

THE SAFETY STOP

COJO'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

On Location from: COJO World Headquarters, New Brunswick, Canada

ISSUE 111

What's New

Welcome to **April 2020** edition of the COJO Diving Safety Stop Newsletter!!

Welcome to Spring!! Unfortunately, Spring has not really sprung how we could have predicted. With the new reality of COVID-19 (Corona Virus) bringing the world to a stand-still, people are not able to get out diving as easily as before. Here in New Brunswick, Canada, we are under a state of emergency and, a "Stay At Home" message is in place for any travel that is non-essential. In



addition, **social distancing** will remain in play this year, making it difficult to properly do buddy checks and we will need to approach diving activities differently.

This seems like a major set back and, seems like we are really getting a bad rap but, let's put this into perspective.

There are **doctors** and **health-care workers** working daily with patients that may be infected with COVID or with a myriad of other infections or viruses. **THANK YOU TO THEM** for all they are doing to keep us safe and healthy!!

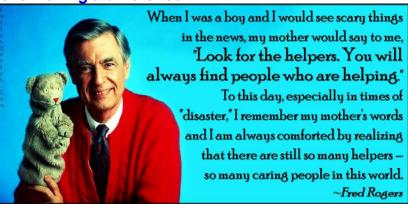
There are supply chains, truck drivers, grocery workers, hardware (Home Depot especially) workers, warehouse personnel, and so on, that are working. They are making sure we can get our food and basic necessities to carry on living while isolated. THANK YOU TO THEM for doing what they are doing.

There are public works people, plow drivers, cable repair people, electricians, plumbers, garbage collectors and so on, still working to make sure that we are able to keep our lights on and stay safe!! **THANK YOU TO THEM** for making our lives safer and, helping us cope with the new-normal!

There are our **public servants**, **police** and **fire personnel**, as well as **ambulance drivers** and **paramedics**, still slugging away, putting themselves in danger to make sure that we are following the rules and, if something does happen, we are still safe! **THANK YOU TO THEM** for keeping us safe!!

All these people, and tons more, heroes!! Woo Hoo!!

So, on one hand, yes it **totally sucks** that we are unable to get out and dive as easily as we used to but, **on the other hand**, we are starting to realize exactly **how many heroes live among us!!** What an **awesome world we live in!! Thank you to everyone who is making a difference.**



"Look for the Helpers"

For our part, we are still busy working with all sorts of COJO activities. While the store is closed to the public, we are busy with sales for gear and future training. Customers can still drop off and pick up equipment for service and gas fills. We are a bit slower on turn-around times as gear and so on must be decontaminated prior to servicing and pick-up.

COJO's Current Store Hours

Our retail location in Lincoln is temporarily closed to the public.

We have reduced services as follows:

- Orders can still be placed for equipment and course registrations. Please contact us by phone, email, through our website Contact form, or through <u>Facebook</u>.
- FREE non-contact delivery is available for equipment orders in the greater Fredericton area.
- Tank fill services are available. Contact us to make arrangements for drop-off and pick-up.
- Equipment may be dropped off for servicing, contact us to make arrangements.
- All training and events are currently on hold, sessions will be rescheduled as soon as possible.
- Equipment rentals are currently unavailable.

We are maintaining a high diligence at our facility with frequent cleaning and disinfecting in all areas we continue to work in, and safeguarding all equipment left for service. We will continue to follow guidance as provided by the Government of Canada, and Province of New Brunswick.

Thanks and Stay Safe!! Connie and Joe COJO Diving



Courses In-Progress

Leading up to March, there were a number of students at different levels that were excitedly going about their training. The training for now is on hold but, when it resumes, these students are raring to go!!

Here are some images to keep your heads below the waterline!!





Courses to Come

Looking ahead, April and into the Spring & Summer will have interesting challenges!! We have tons of options though to keep up with your training. Students on dive courses can self-study with textbooks or through elearning. We will have webinars to cover content we would typically do in the classroom. Once restrictions ease we will have options to complete hands-on training and dives while following health official guidelines and keeping our students and instructors safe!!



e-Learning is 25% Off!!



Now is a great time to sign up for any of our e-Learning classes!

Check out our website using this link: <u>Training -> eLearning</u>

We are working on a **complete list of training options** to make the most of our time away from the water. By combining e-Learning and Instructor-Led webinars, we can complete all of theory work required and use creative ways to complete practical exercises and exams.

Note: Some courses require dives to complete the certification.



Spring Training Schedule

- Self-Study PADI Advanced Open Water course (e-Learning)
- Self-Study PADI Rescue Diver course (e-Learning)
- Self-Study DAN DEMP
- Self-Study DAN Oxygen Provider
- Self-Study Red Cross First Aid/CPR
- > Self-Study PADI Specialty Enriched Air (+online class)
- April 22 PADI Specialty Project AWARE (online class)
- May 7 REEF Fish ID Class (online class)
- May 26 PADI Specialty Solo / Self-Reliant (online class)

The following courses need a practical/hands-on classroom session to receive certification, which will be scheduled as soon as possible:

- > DAN DEMP (within 6 months of the e-Learning)
- > DAN Oxygen Provider (within 6 months of the e-Learning)
- Red Cross First Aid/CPR (within 3 months of the e-Learning)
- > PADI Specialty Enriched Air

The following courses/dives will be scheduled as soon as possible:

- PADI Open Water Diver course (Pool & Dives)
- **PADI Advanced Open Water Diver course**
- PADI Rescue Diver course
- > PADI Divemaster course
- > PADI Specialty Solo / Self-Reliant
- PSD Surface Support Specialist course
- PSD Public Safety Diver course





Events & Trips to Come





Earth Day is an annual event celebrated around the world to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First celebrated in 1970, it now includes events coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network in more than 193 countries. We will post an event asking divers to collect a bag of debris from around your property, your neighbourhood, nearby parks or trails, or beaches. Please keep your location in respect to any travel restrictions are in place at that time! Post a picture to our event page when you are done!!

COJO Diver's Social, Sale and Swap Event



** Note – It is quite likely we will have health & safety guidelines continuing into May that will limit options for "in person" events. We will monitor and adjust our plans for this event as needed!!

On 10 May, from 9am to noon, COJO will host their annual Diver's Social, Sale and Swap Meet!! This is a chance for divers to go through their diving closets and see what gear they no longer use. Bring it in and sell at one of the tables in the store or, if it is nice, out in the parking lot at the COJO World Headquarters in Lincoln NB.



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As always, there will also be **pictures available on Facebook** so that if you are unable to make it, you can still have a chance to buy!! Don't miss the chance to come in and socialize with the divers you haven't seen all winter!!

Victoria Day Weekend - Dusty Fin Dive Event



** Note – It is quite likely we will have health & safety guidelines continuing into May that will limit options for "in person" events. We will monitor and adjust our plans for this event as needed!!

On 16 May, from 10am to 3pm, COJO will host their annual Dusty Fin Dive at St. Andrews NB! McCann Head is located just a few minutes away from downtown St. Andrews. Plan to come out for a dive (or two!), and take in the amazing Paddlefest activities happening all weekend long in the area!

McCann Head is an easy access dive site with a beach entry and rocky headwall with interesting marine life. It's a perfect site to kick off the dive season and have a shake-out dive for skills & gear. We will have a potluck lunch at 12pm, please bring an item to the potluck!

Check our online schedules for even more trips and events!

** Note – We will continue to monitor health & safety guidelines into the summer, and adjust our plans for upcoming charters and trips as needed.

Facebook Events

Google Calendar



Equipment Servicing

Is your equipment due for service?

Now is a great time to check over your gear and make sure it's ready for when we are able to go diving!! If you aren't sure what servicing is due, just send us a note. If you need pickup and delivery during this time, let us know! We can help you out if in the greater Fredericton area.

Here are just a few of the services we offer:

- Regulator Servicing. Regulators should be inspected at least once a year, and rebuilt every 2 years (depending on the manufacturer instruction. If you notice any issues leaks, hose cracks, difficulty breathing, it's definitely time for servicing.
- Computer Battery replacement. We recommend battery replacement at least once a year, and more frequently if needed for higher usage especially in cold water dives
- ➤ BCD Cleaning & Servicing. We run through a full-point checklist of all parts and a full inflation test as well. We apply a treatment rinse to the inside of the bladder as well!
- Drysuit seals replacement. Don't leave wrist or neck seals with nicks or tears, we can repair those before they end a dive!

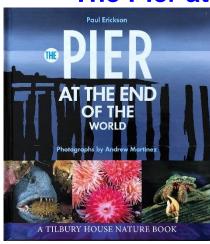
For a complete list of services, check our website here: Services and Inspections

Over the past few weeks we built out a brand new servicing area! We have lots more room and our service technicians love it!!





The Pier at the End of the World





Paul Erickson and Andrew Martinez collaborated on a fantastic book about the marine life in the Passamaquoddy Bay, using a site we often dive in Eastport, Maine. The book is written for all ages to enjoy and it's a wonderful education for divers too!

Joe found a great way to promote the book and allow you to listen to it as well! The book is available on **YouTube** as a reading by Joe, and you get to see all the wonderful pictures as well. It's a treat for you and your family, we hope you enjoy it!

The reading is available on YouTube with this link: The Pier at the End of the World

You can purchase the book online through several sites:

Amazon (Kindle and Hardcover)
Kobo (ebook)
Chapters (Hardcover)



Product Highlight

Each month we like to bring attention to products that we stock and found are awesome in some way. We may even have a great deal on them! However, the best deal for all divers is to have an active and successful **local dive shop**.

Please buy local!!



Heated Gloves by Thermalution Pre-Order Available Now!!

This is a fantastic new product and it's completely waterproof for use by wetsuit or drysuit divers! The gloves operate with a wireless control that is placed on your wrist. It can be purchased as a standalone system with the gloves & batteries only, or as an add-on to a heated vest. Definitely the best new product we have seen in a while! Our first order is already placed, with more coming in the next few months!

Add-On to existing Thermalution Vest - \$250.00+HST

Stand-Alone Glove System - \$625.00+HST



Monthly Special

We are working away to get all our store products online! In the meantime check out some of the items on sale this month. The full flyer image can be viewed here:

https://www.cojodiving.com/eflyer/





Monthly FUN FACT

The "Immortal Jellyfish", capable of lifecycle reversal where individuals grow younger instead of older.

Republished from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aurelia aurita
Image from: Connie Bishop



Figure 1 "Moon Jellyfish" - Aurelia aurita



COJO "Throwback" Pic

April 2018

Jay and Hubert visiting from COJO North for a bit of shopping!



Click for COJO YouTube Channel

Thanks and we are looking forward to diving with you soon!!

Connie and Joe!!