

Oiseau Bay Eco-Landing



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Happy Holidays to everyone!

If you are on our mailing list, you have been a part of this year's success-through your inquiries, your visits, and your support. Please forward our greetings to your friends, your family, and anyone else who might be interested in a place as unique as Oiseau Bay. We would like to thank **everyone** who made 2008 our most successful year to date!

New Website!

www.oiseaubayresort.com

This spring, Oiseau Bay launched a new website. Check out our Image Gallery, Guest Book, Guest Policy, as well as many more historic photographs. If **you** have some digital photos of your time at Oiseau Bay, or some comments for our Guest Book, please email us and we'd love to post them on our site! Thanks to Dianne Lemire and Bright Ideas Software for all of your support.

2009 Bookings - A Reminder

Don't forget - We're offering our 2008 guests priority for reserving for the 2009 season. If you'd like to be guaranteed availability for 2009, you must book **before December 31, 2008**. Beginning January 1, 2009, all bookings will be made on a first come, first served basis. So book early to avoid disappointment!

Ice Harvest 2008

The annual Oiseau Bay Ice Harvest was an incredible success. On March 1-2, 2008, 600 blocks of ice were garnered from the Ottawa River and packed into Oiseau Bay's ice house. An article about this traditional Winter Ice Harvest was recorded in *The North Renfrew Times*. There was more than enough ice to chill the buildings' ice boxes throughout the summer and fall. As always, children enjoyed helping with the ice deliveries. Cam would like to thank Eric Hilborn, Ken Titterington, Andy Geiger, Chris Shefsky, Dan Clements, Matt Melvin, Norm Abbott, Rusty & Caroline Lindley, and everyone who made the 2008 Ice Harvest a success! Contact us if you'd like to learn more about the upcoming **2009 Ice Harvest** and how you can be involved.



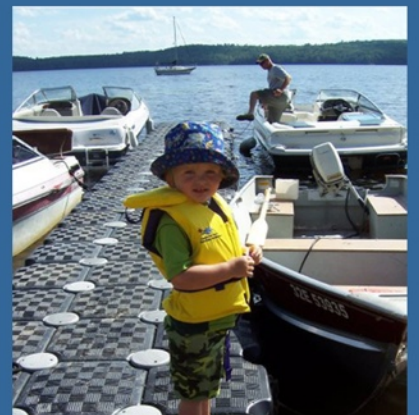
Cam Hilborn and Dan Clements harvest ice from the Ottawa River in March.



Young friends of Oiseau Bay help deliver ice to the ice boxes in August.

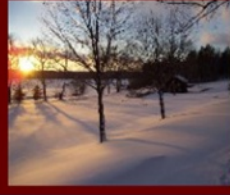
Enhanced Docking Facilities

Oiseau Bay is the proud owner of 400 square feet of innovative floating docks. The interlocking segments can be easily reconfigured to suit our guests' needs, and provide a soft surface for protection of your boat. And, the synthetic docks are an environmentally friendly alternative to pressure-treated wood. We continue to be the Ottawa River's premiere resort with a boat-in option!



Everyone is enjoying Oiseau Bay's new docking facilities.

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Upgrades - Staying Green

Building upgrades were happening throughout 2008 at Oiseau Bay, all in an effort to remain a self-sustainable wilderness retreat with all the comforts of home. Additional solar panels were installed across the property, and bat houses were erected to attract our flying friends-nature's answer to pesky insects! The White Cottage now has an "on demand" hot water system that can also channel heat from the wood stove, and it's looking better than ever!

A Dog's Life



Lucy is turning nine years old in January, but that doesn't mean

she's slowing down! This spring Lucy enjoyed watching a family of beavers busy at work in Oiseau Creek. Summer guests kept her in good shape hiking in the Laurentian mountains, and swimming across the lake on top of Oiseau Rock. She appreciates all of the pets and treats of cool water that guests lavished on her all season. She wishes you all **happy holidays** and dreams full of successful rabbit chases!

Contact Us

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New Trail Up Oiseau Rock

For the first time, Oiseau Rock is accessible by land! Phase I of a new hiking and mountain biking trail has been completed up the backside of Oiseau Rock. Starting just off the ZEC road, the trail is a healthy 14 km round trip. Scenic lookouts offer spectacular **new perspectives** of the Ottawa River. Ideal for snowshoeing in winter, or hiking and biking in summer and fall--add another exciting day-trip opportunity to your itinerary!

Uncovered! Early Snow Machine

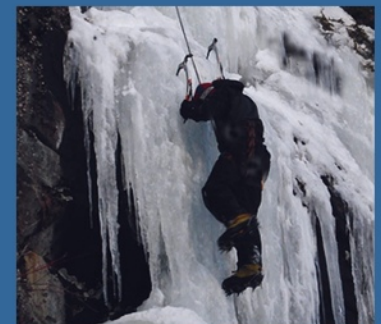
This spring, something behind the Lodge caught Cam's eye. He soon realized that he had discovered a historic snowmobile! He recognized it from a photo in Oiseau Bay's historic albums. Likely one of Canada's earliest snowmobiles, it was powered by an impressive propeller. It was probably built by the ingenious P.K. Smith, original owner of Oiseau Bay farm and a man well ahead of his time. Check out our website for more photos of P.K.'s clever inventions!

What's on - 2009

We are looking forward to 2009! By popular demand, Oiseau Bay will be hosting **timber sport** competitions here at this historic lumbering site. Also, we hope to see even more **ice climbers** scale Toronto Wall. As always, we will continue to provide your family and friends with an invigorating vacation destination that brings you closer to adventure, to nature, and to each other.



The new trail was designed for optimal hiking and mountain biking experiences.



Ice climbers find Toronto Wall, just upriver from Oiseau Bay, to be a great climb.



Early snow machine, c.1930, pictured in front of the Lodge.



Thanks to all who believe in Oiseau Bay! -C.H.

