

New Hampshire Lakes Association (NH LAKES) Lake Host™ Program

Goal: To prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species—plants and animals—in New Hampshire lakes and ponds.

Target Audience: Resident and out-of-state recreational boaters and anglers who launch onto freshwater resources.

Objectives: To place trained Lake Hosts at boat launch sites to: educate visiting boaters about aquatic invasive species by distributing brochures, answering questions, and completing a brief boater survey; conduct courtesy boat and trailer inspections of vessels both entering and leaving public waters; show boaters where to look for hitchhiking aquatic invasive plants and animals encourage them to conduct self-inspections according to the “Clean, Drain & Dry” method; remove and properly dispose of all plant and animal material and other debris found, and; send samples of suspicious species removed from vessels to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for identification.



Program Need: Aquatic invasive species infestations make recreation in and on lakes, ponds, and rivers dangerous and unpleasant, they disrupt the ecological balance of waterbodies, reduce shoreline property values through the reduction of aesthetic and recreational uses of the water body, and are difficult and expensive to control once they infest a waterbody. The main way invasive aquatic plants and animals are spread in New Hampshire is through the transportation of plant fragments or animal larvae on boats and trailers from infested waterbodies to uninfested waterbodies.

Background: In 2002, NH LAKES received a two-year grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as a result of an appropriation secured by U.S. Senator Judd Gregg. The grant supported a comprehensive aquatic invasive plant education and prevention program involving the creation of two videos, the development of plant identification cards, and the staffing of public motorized boat ramps with trained Lake Hosts. Also in 2002, state legislation was passed to raise boat registration fees by three dollars, effective January 1, 2003. The money collected by this increase, approximately \$300,000 per year, would fund milfoil and other exotic plant prevention and research activities through a grants program administered by NHDES. Up to two-thirds of this amount would be available annually as grants to support exotic aquatic species education and prevention activities (such as the Lake Host™ program). In 2010, this amount was legislatively amended to up to three-quarters.

Lake Host Program Statistics Summary (as of 11/17/2015)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Participating Groups (#)	38	46	51	56	57	68	70	71	74	73	77	81	80	80
Paid Lake Hosts (#)	102	149	190	175	204	221	240	236	230	219	238	247	258	285
Volunteer Lake Hosts(#)	59	167	216	318	353	429	470	420	517	475	500	500	500	507
Waterbodies with Lake Hosts (#)	37	45	50	56	56	64	70	71	74	74	78	82	82	82
Ramps Covered (#)	45	59	61	61	66	83	88	86	90	92	100	103	102	103
Inspections Conducted (#)	15,878	26,583	31,629	34,878	34,860	44,183	55,924	53,796	64,661	68,429	77,261	77,806	83,663	92,177
‘Saves’ (# aquatic invasive species found)	4	7	16	54	54	157	224	297	267	39	137	153	58	48
Federal Funds	\$260,100	\$10,000	\$85,300	\$35,000	\$117,000	\$117,000	\$89,206	\$89,206	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$0	\$165,000	\$150,000	\$185,000	\$185,000	\$185,000	\$161,000	\$123,333	\$133,367	\$169,000	\$200,000	\$210,000	\$230,000	\$226,500
Foundations								\$4,000	\$22,000	\$23,000	\$14,500	\$18,259	\$22,5000	\$24,000
Local Funds (hard cash and cash-equivalents)	\$37,155	\$112,382	\$151,238	\$200,756	\$183,179	\$292,017	\$334,061	\$341,535	\$393,273	\$404,751	\$486,455	\$494,248	\$503,170	\$517,227
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$297,255	\$287,382	\$386,538	\$420,756	\$485,179	\$594,017	\$584,267	\$558,074	\$548,640	\$596,751	\$700,955	\$722,507	\$742,769	\$767,727

Additional Funding Sources: Supplemental funding has been secured from the following sources: EPA New England Office (2003); NOAA (2004, 2006, 2008, 2009); Watershed Assistance Grant (319 Clean Water Program); EPA’s

Healthy Communities Grants Program (2005); Alden N. Young Trust (2011-2015); Badger Monadnock Fund (2011); Saul O'Sidore Foundation (2010); TransCanada (2009-2015); and an anonymous private foundation (2010).

As a result of the program, the following 'saves' have been made of aquatic invasives entering or leaving a waterbody:

- **Beaver Lake** (Derry): Fanwort (2008, 2009), Variable milfoil (2008, 2011), Eurasian milfoil (2012)
- **Bow Lake** (Northwood): Variable milfoil (2003, 2005), Eurasian milfoil (2005, 2009), Fanwort (2015), Milfoil species (2014)
- **Clough Pond** (Loudon): Variable milfoil (2005)
- **Connecticut River** (Hinsdale): Eurasian milfoil (2010), European naiad (2010)
- **Conway Lake** (Conway): Variable milfoil (2011), Eurasian milfoil (2014)
- **Crescent Lake** (Acworth): Eurasian milfoil (2003, 2012), Fanwort (2003)
- **Crystal Lake** (Enfield): Water chestnut (2005), Eurasian milfoil (2010)
- **Deering Reservoir** (Deering): Eurasian Milfoil (2013), Variable milfoil (2014)
- **Eastman Lake** (Grantham): Eurasian milfoil (2010)
- **First Connecticut Lake** (Pittsburg): Variable milfoil (2014)
- **Gilmore Pond** (Jaffrey): Water chestnut (2005)
- **Goose Pond** (Canaan): Eurasian milfoil (2007), Variable milfoil (2009)
- **Granite Lake** (Nelson/Stoddard): Curly leaf pondweed (2009, 2011); Eurasian milfoil (2011, 2013); Variable milfoil (2011)
- **Great East Lake** (Wakefield): Eurasian milfoil (2006, 2008), Fanwort (2010), Variable milfoil (2007-2010, 2013)
- **Highland Lake** (Stoddard): Eurasian milfoil (2005), Variable milfoil (2015)
- **Island Pond** (Stoddard): Variable milfoil (2013)
- **Jenness Pond** (Northwood): Variable milfoil (2005)
- **Lake Francis** (Pittsburg): Variable milfoil (2014)
- **Lake Massabesic** (Auburn): Fanwort (2013), Variable milfoil (2012, 2014)
- **Lake Monomonac** (Rindge): Eurasian milfoil(2004); Curly leaf pondweed(2004), Variable milfoil (2004-2008, 2014)
- **Lake Ossipee** (Ossipee): Eurasian milfoil (2010), Variable milfoil (2009, 2011, 2012)
- **Lake Potanipo** (Brookline): Fanwort (2010), Variable milfoil (2010-2012)
- **Lake Sunapee** (Sunapee): milfoil (2005), Eurasian milfoil (2006-2009, 2015), variable milfoil (2007)
- **Lake Waukewan** (Meredith): Eurasian milfoil (2003), Variable milfoil (2007, 2008)
- **Lake Wentworth** (Wolfeboro): Variable milfoil (2008)
- **Lake Wicwas** (Meredith): Variable milfoil (2010)
- **Lake Winnepesaukee**: Fanwort (2003, 2007); Variable milfoil (2004, 2007-2012, 2014, 2015), Eurasian milfoil (2012)
- **Lake Winnisquam** (Laconia): Variable milfoil (2008, 2015)
- **Little Lake Sunapee** (New London): Variable milfoil (2011), Curly-leaf pondweed (2015)
- **Lovell Lake** (Wakefield): Variable milfoil (2006, 2007, 2013)
- **Merrymeeting Lake** (New Durham): Variable milfoil (2007, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015), Water Chestnut (2012)
- **Mirror Lake** (Tuftonboro): Chinese mystery snail (2014)
- **Newfound Lake** (Bristol): Curly-leaf pondweed (2015), Eurasian milfoil (2006, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2014, 2015), Fanwort (2003, 2006, 2013), Variable milfoil (2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2014, 2015), Water Chestnut (2009, 2010), Water naiad (2014)
- **Northwood Lake** (Northwood): Curly leaf pondweed(2007), Eurasian milfoil(2007), Variable milfoil(2008,2010,2011,2013,2014)
- **Nubanusit Lake** (Nelson/Hancock): Curly leaf pondweed (2009), Eurasian milfoil (2002, 2004), Variable milfoil (2007, 2008)
- **Ottarnic Pond** (Hudson): Chinese mystery snail (2015), Curly leaf pondweed (2013), Fanwort (2005-2008, 2012-2015), Variable milfoil (2006, 2007, 2010-2015)
- **Pawtuckaway Lake** (Nottingham): Common reed (2007), Curly leaf pondweed (2010,2013,2014), Eurasian milfoil (2009-2012, 2014-2015), Fanwort (2009, 2011), Variable milfoil (2007-2010,2012-2015), Water chestnut (2008, 2014)
- **Pleasant Lake** (Deerfield): Eurasian milfoil (2011), Variable milfoil (2004, 2007, 2013)
- **Pleasant Pond** (Francestown): Curly leaf pondweed (2009), Eurasian milfoil (2006); Variable milfoil (2011, 2013, 2014)
- **Pow Wow Pond** (Kingston): Chinese mystery snail (2013), Variable milfoil (2013, 2015)
- **Robinson Pond** (Hudson): Chinese mystery snail (2013), Fanwort (2004, 2006-2014), Variable milfoil (2004-2014), Eurasian milfoil (2012)
- **Silver Lake** (Madison): Variable milfoil (2002, 2004, 2006)
- **Lake Skatutakee** (Harrisville): Eurasian milfoil (2005)
- **Spofford Lake** (Chesterfield): Eurasian milfoil (2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2013); Variable milfoil (2011)
- **Squam Lake** (Holderness): Chinese mystery snail (2015), Curly leaf pondweed (2009), Eurasian milfoil (2007), Fanwort (2013)
- **Suncook Lake** (Barnstead): Variable milfoil (2009, 2013)
- **Swanzey Lake** (Swanzey): Variable milfoil (2011), Eurasian milfoil (2012), Water chestnut (2014)
- **Thorndike Pond** (Jaffrey): Variable milfoil (2015)
- **Webster Lake** (Franklin): Eurasian milfoil (2011,2012,2014), Fanwort (2010), Variable milfoil(2009), Curly leaf pondweed(2012)

For More Information: To participate in the Lake Host program, or to become a program sponsor, contact NH LAKES at (603) 226-0299, or info@nhlakes.org. More information can also be found at www.nhlakes.org.