Good Neighbour Guide

The Kearney Watershed Environmental Foundation endorses the following practices to keep our waterways and shorelines healthy and safe, and we encourage you to share these practices with your guests and renters.

SOCIAL

_	Exchange contact information with neighbours. Should an issue arise with your property while you are not there, (fire, flooding, tree damage), then you can be contacted promptly
4	Be respectful when operating boats and other watercraft. Maintain a safe distance and
	speed near other swimmers, docks and the shoreline.
4	Remember that noise amplifies as it travels over water. Incessantly barking dogs, music,
	loud talking & screaming add to noise pollution & negatively impact your neighbour's
	enjoyment of their property. Obey the Town of Kearney Noise Bylaw.
4	Share the waterway – keep floatables tied close to your property. Remember that you could
	be held liable for injury or property damage should a boat hit your floatable.

ENVIRONMENTAL

4	Maintain shoreline vegetation & / or restore your shoreline by planting native species
	Restrict use of outdoor lighting; light pollution causes significant detrimental effects on wildlife. Installing dark sky friendly exterior lighting will help reduce light pollution, not to mention enhance your view of the stars.
_	Refrain from bathing in the lake – this includes pets. Soap & shampoo, including so-called "biodegradable" products, detrimentally affect lake chemistry.
_	Refrain from washing, refueling boats and ATV's in or near any waterway, or driving ATV's in the lake. Oil & gas detrimentally affect lake chemistry & damage fragile ecosystems.
_	Obtain fire permits for burning. Respect fire bans & restrictions to prevent wildfires. Ensure campfires are completely out before leaving them. NOTE: Fireworks are banned in Kearney.
	Do not litter – including pet poop; it ends up in our waterways & is a serious pollution problem that affects our wildlife, aquatic habitats & water quality. Pick up any litter that you find and dispose responsibly
_	Leave instructions on how to handle recycling & garbage, and supply clear bags for your guests.
_	Observe Ontario law requiring a speed limit of 10 km/h (6 mph) within 30 meters (100 ft) from shore. This protects our shorelines from erosion & prevents the death of loon chicks.

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