

Great White Shark Visits Economy Shores



By Linda Harrington

When a 3 metre long, 272 kilogram creature enters your neighbourhood, people take notice but when it turns out to be a great white shark and the neighbourhood is a coastal community, it becomes the talk of the day.

The now famous great white was caught by Economy fisherman, Wayne Linkletter, in his weir off Soley Factory Road in Economy a few weeks ago.

The head of the shark was donated to the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History in Halifax. The jawbone, with its rows of razor sharp teeth, will eventually be put on display for the public to see.

Beaches were recently closed in the Boston, Massachusetts area due to sightings of great white

sharks. At the local Five Islands Provincial Park, just a few kilometres from where the great white was caught, there was no change in beach warnings. "We always discourage swimming in our tidal waters due to changing currents," says Park Attendant Doug McCarthy. "The appearance of a shark does not change these warnings."

There had not been a confirmed great white shark sighting in Atlantic Canada in more than six years.

According to the Canadian Shark Research Laboratory website, "The vast majority of shark sightings around the waters of Nova Scotia are of basking sharks, porbeagles, spiny dogfish or blue sharks. The other species that are found in Canadian waters are not generally found inshore or

near the surface."

This did not calm the fears of Meaghan McLellan of Joggins who was visiting Five Islands Park. "I live right by the Bay of Fundy and I won't be going swimming anymore," she said. "I will stick to swimming in the pool."

Vanissa Chapman of River Hebert was curious about the shark and says she would have liked to have seen it up close, as does Tammy Tower. "It is scary but I would still like to see it. We never know what else might be down there," says Tammy. "I never thought about it before but we see weird stuff like that all the time up at Spencer's Island, just not down this far."

Russell Fielding at the Glooscap Country Bazaar says the shark catch has been causing quite a stir along the shore. "People are saying they won't go swimming but I have never seen a fin in all the years I lived here," he says. "I guess it probably followed in a school of mackerel."

This great white caught in Economy was thought to be a young shark, as full grown they can reach 4 to 5 metres in length and have a mass close to 1000 kilograms. A 5 metre great white was caught off PEI in 1983.

Take Refuge During Thunderstorms

By Chris Urquhart

Lately there has been a lot of thunder and lightning storms predicted. Do you know what to do to keep safe during a thunder storm? Here is some information on lightning and some safety tips.

Did you know that lightning flashes occur in Canada about 2.34 million times a year - including about once every three seconds during the summer months; each year in Canada, lightning strikes kill up to 10 people and seriously injure up to 164, including workers?

For example: In March 2007, two workers repairing the roof of a high school in Ontario were struck by lightning. One died. In September 2004 in southern British Columbia, a lightning bolt hit a construction worker.

According to Environment Canada, the first and most important thing to remember is that if you can hear thunder, you're within striking distance of lightning. So take shelter immediately, preferably in a house or car. If caught outside far from a safe shelter, stay away from tall objects, such as trees, poles, wires and fences, anything made of metal and open water.

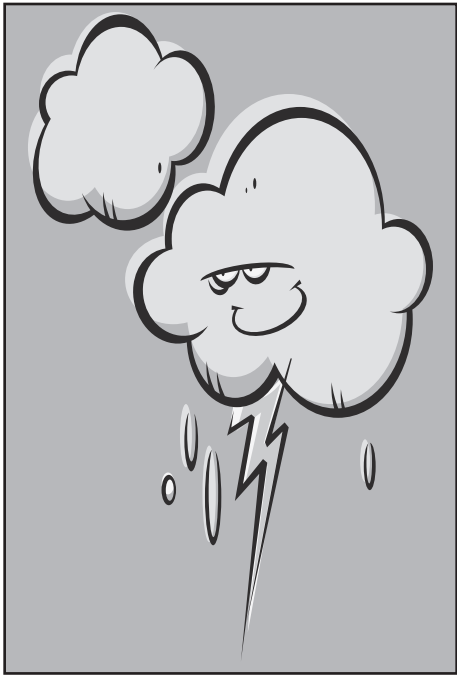
Take shelter in a low lying area. If you're in a car or truck during lightning, don't park under tall objects that could topple, and don't get out if there are downed power lines nearby. Remember, there's no safe place outdoors during a thunderstorm.

Once in a safe location, remain there for 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder is heard before resuming your outdoor activities. Stay away from electrical appliances and equipment, doors, windows, fireplaces and anything else that will conduct electricity, such as sinks, tubs and showers. And avoid using a telephone that's connected to a landline.

Additional safety tips if you're caught outdoors: Avoid putting yourself above the surrounding landscape. Seek shelter in low lying areas such as valleys, ditches and depressions but be aware of flooding. Stay away from water.

Don't go boating or swimming if a storm threatens. Get to land as quickly as possible if you're already on the water. Lightning can strike the water and travel a substantial distance from its point of contact. Stay away from objects that conduct electricity, such as tractors, golf carts, golf clubs, metal fences, motorcycles, lawn mowers and bicycle.

Avoid being the highest point in an open area. Swinging a golf club or holding an umbrella or fishing rod can make you the tallest object and a target for lightning. You're safe inside a car during lightning, but be aware of downed

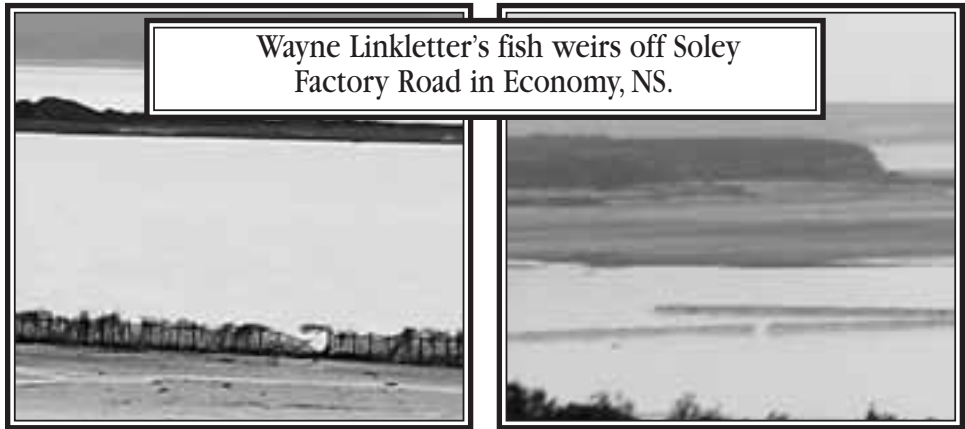


power lines, which may be touching your car. You're safe inside the car, but may receive a shock if you step outside. In a forest, seek shelter in a low-lying area under a thick growth of small trees or bushes. Keep alert for flash floods, sometimes caused by heavy rainfall, if seeking shelter in a ditch or low-lying area.

Additional indoor precautions: Before the storm hits, disconnect electrical appliances including radios and television sets. Don't touch them during the storm. Don't go outside unless absolutely necessary. Keep as many walls as possible between you and the outside.

Don't handle electrical equipment or telephones. The electrical current from the lightning strike will travel through wires and cords and if you're directly connected with them, you could be struck. Use battery operated appliances only. Cordless telephones are safe but you could hear a very loud noise on the phone, which may seem like a shock. This would be consistent with the house or somewhere nearby being struck by lightning.

Note: People who've been struck by lightning do not carry an electrical charge and can be safely handled. In fact, victims may be suffering from burns or shock and should receive medical attention immediately. If you come across someone who has been struck, call for medical assistance (911) immediately and, if breathing has stopped, administer mouth-to-mouth cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. (CPR)



Wayne Linkletter's fish weir off Soley Factory Road in Economy, NS.

Clear Bags for Garbage

Changing the colour of the bag today...
Means a cleaner tomorrow for all of us!

Program Details



- Starting September 1st, 2011, residents, businesses, institutions and apartments will be using clear bags for garbage disposal. Enforcement of this program will begin January 1st, 2012. Each residential unit is allowed one privacy bag per collection. Businesses and institutions must use clear bags only.
- The number of garbage bags at the curb once every two weeks remains limited to six bags. One non-see through (privacy) bag is allowed, along with up to five clear bags per collection day. Remember...all material must be at the curb by 7:00 am on your collection day!
- Blue bags can continue to be used for recyclables and organics are to be placed in the green cart.
- Why Clear Bags?** Provincial regulations state that recyclables and organics are banned from disposal in the landfill. Municipalities that have switched to clear bags for garbage have seen, on average, a thirty percent reduction in the amount of garbage when these banned items are removed from the bags!
- Looking for Help?** Staff will be holding Public Information Sessions throughout the County during the month of September. Please phone the Helpline at 895-4777 or visit www.colchester.ca to find a session near you!

For more information contact:



COLCHESTER
WASTE/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Helpline 895-4777
www.colchester.ca