



## the Jarvis Group

Thelma Jarvis

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MAKING THE JOURNEY AS REWARDING AS THE DESTINATION

# BEWARE Lightning When In The Boat

Southern Ontario is a "hot spot" for lightning strikes, especially near the corridor from southern Georgian Bay to east Barrie. The odds of danger rise if you are on the water frequently, and rise higher between June and August. It seems that the odds of being safe as a Muskoka summer cottager means you should know something about lightning storms.

There are times when you could find yourself out in a boat, when a storm comes up. A storm can come up in as little as 10 minutes when conditions are conducive. What is the right thing to do?

Think of a storm as being like a big sombrero hat. The brim represents the outer edge of the storm, and that is the place in which you are in the most danger of being struck by lightning. You have waited too long if the dark clouds are above you. You are in danger, **so make sure you put your flotation device on immediately if you are in the boat.**

It is important to get to shore and out of your boat quickly, because in your boat you are the tallest object in the area. Your boat may also have metal that attracts lightning. Do not touch more than one grounded item in your boat at one time and keep away from metal items.

If there is a shelter you can pull into, do so. It is okay to stand beside a tree that is not very tall compared to the others around it. It would also be good to crouch beside low bushes. Lightning will usually seek out the tallest item in an area.

If there are no trees and shrubs, you could crouch down on the shore. When you crouch keep your feet together and put your hands on your knees, **not on the ground.** Stay put until the sounds of the storm have passed totally away.

Use the 30/30 rule. When you see lightning, if you can count to thirty before you hear the thunder, you are in the strike zone of lightning. You must wait 30 minutes after you see the last lightning flash before it is safe to go out in the open again. Do not cut this time short. Remember that it is the fringes of the storm where the lightning strike danger is highest.

If you or a member of your party is struck by lightning, burns or shock may be experienced. You should have an emergency kit in your boat enabling you to give mouth to mouth resuscitation or cardiac resuscitation. Call 911 on your cell phone and arrange to meet an ambulance at the nearest marina.

You should always have a cell phone with you in the boat with the OPP and the local marina's telephone numbers programmed into it. This is a good task to do now before you forget.



# HAPPY CANADA DAY!

## Cool off with Herb and Fruit Popsicles

To avoid store-bought popsicles that are full of added sugars and colours you can get creative and whip up unexpected flavor combinations that will wow your friends and your family.



Here are a few herb and juice combo ideas to get you going:

- grapefruit with mint or basil
- lemonade with basil or lavender
- orange, peach, or mango with minced ginger
- pineapple and mango with a teensy bit of hot pepper
- Chai tea with non-dairy milk and your choice of sweetener
- Green tea and mango juice
- Black tea with cherry juice or coconut milk
- Mint tea and lemonade

You can even make Boozy popsicles as an adult cool- down treat.

## Fragrant Cleaner

Save your citrus peels in the freezer until you have a jar full. Put them into distilled white vinegar in a spray bottle to make a delightfully fragrant chemical- free cleaner for your Muskoka cottage. The citrus infusion minimizes the smell of vinegar after you use it to clean.

## The Ice Cream Cone Drip Stops Here

Put a mini marshmallow at the bottom of the cone, and you will eliminate the drips from the bottom of the cone while your kids enjoy their ice cream. Take some mini marshmallow in a baggie if you are going to get ice cream at a shop near the cottage. This could save a lot of clean up of the boat or car.

## Leftover pizza?

Cut it up into small pieces and use it in a frittata for breakfast

## Best Ways to Enjoy Fresh Ontario Tomatoes

Refrigerating tomatoes ruins that fresh-picked flavor. Storing tomatoes at fridge temperature, even for short durations, is detrimental for both their aroma and their flavour. If a tomato gets too cold, not only will its flavor be affected but also its texture, color, ripening potential, and much more. Any temperature below 50 degrees F can injure a tomato

If you've put your tomatoes in the fridge by mistake, let them sit at room temp for 24 hours before eating them. Researchers found that tomatoes left to "recondition" at 68 degrees F for a day were able to recover some of their aroma production, even if they'd previously been refrigerated for up to six days. Another option? Use up refrigerated tomatoes in a sauce recipe, where the added flavors from onions, garlic, and basil are likely to cover up the tasteless tomato.



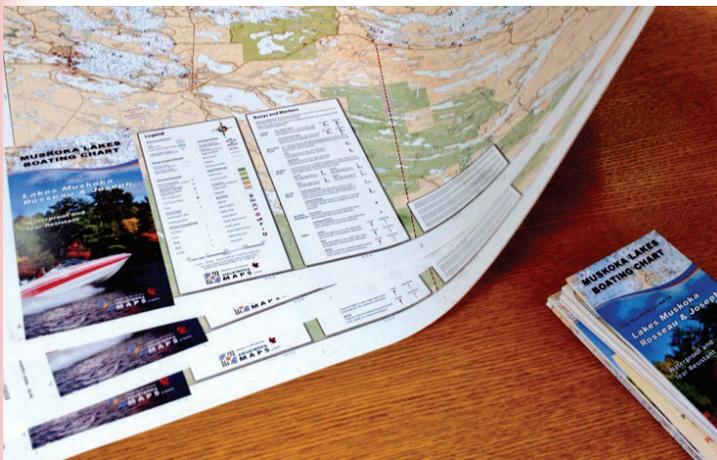
# HAPPY CANADA DAY!

## Maps

Great new folded lake maps that resist water, resist tearing and don't get dirty are the best thing for your boat or car. They take up less space than the rolled kind, and can go into a glove compartment. We love ours for our boats, and purchased several of them.

They are available through Aquaterra maps, or let me know you want one, and I can arrange for you to get it at a Royal LePage office.

Aquaterra Maps Website: [www.aquaterramaps.com](http://www.aquaterramaps.com)  
Aquaterra Phone: 705.644.9876  
Thelma- Phone 705-645-2110



## The Same But Very Different

Not all insulation products perform equally well, despite identical R-values. A 2001 Canadian study by Dr. Tony Shaw of Brock University compared two homes built in the same place by the same crew, using identical floor plans. One had R-20 wall insulation of one type, and the other R-17 of a different wall insulation. Yet somehow the R-20 home used much more energy during the depths of winter.

R-values are particularly deceptive when it comes to open cell insulations, such as fibre-based batts. Air movement through these is unavoidable, and when it happens it causes convective energy transfer, something not accounted for in R-value ratings. That's why closed cell insulations that don't allow air to pass through them are so much more effective, even when they carry the same R-values. Two great options for optimal energy performance are structural insulated panels (SIPs), and spray-foam stud frames in renovation projects.

We have a full article on this from Homes and Cottages Magazine if you want to read more. Email us at [Thelma@royallepage.ca](mailto:Thelma@royallepage.ca) or call 705-645-2110



## Summer Boat Show

Saturday, July 5, 2014  
Gravenhurst

## Summer Rendezvous

August 4 - 10, 2014  
Les Cheneaux Islands, Michigan

*Contact Thelma 705-645-2110 if you are interested in learning more now.*



## Telephone Numbers to Have in Your Cellphone for Muskoka

<b>Poison Control Centre</b>	<b>800-268-9017</b>
<b>Muskoka Ambulance</b>	<b>705-645-5000</b>
<b>South Muskoka Hospital</b>	<b>705-645-4401</b>
<b>O.P.P.</b>	<b>705-436-2141</b>
<b>Animal Hospital</b>	<b>705-687-6663</b>
<b>All marinas on your lakes</b>	

## Helping to Create A Bright Future for ABI Artists

Blair Payne is a lifelong Muskoka cottager who has been challenged with acquired brain injuries (ABI) for much of his life. Blair has learned to accept what he cannot change and embrace the talents he has.

In 2013, he co-founded ABI-ARTISTS, with the goal of providing a means to help others with ABI make their artistic creations widely available.



Blair's artwork is Muskoka based, and can be viewed on his website. The price point, in my opinion, would make this art a wonderful housewarming/ hostess gift or a handsome addition to any Muskoka property.

Blair has been awarded the John T. Woolley Fortitude Award for persistence in the face of adversity, from Mohawk College.

[www.abi-artists.net/our-artists.html](http://www.abi-artists.net/our-artists.html)

## A Nasty Surprise You Can Avoid

I must seem to harp on getting all the final permits for your cottage, boathouse, dock and septic construction into your possession, however just this year it has been an issue with three of our sales.

One cottage owner went to the Municipality to check that all permits had been properly closed, as they believed them to be. The nasty surprise was that permits were still open **from before they had purchased**. The lawyer that they had used 16 years before, to close their cottage purchase, had not checked for the final permits, and they were left with open permits that could never be closed, (as that is the policy of this particular Municipality).

Not having proof of final inspections can create a shadow on the workmanship of your cottage, potentially affecting its perceived value. If you do not have in your possession, final permits that state that your buildings are ready for occupancy, make arrangements to get a copy of them from your local Municipality. If you have these permits, then label them well, and file them carefully, as you will need them when you are ready to sell. Municipalities have been known to lose them! (There are no permits available for cottages built before 1977)

If you need assistance knowing how to check for permits, contact Thelma at 705-645-2110 or Steve Taylor at 416-723-8207

## Battery Testing

See if this works for you! To test if the double A or triple A batteries stored in your cottage are good or not, try the bounce test. Drop the battery in an upright position from about an inch in the air onto a hard surface. If it lands with a thud and tends to stay upright, it is probably good, but if it does a bit of a bounce and falls over, it is probably done. Without a battery tester handy, this little hint may be useful.

## We make it our business to know the Muskoka Real Estate market intimately.

### Here is What Our Client's Say

*"Through the entire process, I felt my best interests were being served and that I was getting straight honest feedback about what needed to be done. Their knowledge of the Muskoka marketplace and the complexities of cottage country bylaws, waterfront usage rules and building requirements was invaluable."*

- Donald Webb

## The Jarvis Group

[www.JarvisGroupMuskoka.com](http://www.JarvisGroupMuskoka.com)

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