



A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE LAKES ASSOCIATION

Preventing the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species: We must do more!



XXVIII, No. 1, Spring 2018

Here's the good news: The rate of the spread of invasive **plants** from waterbody to waterbody in New Hampshire has slowed during the last 15 years. This trend can be largely attributed to the fact that hundreds of thousands of boaters using New Hampshire's waters have learned from our Lake Hosts how to prevent the spread of these species.

But, here's the bad news: The rate of spread of aquatic invasive **animals** in New Hampshire appears to be on the rise. During 2017, new infestations of the Asian clam were found in two waterbodies, bringing the tally of waterbodies in the state documented with this invasive animal up to six. Biologists from the New Hampshire Department of

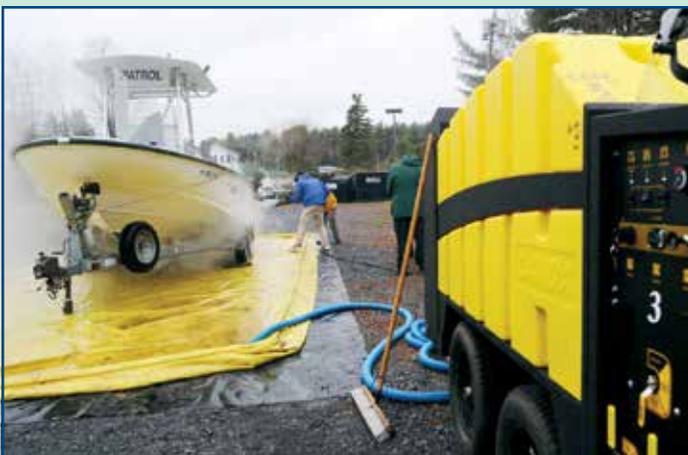
Environmental Services (DES) suspect that there are more waterbodies with Asian clam populations yet to be documented. Like invasive plants, infestations of invasive animals can create serious problems in a lake. However, unlike invasive plants, there are currently no feasible or practical approaches to managing populations of invasive animals in our lakes once they get established.

Relatively speaking, it's easier for Lake Hosts and boaters to see and remove fragments of plants hitchhiking on boats and trailers than it is to see and remove hitchhiking invasive animals. Aquatic invasive animals, including the Asian clam and Spiny waterflea, can spread from waterbody to waterbody when

present in nearly microscopic larval or juvenile form in drops of water trapped in the bilge, motor, livewell, ballast tank, or storage compartments of a boat.

New Hampshire state law requires that boats be drained after being taken out of a waterbody. However, boats that were last used in an out-of-state waterbody are not required to be drained before launching into a New Hampshire waterbody—a loophole which increases the vulnerability of our lakes to the spread of invasive animals. Adding to that vulnerability, if a Lake Host or boater should happen to find a visible form of an invasive animal on a boat or trailer, in New Hampshire

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At Lake George in New York, trained attendants operating high-pressure, hot water mobile wash stations with mats that collect the rinse water, provide free aquatic invasive species decontamination services for boats and trailers.



After a successful pilot program in Minnesota, the CD3 Watercraft Cleaning Station is now being introduced in other states. This self-serve, eye-catching station offers boaters a suite of waterless tools to quickly clean, drain, and dry their boats, trailers, and gear.

From the President...

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NEWSLETTER LAYOUT

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As I write to you, the March 7 - 8 Nor'easter is winding down and we have close to a foot of new snow on the ground. It's a beautiful thing, and another storm is on the horizon. But, by the time this spring issue of *Lakeside* arrives in your mailbox, I hope that spring will have sprung, ice is nearly out, and your plans to get back to the lake are underway.

With the snow falling, I am looking out on the grounds of our new office on the southeast side of Concord, at 17 Chenell Drive. Since I arrived at NH LAKES 6 ½ years ago, I worked with my fellow staff members out of an office located on Horseshoe Pond Lane near downtown Concord. There, I became used to the sights and sounds (and smells) of the pond, the adjacent farm fields, nearby downtown Concord, and climbing up steep stairs into our attic-like space. It has been a big change, moving out to the southeastern end of Concord into a bright, open, and airy ground-level space with a meeting room for our partners, and a nearby butterfly reserve, too! In a world that is ever-changing, this has been a welcome change, and one that is

enabling us to raise our game to a new level. We have the space to accommodate new staff and are now working to expand our programs, with you and for you, as we know more needs to be done to ensure a healthy future for our lakes.

To achieve this, there are, of course, many things that need to be done, at many levels, by many people—individuals, groups, businesses, institutions—to address the future of our lakes. But, if I had to put my finger on the single most important thing that we (all of us) can do, it is to work together to build consensus and community around our cause. I believe, from decades of personal and professional successes and failures, that relationship building—the understanding between people and the mutual regard and respect that we show for one another—is what enables us to come together to positively influence public policy, implement lasting lake conservation programs, and empower people in every lake community to take action to ensure the clean and healthy future of our lakes.

Thank you for being with us on this journey and allowing us to share yours. I am looking forward to seeing you and many more members of our lake community this spring and summer “around the pond.” Until then, enjoy this spring issue of *Lakeside*.

On behalf of NH LAKES,

Tom O'Brien
President & Policy Advocate

Leave a Legacy

Please remember NH LAKES in your will. To do this, simply share this sentence with your attorney or financial planner:

I bequeath \$ ___ or ___% of my estate to: NH LAKES Association, 17 Chenell Drive, Suite One, 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. Thank you!

For information on sponsorship, contact the NH LAKES office at (603) 226-0299.

there typically isn't a nearby wash station (or 'car wash') where a boat could be decontaminated with high-pressure, hot water, or even a nearby cleaning station where a boat could be rinsed with cold water and/or thoroughly drained and dried.

These are issues that concern staff at DES and NH LAKES. In 2017, NH LAKES conducted a feasibility study to answer the research question: *"What would be a reasonable and feasible program to implement in New Hampshire, relative to utilizing boat cleaning and wash stations designed to aid in the prevention of the spread of aquatic invasive species by boats that travel from waterbody to waterbody?"*

Study Results: We determined that the installation and operation of staffed high-pressure, hot water wash stations offering decontamination services at every boat access site in New Hampshire, accompanied by state law requiring that boaters use these stations, would provide our waters with the highest level of protection from the spread of aquatic

invasive species. However, we acknowledged that this approach would be prohibitive for a variety of reasons. We recommended that a New Hampshire approach must prioritize the installation and operation of cleaning and wash stations to serve access sites at the **highest** risk for serving as a pathway for the introduction of AIS into the local waterbody or for serving as a source of AIS to other waterbodies. We made a number of suggestions relative to changes in state law and for potential funding mechanisms that could be implemented to support a grant program designed to assist boat access site owners and their local partners with the installation and operation of these stations.

Next Steps: Before implementing a state-wide program, we suggest that a pilot program for AIS spread prevention with the aid of cleaning and wash stations be implemented at a few high priority access sites. We are currently working with DES, the NH Fish and Game Department, and other stakeholders to develop this pilot program.

More Information: The full study can be found on our website under 'What's New' at www.nhlakes.org. Additionally, plan to join us at the 2018 Lakes Congress on June 1, and register for the afternoon session "Advocating for Preventing the Spread of AIS in NH with the aid of Cleaning & Wash Stations." And, stay tuned for upcoming articles on this initiative. We must do more to protect our lakes from the spread of invasive species!

In Memoriam

Theodore Covert of Rindge, New Hampshire, passed away on March 13. 'Ted' loved living on Contoocook Lake with his wife, Beverly. He monitored the water quality of the lake for years and led the effort to rid the lake of milfoil, working to keep the lake beautiful and pristine for all. He will be missed by many.

Call for Nominations: 2018 Morten Award for Exemplary Lake Stewardship



John F. Morten (1914-1989)

In September 2002, a special award was created in honor of the late John F. Morten (1914-1989), in recognition of his lifelong work to protect New Hampshire's lakes and ponds. It was his vision and grassroots efforts that helped create the Lakes Region Federation, which later became the New Hampshire Lakes Association (NH LAKES) upon its merger with the New Hampshire Lakes Legislative Coalition. It was John Morten who saw the value of a statewide umbrella organization to represent lake interests with both the legislature and state agencies.

Mr. Morten exemplified selfless dedication to the lakes he loved so much, giving generously of his time, talents, and financial resources to help protect them. He was a person who made things happen—the creative idea man, leader, and activist who was organized, determined, and persistent in the achievement of any task. It is in tribute to his vision, dedication, commitment, and vigor that NH LAKES established the John F. Morten Memorial Award for Exemplary Lakes Stewardship.

If you would like to nominate an individual for the 2018 Morten Award, visit the NH LAKES website at www.nhlakes.org/Morten-Award to download a nomination form, email info@nhlakes.org, or contact the office at (603) 226-0299. All nominations must be submitted by June 1, 2018. You can also re-nominate someone who has been nominated before.

Kick off summer with us at the 25th Annual Lakes Congress!



What:

The 2018 Lakes Congress will celebrate the history of lake culture in New Hampshire while specifically focusing on current and emerging threats that must be addressed during the next 25 years to keep our lakes clean and healthy.

When:

Thursday, May 31: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Spend the evening with us and staff from the Museum of the White Mountains for the fascinating presentation *“Summer Camps: The White Mountains (and Lakes!) Roots of an Iconic American Experience.”*

Friday, June 1: 8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m

The day will kick-off with the keynote presentation *“Climate Change and Lakes: What you really need to know”* given by Dr. Ken Wagner.

Where: Church Landing at Mill Falls in Meredith

Concurrent Sessions Include:

- Cyanobacteria in NH Lakes and its Role as a Neurotoxin
- Drones for Lake and Watershed Monitoring
- Easy Do-it-Yourself Watershed, Shoreline, and Lake Mapping with your Smart Device
- Fishing and Fisheries Management in NH's Lakes
- Lake Advocacy in NH
- Lake Associations: Draft a Fund Development Plan!
- Lake Smart: Saving our Lakes One Shore at a Time
- Preventing the Spread of AIS in NH with the Aid of Cleaning & Wash Stations
- Regulatory Programs Conserving our Lakes
- Soak Up the Rain, Winnepesaukee
- Social Skills for your Lake Association: Engaging Your Members
- The Natural History, Challenges, and Success of Loons in NH
- The State of Aquatic Invasive Species in NH
- The State of Lake Quality in NH
- We have an AIS Infestation, Now What?!

For More Information & To Register: www.nhlakes.org/lakes-congress

About

Dr. Ken Wagner:
2018 Lakes Congress
Featured Presenter



Dr. Ken Wagner

Dr. Wagner holds degrees from Dartmouth College and Cornell University, with his Ph.D. earned in Natural Resource Management in 1985.

Ken has over 40 years of experience working on a variety of water resources assessment and management projects, including lake, reservoir, river and watershed assessment, rehabilitation, and management, regulatory processes, and educational programs.

In 2010, he started Water Resource Services, a small company with a focus on water supply protection and lake management consulting.

Ken is a former President of the North American Lake Management Society and current Editor in Chief of *Lake and Reservoir Management*, a peer-reviewed journal.

Stay the night in Meredith!

Lakes Congress registrants are encouraged to stay the night in Meredith before Friday's program. Registrants will receive a special discounted rate to stay at any of the Mills Falls Inns in Meredith on Thursday, May 31. There are several wonderful restaurants, shops, and sights to enjoy. To reserve a room, call (800) 622-6455 and mention that you will be attending the 2018 Lakes Congress.

Join us at Lakes Congress on Thursday night!

Summer Camps: The White Mountains (and Lakes!) Roots of an Iconic American Experience

In the summer of 1880, Ernest Balch and a few friends set up camp on the shore of Squam Lake in New Hampshire. A recent dropout of Dartmouth, Balch paddled the lake, admired the mountain views, cooked over an open fire, slept in a rough-hewn shelter, and discovered his life's purpose. What he found was an island and an idea that would transform American childhood.



On the evening of Thursday, May 31, join us and staff from the Museum of the White Mountain as we kick off the 2018 Lakes Congress. Through this fascinating presentation about bringing history alive through an exhibit experience, you will learn how experiencing nature in New Hampshire's lakes and mountains has been life-changing for generations of children.

Your vehicle purchase could support the 2018 Lakes Congress!

Fourth Generation Steward, Amanda Grappone Osmer, has committed Grappone Automotive's support to the 2018 Lakes Congress if they can tie the sale of 10 vehicles to NH LAKES! If you have purchased a vehicle from Grappone since June 2017, please let us know—contact us at info@nhlakes.org or 603.226.0299.



NH LAKES Board of Directors Update

We are pleased to announce that **Kim Godfrey** has joined the NH LAKES Board of Directors! Kim is a nonprofit executive who fell in love with Squam Lake in 2013 and became a year-round resident in August 2017. She is a co-founder of two nonprofit organizations that work nationally to integrate adolescent development research and practices into juvenile justice systems so youths receive the services they need to continue on the pathway to becoming healthy, productive, and purposeful adults. She serves as the executive director of the Pbs Learning Institute and led the transition that created the nonprofit from a fully federally-funded project into an independent, financially stable, and now thriving organization.

Kim joins NH LAKES energized to support the work to care for and sustain the beauty of all New Hampshire's lakes for future generations. In her words, "I'm very excited and honored to join this awesome statewide effort to preserve my new home state's natural beauty and hope to help in any way I can to promote NH LAKES' vision."

Welcome aboard, Kim!



Kim Godfrey

NH LAKES Advocacy Program Update

by Tom O'Brien, President & Policy Advocate, and Kelly Buchanan, Advocacy Program Coordinator, NH LAKES



The New Hampshire 2018 Legislative Session has been a whirlwind. With over 1,000 bills introduced this session (up from the 849 Legislative Service

Requests we earlier reported), both the House and the Senate set a quick pace for themselves with committees sometimes meeting twice a week. And, when a bill had a 'fiscal note' (meaning that the bill's passage would have some fiscal impact) it needed to be considered by a second committee before being taken up by the full legislative body. If passed by that full body, the bill would then cross over to the other body (House to Senate or vice versa). Crossover occurs around mid-March, allowing approximately 10 weeks for each legislative body to get through all the bills filed under their purview by passing them, voting them 'inexpedient to legislate' (which 'kills' the bill), or tabling or sending bills to a study committee. NH LAKES has been there from the start, meeting with legislators, communicating with partners, sitting through hearings, and providing testimony when it counts the most.

The bills that we were most concerned about defending against had to do with docks. House Bill 1371 would have deleted sections 'F' and 'G' from NH RSA 482-A:3, reducing property line setback requirements. Senate Bill 119 would have extended docks out over the water in order to achieve greater depth of water at the slip location, regardless of any demonstrated need. Our greatest concern was that these proposed changes to dock rules were not being considered in the context of the whole dock program and they would have reduced agency oversight from the Department of Safety and Department of Environmental Services (DES). By working through a legislative study committee last fall, and making our case privately with key legislators, we went on the offensive and supported the introduction of House Bill 1810. This bill would create a study commission to look at the dock program more comprehensively and

allow more time and opportunity for a broad spectrum of stakeholders to be involved. At the time of this writing, House Bill 1810 had passed the House and crossed over to the Senate where our work will continue.

In addition to the many bills that we advocated for or against, we have been busy attending the public hearings on proposed changes to the Wetlands Rules by DES. We have also spent time interacting with several state entities and giving presentations on how Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) spread prevention efforts could be stepped up in New Hampshire (see page 1 of this issue to learn more). Kelly and Tom will be presenting at Lakes Congress in June to introduce some of these AIS prevention concepts.

Speaking of boat access facilities...

NH LAKES supports the public's access to the lakes of New Hampshire, as our lakes are in the Public Trust and they are an asset to everyone who lives in or visits New Hampshire. In regard to public boat access launch facilities, we support those that are

appropriately and responsibly sited, constructed, and maintained. With those principles in mind, we testified this session against the funding of the Wild Goose boat access facility proposed by the NH Fish and Game Department on Lake Sunapee, supporting instead the public process carried out by the Lake Sunapee Public Boat Access Commission created by the Governor. That commission voted to discontinue consideration of the Wild Goose property as a deep water motorized boat access site and encouraged everyone to look for more appropriate, and safer, boat access opportunities on the lake. This been a highly charged situation for many years and we are thankful that there is clarity and support for moving on as recommended by the commission.

Thank you for all that you do and for advocating with us on behalf of our lakes. Please keep in touch and let us know what we can do to work for you to keep New Hampshire's lakes clean and healthy, now and in the future.



Candled ice in the lake is a sure sign that spring is on its way!

Photo source: www.winnepesaukee.com

An Association Steps up to Help Manage Milfoil

by Steven Anthony, President, Beaver Lake Improvement Association

Despite their best efforts to prevent such a thing, in late-summer 2014, the Beaver Lake Improvement Association (BLIA) found milfoil growing in Beaver Lake, a 150-acre, relatively shallow waterbody in Derry, New Hampshire. For nearly 25 years, the BLIA had been fighting to protect the lake from the introduction of invasive species. Their tactics included staffing the state boat launch with Lake Hosts, routinely surveying the nearshore areas for unusual plant growth with Weed Watchers, and implementing a multi-faceted educational and informational invasive species prevention campaign with their membership and community. Within a day of the initial milfoil discovery, a team of certified weed control divers was deployed by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) to hand-pull the plants found. But, that's not where the story ends...

Throughout summer 2015, state divers surveyed the entire lake and surrounding wetland areas searching for more milfoil plants and removing them when found. During spring 2016, divers tried hand-pulling several times but found that "the milfoil was denser than expected, and growing quickly." DES decided it was appropriate to chemically treat portions of the lake to knock back the milfoil so that hand-removal activities could resume. During summer 2016, the BLIA initiated a formal method of tracking plant locations to coordinate with DES divers for removal activities. The association purchased three global positioning system (GPS) units and distributed them to their team of volunteer Weed Watchers. Weed Watchers survey the lake every few weeks during the summer and send the GPS coordinates of milfoil plants found to the BLIA Weed Watcher Coordinator who, in turn, sends the information to DES on a regular basis. DES uses the location information to create maps to assist the dive team in finding the plants so that they can be removed. The GPS units have also helped to keep an ongoing log of locations of the plants so that Weed Watchers can return to the exact places where milfoil was found to confirm whether the plant was completely removed or if regrowth has occurred.

The prevention and management of invasive species in Beaver Lake is an ongoing battle. In September 2017, while state divers were removing milfoil, they found Asian clams, also an invasive species. Beaver lake is now the sixth body of water in New Hampshire to have a documented population of the Asian clam. Unfortunately, there is currently no effective practice to manage the growth of this invasive animal.

During spring 2018, local residents who are SCUBA-certified will receive formal training and obtain certifications to remove milfoil, supplementing the efforts of the DES dive team. In addition, approximately 14 BLIA volunteers and three NH LAKES seasonal employees will staff the state boat ramp on Beaver Lake as Lake Hosts teaching boaters how to prevent milfoil and the Asian clam from exiting the lake, and how to prevent additional, and potentially more problematic invasive species, from being introduced into the lake.

While invasive species have been recently found in Beaver Lake, the BLIA has not given up the fight. We are committed to doing what we

can to protect our lake, and other lakes, from the spread of invasive species. If you are interested in learning more about our programs, please email BLIA@Beaver-Lake.org and a member of the Board of Directors will contact you.



DES divers hand-remove milfoil plants with location information provided by BLIA Weed Watchers.



Volunteer Lake Hosts at Beaver Lake help prevent the spread of invasive species into and out of the lake.

"We have an infestation, now what?"

At the NH LAKES 2018 Lakes Congress on Friday, June 1, join Amy Smagula, DES Exotic Species Coordinator, as she leads a panel discussion with representatives from three local groups that recently found out their lake contained an invasive species infestation.



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Membership Matters

Come Visit Us & Our New Community Room!

Membership Matters

New Members: December 8, 2017 – March 14, 2018

Individuals

Brea Arvidson	Bob and Joyce Girvin	Wayne and Margaret McCarthy
Roland Berube	The Honorable Suzanne H. Gottling	Edward W. Olney
Stephen and Christie Bravo	Phee and John Grandbois	Gordon and Carolyn Page
Mr. Geoffrey Brookman	Barbara and Swen Gustafson	Jean Pennucci
Sue and Frank Burgess	Alan P. and Linnea H. Hallee	Joan and Win Raynor
The Honorable Shane Buzzell*	Arlene Hawkins	Barbara Rushmore and Fred Stepanek
Peter Carswell and Norma Bishop	Susan Haydock	Laurie Smith
Martha Cloutier	James and Lisa Hayes, Jr.	William Spears and Robin MacIlroy
Robert Compton	Katie and Viking Hedberg	Marcia Steckler
John and Tina Cotton	Karen Henry and David Cole	Ryan Stewart
Susan Cox	Chris Hilton	The Thompson Family
Kin Earle and Dr. Miriam Nelson	Richard Hovey and Jane Bradley	James Thompson
Donald and Judy Flock	Ethan and Brandy Hugo	Steve and Pam Van Beaver
Felicity A. Freund	Joan Izen	Craig and Susan Wilson
Emily Geoghegan	Evan and Catherine Jahos	Robert Wipfler
Richard and Carol Gerken	Homai Khanna	<i>*Given in memory of Buzz Harrington.</i>
Nancy Gertner and John Reinstein	Vera Kirk	Foundations
Priscilla Giles	Guy Leone	ExxonMobil Foundation
	Claude and Carol Levesque	
	David and Leslie Lynch	

Come visit us & our new Community Room!

To bring on more staff and ramp up our efforts to address the existing and emerging threats to our lakes, we needed more space! In late January, we moved to an easy-to-access office within a bustling office park in southeast Concord. Our new mailing and physical address is: NH LAKES, 17 Chenell Drive, Suite One, Concord, NH 03301. If you are in Concord, feel free to stop by! Look for the parking spaces marked 'visitor' or park along Chenell Drive.

And, now's the time to book your next lake meeting in our new Community Room! This meeting space accommodates up to 10 individuals in a variety of table configurations and we can provide a projector, screen, and conference phone. To schedule your lake meeting, email us at info@nhlakes.org.