

# Mi-Te-Jo News

www.mi-te-jo.com

Winter 2008



## Countdown

The countdown has begun. Yesterday my daughter announced that there were 120 days until camping season starts again. To Becky and her friends this means the countdown has begun until it's time for campfires and s'mores, time to swim, water-ski and relax in the sun, time for softball and basket ball games, time to walk in the woods or for an ice—cream, play ping-pong or a game of pool, but most important time to rekindle friendships and start new ones.

We're gone though Fall, Winter, (seven storms from what I've been told), Spring (last week was 60 degrees) ... now we all wish it was time for summer.

## Reduce, Recycle & Reuse

Mi-Te-Jo has always been proactive in recycling and practicing eco friendly habits. It wasn't until Gary was asked to do a seminar on recycling and eco friendly practices in campgrounds for the NH Campground Association, that we realized how much Mi-Te-Jo actually does. Mi-Te-Jo has been tracking our recycling since 2003. In four years we have increased our plastic, glass and tin by 2.3 tons.



2003	2600 lbs.	1.30 tons
2007	7299 lbs.	3.60 tons

Our aluminum cans, which are collected for the local VFW, have increased to almost two 75 pound bags a week. The paper, cardboard and magazines are brought to the town recycling center weekly. We have changed almost all of our lighting from standard bulbs to fluorescent or low energy lighting. The bathrooms have been changed over to tankless water heaters. The use of the Internet for bills and confirmations has reduced the use of paper.

Thanks so much to all those who have helped our recycling programs grow. Next year our goal will be to collect four tons of plastic, glass and tin. Let's all work together to help reach this goal.

## Snow and Winter at Mi-Te-Jo

This year we have seen more snow than in past years. If your trailer remains at Mi-Te-Jo for the Winter, you will be happy to know that the trailers have been enjoying a beautiful winter. We've had over three feet of snow in some spots and the trees had a gentle coating of snow resting on them for over a week. Last week, the January thaw arrived and has melted most of the snow. The campground is no longer a winter wonderland, but most important, the weight of the snow is off the roofs of the trailers. Several campers came up to shovel off their roofs. Nick is available for those who would like their roof checked and shoveled, but can't make it up. He will charge \$40 a roof if he feels they need shoveling.



## The Event Area/ The Meadow

The event Area has been a work in process for about three years now. Located beyond the loop with the 90's, this large, open, grassy area is a welcome addition to Mi-Te-Jo. It was designed for special events and RV Clubs, and is a great place for star gazing when not in use.

The Area has twenty water and electric hook-ups and a central fire place area. This winter we have begun work on a pavilion, which should be complete for the Spring. Although there no septic in the area, a dump station is available on the way out of the campground.

## Tractor Weekend 2007

Tractor weekend 2007 was held in the event area for the 2nd year. The day started a bit late due to the rainy morning, but with umbrellas, raincoats and a large tarp over the food area, Tractor Day went on. For those who haven't attended, it's the place to be if you are at all interested in tractors. The Sugar Hill Snubbers, a garden tractor pulling club, hosted the pull with a fleet of about 50 garden tractors. Milton Fire Department was on hand selling food, drinks and raffle tickets. The day concluded with a tractor parade, both garden & antique, through the campground. Book early for next year's Tractor Weekend, which is scheduled for September 12 & 13.

## Antique Tractor Pull 2008

If you have enjoyed the Tractor Weekends in the past, mark your calendars for a spring pull. Saturday, June 8, Mi-Te-Jo will host an Antique Tractor Pull. This tractor pull will be sponsored by the Southern Maine Antique Tractor club and will feature more traditional antique farm tractors.



## Camping and RV Shows

Mi-Te-Jo will be attending the following Camping and RV Shows this year. Mi-Te-Jo **will NOT be attending** the Boston RV Show that is held at the Bay Side Expo in January.

New England Camping and RV Show  
Gillette Stadium, Foxboro, MA  
February 8-10

New Hampshire Camping and RV Show  
State Armory, Manchester, NH  
February 29 - March 2

## No Child Left Inside

You've heard of "no child left behind", and "read to your child 20 minutes a day", but have you ever heard of "no child left inside." Gary attended a conference this past Fall on the subject. There were attendees from as far away as Florida and California. When you were young, you came home from school, changed your clothes and went outside until you were called for dinner or the street lights came on. You rode your bike, climbed trees, explored woods, roller skated in the driveway, jump roped or just socialized with the neighborhood children. Today the world is different. Woods have been replaced by homes and shopping centers, TV and video games have replaced many outside activities, and parents aren't as comfortable having their children play outside by themselves. Camping children are very fortunate, they are able to spend all day outside swimming; playing, riding their bikes, walking in the campground or the woods, and just enjoying the fresh air.

Research shows that there are many physical and mental benefits to children (and adults) who are able to participate in these outside activities. So next time you are camping take a walk, feel the breeze, smell the fresh air and listen to the birds.

## Calendar of Events 2008

May 9	<b>Welcome Seasonals</b> Saturday night pot luck supper
May 13	<b>Welcome All!</b>
May 16- 18	<b>Armed Forces Weekend</b>
May 23- 26	<b>Memorial Day Weekend</b> Horseshoe & softball games 52nd Street Band - Sunday 6PM - 10PM.
June 7	<b>Free fishing Saturday</b> (State of NH) <b>Antique Tractor Pull</b>
July 4-7	<b>Fourth of July Weekend</b> Tractor parade Wig Out, a classic rock band -July 5th Softball Games & Horseshoes
July 25-27	<b>Elliot Tractor Show</b> - Elliot, ME
August 23	<b>16th Annual "Thank You Campers Party"</b> Steve Taubman, Hypnotist Extravaganza 52nd Street Band Food, Fun, Raffles, Music, & More
Aug. 29 - Sept. 1	<b>Labor Day Weekend</b> "Ground FX" Band Saturday 6PM - 10PM Horseshoe & softball games Yard sale at sites Sunday morning
Sept. 6	<b>Fall Pot Luck Supper</b> Travis Wallace, North Country Humorist
Sept. 12 - 21	<b>Rochester Fair</b>
Sept. 13	<b>Take Your Tractor Camping Weekend</b> Tractor pulling with Sugar Hill Snubbers Tractor displays and parade Food & raffles to benefit Milton Fire Depart.
Sept. 25-28	<b>Deerfield Fair</b>
Sept. 28 - Oct. 5	<b>Fryberg Fair</b>
October 11 - 12	<b>12th Annual Abenaki Pow-Wow</b> Saturday & Sunday, rain or shine
October 15	<b>Season closes</b>  See you in the Spring of 2009

## Holding Tank Products

**M**i-Te-Jo has worked hard over the past ten years to provide all of the sites with on site septic. The septic systems are designed so that the waste water flows into a septic tank and is then pumped into a leach field. It is very important to keep these systems working in the manner that they were designed. Repairing a system will result in the loss of on site septic during a long and costly repair.

It was brought to our attention that many campers are still using holding tank products that contain **chemicals such as formaldehyde or benzaldehyde**. This was discovered when we were preparing to repair a broken pump in a septic tank. The odor of formaldehyde was so strong, that the repair man was unable to work on the tank. It was necessary for him to return with a second man and additional equipment to ensure his safety.

Formaldehyde may eliminate odors from your holding tank, **but it is unhealthy for your family, our septic system, the ground water and the environment**. Formaldehyde products kill all bacteria, which may result in a failed septic system. Bacteria is essential to keep a septic system working properly.

If you are not already using a bacteria or enzyme based holding tank solution, we ask that you please switch. Mi-Te-Jo has been carrying enzyme and bacteria products in the store for 15 years. We carry them at a reduced price, to encourage their use. Eco Save, both liquid and a dry formula, Pure Power and RV Trine are the three most popular. There are several others on the market.

Remember, just because a product is labeled, formaldehyde free or biodegradable, doesn't mean it is septic friendly. Read the ingredients, if it isn't bacteria or enzyme

based, it isn't safe for your family, the environment, or our septic system. If you are not sure if your product is friendly, please ask Gary or the girls in the office. Formaldehyde RV products have caused the shut-down of many public RV dump stations and banned in both California and Florida.

There are many articles on the internet that confirm the harm that these chemicals do to your family, the environment and our septic system. Google "camping green awareness program", this will re-enforce the information in the newsletter.



## Armed Forces Weekend May 16

**A** salute to our Armed Forces! On the weekend of May 16-17, we invite all active duty and retired members of the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard and Reserve Unit (or Dependents of Active Duty Members) to camp with us as guests of Mi-Te-Jo. All others must pay the required fees. Photo Military ID Required.

## Mi-Te-Quick

**M**i-Te-Jo Campground has Mi-Te-Quick check in papers available for all reservations that are paid in full at least three weeks prior to arrival. This makes the check in process proceed much quicker. Car passes, a site map, rules and a registration form will arrive in the mail a few weeks prior to your arrival. *Please remember to fill out the paper work prior to your arrival and drop it at the office before driving to your site.* Those with questions, first time Mi-Te-Jo campers, those who forget the Mi-Te-Quick, and those who would like to chat with friendly office staff may still check in the conventional way.

**For Reservation or Information  
contact Mi-Te-Jo at  
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603-652-9022**