends of Killarney Park was founded in 1986 through the hard work and dedication of many passionate individuals. With over 400 enthusiastic members, a committed board of directors and staff, the Friends play a vital role in protecting the fragile natural environment and producing valuable educational materials for the Killarney visitor. Partnering closely with Ontario Parks, this predominantly volunteer organization has achieved many successes, including:

- Killarney Park Educational Publications (Canoe and Hiking Guides)
- Backcountry/Campground Rehabilitation
- Naturalist Pack Loan Program
- Park Once Challenge to Reduce Greenhouse Gases
- Production and Distribution of Information Pamphlets on Backcountry Skills and a Winter Activity Guide
- Interpretive Walking Trail Signage Improvements
- Supporting a Variety of Wildlife Research Projects

Today, the organization has evolved into a leader amongst Friends' groups in the province. Guided by progressive strategic and fundraising plans, the organization is working hard to guarantee the continued well-being of this Ontario Parks crown jewel. By thinking globally and acting locally, the Friends of Killarney Park are truly making a difference.

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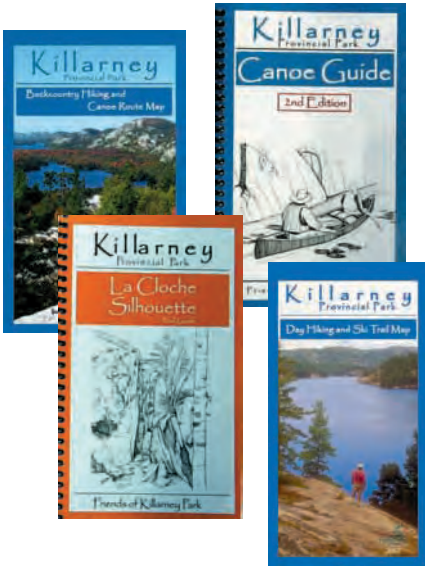
Members of Friends of Killarney Park receive a **15% discount** on most items at the Outpost.

Join today!

2 Locations

Bell Lake Access Point ~ Park Office at George Lake

705-287-2800



Help us continue our efforts to Preserve, Protect, and Educate by becoming a member of the Friends of Killarney Park!

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Killarney, Ontario P0M 2A0
Tel:705-287-2800 Fax: 705-287-2922
friends@friendsofkillarneypark.ca

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Payment by ☐ Cheque ☐ MasterCard/Visa

Card # _____ **Exp. Date:** _____

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Friends of Killarney Park

Membership benefits include:

- Participating in activity days and volunteering for special projects;
- Receiving the Friends' newsletter "Paddles and Trails" three times a year;
- Receiving 15% discount on most items sold at the Friends Outpost store locations;
- The knowledge that you have made a difference in protecting Killarney Provincial Park.



Take A Hike

Day Hikes in Killarney Park

One of the best ways to see Killarney is to hike the trails. So, if you have a notion to really explore, lace up those hiking boots and follow your feet.

Please remember the following rules when heading out on your adventure;

- The Can & Bottle Ban remains in effect for all park trails.
- Please walk single file on trails to avoid widening the paths.
- A valid parking permit must be prominently displayed on your vehicle at all times.
- Pets must be kept on a leash (at least 2m long) at all times.

- Bicycles are not allowed on any trails within the park.
- Natural objects such as plants, trees, rock formations as well as archaeological and historical artifacts are for all to enjoy, please do not remove, damage or deface them. Please respect physical, cultural and historical sites. Remember it is an offence under the Provincial Parks Act to remove or damage any park feature

Cranberry Bog Trail

Access: Cranberry Bog Trail starts from the campground road, near site #103.

Parking/privy nearby.

Length: Approx. 4 km. Loop trail

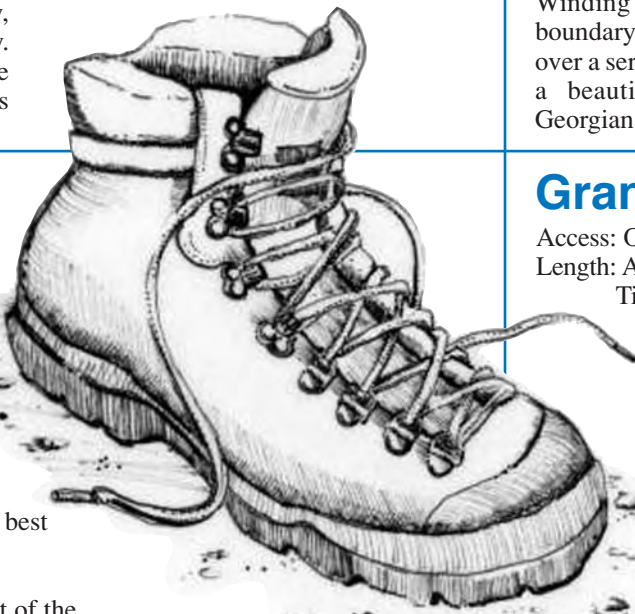
Time: 2 1/2 hours, steady going.

Difficulty: Moderate.

Caution: In wet weather rock surfaces are very slippery.

Cranberry Bog Trail leads hikers past some of the park's loveliest scenery. Bogs, marshes and swamps grow a variety of plants such as sundew, leatherleaf, pitcher plant, and cranberry. Beaver feed piles can be seen along the way. Many birds frequent this trail's

habitats, and Blanding's Turtles have been known to make occasional appearances in Cranberry Bog. Evidence of glaciation ranges from smooth rock surfaces to glacial striations and chatter marks. A.Y. Jackson Lake, named after the Group of Seven artist, is striking—blue waters nestled against a backdrop of pink rock and evergreens—a lovely place to sketch or take a picture. Cranberry Bog Trail shows hikers a close-up view of the beauty of Killarney.



The Crack (6 km)

The view from the top of Killarney Ridge is absolutely stunning. The immense white cliffs of the La Cloche Mountains surround you as you ascend through what is known as "The Crack", climbing up and over the cascade of huge tumbled boulders. Once you reach the top of the ridge, you'll be treated to beautiful panoramic vistas on all sides – certainly one of the best views in the park!

Trail Access: Access is gained 7 km east of the George Lake Park Office, off Hwy 637. Limited parking is available.

Time: This trail must be done in a linear fashion. 4 hours round-trip. You will want to give yourself lots of time, so be sure to pack a lunch, water and your camera.

Rating: Difficult. Please assess the physical capabilities of everyone in your group before attempting this trail. The ascent up to and through The Crack can be quite challenging, so take your time and enjoy the view!

Safe Hiking Techniques

- Learn how to use a map and compass, and always bring them when hiking.
- Know your limits and respect them. You are responsible for your health and safety
- Know how much pack weight you can carry for extended periods.
- Know how many hours you can hike in one day – six hours is usually plenty!
- Do you have injuries or weaknesses (eg. Ankles, knees)? Strengthen

- supporting muscles before you arrive.
- Sturdy hiking boots are recommended on all trails. Running shoes and sandals do not provide adequate support, making you prone to injury.
- Pack a few essentials – first aid kit, compass, sunscreen, bug repellent, a park map, trail guide, a water bottle and some snacks.

Chikanishing Trail

Access: Chikanishing Trail starts at the end of Chikanishing Road, 2 km west of the park office. Parking and privy nearby.

Length: 3 km. along a loop trail

Time: 1 to 1 1/2 hours, steady going.

Difficulty: Moderate with lots of ups and downs over granite outcrops.

Caution: In wet weather rock surfaces are very slippery, so good footwear and caution is required.

Winding to the park's southern boundary, Chikanishing Trail passes over a series of small ridges, ending up at a beautiful, wave-washed point on Georgian Bay. This trail runs across Pre

Cambrian Shield granite, and vegetation along much of the route is typical of the rocky, windswept terrain seen along many stretches of Georgian Bay's coast.

Shallow, acidic soils and harsh growing conditions have stressed the vegetation along this trail. In wind-sheltered spots enough soil has accumulated to support larger trees, such as pine and oak.

Old iron rings used for mooring lines during logging days can still be seen here and there along the trail. Interpretive plaques along this route tell the colourful history of this part of Georgian Bay.

Granite Ridge Trail

Access: Opposite park office.

Length: Approximately 2 km. Loop trail.

Time: 1 1/4 hours, steady going.

Difficulty: Moderate, with some steep sections. Good footwear required.

Caution: In wet weather rock surfaces are very slippery. The trail path may be wet.

Granite Ridge Trail starts by winding through old fields and forests. Soon, you're

up on a ridge that offers two lookouts over the park. To the south, Collins Inlet and Philip Edward Island follow the shore below you, and Georgian Bay stretches as far as your eyes can see. The north lookout opens onto the ridges of the La Cloche Range. The closest ridge is Killarney Ridge, with Blue Ridge sitting beyond to the north. Sometimes, hawks and Turkey Vultures can be seen soaring along the ridges. Granite Ridge Trail shows hikers the unique La Cloche landscape that Killarney is renowned for.

Going on a Hike?

Borrow a Friends of Killarney Park Naturalist Pack.

These knapsacks are equipped with the essentials to help you explore Killarney Park. Inside you will find: a park map, compass, trail guides, field guides, whistle, first aid kit, 2 way radios and binoculars.

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More Hikes and Paddling Safety



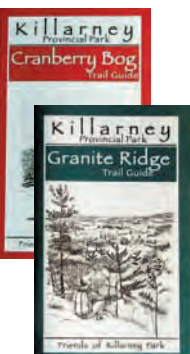
George Island Trail *operated by local business*

Access: The George Island trailhead is located on George Island, across the Killarney Channel from the Killarney Mountain Lodge, in the Town of Killarney. The Killarney Mountain Lodge offers a ferry service to the trailhead for a small fee (a Twoonie for adults, round trip - children no charge).

Length: 7.5- km round trip.
Terrain: Moderate-Difficult. Mostly flat or rolling terrain with a few short climbs and an irregular tread-way.

Caution: Some exposed rocky surfaces, which may be slippery when wet. There are also sections of irregular and unstable tread-way. A sturdy pair of hiking-boots is required.

The first part of the journey is through a lowland area of towering stands of coniferous and deciduous forest separated by numerous beaver ponds. Both the forest and the beaver ponds offer possible glimpses of wildlife, such as deer, moose, songbirds, and wildflowers. After leaving the low-lying areas the trail climbs towards a peak looking out over Georgian Bay and Manitoulin Island. Hikers may see far off islands that are not normally visible from the mainland section of Killarney. The trail then drops again through a thick cedar forest before coming to the rugged shores of Georgian Bay and Sandy Cove on the southwest corner of George Island.



Are you planning to hike the Cranberry Bog or Granite Ridge trails and want to learn more about the area's fascinating ecology and cultural history along the way? Then why not pick up one of the informative trail guides published by the Friends of Killarney Park? Chapters in each guide

refer to numbered stops along the trail. Both are great resources for discovering the Killarney story.

New!

Pick up a copy of the new Killarney Provincial Park Day Hiking and Ski Trail Map. This detailed 1:20,000 scale map of the George Lake area zooms in on the hiking trails and winter use trails. Important route details and interpretive information is also included for each trail making this map the perfect addition for your day excursion.

Trivia Answers

1. Moose, Elk, Bear, Deer, and Human are the five largest animals that you can find in Killarney.
2. It is unknown which tree is Killarney's oldest. However, White Cedar, Eastern Hemlock, Sugar Maple, Red Oak, Red Pine, White Pine, and Yellow Birch may reach ages over 300 years.
3. Although commonly referred to as Quarzite. The true name of the rock is Ortho-Quartzite or Quartz-rich Sandstone.
4. Rocks found near the town of Little Current produce a bell-like sound when struck with a stone. French explorers hearing this sound gave the area and the mountains the name "La Cloche" or bell.
5. Franklin Carmichael, A.Y. Jackson, Arthur Lismer, A.J. Casson are known to have painted in the area.
6. Barred, Great-horned, Saw-whet, and Screech Owls are confirmed residents. Snowy, Great Grey, Boreal, Long-Eared, Short-Eared, and Hawk Owls may live in or visit Killarney.
7. Nellie Lake water clarity is 28m.

8. The Cranberry Bog Trail will bring you to the bog where you may observe carnivorous plants.
9. Although Silver Peak is the highest peak in the park, it doesn't even make Ontario's top 30 highest peaks list.
10. Look to the sky. The Perseids meteor shower occurs on the 12th or 13th of August every year.
11. Killarney is a wilderness-class park.
12. Nursing female little brown bats might eat their own body weight in mosquitoes and other insects in a single night.
13. 9000 years ago humans were making tools in the Killarney area out of the Ortho-quartzite rock of the La Cloche Mountains.
14. Apparently the notorious former mayor of Chicago owned a cabin on Three Narrows Lake and may have invited Al Capone up for a visit.
15. September is Killarney's rainiest month.
16. 5000 - 11000 years ago the northern Great Lakes, at times, drained east through the French River area.

Paddling Georgian Bay

Killarney has long been a favoured destination of Georgian Bay mariners. Snug harbours, clear blue water, wilderness and wildlife, the emerald and ivory hued La Cloche Mountains...it's no wonder north Georgian Bay's popularity continues to grow.

This year we are repeating our plea to Georgian Bay "big water" enthusiasts to demonstrate a high degree of personal responsibility and stewardship when paddling and camping on the bay. Here are a few considerations for those who are bound for the "big water"...

- Small motor boats, canoes, and kayaks may use the Chikanishing boat launch facility and access creek. Make way for fellow travelers and do not linger in access area.
- Conditions can be highly variable on Georgian Bay. Pull into shore and seek shelter if conditions become difficult and beyond your skill and experience level.
- At a minimum you should know self-rescue techniques and should have the skills to be self-reliant before attempting "big water". Consider contacting a local outfitter for instructional programs.
- Seek shelter during storms. Avoid camping on the outer islands as they provide little shelter from wind and lightning. First time kayakers should stick to Collins Inlet.
- Bringing along a marine radio is highly recommended.
- If you are lost...stay calm, stay safe, stay visible and STAY PUT! People will be searching for you and you're easier to find if you're not a moving target.
- Plan for emergencies. Bring sufficient gear and supplies to safely extend your visit if necessary.
- Carry with you and know how to use all the safety equipment required for your mode of travel (see listing below).
- Consider picking up where others inadvertently left off and return any garbage you find to a garbage bin.
- Conserve the sparse wood out on the bay and use camp stoves as much as possible.
- Observe all Fishing and Boating regulations.

Equipment Requirements for Canoes, Kayaks, Rowboats and Rowing Shells (not over 6m in length)



Personal Protection Equipment

- 1) One Canadian-approved personal flotation device or lifejacket of appropriate size for each person on board.
- 2) One buoyant heaving line of not less than 15m in length.

Boat Safety Equipment

- 3) one manual propelling device or an anchor with not less than 15m of cable, rope, or chain in any combination.
- 4) One bailer or one manual water pump fitted with or accompanied by sufficient hose to enable a person using the pump to pump water from the bilge of the vessel over the side of the vessel.

Navigational Equipment

- 5) a sound signaling device or a sound signaling appliance.
- 6) navigational lights that meet the applicable standards set out in the collision regulations if the pleasure craft is operated after sunset or before sunrise or in periods of restricted visibility.

See Canadian Coast Guard's "Safe Boating Guide" for further details.

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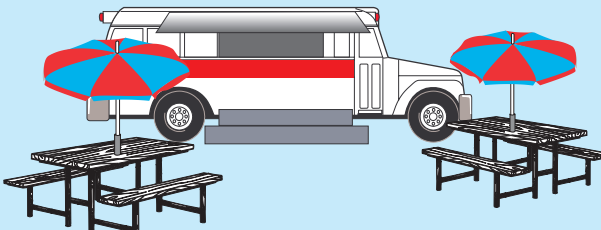
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Get Involved

Monitoring Success in Killarney Provincial Park

There is so much more to Killarney Provincial Park than its scenic beauty. Home to an impressive diversity of wildlife living in a wide variety of ecosystems Killarney is an important wilderness area in Ontario. Killarney's wilderness has received a lot of attention over the years. In the 1960 and 1970 the impacts of acid rain were discovered here and the ensuing research garnered much public attention to this issue. Killarney's lakes have since become some of the most studied lakes in the world. Persistent research and monitoring are essential to our understanding of environmental concerns. We invite you to participate in this vital process.

The following projects need the continued support of volunteers, park staff, and researchers. Our sincere thanks to the many individuals and groups for their ongoing support of Killarney Park's monitoring programs. Please call us at (705-287-2900) for more details on each individual project or event.

Spring Loon Survey (May 26th)

Loon breeding success is an important indicator of the relative health of an aquatic ecosystem. During this one-day event each of Killarney's southern lakes will be paddled on or hiked into to determine the spring population of our majestic loons. Information gathered during this day will be forwarded to the Canadian Loon Lakes Survey (CLLS) and will also be included as data for the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Network (EMAN). Could you think of a better excuse to go paddling for a day?

Included: Free campsites, bug repellent, and a complimentary are provided for interested participants.

Summer Loon Survey (Aug. 12th)

A new generation of loons have hit the water and a second scouring of Killarney's southern lakes is needed to assess the reproductive success of our loons. Data collected during this event

will go to CLLS and EMAN.

Included: A complimentary dinner, fun, sun, and less bugs than the spring count.

Killarney's 8th Annual Butterfly Count (July 15th)

Through the North American Butterfly Association Killarney Provincial Park participates in a continental monitoring program that tracks butterfly populations trends. Butterflies are important indicators of large-scale environmental changes. Like a canary in the mine butterflies may give us our first indications of global climate change. So grab yourself a net and join us for a fun-filled day of butterfly chasing and identification.

Included: Nets, guidebooks, leadership, instruction, and a complimentary dinner.

Greater Georgian Bay Reptile Awareness Program

The Georgian Bay shoreline is blessed with an exceptional variety of rare Ontario reptiles. Many of these species

are listed as Species of Concern for Ontario and Canada. Any sightings of reptiles (turtles, snakes, lizards, or crocodiles – although crocodiles are not to be expected in this part of the world) should be reported to the naturalist staff at the George Lake Campground.

Annual Christmas Bird Count (Dec. 19th)

Killarney is open year round and busy with bird-life even in the coldest of months. Strap on the snowshoes and join us for our annual Christmas Bird Count. Potluck dinner to follow.

Included: Binoculars, bird identification guides, leadership and warm beverages.

Most of these events/programs require prior registration. Please contact the park at (705-287-2900) or the Friends of Killarney Park at (705-287-2800) for further details.

Join us and become an important part of the monitoring success at Killarney!

Applause! Applause!

Killarney Provincial Park is fortunate to have the assistance and support of many individuals and groups. Our sincere thanks to all those (named and un-named) who have helped to keep Killarney safe, clean and wild.

Killarney Natural Heritage Education (NHE)

Killarney Provincial Park NHE department is blessed with a superb team of dedicated staff and volunteers. These amazing individuals devote a lot of time and energy into providing exciting and valuable programs to the many visitors to the park. Killarney Provincial Park appreciates the hard work and many contributions made by staff, Ontario Rangers, volunteers, and guest speakers. Killarney would specifically like to thank the following individuals and groups:

Marlies Schoenefeld, The Sudbury District Field Naturalists, The Sudbury Ornithological Society, Chris Blomme, Bruce Waters, Rob Rainbird, Trevor Gibb, Crystal Piche, Don Johnston, Cathy and

Doug Robinson, Sylvain and Susan of Paddle Pals, Joannie and Gary McGuffin, David Lickley and Heather Jeramaz, Bob Henderson, Dr. Joe Cebek, Kevin Callan, Ian Tamblyn, Scott Card, Betty Battye, Andy Fyon, Julie Moskalyk and Science North, Fraser Gibson, Kim Rae and the Killarney Ontario Rangers and the Friends of Killarney Park.

Killarney's 2006 Loon Survey.

Staff and volunteers conduct loon surveys in May and August each year. Data obtained helps determine the present health of park loon populations and identifies relationships between loons and the health of Killarney's lakes. Both the spring and summer surveys were a great success. Thank you to all whom braved the mosquitoes of May and the sun of August. A special thank you to Linda and Jim Wooten for sharing their wonderful desserts with all of us.

Killarney's 7th Annual Butterfly Count

This one day event took place July 16th, 2006. On a rainy day that allowed for only

4-5 hours of survey time a total of 30 species were identified and over 200 butterflies were counted this year. Groups of enthusiastic staff and volunteers had a wonderful time chasing these elusive insects around Killarney's fields and forest. Many thanks to those dedicated individuals who participated in last year's count; A special thank you to Group Leaders Fraser Gibson, Peter Raspberry, Randy Moratz and Erik Koopman, Dieter Schoenefeld and Julie Moskalyk for their expert guidance and assistance. We hope to see you again this year. Thank you again, Linda and Jim for bringing such tasty desserts to all of Killarney's wildlife monitoring programs.

Christmas Bird Count

Congratulations to the many hardy participants in this years count. Temperatures were above freezing with no snow on the ground. Common species such as blue jays, ravens, chickadees, tree sparrows, goldfinches, purple finches and red breasted nuthatches were out in record numbers. Others included 27 Golden-crowned kinglets, 17 snow buntings, 16 White-winged crossbills and a bald eagle. 1154 birds in total and 33 species.

Adopt a Site

Killarney's "Adopt a Site" program is in full swing thanks to the hard work of a host of volunteers. Killarney Provincial Park would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers who cleaned and reconditioned our many trails, roadways and campsites. Please join us in maintaining the natural beauty of Killarney Provincial Park.

Staff Accomplishments:

Congratulations to Killarney Park's David Levesque for being one of ?? summer students from across the province to receive an Ontario Parks – Partners Bursary in 2006. David earned this award through excellence in customer service and outstanding work performance throughout various positions at the park last summer. Killarney is very proud of its award-winning staff.

Nominations for the 2007 Ontario Parks - Partners Bursary maybe submitted by fellow staff or park visitors. If you feel that one of our students have demonstrated exceptional customer service, initiative and/or leadership please consider nominating them for this award. Ask at the park office for details on submitting a nomination.

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Acknowledge a job well done

Each year, our corporate partners recognize outstanding young people who work in Ontario's provincial parks with an Ontario Parks Partners Bursary. Students who demonstrate exceptional customer service, initiative and leadership are eligible for the bursary. Recipients receive a grant of \$500 towards their education.

You can nominate any student working in Ontario Parks by completing a nomination form before September 15. Ask at the Park Office for more details.

Put a “Wet Blanket” on Campfires



Sitting by a campfire, gazing into glowing embers, it's easy to let your imagination wander to ancient times. A campfire may be one of the few experiences we share with our ancestors. They relied on fire for warmth, cooking... and their very survival.

While pondering this, consider that while campfires seem important to our modern wilderness experience, they are, in fact, a bit of an indulgence, especially in high use areas like Killarney.

Today, campfires create the single greatest impact in the park interior. First, there is the very real danger of fires getting out of control, with disastrous results! During a Fire Ban, you must show park staff your stove to receive an interior permit.

Recent park fires warn us of the consequences of careless actions. O.S.A. Lake: a campfire built on an island with no designated campsite is not thoroughly extinguished, the wind stirs up embers, blowing them into nearby brush, where a fire starts. La Cloche Silhouette Trail: embers left behind by campers burn down to the duff layer, roots smolder and the fire travels beneath the soil until it flares up in dry vegetation. Chikanishing Trail: a smoking cigarette is carelessly tossed away, igniting dry grass. In each case, had different weather conditions prevailed, things could have been much, much worse.



Campfires also create other impacts, creating fire-scarred rocks and scorched earth. That's why it's so important to only build fires in the one designated firepit on your campsite. Dismantling and cleaning up extra fire pits creates a lot of work for backcountry rangers, whose time could be better spent on other tasks. Numerous sites of blackened bedrock from “extra” firepits leave few clean spots to pitch a tent. In addition, some people use fire pits as garbage dumps, leaving partially burned garbage, food scraps, and even diapers for other campers to deal with.

The popularity of campfires also results in the depletion of deadwood near heavily used campsites. Countless campers glean every scrap of downed or standing deadwood, leaving nothing for future campfires.

There is nothing left for nature either. Think what would otherwise happen to dead trees. Left standing, they make excellent nest sites and perches for wildlife. Once fallen they decay, providing habitat for insects and small animals. Eventually they decay into the organic matter and soil of the forest floor.

Once all the dead wood is gone, some desperate campers turn to cutting live trees for fuel. Not only does this wet, green wood make for a lousy campfire, this destruction of live vegetation further ruins the campsite and compromises its ecological integrity.

With so many potential problems, one may wonder why fires are allowed at all! Certainly fire still fulfills an important

emotional need as we seek a wilder, simpler experience away from everyday life. But why not cook all your meals on a stove, and indulge in an occasional, small, well-tended campfire as a special treat. Using this approach you will be doing your part to reduce environmental degradation in Killarney's backcountry. With modern lightweight stoves, warm high-tech clothing and reliable camping gear, campfires are no longer crucial for survival.

Think of creative alternatives. A candle lantern provides enough light for evening chores, or as a small beacon to show you the way back to your site after a moonlight paddle. Wonderful evenings can be enjoyed without campfires, tuning your senses to the night world around you. Imagine, lying stretched out on a smooth rock under the night sky, gazing up at the stars and dreaming—another pastime which we have in common with our prehistoric ancestors!

A Few Campfire Do's and Don'ts

DO:

- cook with a lightweight camp stove as much as possible;
- use only the existing fire pit on your site;
- keep campfires small; they are easier to control and require less wood for fuel;
- let your fire burn down to ashes before putting it out. This reduces the amount of charred wood left in the fire pit;
- make sure your fire is totally out before you leave your campsite or turn in for the night—fires left to burn out on their own may appear to be out, but often get stirred up by the wind;
- collect only deadwood, well away from your campsite;
- use only your hands to break pieces of deadwood.



DO NOT:

- leave your campfire unattended—this is extremely hazardous; it's also a waste of wood if you're not there to enjoy it;
- take wood from near the campsite. Never cut live trees;
- make additional fire pits on your campsite—use the one already there;
- burn anything other than wood—do not burn food scraps, plastics or diapers in your fire since this leaves an unsightly and unhealthy mess.
- build a fire if it is extremely windy, or if there is a Fire Restriction in effect.

REMEMBER:

- drown your campfire thoroughly with water, stirring with a stick until it is cold to the touch;
- decaying deadwood plays an important role in replenishing nutrients to forest soils;
- both standing and fallen deadwood is important habitat for cavity nesters, salamanders and many forest bugs;

West Nile virus: Camping.

Wear mosquito netting, long sleeves and long pants in heavily wooded areas. Use bug repellent containing DEET and avoid mosquito areas especially from dusk to dawn when they're most active. Make sure your tent or cabin can keep the bugs out. To learn more visit our Web site or call for a brochure.

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Reservation Information

The following information will help you make reservations at Killarney Provincial Park, and at many other provincial parks in Ontario.

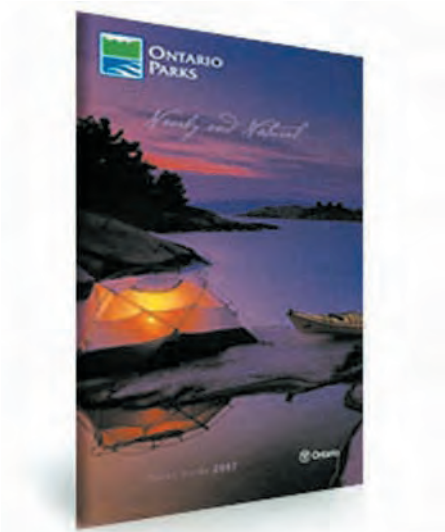
Call 1-888-ONT-PARK

The telephone number for Ontario Parks Reservation Service is:

1-888-ONT-PARK (1-888-668-7275)
TDD number— (519) 742-9323

You can also make campground reservations online at www.ontarioparks.com

For full details concerning the Ontario Parks Reservation Service, please consult the Ontario Parks Guide, available at all Provincial Parks, Ontario Travel Centres and many other locations.



The Ontario Parks Guide provides a summary of current information on all of Ontario's Provincial Parks, Fee Schedules, Reservations, Parks Activity Guide/Special Events schedules, and many other items.

Killarney Reservation Dates

Reservations for Killarney Provincial Park are offered for the following dates:

Year 2007
Campground: May 18 - Sept. 30, 2007
Interior: April 30 - October 7, 2007

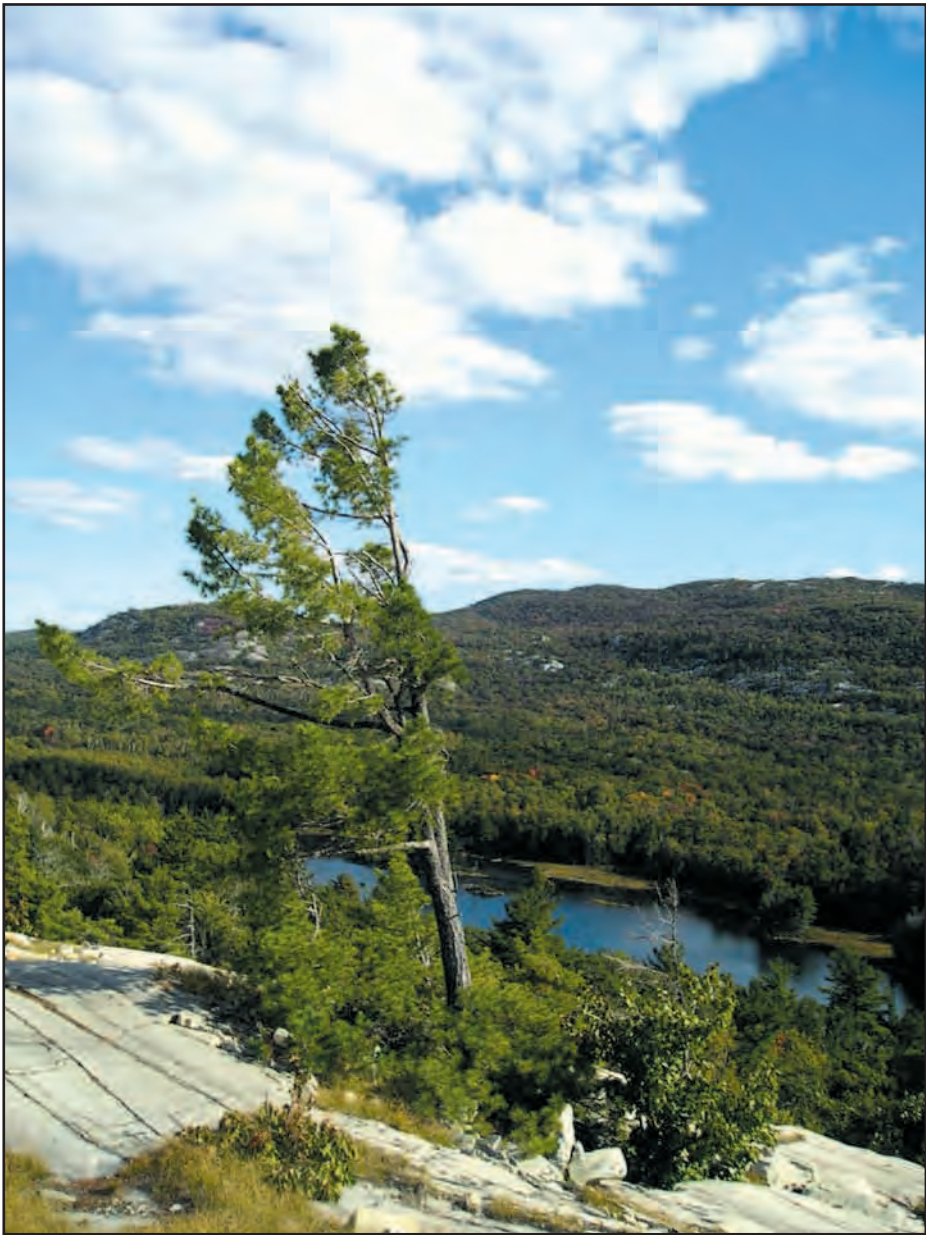
Year 2008
Campground: May 16 - Sept. 28, 2008
Interior: May 2 - October 5, 2008

Reservations are not taken for periods outside of the dates indicated above. Campsite availability during the non-reservation period is generally good. Campers wanting current information on site/route availability during the non-reservation period are asked to call the park information line (705) 287-2900 during regular office hours.

Need park-specific information? (705) 287-2900

Never been to Killarney? Or maybe you just can't remember the number of your favourite campsite under that big white pine? Perhaps you need a little advice on hiking trail distances, or a canoe route suitable for your family. By all means, call us—park staff will be pleased to assist you with information on Killarney.

2007 Fees:	
Reservations.....	\$12.00
Changes/Cancellations.....	\$ 9.00
For a complete list of campground fees please refer to the Ontario Parks Guide or visit www.ontarioparks.com	
Day Use Permits	
Day Use permit.....	\$11.00
Ontario Seniors Citizens.....	\$ 8.75
Persons with disabilities.....	\$ 5.50
Summer vehicle permit.....	\$80.00
Interior Camping Fees (Year-round)	
Adults.....	\$10.00/person/night
Youths (6-17 years of age)	\$ 4.25/person/night
Ontario Sr Citizens ..	\$8.00/person/night
Persons with disabilities	\$5.00/person/night
Children (under 6) ..	no charge
Additional Vehicle (A/V) Permits	
A/V permit.....	\$10.50/vehicle
Ontario Sr. Citizens	\$ 8.50/vehicle
Persons with disabilities..	\$ 5.25/vehicle



Kim Rae

Reservations: Information you need to know

Always consult a current Killarney map when requesting a reservation for an Interior Trip. When booking, keep your map handy to refer to during the call. Reservation agents cannot make up a route for you—it is up to you to request a route suited to your skill level and time allowance. Many outdoor recreation stores carry Killarney Provincial Park Maps and the Killarney Provincial Park Canoe Guide. Friends of Killarney Park also offer a convenient mail-order service for these publications—it's easy—just contact the Friends of Killarney Park at (705) 287-2800.

- Other details you should have handy when making a reservation include:
- Park Name;
 - Type of camping (campground or interior);
 - For campground reservations—type of site required (eg. tent or trailer—if trailer, provide trailer length);
 - Number in party;
 - Vehicle Licence Number
 - a Visa/MasterCard/Amex number, and expiry date. Payment may also be made by cheque or money order, payable to the Minister of Finance. Specific conditions, which will be

explained when you make the reservation, apply to payments by cheque/money order.

If reserving for another party all the above information is needed for the person who will be checking in for the group.

Before calling to make your reservation, we recommend that you have **several choices prepared for routes or sites**, in case your first choice is not available. By providing several options, reservation agents can better meet your needs.

Reservation Confirmations

After you have made your reservation booking, reservation agents will confirm all the details of your trip. The information that has been booked for your reservation will be repeated to you as it appears on their computer screen. **When reviewing these details make sure you check this verbal confirmation of your reservation with a calendar.** Once you are satisfied that your booking details are correct, and that you are in agreement with what has been booked for you, you will be given a Confirmation Number that guarantees your reservation. A follow-up confirmation letter will be mailed out to you for your records.

Reservation Changes? Call 1-888-ONT-PARK

If you want to change the route, or dates of your reservation, phone: 1-888-668-7275 (1-888-ONT-PARK). Please note that a \$9.00 fee applies to each change you make.

Have to Cancel? Call 1-888-ONT-PARK

Please check either the Ontario Parks website at www.ontarioparks.com or check the Ontario Parks Guide for information about our cancellation fee structure.

Delayed? Call (705) 287-2900

Unexpected delays, such as car breakdowns, can happen to the best of us. **If you have a reservation, but are delayed, call (705) 287-2900—this applies to prepaid reservations as well**, because vacant prepaid sites are treated as “no-shows” after 8:00 a.m. on the day following the booked arrival date. We will make every effort to accommodate these types of situations. In the summer, park staff take calls from 8:00 a.m.– 9:00 p.m.

Payment

1. Campground:
Site Specific Reservations: When your campground reservation is confirmed, full payment of fees is charged to your credit card. When you arrive, your permit will be ready, allowing you to proceed directly to your campsite.

Non-Specific Site Reservations: If you don't want to pay your camping fees up front, you can request a non-specific site reservation. You still must guarantee your reservation by paying a \$12.00 reservation fee by Visa, MasterCard, Amex, or cheque/money order. In this case, a reservation will be made which holds a site somewhere in the campground. The site is not assigned until your arrival in the park, so choice of site may be severely limited by availability. **Please note that you must request this option.**

2. Interior:
For interior reservations, full fees are not charged to your credit card unless prepayment is specifically requested. On arrival, you must pay the balance by cash, debit or credit card. You must still provide a Visa, MasterCard, Amex number, or a cheque/money order for \$12.00, plus \$9.00 per each night, to guarantee your reservation

Ontario Parks Nearby and Natural!

Interested in Ontario's other provincial parks? “Ontario Parks Guide”, available at park offices and Ontario Tourism Travel Centres, provides basic information and park phone numbers to get you started! For general park vacancy information during camping season, phone 1-800-ONTARIO. On the web, visit www.OntarioParks.com for a look at many of Ontario's provincial parks, as well as information on park research and management, and other activities carried out by Ontario Parks.

Reservation Information



Operating Dates

Peak Season (June 22 - Sept. 3/2007)

The campground and comfort station are fully operational. Park gate attendants will register campers on a daily basis. Drinking water is available in the George Lake campground.

Shoulder Season

(May 18- June 21/2007 and Sept. 4 - Oct. 8/2007)

The campground and comfort station are fully operational. Park gate attendants will register campers on a daily basis. Drinking water is available in the George Lake campground. Lower rates apply to campground campsites.

Off Season (Oct. 9 - May 15/2008)

The park is open for day use and winter camping in the campground as well as the interior. The comfort station is closed and water taps are not operational. The park office is open most days based on staffing; however, park users are able to self-register when the office is closed. The George Lake campground is gated from the first snow until the end of spring melt, so access to all campsites is by foot only. Parking is available at the park office. Regulations prohibiting snowmobiles, and banning cans and bottles in the park interior remain in effect year-round. Lower rates apply to campground campsites.

Note: All park users must possess a valid permit, regardless of the time of year.

If We're Full

If we can't satisfy your reservation request you may want to try these locations:

Chutes Provincial Park

The only provincial park on Highway 17 between Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie and located on the Aux Sables River, Chutes is an excellent stop for Trans-Canada travellers. Tel. (705) 865-2021

Grundy Lake Provincial Park

20 minutes south of the Hwy 637 turnoff, Grundy Lake is only 1 hour away, so you can still visit Killarney. (705) 383-2369.

Lake Superior Provincial Park

Located 1 hour north of Sault Ste. Marie, this park looks over the big waters of Lake Superior. Paddling and hiking opportunities are available, and the scenery is fabulous! Hikes, slide shows and other activities are offered during the summer season. For information, call (705) 856-2284.

Halfway Lake Provincial Park

Located 1 hour north of Sudbury on Highway 144, Halfway Lake has 215 car campsites and 50 interior sites. The interior is not busy and you'll have a good chance of seeing moose. The park boasts a 1 km sand beach, children's playground, Natural Heritage Education programs and a nature centre. (705) 965-2702.

Day Use in other Parks

Have you ever passed by other Provincial Parks on your way home from Killarney and wondered what they were like? The vehicle copy of your campsite permit entitles you to free day-use at any other provincial park in Ontario up until 10:00 p.m. on the "date of departure" marked on your campsite permit. So the next time you want to stretch your legs on the way home, wheel into one of Ontario's other parks, and you will be welcomed with open arms.

Bringing a Group?

Group Information Packages are available for anyone planning on bringing a Youth or Special Group to Killarney.

Do You Qualify?

Some Youth and Special Groups qualify for reduced rates. The Group Information Package will help you determine if you do qualify;

What We Need

If your group does qualify, a request for group use **must** be submitted on official letterhead following initial contact.

Reduced rates will not apply until this is received.

Fee Payment

Trip organizers pay by credit card or cash on arrival. Cheques will not be accepted, unless they arrive 21 days before you do.

Registration Information

1. At the time of registration group supervisors must provide the park with their planned itinerary - reservations should be made separately.

2. Supervisors must provide Group Lists, indicating supervisors and youths in each group, and the ages of each group member. **It is imperative that this information is received before any members of the group head off on their trip.**

Supervision Requirements

All groups require adequate and responsible adult supervision.

In Killarney this means:

Hiking and Campground sites:

- One supervisor:five youth maximum per campsite (1:5 ratio).

Canoe campsites:

One supervisor:five youth per site, or with additional supervision;two supervisors:six or seven youth (2:6/7).

Groups hold a special responsibility to minimize impacts on the park. Larger groups result in more damage unless extreme care is taken. If your group size is greater than six people per site you may want to discuss alternate opportunities with park staff.

Making a Reservation



Thinking about hiking the scenic La Cloche Silhouette Trail? Pick up your copy of this comprehensive guide, filled with information regarding trail distances, campsite descriptions, low-impact wilderness skills and the area's rich natural and cultural history.



Looking to plan your next paddling trip in the Park? This handy paddlers companion details a number of diverse canoe routes, ranging from a few days to a week. In addition, the guide offers the reader with tips on equipment and trip planning, wilderness skills, canoe camping with children and much more.

Make sure you have a current copy of the 2007 Edition Killarney Provincial Park Backcountry Hiking and Canoe Route Map when making a reservation!

For more information contact the Friends of Killarney Park at 705-287-2800 or www.friendsofkillarney.ca.



Overflow Camping in Killarney

The park's full? There is no need to leave the Killarney area. There are 2 locations that offer overflow camping right here in Killarney, just 10 km farther down the road, and close enough if you want to hike or paddle in Killarney Provincial Park.
Roche' Rouge 287-2332 Roques Marina 287-9900



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Open For All Seasons

Visit Killarney All Year Long

Many people don't realize that Killarney Provincial Park is open year-round, with Park staff available to assist you throughout the seasons. So, why not pay Killarney a visit when the lines are short, the bugs are few and the air is crisp?

Spring

With the warmth of the April sun melting away the last vestiges of winter, park visitors discover and explore a landscape awakening from its long slumber. The soft hues of budding trees provide a beautiful backdrop to animals busily scurrying along shorelines, trails, and wetlands looking for food. Before you know it, the familiar melodies of the loon and the harmonic calls of song birds resonate throughout the area. The longest days of June allow ample opportunity to discover this unique landscape of ancient rock, deep lakes, and many other fascinating features.



Fall

In many ways, Labor Day weekend symbolizes the end of the summer season and marks the beginning of autumn. The hot and hazy days quickly fade into memory and are replaced by mild days and crisp nights. Pockets of red and orange maple leaves are rapidly engulfed into a fabric of vibrant colours along the hillsides and valley floors. As the season progresses, a kind of stillness starts to prevail over the area. A trip to the park in late October or throughout November is a marvellous opportunity to experience a wilderness quietly readying itself for the long winter months ahead. The chances are good that you will be one of the lucky few.



Winter

It is often observed that the allure of winter in Killarney is positively contagious. Visitors marvel at and embrace the area's quiet winter solitude. With the proximity of Georgian Bay and its moderating effect, the arrival of winter is usually a gradual one. By mid-December, the Killarney landscape transforms itself. Ice forms on the sheltered bays of the lakes and spreads steadily across the whole expanse of water. Snow starts to accumulate, and before too long the park's lakes, portages, and trails open up limitless possibilities for exploring winter's wonders. A deep snow pack usually persists well into the longer and milder days of March.



Snowshoe Rental



available at
George Lake Park Office

Backcountry Etiquette in Winter

Most of the time your tracks will be erased by wind or fresh snow not long after your passage, but what can be done to minimize other impacts of your visit?

Winter is very challenging for wildlife; they don't have sleeping bags and high energy foods to help them bounce back from additional stresses. Don't disturb Killarney's wildlife; camp away from winter feeding, watering and bedding grounds.

Winter camping is not recommended on summer campsites, which are, in any case, often too exposed to provide proper winter shelter. Follow park policy-camp on backshore areas of low-lying bays, or trek in to smaller, more wind protected lakes which are hard to reach in summer. Always camp at least 30 meters back from shorelines, trails and portages, where impact will be negligible. Think about where your own "personal by products" will end up after spring melt. Avoidance of

water pollution by proper human waste disposal is one of the most important impact-related factors to consider when deciding where to camp.

Keep campfires small, and remove all evidence by dispersing charcoal and ashes.

Be particularly wary of littering in winter. Snow gives a false sense of cleanliness by covering up gum wrappers, plastic bags and other small bits of garbage.

The best books available on winter camping emphasize low-impact techniques and safety guidelines. Good planning is essential anytime; on a winter trip it may be a life-saver. With preparation, good companionship, and a sunny day or two, your winter trek to Killarney will turn into an annual event that you'll cherish and talk about for years.

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Firewood Available at the George Lake Office

Winter Warm-Up Cabin

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Other News



Friends of Killarney Park Winter Activity Day

Have you ever wondered what Killarney looks like under a deep blanket of snow? Then why not join the Friends of Killarney Park for their annual Winter Adventure Day. Activities include guided snowshoe and cross country ski outings, snowshoe demos, kid's activities and much more. In the evening, join your Friends for a slide show and dinner at a local Inn. All in all, another memorable Killarney experience. For more details and event dates, please visit www.friendsofkillarneypark.ca



Yurts, Now Available!



Experience Killarney's winters from the warmth and comfort of a yurt. Based on Mongolian tents of the same name, yurts are round, 16' wide tent-like structures with wooden floors. Insulated and with electric heat, yurts are a cosy place to curl up after a day of skiing or snowshoeing.

Yurts are furnished with:

A table, chairs, and two bunks – each with a twin and a double bed to sleep six, electric heat and lights, fire pit, picnic table, barbeque and propane. All you need to bring are your personal belongings, sleeping bags or bedding and pillows, food, cooler, cook stove and other heat. Please note that cooking, smoking and pets are prohibited inside yurts.

The new Yurts are located at the far West end of the main parking lot, you can rent one of Killarney's two yurts any time of the year. Rental rates are \$75.00 per night, plus a \$250.00 deposit. Call 1-888-ont-park (668-7275) for reservations.

Biodiversity

Biodiversity, or biological diversity – it's all around us – the variety of life, from the tiniest insect to a vast northern forest. We humans are part of this incredible life system, and depend on it for our survival. That's why it's so important to protect Ontario's ecosystems, plants and animals.



While visiting this provincial park, you will experience some of Ontario's rich biodiversity. Hike a trail, ride a bike path, or stroll a boardwalk, and be amazed by the abundance of life around you. It could be a wetland, a meadow, a rocky shoreline, sand dunes, or a woodland - each landscape is home to more species than you will ever know. To learn more during your visit, ask a Park Naturalist.

Ontario now has a biodiversity strategy that encourages all Ontarians to take action and "protect what sustains us." You can view Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy at

www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/pubs/pubmenu.html#biodiversity.

BEAR WISE

*Prepare
and be aware
at your campsite.*



When enjoying Ontario's campsites, lakes, forests and hiking trails, it's wise to remember that you are in the natural habitat of black bears. To avoid conflicts with bears, remember to:

- Never feed or approach a bear
- Never cook, eat or store any food, cooking gear or toiletries in your tent – reduce or eliminate food odours by keeping your campsite clean
- Store food and garbage, including your pet's food, so that bears cannot reach it – in the trunk of your car or hanging at least 4 metres (13 feet) above the ground
- Use bear resistant waste containers where available – pack out all garbage from the backcountry

For bear emergencies, call:

(Insert park bear emergency phone number and/or local police/911. Insert one or more numbers as is appropriate for local needs. In smaller print and below the emergency numbers, always include the Bear Wise Centre info as follows:)

For more information, you can also contact the Bear Wise Centre at:
1 866 514-2327 (1 866 514-BEAR) or TTY 705 945-7641 bears.mnr.gov.on.ca



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Killarney Provincial Park Boundary Map

