

# From Under the Straw Hat

Wow! And just like that, we are at the halfway point of the camping season! Where did the time go?

The spring and summer of 2023 have seen the return to what I would call "normal" if there is such a thing in the camping and tourism industry. The ups and downs of the "Covid Years" are just a bad memory now and we have returned to the regular routine and schedule of the camping and fishing season.

Spring started off with a fantastic maple crop and we saw many of you here on March weekends for PEC March Maple Madness. We still have lots of syrup in stock so be sure to stock up on your next visit.

It was great to see the return of the Kiwanis Walleye World Tournament this past May. Once again, County Shores hosted a weigh-in station here for the event and the tournament was a huge success for having taken a three-year Covid hiatus. The Walleye fishing in general has been above average these past three months with lots of Walleye in the 19 to 21-inch range and fish limits being caught right into July and recently.

"New Events" may be the County Shores theme of 2023 and we hosted several first-time ones in the first half of the season. Our Mother's Day Breakfast, Father's Day Walleye Fish Fry and Canada Day Fireworks were big crowd-pleasers and will be back in 2024 on their respective weekends. Our Christmas in July and potluck supper was a knock-out event thanks to the efforts of Bill and Linda Clarke, who loaded up their van and transformed County Shores into a Christmas village. Everyone had a lot of fun with this and are looking forward to doing it again next year.

If you are like me, August, September and October are my favourite time to camp. Gone are the hot and sticky nights, mosquitoes and large crowds in



town and at the sandbanks. For those looking to plan a vacation for the last half of the season, we still have some availability left for you to choose from. Come experience late summer and fall on the Bay of Quinte and Prince Edward County. Hope to see you soon!

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## Agri News with Andrew & Connor

Maple season came early this year! We were tapping the trees as early as February due to warmer temperatures and the sap was flowing in copious amounts. We had Maple Madness during the month of March for a third year in a row, offering our popular maple pulled pork sandwiches and maple cinnamon rolls.

This year, we are in the design process of our new sugar shack which will be located on Foster Road. The sugar shack will house all maple syrup equipment and products and will be closer to the sugar bush.



We will continue to provide farm fresh eggs, roasting chickens and maple syrup products available for purchase in our store. We have also begun selling our own firewood for the public and campers to purchase. This is available by the bag or bin.

# **Chewy Maple Cookies Recipe**

<u>Makes 3 dozen</u> 1/2 cup shortening 1 cup packed brown sugar 1 large egg 1/2 cup maple syrup 1/2 tsp vanilla extract 1-1/12 cups all-purpose flour 2 tsp baking powder 1/2 tsp salt 1 cup sweetened shredded coconut



- 1. In a bowl, mix shortening and brown sugar until fluffy. Beat in egg, syrup and vanilla until well mixed. Combine flour, baking powder and salt; add to the creamed mixture. Stir in coconut.
- 2. Drop by tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart onto greased baking sheets. Bake at 375 degrees for 12-15 minutes or until lightly browned.



#### **COUNTY SHORES**









### From Behind the Counter Rana's Round Up

Another winter and spring have come and gone and I am very pleased to see these warm temperatures. With the pandemic becoming a thing of the past (hopefully), we will begin reintroducing events at our park. We had a successful Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast on May 13th, with lots of campers attending. The Father's Day Fish Fry on June 17th had a great turnout with us serving some tasty Lake Erie pickerel. Our first-ever Canada Day fireworks were a hit and we managed to pull it off with a bang (a very loud bang, I might add)! Campers and neighbours gathered at the shore to watch the show. Even though it poured rain, our Christmas in July took place with some festive trailer decorating and a yummy potluck dinner to complete it. Our last event of the season will be the Bye Bye Summer Party BBQ on Saturday, September 16th.



For those looking to stay with us this fall, we have some availability for the end of August, September and October for campsites, accommodations and boat rentals and our Mid-Season rates begin after the Labour Day weekend. With our new online booking system, customers can book 24/7 at their leisure. Myself or Bren will be in the office Tuesdays to Saturdays 9:00 am to 5:30 pm answering the phone.

If you are looking for more to do or explore while you are in Prince Edward County, check out www.visitthecounty.com for events and activities happening around the area. There is always something going on!

We have County Shores merchandise available to purchase in the store. We love seeing customers in our t-shirts, hoodies or hats!







## **Stories from the Shores**

After 3 years of cancellations due to the pandemic, the Kiwanis Walleye Tournament was back on for the Walleye opening weekend. We were once again a weigh-in station and heard many anglers were catching record numbers of fish!

Thankfully, water levels on the Bay of Quinte have begun to come back up! Due to this, we still have a few waterfront campsites that are soft and wet and hoping these will dry out soon.

Anglers have been reeling in the fish and catching lots of walleye and perch. Our fish cleaning barrel always seems to be full or close to. Tight lines everyone!