

# LAKESIDE

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE LAKES ASSOCIATION

## Advocacy Survey Results are In!



Volume XXV, No. 4, Winter 2016

by Tom O'Brien, President & Policy Advocate, NH LAKES

Thank you to everyone who filled out the 2016 Advocacy Survey! Elected officials often ask us whether our members support a particular bill and, thanks largely to the results of our annual advocacy survey, we are able respond to such inquiries with confidence. The survey results are also used to guide our long-term advocacy initiatives and allow us to respond to emerging advocacy issues.

This year we asked respondents to prioritize four areas of lake management and protection and then we delved into detailed questions within each area. By digging deeper, we try to get a detailed understanding of the issues NH LAKES should be focusing on and the strategies that might be used to address each issue. Survey results may also illuminate the challenges associated with addressing issues when there isn't clear consensus—a polite way of saying that sometimes NH LAKES finds itself in the middle, between opposing viewpoints, often on issues that do not directly relate to water quality. Below, is an overall summary of the survey results. The complete survey results are available on our website at [www.nhlakes.org/advocacy/advocacy-priorities](http://www.nhlakes.org/advocacy/advocacy-priorities).

### Overall lake & watershed management issue prioritization

Preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species remained the highest priority for 75% of survey respondents, while water quality protection remained the second-highest priority. The issues of adaptation to changing precipitation patterns to protect water quality and maintaining a safe lake experience ranked a distant 3rd and 4th place.

### NH LAKES 2016 Advocacy Survey Overall Lake & Watershed Management Priority Rankings by Respondents

Issue	1 (most important)	2	3	4 (least important)
A. Preventing and managing the spread of aquatic invasive species	75%	23%	1%	1%
B. Protecting and improving water quality	29%	60%	10%	1%
C. Maintaining a safe lake experience	3%	6%	51%	40%
D. Adapting to regional changes in precipitation patterns to protect lake quality	7%	10%	36%	46%

### Issue 1: Preventing and managing the spread of aquatic invasive species

A majority of respondents (76%) supported revising the current law so that the transport of all plants and animals—invasive or not—on water-related equipment would be illegal, while 17% indicated that they needed more information to make a decision. An overwhelming majority (86%) supported a requirement that all boaters drain their boats between waterbodies to minimize the spread of aquatic animals. A common theme expressed by respondents was that increased educational efforts are critical for preventing the spread of aquatic invasive animals. Some respondents suggested that out-of-state boaters should take more financial responsibility for funding the prevention and management of aquatic invasive

*Advocacy Survey, continued on page 3*

## LAKESIDE

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# From the President...



Happy New Year! Thanks to the support of our members, funders, and volunteers, 2015 was a great year for NH LAKES. We are thankful for all that you do and your support as we work together to protect our lakes and ponds.

I am particularly thankful for and humbled by the work of our Lake Hosts. Through the 2015 Lake Host Program, we set a record number of inspections: 92,184! We also had more Lake Hosts deployed throughout the state than ever before—792 at 103 boats ramps. And, of particular note is that our 507 volunteer Lake Hosts contributed a total of 11,075 hours to the program—the equivalent of five full-time employees working for one year!

I am also thankful for the NH LAKES Board of Directors and committee members who have stepped up in a big way to help build the strength and sustainability of our organization. And, while we are sad to say good-bye to one of our former board members and longtime volunteer and ambassador extraordinaire, Carter Barger, we will be forever grateful for the work that he did on behalf of NH LAKES. Carter and his wife Kathy (a nonprofit fund development professional who also volunteered her time to NH LAKES) recently moved out west to be closer to family. But they have left a legacy of dozens

of board members recruited over the years in service to NH LAKES.

We are also thankful for the work of our local partners—the many lake, pond, and watershed associations—that continue to do outstanding work fostering lake stewardship in their communities. We strive to recognize this good work whenever we can, like that of the Eastman Lake Community Association and their annual Lakes Appreciation Day—a best practice for any association. We hope that you enjoy reading about this and, if you don't already have an event like this in your community, we hope you find some inspiration here.

We sincerely appreciate getting feedback from our members, particularly when it comes time to generate the resources and guidance we need to provide the very best education and advocacy programs. In this issue is a letter from Bob Charest, President of Harvey Lake Association, about why their association supports NH LAKES and the Lake Host program. Also in this issue, we report on the tremendous response we received during the fall to our annual advocacy survey—respondents provided candid and overwhelmingly constructive feedback on their lake management and protection priorities for NH LAKES.

We truly have much to be thankful for and we look forward to working with you in 2016 to do an even better job of protecting our lakes. We hope you enjoy finding out about just some of what we have planned for the coming months in this special 12-page issue of *Lakeside*.

Sincerely,

Tom O'Brien  
NH LAKES President

## Healthy, Clean & Safe Lakes for Future Generations!

Making a legacy gift to NH LAKES through your will or revocable living trust is a simple way to support the NH LAKES mission and help to protect our lakes into the future.

If you wish to name NH LAKES in your will or estate plan, we should be named as: *New Hampshire Lakes Association, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, organized and existing under the laws of New Hampshire, address 14 Horseshoe Pond Lane, Concord, NH 03301.* Our tax identification number is 22-2668396.

If you have chosen to include NH LAKES in your estate plans, please let us know!

species in New Hampshire waters and a few suggested that the use of lakes infested with invasive species should be limited.

## Issue 2: Protecting and improving water quality

Respondents were surveyed about several threats to water quality. Among these threats, respondents were highly concerned about septic system failures (90%), the use of fertilizers and/or pesticides (85%), the removal of shoreline vegetation (85%), and runoff water from roadways and other impervious surfaces (80%). Almost half of respondents (43%) indicated that they have installed stormwater runoff reduction practices on their property



Approximately 40% of respondents indicated that they would reduce the amount of stormwater generated from their property if they had more information about these types of practices, such as the installation of a vegetated buffer (as shown in this photo).

and 40% of respondents indicated that they would do so if they received information and/or technical assistance. Some respondents suggested that NH LAKES should focus more work on watershed issues and that there should be a statewide testing requirement for evaluating existing septic systems.

## Issue 3: Maintaining a safe lake experience

More than half (61%) of respondents reported that specific types of recreational activities and/or boating practices create unsafe conditions on the lake(s) they frequent. A number of respondents cited concerns with wake boating practices and expressed support for an increased New Hampshire Marine Patrol presence on our lakes. Comments suggested that NH LAKES should help maintain safe and balanced lake uses, but not at the expense of its water quality work.

## Issue 4: Adapting to regional changes in precipitation patterns to protect lake quality

Overall, respondents indicated that while the impact of changing precipitation patterns on water quality is concerning, more information is needed to understand what can be done and what

the role of NH LAKES should be.

We are pleased to report that 94% of the survey respondents indicated that they were current or past members of NH LAKES and 85% indicated that they were current or former members of a local lake, pond, or watershed association. At NH LAKES we strongly encourage people to be members of both their local association and of NH LAKES in order to provide their local lake(s) with the most comprehensive approach for management and protection.

There are some serious and complex issues that threaten the health of our lakes and the quality of experiences that they provide. While we have our work cut out for us, thanks to those who took the survey, our advocacy strategy for the 2016 Legislative Session and beyond is better informed and in tune with what is important to our members.

If you have any questions about the survey, or any advocacy-related issues, please contact me at [tobrien@nhlakes.org](mailto:tobrien@nhlakes.org) or 603.226.0299.



A number of advocacy survey respondents expressed support for an increased New Hampshire Marine Patrol presence on our lakes.

## In Memoriam

On September 24, 2015, **Ralph W. Cadman II** of Wolfeboro passed away. Ralph was a long-time NH LAKES Board Member and was active in the Lake Wentworth Association and the Lake Wentworth Foundation. He was involved in the early detection and removal of milfoil in Lake Wentworth and Crescent Lake.

On October 23, 2015, **Timothy C. Pellegrino** of Derry passed away. Tim was President of the Beaver Lake Improvement Association for five years and was active in the Lake Host Program and Volunteer Lake Assessment Program.

Ralph and Tim were both highly regarded stewards of lakes and we are thankful for their contributions.

# NH LAKES *Advocacy Update*

by Tom O'Brien, President & Policy Advocate, NH LAKES



When you read this advocacy update, NH LAKES will be just a few weeks into the New Hampshire 2016 Legislative Session and I expect that our aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention legislation will be under consideration by the appropriate committee of the New Hampshire House of Representatives. This legislation is designed to prevent the further spread of aquatic invasive plants and animals by requiring boaters

to clean off the outside of their boats and trailers and to drain the water from their boats after leaving a waterbody. Although the state Legislature will be considering many competing priorities and bills, we are confident that our 'Clean & Drain' legislation will be seriously considered.

Heading into the 2016 session, I am finding that our 'Clean & Drain' AIS prevention bill has strong support. Although the full extent of that support has yet to be tested, during the past several months we have done the necessary work to develop a consensus-based bill with many of the legislators whom will be first to act on the bill as well as the stakeholders whom we expect to take an interest in its fate. Once the session is underway, the bill should go through the House Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development. Many of that committee's members also serve on the Exotic Aquatic Weeds and Species (study) Committee, a committee which NH LAKES serves on and through which we have worked steadily since last year to build a foundation of understanding and support for the proposed legislation.

We have greatly appreciated the hard work and commitment of the Exotic Aquatic Weeds and Species Committee. It is comprised of legislators, state agency staff, and private stakeholders. The members have worked diligently over the past year to better understand the scope and urgency of the aquatic invasive species problem in New Hampshire and the best prevention and control methods available. I think that one of the key takeaway findings for committee members has been just how expensive and difficult control efforts are once an aquatic invasive species gets established in a waterbody and that the prevention of infestations is the most effective and least costly approach. It is primarily through this committee that we have vetted the language for the

bill. (To find the latest version of the bill, go to the New Hampshire General Court website at [www.gencourt.state.nh.us](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us) and query for 2016 legislative service requests or 2016 bills using the key word 'aquatic'. As of the writing of this article in December, a bill number had not been assigned.)

Our 'Clean & Drain' AIS prevention bill is sponsored by a bipartisan group of state representatives and senators. The prime sponsor is Representative Sue Gottling (Sunapee) and additional sponsors include Senators Martha Fuller Clark and Jeb Bradley and Representatives Judith Spang, Suzanne Smith, Karen Ebel, and John Mullen. The 'clean and drain' provisions that the bill mandates have proven throughout the United States to be effective and relatively simple for most boaters to adopt. While boaters should also allow their boats to dry out between waterbodies for at least five days to minimize the transport of viable invasive animal larvae, we knew that it would not be feasible to introduce legislation mandating drying times.

If the 'Clean & Drain' bill is passed and becomes law, we know that continued education will be necessary to ensure that all boaters understand why and how to clean, drain, and dry their boats between waterbodies. We look forward to working with the agencies, anglers and other boating groups, and through our many Lake Hosts, to ensure that every boater gets the very best education that we can provide—education that will help them take action to protect the waters that they enjoy from the further spread of aquatic invasive species.

We will no doubt be weighing in on other bills during the 2016 session but at this juncture it is difficult to predict what they will be. We do know that we will be in the thick of it with regard to preventing the further spread of aquatic invasive plants and animals and we hope that you will be right there with us. Please stay tuned and be ready to call, write, or email your legislators when the time comes. If you haven't already done so, please subscribe to our *NH LAKES Advocacy Alert!* eburst so that you will know when your help is needed. You can sign up at [www.nhlakes.org](http://www.nhlakes.org) or by emailing [info@nhlakes.org](mailto:info@nhlakes.org).

In the meantime, please spread the word in your lake community about the need for mandatory 'Clean & Drain' boating practices—check out the infographic following this article which explains the top five reasons to support the legislation. And, please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or suggestions at [tobrien@nhlakes.org](mailto:tobrien@nhlakes.org) or 603.226.0299.

# TOP 5 REASONS

to support

mandatory **CLEAN + DRAIN** boating practices for our lakes & rivers



**1** Boaters who **CLEAN** off all plant fragments on boats & trailers between waterbodies will stop the spread of invasive plants.



**2** Boaters who **DRAIN** water from boat livewells, bilges & motors between waterbodies will stop the spread of invasive animals.



**3** Boaters can **PREVENT** the spread of invasive species keeping our lakes and rivers safe & enjoyable.

Swimming, fishing & boating on NH lakes & rivers generates:

\$379 Million in SALES  
\$134 Million in INCOME  
5,990 JOBS

(2007)



**4** Boaters who **PREVENT** the spread of invasive species help benefit the NH economy in many ways.



**5** The **CLEAN & DRAIN** approach is **FREE & SIMPLE**. Many boaters are already doing it!

**Spread the word - not aquatic invasive species!**



**CONTACT:** NH LAKES Association 603-226-0299 [info@nhlakes.org](mailto:info@nhlakes.org) [www.nhlakes.org](http://www.nhlakes.org)

# Meet the Challenge: A Lake Host Program for Every Boat Ramp

Eight new aquatic invasive species infestations were found in New Hampshire's waters last summer. All but one of the newly-infested lakes was not protected from aquatic invasive species through the NH LAKES Lake Host Program.

**If there's a boat ramp—publicly- or privately-owned, highly-used or sometimes-used—on your favorite lake, it's time to start planning to protect the lake from aquatic invasive species this summer through the Lake Host Program.**

Last summer, Lake Hosts staffed 103 ramps on 80 waterbodies and removed 48 specimens of aquatic invasive species hitchhiking on boats and trailers. We know that the Lake Host Program works and we know that there are many boat ramps throughout the state that are not protected by Lake Hosts.

**If there are boat ramps on your lake open to the general public**, in early-February, your local lake association or conservation commission can apply for a 2016 Lake Host payroll program grant award to staff them with Lake Host employees this summer.

**If there are privately-owned boat ramps on your lake**, now is the time to start planning a volunteer or locally-funded Lake Host Program to protect your lake this coming summer. Homeowner associations, marinas, campgrounds and other owners of boat ramps not



open to the general public can participate in program by pledging to staff ramps with volunteers. NH LAKES can also hire individuals to work as Lake Host employees at these ramps, provided that local supervision and funding is available.

**It only takes one invasive plant fragment or a few larval cells of an invasive animal to cause a serious problem. Don't let another summer go by without Lake Host protection at your lake.**

For more information, visit [www.nhlakes.org/lake-host](http://www.nhlakes.org/lake-host) or contact us at 603.226.0299 or [info@nhlakes.org](mailto:info@nhlakes.org).

## SAVE THE DATE – June 2 & 3, 2016!

**When:** Thursday, June 2 and Friday, June 3, 2016

**What:** The focus of the 2016 Lakes Congress—our 23rd annual all-day educational and networking event—is to provide participants with opportunities to gain knowledge and skills to educate, advocate, and organize to protect water resources, a deeper understanding of their personal connection to water, and inspiration to help others tune into the 'Blue Mind' mindset.

### Featured Presenters You Won't Want to Miss:

- Dr. Wallace "J." Nichols, scientist, water advocate, 'Blue Mind' movement-maker, and *New York Times* bestselling author, will present the keynote address on June 3. 'Blue Mind' is the science that describes all of the physical, ecological, economic, cognitive, emotional, psychological, and social benefits of healthy waterbodies.
- Eric Eckl—2015 Lakes Congress plenary and workshop presenter—and his team at Water Words That Work will provide two highly sought-after communications trainings.

**Where:** Church Landing at Mills Falls, Meredith, New Hampshire. *Attendees will receive a special discounted rate to stay at any of the Mills Falls Inns in Meredith on Thursday, June 2—to reserve your room, call 1.800.622.6455 and mention that you will be attending the 2016 Lakes Congress.*

**To Sponsor/Exhibit:** Visit [www.nhlakes.org/lakes-congress](http://www.nhlakes.org/lakes-congress) for information and application, or call us at 603.226.0299.

**Registration:** On-line registration will open on April 1. Many sessions have limited seats so put a registration reminder in your calendar!

**View the Conference Agenda & More:** Visit [www.nhlakes.org/lakes-congress](http://www.nhlakes.org/lakes-congress).



# LAKE HOST

*an aquatic invasive species education & prevention program of the*  
**NEW HAMPSHIRE LAKES ASSOCIATION**  
 2002 - 2015



## COURTESY BOAT INSPECTIONS



## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVED

**2002 - 2015 = 1,515 'SAVES'**

**2015 = 48 'SAVES'...**



**CURLY LEAF PONDWEED**



**EURASIAN MILFOIL**



**FANWORT**



**CHINESE MYSTERY SNAIL**

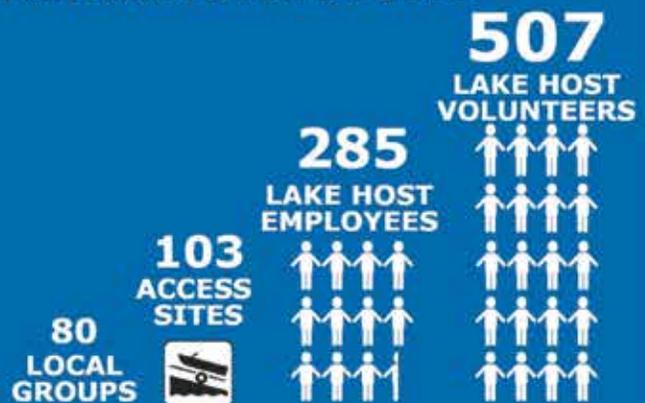


**VARIABLE MILFOIL**

## FUNDING IN 2015



## PARTICIPATION IN 2015



# The Asian Clam in New Hampshire: It Was Not Supposed to Thrive Here

by Amy P. Smagula, Limnologist, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

The Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) is a freshwater bivalve that is native to parts of Asia, Australia, and Africa. It is considered to be an aquatic invasive species in the United States. First introduced intentionally to the United States as a food source, and accidentally through ballast water from international trade ships, it has spread throughout 39 states, primarily as a result of transient boating activities moving adults and larvae between waterbodies. As of 2014, the Asian clam has been found in four waterbodies in southern New Hampshire—the Merrimack River from Bow south, Cobbetts Pond in Windham, Long Pond in Pelham, and Wash Pond in Sandown.

The Asian clam is an aggressive colonizer with a prolific expansion rate. The clam can reach maturity in just a few months, and, since it's hermaphroditic, it takes just one clam introduced into a waterbody to produce a colony. Larvae and juveniles are microscopic and are easily transported by water currents and in drops of water attached to boat hulls and carpeted trailer bunks, in livewells and bait buckets, and on recreational gear. By cleaning, draining, and drying boats and gear between waterbodies, boaters can effectively prevent the spread of the Asian clam.

Asian clams can negatively affect surface waters. Large populations of Asian clams may severely alter lake or riverine food webs by directly competing with existing native fish and shellfish species for food and space. Raw water intakes such as those at drinking water, electric generation, and industrial facilities can become impaired or

clogged by clam shells or by juveniles that are sucked into the intake and then grow in the system. Through burrowing, feeding from the sediment, and their excreta, the clams release phosphorus which feeds plant and algal growth, making potentially hazardous cyanobacteria blooms more likely. Larval clams drawn into a boat engine may occlude the cooling system, leading to overheating and damaging of the engine. And, if shells are drawn into the engine, abrasion of cooling system parts, especially impellers, could result.

Data from a number of studies show that the Asian clam can survive in a range of temperatures, from as low of 36°F to a high of 86°F; **however, the Asian clam was not originally thought to be able to overwinter in the northern tier of the United States due to colder conditions and longer ice-cover conditions on surface waters.** Contrary to that belief, assessments of populations in New Hampshire, and further north in the St. Lawrence River, suggest that the clams survive prolonged exposure to cold water temperatures without die off.

In August 2013, biologists from the Department of Environmental Services, in partnership with scientists from the Environmental Protection Agency Region 1, collaborated in a data gathering study to assess Asian clam infestations in Cobbetts Pond, Long Pond, and in sections of the Merrimack River. Several sample sites were established in each waterbody and similar study methods were used at each site to sample bottom sediment and water characteristics.

The study found that the water temperature range, dissolved oxygen concentration, sediment and water column pH, conductivity, and turbidity measured favorably for Asian clam survival and reproduction at the New Hampshire sites and fell within documented ranges compared to those documented in the literature. Asian clam densities (number of clams per unit area of bottom sediment) averaged 195 clams per square meter in the Merrimack River, 159 clams per square meter in Cobbetts Pond, and 138 clams per square meter in Long Pond. While these density numbers may seem high, clam densities as high as several thousand per square meter have been documented in infested waterbodies in other states. The data may suggest that the Asian clam populations in New Hampshire are new and have not yet reached their equilibrium state or that there are other factors limiting their densities in these waterbodies.

The data will be evaluated to determine if any particular trends exist for water quality parameters, substrate, or other elements that may define patterns of growth. A final report from this study will be available sometime in the spring or summer of 2016.

*If you would like to monitor for Asian clams in a local waterbody, or think you have observed an Asian clam population in a New Hampshire waterbody not mentioned in this article, contact Amy Smagula at [Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov](mailto:Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov) or 603.271.2248.*



*While a day in the lake sampling for Asian clam may not look bad day at work for an aquatic biologist (left), finding these creatures in your sampling sieve (right)—invasive animals that weren't supposed to thrive in New Hampshire waterbodies—is definitely bad news.*

# A 'Thank You' to NH LAKES from the Harvey Lake Association...

**Harvey Lake Watershed Association**  
Northwood, New Hampshire 03261

October 29, 2015

Tom O'Brien, President  
New Hampshire Lakes Association  
14 Horseshoe Pond Lane  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

On behalf of the Harvey Lake Watershed Association, I would like to thank the New Hampshire Lakes Association for the excellent oversight and administration of the Lake Host Program, especially for our little part of it here in Northwood.

This past summer was the 11<sup>th</sup> season that our association has participated in the Lake Host Program, and its rewards to our small lake, at 116 acres, have been incalculable. I say this because without the program, it would be tough to measure just what we could be facing today in terms of aggravation, lower property values, and quality of life.

Our association's members consider our lake vulnerable to aquatic invasive species due to its proximity to two infected waterbodies. Northwood Lake, which has a serious problem, is only two miles to our west, and Pawtuckaway Lake in Nottingham, within short driving distance of our location, was added this year to the list of more than 80 New Hampshire waterbodies that have been invaded by invasive plants and animals. We at Harvey Lake have recorded boats that use both of these waterbodies entering our lake.

Harvey Lake is a low-traffic location for boaters, but the Lake Host Program has benefits that go beyond numbers. Not only are we representing our association and the New Hampshire Lakes Association in a positive way, we are building alliances with lake users and anglers, and, most importantly, creating a generation of lake stewards who are imbued with a lifetime knowledge of the need to protect our natural resources. Most of our Lake Hosts are young people who have attended Coe Brown Academy, the high school that serves surrounding communities and which sits on more than 3,000 feet of shorefront on our lake.

Much appreciated is the efficient manner in which the New Hampshire Lakes Association administers the program—the clear and concise annual training sessions, well-organized website with all forms and instructions readily available, the well-run payroll functions that make our jobs as point persons worry-free, and the continuous communication with the statewide staff, from weekly reminders to annual ramp visits.

As an added benefit, as members of the New Hampshire Lakes Association, our small group gets to be part of a larger statewide organization which advocates on behalf of all lakes for programs and funding that assist us all. Our membership allows us to participate in conferences that provide interesting speakers on important issues. It is dues money well spent, in my opinion, because we have an organization devoted specifically to lakes representing us at the state legislature and a group which uses its voice to get the word out on important lake quality issues.

Thank you for the 14<sup>th</sup> season administering the Lake Host Program in New Hampshire. I'm sure the estimated 700,000-plus courtesy boat inspections performed during that time, along with the 1,500-plus aquatic invasive species saves, have meant a real difference for New Hampshire lakes and those of us who enjoy them.

Sincerely,

Bob Charest  
President, Harvey Lake Watershed Association

**ASSOCIATIONS IN ACTION!** If your group has adopted an innovative approach to keep your lake healthy, build your community of lake stewards, or a method to help your group operate more effectively, let us know—we want to share your examples!

## As Eastman Lake goes, so goes Eastman

On the morning of Sunday, August 9, 2015, a record was set at the Eastman Community Association's 7th Annual Root Beer Float. At just past 10 a.m., 102 canoes and kayaks rafted together in South Cove on Eastman Lake in Grantham, besting the previous event record of 87 vessels set in 2014. Once off the water, participants savored "fizzily-delicious" root beer floats. The event was the exuberant beginning of Eastman's annual Lake Appreciation Day.

The saying goes that "as Eastman Lake goes, so goes Eastman." Eastman is a sustainable, intergenerational, recreational and residential community located in Grantham, New Hampshire, that offers an active, four-season lifestyle. The lake is at the center of the Eastman community and it provides the perfect—and beautiful—setting for year-round activities.

The spirit of volunteerism is strong throughout the Eastman community. The Lakes and Streams Committee monitors the health of the lake and its tributaries through the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program, runs the Lake Host aquatic invasive species prevention program, surveys the lake for invasive species through the Weed Watcher Program, coordinates the Youth Conservation Corps, and—last, but certainly not least—offers ongoing education programs and events.

"Lake Appreciation Day was initiated to teach our residents how they can help preserve the pristine quality of our lake and its shorelines and to protect the wildlife that is part of the ecosystem," explains Susan Pratt of the Eastman Lakes and Streams Committee. "The event also highlights the work of our volunteers that make our lake programs so successful."

On Lakes Appreciation Day, Eastman community members and friends join the Lakes and Streams Committee under the pavilion at the South Cove Activity Center for a lake-themed family-friendly festival. The 2015 event fea-



*The Eastman Community Association Lakes & Streams Committee hosts a Lake Appreciation day each summer.*

tured the new Watershed Warrior activity circuit developed by the NH LAKES Association. Participants traveled through a series of stations playing games while learning about lakes and watersheds and ways to keep them healthy. At the last station, participants had the opportunity to become an official 'Watershed Warrior' by pledging to incorporate at least one lake-friendly practice into their daily routine to help keep Eastman Lake healthy. All new 'Watershed Warriors'—approximately 50 of them!—went home with a colorful Watershed Warrior patch to put on their jacket or backpack and an activity packet to remind them of what they learned and the stewardship action(s) they committed to take.

"The pavilion was humming with families busily completing each activity to earn their



*The EnviroScope model is always a fun activity for kids (and their parents, too!) to learn about protecting lakes from polluted runoff water.*

badge and certificate," Susan recalls. "Megan Hanna, an intern with NH LAKES, was fabulous at the water cycle station helping the kids make bracelets with colorful beads each representing a phase of the cycle. I'm not sure who learned more—the children or their parents!"

Adding to the fun—and learning—were several additional activities conducted by volunteers. Weed Watchers discussed the importance of native plants in Eastman Lake, provided tips on identifying the various species, and showed numerous specimens collected from the lake. Loon Preservation Committee members talked about Eastman's resident loons and their young, emphasizing the importance of protecting the nesting area. The water quality testing team demonstrated lake sampling methods and reported on testing results. Lake Hosts demonstrated the proper way to inspect and clean watercraft to remove hitchhiking fragments of aquatic invasive species and encouraged residents to always clean, drain, and dry their boats, trailers, and gear before launching so that Eastman Lake stays free of invasive species.

To round out the offerings, the Youth Conservation Corps student volunteers—middle school and high school students—provided tours of lake-friendly landscaping projects implemented by the corps on the grounds at South Cove. Led by the Lakes and Streams Committee, the purpose of the Youth Conservation Corps is to engage youth in the active protection of the lake and to showcase stewardship projects to the community. The inspiration for the YCC came from a project piloted by NH LAKES at Eastman in 2010.

"Lake Appreciation Day brings all segments of the Eastman community together to celebrate our lake," says Susan with great pride.

"Permanent residents, summer residents, retirees, working professionals, children, grandchildren, and visitors all join together to love our lake on this day."

# NH LAKES Staff, Board & Committee Happenings

Your statewide lake association is led by a highly talented group of individuals passionate about lakes. These individuals come from all corners of the state and they relish every opportunity to hear from you—our members and supporters—to learn what NH LAKES can do to keep your favorite lake—and all our lakes—clean, healthy, and safe. Here are a few updates about just some of the many individuals who are working on your behalf for your lake...

**Welcome!** Please join us in welcoming Diane Coll and Jim McElroy to the NH LAKES Board of Directors.

Diane is a certified public accountant and owns her own business. She is also president of the Pow Wow Pond Council in Kingston, New Hampshire, and serves as the association's Point Person for the Lake Host Program.

Jim is retired as CEO of the International Electronics Manufacturing Initiative, Inc. He and his wife Jeanne reside in Freedom, New Hampshire, where he is active on several town committees including the Freedom Aquatic Invasive Species Committee (FAISC). He is the

FAISC Chairman and Lake Host Program Point Person. Jim commented, "I'm delighted to be joining the Board of Directors. Hopefully my experiences of running a nonprofit organization can provide value to NH LAKES and its constituents. I look forward to this increased engagement and working with the board as we strive for continuous improvement while achieving the goals of the organization."

**Thank you!** And, please join us in thanking Carter Barger and Boyd Smith for their contributions to NH LAKES.

Carter, over the span of many years, served as a key NH LAKES volunteer in numerous capacities. He helped found the organization and served as a member of the Board of Directors for nine years, two of those years as Chairman. After his board service, Carter continued to serve on various committees, particularly the Governance Committee, where his guidance, knowledge, and expertise contributed significantly to board member recruitment. Carter recently stepped down from the Governance Committee and has left big shoes to fill!

Boyd, Executive Director of the Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA), has recently left the NH LAKES Board of Directors having served one term. His expertise in association management practices and needs was invaluable. We look forward to continuing to work with Boyd and NLRA members.

**To learn more about our current board members and committees**, visit our website ([www.nhlakes.org](http://www.nhlakes.org)) and select "About Us." If you or someone you know loves New Hampshire lakes and is interested in contributing their "time, talent, and treasure" to NH LAKES, please contact NH LAKES President, Tom O'Brien, at [tobrien@nhlakes.org](mailto:tobrien@nhlakes.org).

## NH LAKES staff happenings:

- Erin Graichen (Member Services Assistant) and her family welcomed a new baby boy into the world in late-October.
- Gretchen Rae (Programs Assistant) completed a successful 8-month assignment coordinating the Lake Host Program and providing support to the member services program. We hope she will be back with us next summer!



## Now Accepting Reservations!

***Sign up to bring the Watershed Warrior activity circuit to your community event this summer!***

The NH LAKES Watershed Warrior program is designed for youth and their families to "take action" to keep lakes and watersheds healthy. Traveling through the stations of the Watershed Warrior activity circuit, participants experience hands-on fun while learning about lake ecology and simple everyday things that people can do to help keep lakes healthy. At the end of the circuit, participants have the opportunity to become a "Watershed Warrior" by pledging to incorporate at least one lake-friendly practice into their daily routine. All Watershed Warriors earn a multicolored patch and certificate.

**The Watershed Warrior activity circuit is the perfect addition to association family-fun events, community festivals, and local summer camp programs.**

To find out more and to schedule NH LAKES staff to host the circuit in your community, visit [www.nhlakes.org/watershed-warrior](http://www.nhlakes.org/watershed-warrior) or email [info@nhlakes.org](mailto:info@nhlakes.org).



*The Watershed Warrior activity circuit is a great offering for family-friendly festivals as well as school and summer camp programs.*



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Now Accepting Reservations!

Membership Matters

Printed on stock that is 30% recycled fiber with chlorine-free pulp, using timber from managed forests.

## Membership Matters

**New Members September 18 – December 14, 2015**

### Individuals

Douglas and Elizabeth Allen

Mr. and Mrs. Rene Baden

Sabina Barach

Bill Bassett

Laurel Brocklesby

Mr. Richard Bromund

Kristina Burnett

Tina Clark

Deborah L. Coffin

Rose Colby

Samuel Demeritt

Eleanor and Richard Denault

Christopher and Kimberly Dolan

Jo Beth Dudley

Hon. Arthur and Melanie Gajarsa

Peter and Mary Ellen Galanis

Carol Greenwald and John

Brouder

Rae Ann Gremel

Frank and Ann Hardenbergh

The Isacco Family

Diane Kurtz

Nancy LaBonne and Richard  
Caouette

Michael and Fleuri MacIntyre

Ed and Debbie Madigan

Janet Paddleford

Cory T. Ritz and Gretchen Rae

Douglas Rooks

The Samuelson Family

Norman Sevigny

Lisa Sieverts

Emma Tillotson

Andrew Veilleux

Traci Wagner and Walter Voigt

### Businesses

Bonsignore Trial Lawyers, PLLC

### Grants Received

Davis Conservation Foundation



*Ice skating on our frozen lakes is a special and long-time tradition.*