

Maine Lake Society's Long-Time Executive Director and LakeSmart Creative Force, Maggie Shannon, Set to Retire

By Peter Kallin, Past President



This edition of our newsletter is dedicated to Maggie Shannon, who herself has dedicated 20+ years of work to saving Maine's lakes for future generations. She grew up summering idyllically on the lake that was the setting for the play, "On Golden Pond." In 1998, she and her husband, Roger, retired and returned to Maine to live out their golden years on Golden Pond.

Maggie became active in the **Belgrade Lakes Association (BLA)**, founded in 1908 to protect and preserve two of the Belgrade Lakes. When invasive milfoil was discovered in a nearby lake, Maggie worked tirelessly to help the BLA organize the fight against this threat to her lake. She organized and trained teams of volunteers to act as courtesy boat inspectors (CBI) at the public boat ramps to prevent the spread of invasive plants to nearby lakes and worked with other conservation organizations to lobby the legislature to protect Maine lakes from invasive plants.

In 2001, after impassioned testimony from "Milfoil Maggie," the legislature passed Maine's Milfoil law by a single vote. This law, subsequently replicated in numerous other states, provides dedicated funding for invasive plant education, prevention and mitigation.

Recognizing the power of groups working together to achieve common goals, while still serving as President of BLA, Maggie joined the board of the **Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance (BRCA)** and helped form the BRCA Lake Trust, a strategic alliance of the five lake associations in the 7-lake, Belgrade Lakes Watershed that coordinates watershed-wide programs. The BRCA CBI program quickly became the largest in the state and the BRCA Watershed Program conducted nonpoint source (NPS) pollution surveys of all seven of the Belgrade Lakes between 2000 and 2003, with Maggie serving as a volunteer on most of the surveys.

Not content with protecting just seven lakes, in 2003 Maggie became the Executive Director of the Maine Congress of Lake Associations (MCOLA), while continuing to serve on the boards of both BLA and BRCA. MCOLA was a state-wide organization dedicated to protecting Maine Lakes through science, education, and policy.

Often working 60-70 hours/week in this part-time position, she turned MCOLA into a major player in the state's environmental policy community and was responsible for numerous legislative victories that benefit Maine lakes today, including the 2007 ordinance that severely restricts the use of phosphorus fertilizers. For this she was recognized by the Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM) in 2007 with the "People's Choice Award" for "extraordinary service for Maine's environment."

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Letter from our President

Dear Friends of Maine Lakes,

It's been a busy summer and fall at the Maine Lakes Society! The biggest news is the hiring of our new Executive Director, Susan Gallo. Susan brings 20 years of experience delivering education and outreach programs, including management of the statewide Maine Loon Project, Fish Lead Free Project and the Maine Amphibian Monitoring Program at Maine Audubon. Susan started her new position on November 5th and is already taking leaps and bounds to make important connections across the state and bolster support for lake associations statewide.



*Susan Gallo, New Executive Director
for Maine Lakes Society*

This winter, our board will be working diligently with our new Executive Director to plan for a successful year ahead. This means reviewing policy priorities to present to incoming legislative decision makers, lining up speakers for our annual Maine Lakes Conference, reviewing LakeSmart standards, lining up participants for our summer LakesAlive! programming, and improving communication to our membership to keep you informed of important lake and watershed related issues through our E-News, Facebook page, website and other media outlets.

LakeSmart, our flagship program, had another successful year of growth. This included bringing on several new lakes, streamlining the program through ongoing formation of regional "HUBS," development of a series of new online LakeSmart Training videos, and a new LakeSmart App that allows trained evaluators to input their data into their Smartphone, tablet or computer. These changes have helped streamline the training and data management process as the program continues to grow.

Here at Maine Lakes Society, we believe that every developed lake in Maine needs LakeSmart, and here are just a few reasons why:

- 1)The increasing number of violent rain events will load more phosphorus into our lakes.
- 2)More drought periods mean there will be increased erosion when rain does occur.
- 3)Maine wants development, but uninformed development in lake watersheds threatens water quality. LakeSmart allows some development while protecting water quality and providing resiliency to climate change.
- 4)Changing economic conditions have altered camp use to favor rentals. This means more folks unfamiliar with lake fragility are living on and utilizing the vital shorelines.
- 5)Lack of environmental awareness and uneven enforcement foster unwanted consequences for our lakes.

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Believe in Your Lake Association

by Wynn Muller, Maine Lakes Society, Executive Committee Member

Having been a member of the Friends of Wilson Lake (FOWL) since its inception in 1989, I found myself its president in 2003 when the association was in a rocky state. But with enthusiasm and a belief in our association, I have found ways to overcome these challenges, making FOWL a respected organization within our community.

My predecessor resigned in 2003, when membership was below 100, most of whom were lake residents. Income was low, about \$1,300 for the year, but fortunately expenses were lower at only \$600. We had \$1,500 additional in a memorial donation, but the widow could not decide on how best to spend these funds.

Then the secretary resigned, as did the treasurer. Concern over invasive plants statewide was growing. And specific concern to our lake residents was a proposal for houseboats as a way to avoid property taxes.

This is how my presidency began.

I chose to embrace the challenges, seeing them as a wonderful opportunity to get started. First order of business was to dream how the organization should look.

I believed the lake belonged to the town residents and they needed to be a part of its conservation. I dreamed of an organization consisting of lake and other town residents, and business members. This had to be an organization the whole community would want to join.

I dreamed of a business community willing to buy ads in our newsletter. We now have 25 active advertisers. I dreamed of a membership of more than 200 enthusiastic members. We are now more than 300. And I dreamed of activities that our members would love to participate in, such as LakeSmart, CBI, etc.

Perhaps I dreamt too much, but one must be optimistic and enthusiastic. Hitting the ground running, I located a new secretary from within membership. And by asking the town librarian who might make a good treasurer, she volunteered herself.

We then created a committee to deal with the house boat issue, which took two years to resolve. And we set up the layout for the town to handle payroll for invasive-plant boat monitors. And with a change to our bylaws opening membership to non-lake residents and businesses, we immediately saw a spike in membership.

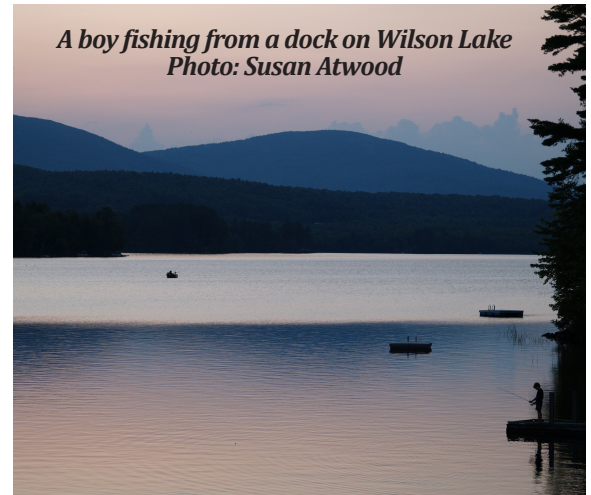
In turn, we joined the local Chamber of Commerce, allowing us to recruit additional members from that organization. And we recruited other townspeople whose children were in a swimming program at the lake.

With more members, we could offer more projects and programs to protect the lake, promote FOWL and show off all that Wilson Lake offers. We introduced LakeSmart and boat monitoring; we offered scholarships and seminars; and we created a lake map so members could see who lived where and learn the lake's history. And via the lake map, we expanded our festival boat rides to show off the LakeSmart homes.

Some of my dreams didn't quite work out as planned, but, with that enthusiasm and optimism, things worked out in the end. For example, we created an ordinance to address the house boat issue that was concerning to lake residents. Unfortunately, at the 2004 town meeting, the ordinance was voted down 47 to 44. But even worse, it was obvious at the meeting there was a negative feeling by town residents towards our lake residents.

While not completely eliminated, that resentment has mainly been overcome, in large part for the respect of FOWL. By bringing some of those opposed to the ordinance into our committee and listening to their concerns, we were able to pass the ordinance at the next town meeting in 2005.

Dream it and do it! It can be done!



*A boy fishing from a dock on Wilson Lake
Photo: Susan Atwood*

Maine Lakes Society's heart and soul, Continued

Realizing that education of the next generation is critical to protecting water quality, she joined the board of the Maine Lakes Conservancy Institute (MLCI) and oversaw a merger of MLCI with MCOLA that expanded the use of their floating classroom, the Melinda Ann, by Maine schools and other youth groups. This merger created the **Maine Lakes Society** and Maggie has been the Executive Director and driving force of our organization for most of its existence.

In 2009, she became a Principal Investigator in an NSF grant with Colby College that is continuing to turn scientific knowledge into action to protect water quality. When Maine elected a governor with an anti-environment agenda in 2010, she became part of the coalition that successfully worked to achieve bipartisan compromises for more moderate legislation.

Maggie has influenced every piece of legislation that affects Maine lakes in the past fifteen years and was instrumental in making MLS a major player in Maine's Environmental community.

Additionally, she spearheaded a pilot program to expand Maine DEP's LakeSmart program using specially trained and certified citizen volunteers that has been wildly successful, more than doubling the rate at which award-winning properties are being recognized across the state.

This has enabled this nationally recognized environmental social marketing program to become sustainable and get more people to "live lightly on the land for the sake of the lakes." In 2012, she was recognized nationally as a Purpose Prize Fellow for her contributions to helping to protect Maine's Lakes.

She continued to focus her energies on building capacity to protect Maine's lakes. While serving on the boards of both BLA and the BRCA, she helped with the "Docks to Doorways" campaign that eventually resulted in the creation of the Maine Lakes Resource Center (MLRC). She was instrumental in bringing hundreds of elementary and middle school students to the MLRC, usually for programs involving the Melinda Ann.

She was deeply involved in the consolidation of the MLRC with BRCA that has resulted in the 7-Lakes Alliance (7-LA). She served on several committees during that process and was a board member of the new organization until health issues forced her to resign. She has continued to chair the Lake Trust, which comprises the watershed side of the new organization and continued to lead the Maine Lakes Society, including advocating at the Federal level for restoration of funding for the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). She was recently recognized by USEPA Region 1 with a 2018 Environmental Merit Award for her commitment to environmental issues in her community, one of just three people recognized from the State of Maine.

In summary, Maggie has been at the center of virtually every significant effort to protect water quality, state-wide for more than twenty years. She is dedicated to saving Maine's lakes for future generations, tirelessly lobbying for strong environmental regulations and learning how to actually get people to change their behavior to improve water quality. Her dedication is truly inspirational and she will be sorely missed. Thankfully, Maggie has agreed to continue to serve MLS as a special consultant to help us fine-tune the LakeSmart Program.

Thank you, Maggie, for all you've done and will continue to do.



Sen. Susan Collins and her husband, Tom Daffron, are pictured at their Cold Stream Pond home as they receive the LakeSmart Award from Jim Fenwood, LakeSmart Coordinator for Cold Stream Pond. Maggie Shannon, LakeSmart Program Manager for the Maine Lakes Society, is at the right.

Letter from our President, Continued

LakeSmart has a proven track record of building and strengthening relationships among residents living in lake communities, furthering the mission of lake associations, and providing a means by which neighbors can work together to protect their lakes from declining water quality. If you have been considering starting a LakeSmart program on your lake, or are considering revitalizing a program started years ago, now is a good time. Call our office to find out how we can help.

Wishing you all a safe and warm winter season,
and a joyous New Year!

Sincerely,



Jennifer Jespersen
President, Maine Lakes Society



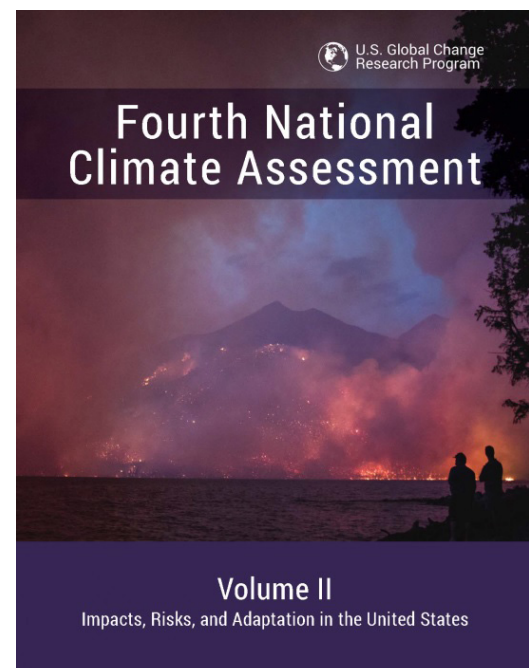
Maine Lakes Society's President, Jennifer Jespersen, leads a Mt. Vernon "Bugs in the Classroom" field trip.

The New Climate Change Report: Highlights for Maine and the Northeast

On Black Friday, even if you weren't out shopping the sales, you might not have noticed the release of national climate assessment by the U.S. Global Change Research Program, a cooperative effort of 13 federal agencies. The report, *Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States*, was compiled by more than 300 scientists, with both peer and public review. Its chapters include national topics, such as water, energy, forests, biodiversity, ocean resources, agriculture, air quality, and human health, as well as chapters dedicated to impacts for different U.S. regions and on mitigation and adaptation strategies. It will take some time to digest all this report has to offer, but a few highlights relevant to Maine's lakes:

- Warming water temperatures in all U.S. regions, affecting ecosystem health.
- Changes in precipitation and runoff, affecting pollutant transport into and within water bodies.
- Increases in high flow events, delivering more sediment, nutrients, and microbial pathogens to streams, lakes, and estuaries.
- Decreases in low water flow volume during more frequent periods of drought, impacting aquatic life due to high water temperatures and reduced dissolved oxygen
- Increase risk of harmful algal blooms due to an expanding seasonal window of warm water temperatures and the potential for episodic increases in nutrient loading

Maine Lakes Society will be using more information from this report as we move ahead with policy ideas that will protect the health of Maine's lakes. Visit nca2018.globalchange.gov to read report highlights and learn more.



Memories and Motivations

by Susan Gallo, Executive Director

My formative summers were spent at a tiny, rented camp in a small cove on Little Sebago Lake in Raymond. My memories of those summers are good ones. Well before cell phones, DVDs, or video games, our days were spent out of doors, playing hard - mostly in the water - from sunrise to sunset. The dads from the cove smoked cigars and played endless games of cribbage. The moms spent afternoons floating in their innertubes, noses white with Sea & Ski, cocktails in hand, leaving us happily unsupervised on shore. Any squabbling between us had to wait to be resolved until the cocktails were emptied, and in most cases the waiting itself provided the resolution we needed.

Most of the camps on the cove were older. We had to be careful with the tiny septic tank, bathing infrequently in the lake with a bar of Dove soap, going to town to use the laundromat, and being judicious with our flushes. We brought our own drinking water, which we used sparingly. My family packed into that small camp every summer until I was 10, when the camp was sold and expanded into a year-round home.

As a parent today, I feel incredibly lucky to share Maine lakes with my own kids. While we don't own a camp, we've stayed in cabins and campgrounds all over the state. We are also fortunate to have friends who generously share their camps with us all summer long. My girls know what it's like to fall asleep on a warm summer night, water-logged and exhausted from a day well spent on a crystal clear Maine lake, listening to loons serenade their dreams.

As the new Executive Director at Maine Lakes Society, I am excited to work on outreach programs and an advocacy agenda that will help ensure many generations of kids, far into the future, grow up with fond memories of their summer days on clean and healthy Maine lakes. Maine Lakes Society has an amazing track record of working with landowners, schools, legislators, government agencies, non-profits, and municipalities, and I'm excited to carry that collaborative spirit forward.

The threats to Maine's lakes continue to grow. All those little camps of my childhood have long ago been expanded and winterized. Their scrubby yards have been suburbanized with grass lawns that are mowed and fertilized. Their roads and driveways have been paved and their septic systems enlarged. With the help of Maine Lakes Society, though, the impacts to water quality from these kinds of changes have been minimized. Through advocacy for strong lake protection laws, the implementation of LakeSmart standards on lakes across the state, and outreach to all ages about lake ecology and conservation, the work of Maine Lakes Society is evident in the health of so many lakes across the state. I am excited to work with the board and staff of Maine Lakes Society to make sure all lakes are protected, and enjoy only the highest water quality, the healthiest wildlife populations, and the most exhausted and happiest kids they can be, long into the future.



That's me on the far right in the summer of 1969 on the beach in front of our camp on Little Sebago Lake. Clearly this was before anyone was Lake Smart



And here are my girls out for a paddle a couple of years ago on Daicey Pond in Baxter State Park, one of their favorite places, though now they paddle their own canoes.

Living Lakes

By Susan Gallo, Executive Director

As a wildlife ecologist, I spent much of my academic and professional career studying where wildlife live and why they live there. I wanted to bring my love of wildlife ecology with me to Maine Lakes Society, and share it with others who value clean, healthy lakes and their diverse wildlife communities.

You might be expecting me to start with loons, but I'll save that for another time. Instead, I'll start with the Odonates (better known to most of us as dragonflies and damselflies), because this group exemplifies the link between clean water and healthy wildlife.

Odonates spend most of their lives underwater. They hatch from eggs dropped in the water or laid on aquatic vegetation. The hatching nymphs then grow and molt repeatedly for up to four years. They are actively feeding and growing underwater all year long, which is mind boggling really when you think about it. Eventually they'll molt into an adult, emerging from the water to live another couple of months while searching for a mate to start the cycle over again.

Odonates are voracious predators, both as nymphs and adults. They help control other insect populations, especially mosquitoes, and they themselves are an important food source for birds, frogs, fish, bees and other critters. To complete their life cycle, Odonates need clean water full of oxygen, healthy aquatic vegetation, and diverse upland vegetation where they can hide from predators, find prey and locate potential mates. Each Odonate species has a particular habitat niche, so a mix of Odonate species around a lake is a good indicator of diverse and healthy habitats. Most are not tolerant of pollution, excessive nutrients or siltation, so as a group they are also excellent indicators of lake health.

How can you help Odonates?

Planting wide strips of diverse native vegetation along a lake's edge is not only good for filtering runoff and protecting water quality. It also provides good wildlife habitat. Tall vertical plants such as grasses make ideal perches, though mixing those in with other broad-leaf plants is ideal. See the grasses and other buffer plants listed in the Buffer Handbook Plant List (www.maine.gov/dep/land/watershed/buffplantlist.pdf). Some experts say that Odonates will perch on tall bamboo stakes (not live plants), about 3-4 feet high and set in full sun among other lakeside vegetation. And, please, do not use pesticides! Without reproducing adults, there are no eggs, which are a valuable food source important to a lake's ecosystem.

Maine's Damselfly and Dragonfly Atlas (mdds.umf.maine.edu/) lists Maine species and their distributions..

Odonata Central (www.odonatacentral.org) has natural history and habitat information by species, as well as detailed identification notes.

Damsel or Dragon?

They are close relatives but easy to tell apart. Damselfly bodies are longer and thinner, and their narrower wings are usually held closed at rest. Dragonflies have shorter, chunkier bodies with larger eyes and rest with both sets of wings open.



© Bill Bunn

The Slender Spreadwing (*Lestes rectangularis*) is one of the most common damselflies in the northeast. *Found in all 16 counties in Maine, on lakes or ponds with regular shade and dense emergent vegetation.*



© Bill Bunn

The Twelve-spotted Skimmer (*Lestes rectangularis*) is a widespread dragonfly found across the lower 48 states. *They prefer open and shallow ponds, lakes, marshes and slow streams with lots of sunlight and little surface vegetation.*

Lake Maps Help on Many Levels

By David Edsall, President, Branch Lake Association

After seeing the fundraising success Green Lake experienced with its lake map, the Branch Lake Association in 2017 decided to create a map of its own.

We wanted to create a recreational map that boaters and others would find useful and informative, with an educational component for environmental issues. In addition, we saw a need to help organize the invasive plant rangers to assure 100 percent coverage, while helping the loon counters in a similar fashion.

After the exploration of many graphic design programs that would not do the job we wanted, we decided to use the professional services of Bangor Letter Shop. Six or seven versions later, we had our result.

We developed a master map with six layers of graphics that included water depth, road maps with labels, landmarks, water features, loon zones, and plant ranger zones. Using these various layers, we then produced three different maps: a recreational map, an invasive plant map and a map to help with the loon count.

The recreational map listed 26 landmarks, such as Leathers Rock and Burnham Point; and 21 water labels such as Breakfast Cove and the Narrows. We named the spots based on local input. Many places had more than one name based on who you asked. We included both names in some cases, and used names based on participation with our association. The naming of lake locations help newcomers get oriented.

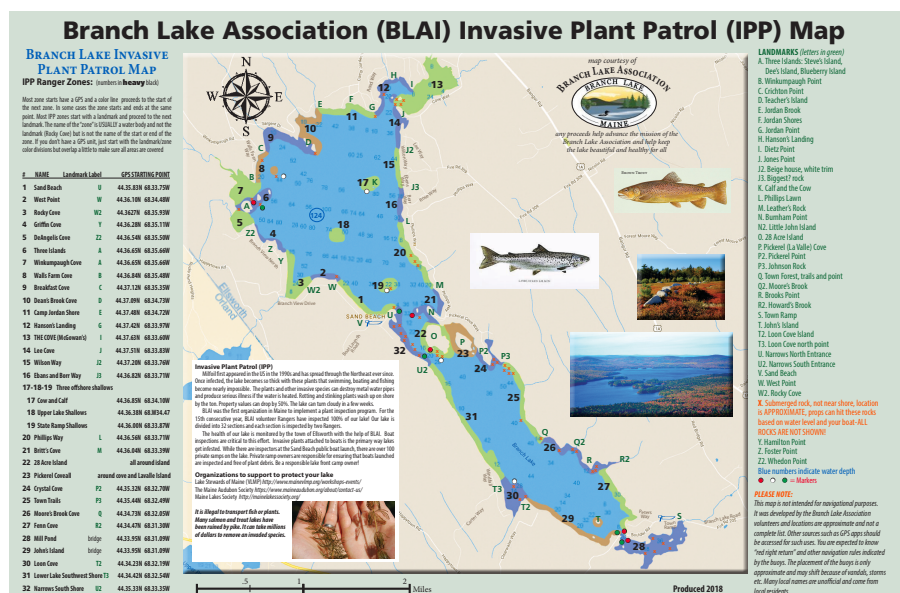
We also included water depth and road names, and located recently placed hazard markers. These markers are in areas of more than 200 feet off shore. This was not just for rocks that one could hit and therefore pollute the lake, but also unusually shallow areas that might be at risk if you dove off the boat when you felt like the middle of the lake might be safe. These areas are also littoral zones that are not near a shore and have no part above water.

For Invasive Plant Patrol volunteers we changed the map to show our 28 IPP zones and removed some of the unnecessary layers. Likewise for our loon counters, our loon map shows the 19 loon counting zones. This helps for assuring consistency and that all assigned areas are counted.

On the back of the map, we have information on certified boat inspections, history of the lake, Branch Lake association information, loon counting and IPP activities, invasive plant and erosion problems.

The cost to design and produce these maps was about \$1,700. This cost could have been reduced if we had access to someone with the skill to use the design program, in this case Adobe Acrobat. Many map programs cannot do layers (depth, landmarks, road names, water labels, proper font control size and orientation.) We invested many hours examining the capabilities of several programs only to find out we could not get the result we wanted. Acrobat was significantly more expensive, plus the time to learn to use it made us decide to go to a professional print shop.

However, the end result was worth it. In two months time, we profited \$700 by selling only a portion of the maps we created. Our association is currently selling the 11" x 17" map for \$3 each, \$8 for a laminated version, or four laminated maps for \$30.



So Many Ways to Support Maine Lakes Society!



Amazon Smile: If you're shopping at Amazon this season, simply use smile.amazon.com, and select Maine Lakes Society as the organization you'd like to support. Amazon will contribute 0.5% of eligible purchases to Maine Lakes Society. While that doesn't seem like a lot, with lots of participants and even a nominal amount of shopping, we know it adds up! Unrestricted funds from sources like Amazon Smile help support all our programming and outreach efforts.



Follow us on Facebook: If you're a Facebook user, be sure to follow the Maine Lakes Society page and then "like" our posts. The more you like our posts, the more people will see them. We want to see our base of supporters grow through social media. Please help!



Be An Advocate for Lakes: This legislative session promises to be a busy one, and Maine Lakes Society staff are excited by the incoming freshmen legislators, as well as the return of many friends from both sides of the aisle. Do you want to keep up with what's happening in Augusta? You can make a difference with a phone call or a letter to your legislators to support lake-friendly bills! Please send an email to info@mainelakessociety.org to get on our email list for timely updates.

LakeSmart - Our Time for Action

By Maggie Shannon, LakeSmart Coordinator

Photo by Jack Toolin

Like the slow approach of twilight, lake declines are hard to see coming. But, as lakemakers know, you and I didn't need the **4th National Climate Assessment (NCA 2018)** to tell us that growing danger is fast approaching places that we love. The NCA's stark warning – especially for the Northeast – tells us delay is a luxury we can't afford. It's time to act.

NCA 2018 said "... the Northeast is projected to be more than 3.6 degrees F warmer ... the largest increase in the contiguous United States" by 2035. (See the next article for more information regarding this report.) Among expected outcomes are longer stretches of drought punctuated by downpours during open water season - a bad prescription for lake health. Adding that alpine, freshwater aquatic and certain forest habitats (such as Maine's spruce and fir) are most at risk, **NCA 2018** emphasized that "increasing demands upon these ecosystems to support human use and development" intensify the threat.

A clearer call to action is hard to imagine, but when the very character of our whole region is at stake, choosing which path to follow may seem hard. We, at Maine Lakes Society, as well as many lake practitioners and leaders recommend adopting **LakeSmart** because its triple-bottom line is precisely what's needed in our time and place: stable and improved water quality; healthier wildlife habitat on land and water; and a brake against climate change itself. It's likely this remedy applies to most folks reading this article, since most of us live or recreate in developing lake watersheds.

If your association hasn't joined **LakeSmart**, we urge you to do it now while we still have a fighting chance to shield our lakes. For free training and materials, call Drew Morris at 207-495-2301 and ask to get connected to the LakeSmart, or write lakesmart@mainelakessociety.org.



Lightning strikes over Annabessacook Lake in August of 2018.

First Annual Photo Contest

Do you have a favorite lake photo you'd like to share with the public? Would you like to join in the running for the "Best Lake Photo of the Year" award from the Maine Lakes Society and be recognized for it at our annual conference in June? If you've answered "Yes" to either question, please consider submitting your photo or photos to us.

We often use lake and watershed photos to draw attention to and enhance our Facebook posts, emails and newsletters. Although we are never far from a lake, we might not be there at just the right time, like when the sun hits the water and trees just so or a loon swims under a magnificent rainbow. These are the powerful images we'd like to see, and, with your permission, use.



As photos for the contest are submitted to us, we will choose some to include with our posts, newsletters and other correspondence, while giving appropriate credit to the photographer.

Now for the photo contest rules:

- You must be the photographer and submit your full name so that we can give the required credit.
- Include the lake name, town and date when the photo was taken.
- Do not approach lake wildlife, especially loons, too closely. Give them space.
- Photos must embody our LakeSmart credo. There are many scenic views of our lakes, but unfortunately, they might not be a representative of proper lake stewardship. We strive to protect our lakes and we will select only photos that show no harm.
- Any photos of people should include names and permission for future use.
- By submitting photos, you are granting Maine Lakes Society permission to use them in future media campaigns, including social media posts, and publications.
- Photos can be sent to us by email (mlsadmin@mainelakessociety.org) or sent to us as a private message through our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/mainelakessociety).
- Limit of 5 photos per person.

We will recognize the contest winner and runner-ups at our annual conference in June. Beyond bragging rights and recognition, we will present a small token of appreciation to the winner. If you or a business would like to sponsor the photo contest, please let us know.

Lakes Alive! Had a Great 2018

As you can see, Lakes Alive! was alive and well in the summer of 2018! Board members Matt Scott and Pete Kallin, along with longtime educator Captain Phil, led programs at Camp Agawam on Crescent Lake. This included invertebrate sampling, which is always a big hit with kids.



Pete and Phil, as well as Board President Jennifer Jespersen, were at Wilson Lake in Wilton to take 4th and 5th graders out on the boat, with additional on-shore activities. More than 70 8th graders from Messalonskee Middle School closed up the season in a coordinated outreach effort with 7 Lakes Alliance in

October that included both boat trips as well a rotating series of indoor and outdoor watershed activities.

In our planning for 2019, we'd like to continue collaborating with other educators, combining boat outings with onshore watershed activities, and getting more school kids to the Maine Lakes Resource Center where we can efficiently get more kids out on the water. If you are an interested teacher, or know someone who works with kids who would like to explore this amazing outdoor learning opportunity, please email us at info@mainelakessociety.org.



About 70 students from Team Highlands at Messalonskee Middle School took part in our Lakes Alive! Program Oct. 3-4, 2018

LakeSmart Tip: Shoreline Rip-Rap

Heavy, irregular-shaped rocks are fit into place to manage lake banks severely undercut by waves or eroded by water flowing across the property into the lakes. Native trees and shrubs, planted above the rip-rap, filter nutrients and pollutants from the runoff. For more information or a free LakeSmart visit, please email info@mainelakessociety.org or call 207-495-2301.



Before



After

Maine Lakes Society

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Find us on
Facebook!

SAVE THE DATE!

Our 49th Annual Lakes Conference will be Saturday, June 22, 2019 in Farmington.
We'll have many more details about the conference beginning in the New Year.

Yes! Count ME as a Friend of Maine Lakes!

My Donation: (please check one)

☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25

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