



May 2009

The Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council

(GNSC) is comprised of a diverse group of individuals representing the following interests: First Nations, fisheries, tourism, conservation, forestry, agriculture, wilderness sports, biology, youth, public-at-large and the environment.

Originally founded in 1999 as the Lake Nipissing Stewardship Council, the GNSC is a charitable organization that partners with similar-minded groups and government agencies to implement environmental programs; provide information on conservation and sustainability; and to increase awareness of the ecosystem. The Council relies upon a strong core of volunteers from member organizations to implement many of its initiatives.

GNSC Featured Projects

Spring has sprung and there is no shortage of GNSC projects lined up for this year. Keep an eye on our website (www.greaternipissing.ca) for many volunteering opportunities.

Eighth Annual Used Battery Collection Contest

What gets 6300 high school students *charged* up? Batteries of course! Nipissing Environmental Watch (NEW) and the GNSC are pleased to have once again sponsored the 8th annual *Used Battery Collection Contest*.

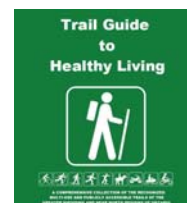
Why collect batteries? One reason is to divert used batteries, which are a form of hazardous waste, from the land fill site. Batteries contain heavy metals and other chemicals such as acid, cadmium, mercury, copper, zinc, lead, manganese, nickel, and lithium that are dangerous to the environment. If batteries are put into landfill sites, these chemicals and heavy metals may leach into our ground water systems.

A second reason is to increase awareness about household hazardous waste in our community. We are encouraging responsible behaviour one battery at a time.

Eleven high schools are competing for two \$400 prizes. One \$400 prize will be awarded to the school that collects the most batteries. A second \$400 will be awarded to the school that collects the most batteries per student.

Last year, students collected 4,866 kilograms (10,728 pounds) of used household batteries. That is equivalent to about 250,000 AA size batteries. Over the past seven years students have collected 21,466 kilograms (46,365 pounds) of dead batteries!

A special thanks to the **TD Friends of the Environment Foundation** for their support. The competition ends on **Friday, May 29, 2009**.



Trail Guide to Healthy Living

We announced the release of the Trail Guide to Healthy Living in our last issue. Now it's time to hit those trails! The guide can be found at the following locations:

- Lefebvre's Source for Adventure
- North Riders
- Cycle Works
- Bigwood Sporting Goods
- Walk and Roll Mobility
- Chamber of Commerce/ Tourism Booth
- Cheapskates Quality Sporting Goods

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Upcoming Events

North Bay Blooms Cleanup

Sponsored by GNSC

Wednesday June 3, 2009

**One Kid's Place parking lot
945 Stockdale Road
6:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

Near North Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Association (NNOWA)

1st public meeting

Saturday, June 6th

Burk's Falls Arena (upstairs)

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

(presentations)

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm (field tour)

Bring your own lunch

**For more information please
contact: Stephen Mitchell of
the GNSC 494-0797 or Don
Willis of Jiffy Trees 495-4781**

Lake Nipissing Slot Ruler



On April 15th at its Annual General Meeting the GNSC announced the launching of its new and improved FMZ (Fishing Management Zone) 11 slot ruler. The ruler is a pressure sensitive, water resistant ruler that provides anglers in FMZ 11 with an easy to use measuring device to quickly determine whether the walleye that they have just caught is in the slot size and needs to be released. Other summary fishing regulations for Zone 11 are also provided on the ruler and because Lake Nipissing and Zone 11 have different walleye slot sizes the appropriate slot sizes for each is conveniently provided in contrasting colours on the ruler.

Many partners were involved in this great project. The GNSC would like to thank the **TD Friends of the Environment Foundation** for providing a grant to cover the cost of producing the ruler. In addition, the project would not be possible without the contributions from: **Lake Nipissing Partners in Conservation; Mercury Marine; Power Sports & Marine; Auto Sports Marine, Sturgeon Falls; Hunters Bay Marine Ltd.; and Idylltyme Sports & Marine.**

The rulers are available at most local bait dealers, tourist lodges and the TD Canada Trust Bank. Money raised from the sale of the rulers will be directed toward stewardship projects in the greater Nipissing area.

Media Sponsors

The GNSC would like to thank our media sponsors who help us to bring our messages and events to the community. A BIG thank you to:

***The North Bay Nugget;
TVCOGECO; North Bay News;
CTV; CKAT; The Fox; EZRock.***

Board Profiles

As you all know, fundraising is a very vital function of any community group. This month we feature ***Frank Marusich***. Frank is a longstanding director with the GNSC and has contributed in many ways to our community, especially through fundraising. Frank was born in October 1929 in Rence, a town near Trieste Italy. He immigrated to Canada (Hamilton) in August of 1953 in his quest for freedom from fascist and communist regimes.

Frank purchased the Waltonian Inn in 1970 and made it a renowned destination. There he introduced the modern ways of ice fishing.

Frank has always been involved with community projects including: the Nipissing North Volunteer Fire Department; the Walleye Restocking Association; he served as chairman, for a few years of the MNR Fishery Advisory Council; and was the charter chair of the Lake Nipissing Partners in Conservation (chairing all of the fundraising dinners). Frank was instrumental in spearheading and lobbying for the formation of the Lake Nipissing Stewardship Council. He has been involved as a director until present with the GNSC.