



## MILLE-ISLES WILL KEEP ITS BILINGUAL STATUS

At the regular meeting of February 1, 2023, the municipality's elected officials adopted a resolution asking the Office québécois de la langue française (OQLF) to maintain its bilingual status. On February 9, 2023, the OQLF confirmed that it had received the Council's resolution and declared that the bilingual status of the Municipality would be maintained.

It should be remembered that the bilingual status is perceived as important in terms of the cultural and heritage values of Mille-Isles.

## EASTER HOLIDAY

### CLOSURE OF THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE

Please note that the municipal office will be closed from April 7, 2023 to April 10, 2023 inclusively.

**Happy Easter everyone!**

## NOTICE TO BIRD LOVERS

The Municipality of Mille-Isles is pleased to announce that a birdhouse for wood ducks has been installed in the Hammond Rodgers Park Pond. Three more will be installed in the village hamlet this summer for tree swallows. All of this is made possible by the organization Développement ornithologie Argenteuil (DOA), whose mission is to promote and protect birds and their habitats in the Argenteuil MRC and its neighbors.



## TAMARACOUTA SCOUT RESERVE

According to the latest information obtained by the Municipality, Scouts Canada is still in the process of analyzing the declarations of interest received as part of the evaluation process conducted by the firm Colliers Canada. However, all indications are that the declaration filed last year by the Municipality with the Nature Conservancy of Canada was not retained.

## GRANTS AND FINANCING

### MAPLE GROVE SCHOOL

Good news! The deadline for the Canadian Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) funding for the Maple Grove project has been extended to March 31, 2024.

The old school will soon come out of its hibernation to continue the restoration work. The next steps will consist of levelling and restoration of the foundations. In addition, a heritage renovation consulting service is preparing a sketch that will be presented to you once completed.

### 400 MILLE-ISLES ROAD

The project to build a metal dome to store materials and machinery for the Municipality's Public Works Service must be re-tendered. The contractor who was selected to install the metal dome unfortunately withdrew last October.

Please note that the project is eligible for financial assistance under the Programme d'aide financière pour les bâtiments municipaux (PRABAM) offered by the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation (MAMH).

## REMINDER: SECOND PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL TAXES

The Municipality of Mille-Isles wishes to remind citizens that the due date for the second installment of municipal taxes is **Friday, April 21, 2023**.

## NEWSLETTER - PUBLIC INTEREST MESSAGES VIA E-MAIL

Enroll online by clicking on **Newsletter** at the top right of the screen: [www.mille-isles.ca](http://www.mille-isles.ca)



## FACEBOOK PAGE

Visit, enjoy and share the Facebook page: Municipalité de Mille-Isles.



# MAYOR'S ADDRESS

April 2023 Edition

Hello everyone,

As you are now aware, our current regulations for short-term rentals will now include primary residences that might have been missed had we not proceeded with the 67 zoning by-law amendments. I would like to thank Councillors Francis Léger and Diane Bélair, who took over during my absence last month. Thank you very much!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Elizabeth Hosking, the Mille-Isloise who was declared vice-champion of the 2022-2023 World Cup. Congratulations for this performance!



Howard Sauvé, Mayor

I received a question about the **mining claims** in Mille-Isles. Let me bring you up to date on this issue. First of all, according to the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts, the claim is the only valid exploration title in Quebec. It gives its holder the exclusive right to explore for all mineral substances in the domain of the State, with some exceptions. The claim is obtained by designation on a map and the validity period of a claim is two years, but the holder can renew his title indefinitely, under certain conditions.

In this same context, the MRC of Argenteuil has begun its process of identifying territories incompatible with mining activity (TIAM) by obtaining from the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources **a temporary suspension of the granting of new mining titles** for a period of 6 months, renewable. This allows the MRC to initiate the process of identifying TIAMs by ensuring that the coveted territories will not be newly claimed (claims) or explored for mining purposes. To date, the suspension is still in effect and concerns nearly 80% of the MRC territory.

The MRC of Argenteuil wishes to obtain the flexibility required to respond to the concerns of its citizens and thus aim for social acceptability for the use of the territory, including mining activity. The MRC of Argenteuil undertakes to inform its population of any new development concerning the process of identifying territories incompatible with mining activity on its territory.

Currently, the municipality of Mille-Isles does not have any registered claims on its territory.

However, our neighbors to the south, Gore, Wentworth, Saint-André-d'Argenteuil, Grenville-sur-la-Rouge and Harrington have several. So the MRC continues to ask for extensions, until the government accepts our arguments. A map of active titles is supposed to be available on the Quebec government website.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions,

Thank you!

Howard Sauvé, Mayor

## REGULAR MEETINGS OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Regular Meetings of the Municipal Council are held on the first Wednesday of each month in the Strong Community Room, located at 1262 Mille-Isles Road, and begin at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

**Upcoming meetings:** April 5, May 3, June 7, July 5, August 2, September 6, October 4, November 1 and December 6, 2023

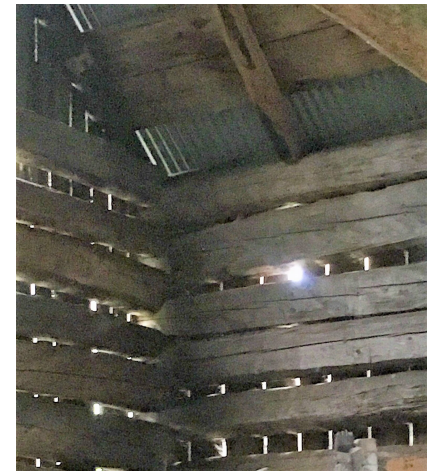
## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR THEM - BY GINETTE MAYER

It embellishes our landscape, it is a marker of time, just like churches or ancestral houses. The history of Mille-Isles can be read on this imposing structure known as a barn that can still be found along our roads. This building, which was the pride of the farmers, is an invaluable source of information on the ancient life and occupation of the territory.

The first barns, as well as the first settlers' houses, were built entirely in room on room. A few windows were sometimes built on the south side to take advantage of solar heating. These splendid buildings, although rare today, are sometimes difficult to identify from the outside because of their vertical board siding. However, the structure is still rectangular with a gable roof, which is why it was called a ***gable-roofed or straight gabled barn***. In Mille-Isles, some still exist with their cedar shingles or tin roof and gabled dormer.



Often over time, it was common for farmers to add a single-sloped roof with the upper side leaning against the highest wall of the barn, forming an awning or shelter called a ***lean-to***. The purpose of this wooden shelter was to create an extension to the building in order to increase the surface area without having to build a new barn.



At the end of the 19th century, the model of the ***barn-stable with a broken or mansard roof*** was created. In addition, the new roof configuration allowed for more attic space. Gradually, the broken roof was adapted to the curved base to prevent water from running off the walls. This greatly increased the attic space, allowing for more hay storage while providing better insulation for the animals on the first floor. This barn made it possible to combine various agricultural activities in one place - barn, stable, chicken coop, etc. In addition, the layout of the building on the site created a feature so that the large swinging or sliding doors opened to the upper floor. The presence of its barns reminds us of the importance that agricultural activity once had in Mille-Isles.



Simple measures can have a huge impact on the conservation of your buildings. Some well thought out maintenance adds years of life to a building that was thought to have been lost. So it's important to ensure that creativity is reflected in the present and the future.



## REPORT A PROBLEM!

We thank the population for contacting the Municipality to respectfully inform us of your dissatisfaction with the location of the garbage and recycling bins once they have been emptied.

As a result of your intervention, we were able to see that bins were indeed being left in the road and were impeding traffic. We have contacted the waste and recycling management company, Ricova, who have been very receptive to this request for improvement.

If you notice that this situation occurs, please contact Chrystine Slight at [cslight@mille-isles.ca](mailto:cslight@mille-isles.ca) or by phone at 450 438-2958 ext. 2600. To facilitate the analysis of the complaint, we ask you to send us photos showing the problem.

## IMPORTANT REMINDER ON THE USE OF COMMUNITY CONTAINERS

The Municipality of Mille-Isles has community containers for voluntary disposal on its territory in which you must dispose of **organic materials only**.

However, it appears that the container located at the intersection of Mille-Isles Road and Cote St. Joseph is problematic as domestic waste is regularly deposited there. Those concerned are asked not to put any more garbage in the container, **otherwise dissuasive measures will be taken**.



## DETAILS ABOUT WHEELED BINS

Bins for garbage and recycling belong to the occupant, and as an occupant, you are responsible for their maintenance and repair.

The Municipality can offer to any owner or occupant who requests it and at the latter's expense, a 360-litre roll-out container of the prescribed color for his use. However, the Municipality cannot be held responsible for any damage that may occur to the wheeled bin during its handling.

Wheeled bins can also be purchased in big box stores. However, the bins must meet all the following criteria:

### Garbage bin

**Description:** wheeled with handles  
**Volume:** 240 liters or 360 liters  
**Colors:** Green, black or grey

### Recycling bin

**Description:** wheeled with handles  
**Volume:** 360 liters  
**Color:** Blue

**REMINDER:** bags and items left next to the garbage or recycling bin are not collected during regular collections. A bulky items collection service is offered once a month as indicated on the collection calendar. However, there are some exceptions to this special collection. Dead leaves, items over one metre in height, very heavy or un-bagged items, hazardous or sharp materials that are not protected, refrigeration or air conditioning units or any items with a halocarbon tank are not collected.

## MUNICIPAL INSTRUCTIONS - GOOD PRACTICES

The Public Works reminds you that **pushing or carrying snow from your property** to the other side of the road in the municipal right-of-way **is prohibited**. These accumulations constitute obstacles that can impede the vision and driving of motorists, and in some cases, cause accidents. We ask those concerned to be diligent in avoiding this practice or risk a fine.

Furthermore, to facilitate snow removal operations, it is forbidden to **park a vehicle on a public road of the Municipality** at any time from October 15th to April 15th of the following year. Failure to comply with this regulatory requirement could result in the vehicle being towed.

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE SERVICE OF URBAN PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT?

In the past two months, the Urban Planning and Environment Service has issued 36 permits or certificates. The total value of the work authorized is \$887,000.00

In addition, an amendment to the zoning by-law RU.02.2011.14 has come into force. This is a regulatory amendment that aims to change some standards regarding the location, architecture, and dimensions of certain constructions. This represents an important change in the zoning bylaw that we have been working on for several months.

On September 1, 2022, the ministerial regulation on tourist accommodation came into force. This regulation aims to regulate short-term rentals throughout Quebec. The Municipality of Mille-Isles, like other municipalities and cities, had to make changes to its by-law to adapt it to the new requirements but also to prohibit it where we judge that the quietness of the neighborhood would be endangered. The objectives of the zoning amendment RU.02.2011.15 are to better define tourist residences and to maintain the conditions to be respected by owners wishing to establish such an establishment on the territory of Mille-Isles. This amendment to the by-law followed a special procedure that required the preparation and adoption of 67 separate by-laws (one for each zone)!

The Municipality has adopted by-law RU.11.2022 to regulate the demolition of heritage buildings. A complete inventory of heritage buildings should be carried out in 2023 by the MRC Argenteuil. A bylaw on building maintenance will also be adopted by the Municipality in the coming year.

## CITIZEN MEDIATION



Mesures Alternatives des Vallées du Nord (MAVN) is an autonomous community organization that offers an alternative to undesirable situations of a conflictual or prejudicial nature that arise in a community.

Is a situation bothering you? Is a conflict with a neighbor disrupting your quality of life? If so, this **FREE** service could be useful to you. We invite you to contact the independent community organization by phone at 450-436-6749, Ext. 104 or toll free at 1-800-265-6749. It is also possible to send an email to [info@mavn.ca](mailto:info@mavn.ca) or visit their website [mavn.ca](http://mavn.ca).

Here are some examples of irritating situations that can lead to conflict between neighbors:

- Interpersonal conflict;
- Noise;
- Disturbing situation;
- Disturbing animal;
- Theft;
- Vandalism;
- Intimidation

# COMMUNITY

April 2023 Edition

## OUTDOOR SKATING RINK CLOSED

Please note that the 2022-2023 outdoor rink season is officially over.

Thank you all for your participation and see you next year!

## FOOD ASSISTANCE

The Centre d'entraide d'Argenteuil helps low-income people get food for free. To obtain this service, contact Hélène Messier at 450-562-5151, Ext. 101 to make an appointment.



## ECONOMIC HEALTH BASKETS



The low-cost fruit and vegetable baskets offered by the Café Partage d'Argenteuil organization are distributed throughout the year in Mille-Isles. They are delivered to Town Hall every other Thursday and you have the choice of three (3) different sizes: **small at \$14, medium at \$18 and large at \$22.**

***For more information or to register, contact Café Partage at 450 562-0987. The service is offered to all, do not hesitate to register.***

## SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS

Anyone who cares for or assists someone, whether a family member or not, regardless of age or background, becomes a caregiver. And being a caregiver can have an impact on one's own physical, mental or financial health.



If you are a caregiver, you should know that organizations such as the CAB of Argenteuil can help you. Their professional services are confidential and free. You can contact Mr. Francis Lavigueur, counsellor to caregivers and volunteers for friendship visits at 450-562-7447 ext. 233 or by email at [frlavig@hotmail.com](mailto:frlavig@hotmail.com).

## MILLE-ISLES WALKING GROUP

**Every Wednesday morning**, the Mille-Isles walking group gathers for a hike. Regardless of your age, this activity is accessible to all, **FREE** and brings multiple benefits to your body. In addition, sociable dogs on a leash are welcome for certain hikes.

Joining this club means accessing to a group of people who are friendly, who like to discover new horizons and who wish to share their passions.

Anyone interested should contact Mrs. Ginette Mayer by phone or by text message at 514-971-7496 to validate the schedule for the coming weeks.

## THE LITTLE EXPLORERS

Rain or shine, families gather in Hammond-Rodgers Park to freely play outdoor games, depending on the children's choices. Families are invited to participate in activities aimed at developing motor skills and awakening the senses in children. These weekly meetings also encourage socialization between children as well as exchanges between parents. For more details, contact Renée Laqacé by phone at 438-932-5183 or by email at [renee.laqace@gmail.com](mailto:renee.laqace@gmail.com).

## SENIORS HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN MILLE-ISLES

Activities take place in English and are open to all!

### Upcoming activities

- Monday, April 3 at 1:00 p.m.: Easter craft activity and social tea
- Monday, April 17 at 1:00 p.m.: yoga and meditation with social tea

For information, please contact [info@4korners.org](mailto:info@4korners.org) or come to the activities.



## COURSE MARCHE RELAIS ARGENTEUIL IS BACK FOR AN 11TH EDITION

Runners and walkers from the Argenteuil region are invited to take part in the 11th edition of the Course Marche Relais Argenteuil (CMRA) to be held on September 23. All profits from the event will be donated to the Fondation Espoir Jeunesse Argenteuil. The Foundation's primary objective is to help young people with mental health problems by recreational or other activities complementary to the services provided by the CISSS des Laurentides. Hurry, participants have until April 1 to benefit from a cheaper registration.

Visit the website or the Facebook page of Course Marche Relais Argenteuil to register.



## THE READERS' VOICE

***This space is reserved for an open forum, allowing Mille-Isles residents to express themselves on a subject that interests them. The comments made in this section are the sole responsibility of their authors.***

### LIVING IN MILLE-ISLES, WHAT HAPPINESS – BY LISE PERREAULT

My family settled in Mille-Isles in 1943 and there have been funny anecdotes over the years. Living there since the 70s, I thought it appropriate to share with you a real story that demonstrates one of the beautiful values of Mille-Isles, **mutual aid**. First, for those who didn't know my mother Cécile, imagine Zsa Zsa Gabor in the The Green Acres.



Zsa Zsa Gabor



Cécile

*It was New Year's Eve in the 80s when a heavy winter storm hit Mille Isles. My father and mother were heading towards our home and when they reached the intersection of Mille-Isles Road and Tamaracouta which wasn't plowed. As always, Mille-Isles gets its money's worth with all these mountains and microclimates. However, their daughters were home alone, so it was out of the question to back down, so off they continued.*

*Not being able to make it up the first hill of Tamaracouta, they found themselves stuck in dire need of Mr. Maxwell and his tractor. After many unsuccessful attempts, they were invited to sleep in the Maxwell family home with a farm tour included.*

*Just imagine 2 minutes my mother all dressed up, with her fancy evening gown & all visiting the pigs. Just thinking about it still makes me laugh. The Maxwell family welcomed strangers under their roof in times of need. Never has my mother learned such a life lesson from our great Mille Isles community. Not to mention that she fell in love with the famous pigs who had their tails cut off to her dismay.*

***This story illustrates the basics we all could need at some time in Mille Isles. We never know around here. As for me this is one of the many reasons why I came back to Mille Isles as a third generation. My roots & our great country life.***



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## LIGHTING AND THE DARK SKY – BY FRANS SAYERS

When we install lighting to illuminate an area there are important considerations to keep in mind. The range of lighting fixtures on the market today can lead to some confusion. Negotiating the products on the market is a difficult and confusing task guided by aesthetic and cost imperatives not easily reconciled when faced with the multitude of products and promises.

We are quickly losing the night sky to light pollution. This type of pollution is just as damaging as any other we care to name. It affects our natural sleep rhythms, the ability of other species to live in a natural environment and the balance of light and dark that is so important to our well-being. Studies have shown that plants exposed to unnatural lighting conditions are thrown off their normal life cycles. The nature of light trespass can adversely affect relationships with neighbours and also poses a danger when wrongly directed lighting blinds drivers and other travellers. With all the advances in lighting technology we can now control lighting to a very fine degree. LED technology has given us a form of lighting that is both less expensive to run and infinitely more adaptable to our needs.

Light bleed can be eliminated so that only the area needing light is illuminated, leaving the surrounding area bathed in natural darkness allowing the natural order to predominate. Wildlife such as birds and woodland creatures rely on natural darkness in order to rest, feed, travel and otherwise live as they have for time immemorial.

Many municipalities have adopted Dark Sky policies to create an environment that is both safe and respectful using simple and clear guidelines articulated in by-laws and best use policies. Whether in an urban or rural setting, lighting can be installed to meet the objectives of safety, aesthetics, and affordability. Using full cut-off, shielded, and properly oriented lighting can dramatically change the environment in which we live and work. The strength and colour of the light also plays a big role in just how effective the installation is in creating an atmosphere that is healthful, pleasing and safe. Lighting in film and theatre is one of the main ways that mood and ambiance is created in order to support the creative intent that is the nexus of the production just as lighting a backyard patio is a way of creating an atmosphere conducive to social gathering without impinging on the rights of neighbours or passersby. This article is to inform and direct attention to an issue that is becoming increasingly important as we nurture a world that values life and our role in planetary health.

For further information it is highly recommended to visit the internet site of the International Dark Sky Association ([darksky.org](http://darksky.org)).



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