

Water is a Non-Partisan Issue!

Maggie Shannon

Few things are more fundamental than water, and now two federal actions could affect Maine waters in harmful ways. We are asking you to help us ensure that correct decisions are made.

Federal Cuts to the USEPA In Maine, where the health of fresh and coastal waters is synonymous with economic survival as well as life itself, the administration's proposed 31% cut in EPA funding poses an existential threat. Lakes, which are uniquely difficult and costly to restore, are especially at risk in Maine because our state depends entirely on EPA for all public funds for lake protection and restoration. The money is made available to towns, agencies and associations through competitive grants under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, and is largely spent on improving gravel roads, the leading cause of water quality degradation in lakes. Maine needs these funds, and we need to tell our congressional delegation to retain EPA funding.

An Important Water Law Is also Threatened

The law which protects intermittent headwater streams and wetlands, the Clean Water Rule (WOTUS), is headed for repeal by Congress. However small and seemingly insignificant they seem, headwater streams are feeders for the entire aquatic system. If they are abused, built over, or loaded with nutrients, the quality and quantity of all downstream waters will be affected, and the breeding habitat for Eastern brook trout will disappear. WOTUS also protects wetlands which save the public more than \$500,000 annually through nutrient uptake and flood control.



Senator King and Maggie Shannon in DC

Announcing!

*2017 Maine Lakes Society
Stewardship Awards*

Call for Nominations

Volunteer lake stewards are the front lines of lake protection in Maine. The Maine Lakes Society seeks your help to identify the extraordinary leaders among us so that we can celebrate and learn from them. We are now seeking nominations to honor individual lake stewards and associations whose contributions are making a real difference for our lakes. Winners will be honored on June 23 at the 2018 Maine Lakes Conference at the University of Maine at Farmington.

Who inspires you? Let us know.

• **Lake Steward of the Year**

Do you know an outstandingly inspiring person in your lake community? Someone who has sparked important programs and seen them through to implementation? Someone who inspires others to give lake conservation their best shot, too? We want to hear about dedicated stewards who are leaders in their communities.

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continued on page 8...



P.O. Box 447
137 Main St.
Belgrade Lakes, Maine 04918
Phone: 207.495.2301

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Letter from our President

Dear Friends of Maine Lakes,

At the end of October, Maine was hit with a one-two punch that began with the remains of a rapidly moving tropical depression that brought torrential rains one week followed by a hybrid storm a few days later, created when a second tropical depression combined with a strong upper level jet stream trough. That brought more rain and very high winds, resulting in massive damage to trees already weakened by the warm, dry fall. Large oak trees, which still had their foliage, lost large branches or snapped their trunks while shallow-rooted trees like white pines were uprooted from the saturated soils. This was especially true in exposed areas such as the edge of roadways so there was extensive damage to power lines that resulted in hundreds of thousands of power outages across the state, more than 500 of whom are still without power ten days later. I got to spend several days without power and clean, running water, two things we usually take for granted and was struck by how much more value we place on things when we suddenly don't have them. I began collecting buckets of rainwater to flush toilets, took out my chainsaw and began laying in more wood for the woodstove and helping the neighbors clear downed trees. Neighbors with generators offered up occasional hot showers and, by working together, eventually we all weathered the storm.

Another one-two punch is coming from Washington D.C. these days and threatening Maine's Lakes. The proposed repeal of the Clean Waters Rule (WOTUS), which was implemented in 2015 by the previous administration after nearly a decade of public hearings and a five-year review of over 1200 peer-reviewed studies represents an arbitrary rejection of sound science and the value of wetlands and headwater streams is punch one. Punch two is the



continued on page 3 ...

Yes! Count ME as a Friend of Maine Lakes!

My Donation: (please check one)

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

My Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ EMail _____

Credit Card: (please circle one) VISA MC Amex

Exp Date _____ Security Code _____

CC# _____ Zipcode _____

Especially for Lake Associations

by Wynn Muller - Council of Lake Associations (COLA), Maine Lakes Society, Friends of Wilson Lake, Past President

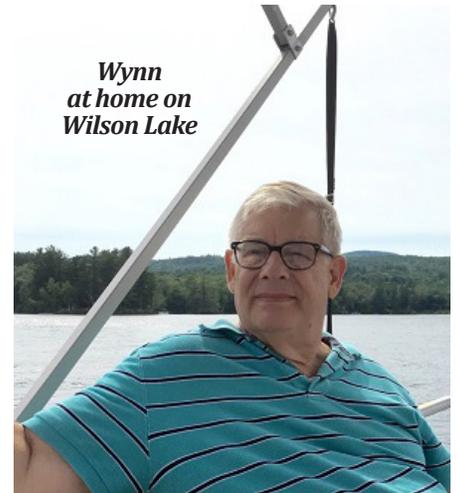
Wilton, Maine

Under the spreading umbrella of the Maine Lakes Society which includes lake advocacy in Augusta and Washington, DC, voyages of the Melinda Ann from lake to lake, and the expanding presence of LakeSmart Awards on shorelines across the state, we staunchly maintain our historic commitment to Maine's lake associations, because they are the front line stewards who protect and preserve these fragile wonders.

This commitment to grassroots conservation is what first drew me to the organization as the fledging President of a floundering Friends of Wilson Lake (FOWL) in Wilton years ago. I've learned a lot since then, and now, as a Society Board Member and Past President of FOWL, I'm delighted to inaugurate this column, **ESPECIALLY FOR LAKE ASSOCIATIONS**, a regular feature of the Society's newsletter from now on.

As you think ahead to the New Year and plan your association's activities, allow me offer you some discoveries from my 12 years as the President of FOWL Not long ago, the FOWL board stood back and took a good look at our broad range of activities and decided to organize ourselves more efficiently. Our Executive Committee grouped all activities into three focus areas:

Water Quality – our mission, the reason for our existence; **Administration** –organizational development and support; and **Outreach** – informing our constituents of our existence and our mission. This gave us a better handle on our work. Here is the list of what we came up with. Some of you will notice that while I have called these “committees” many are in fact really tasks that do not require much committee structure, but do need to get done.



continued on page 4...

Continued... proposed 31% cut to the USEPA's budget, which provides the resources to enforce the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. Maine normally gets about \$1.7 million/year from the EPA's Section-319 Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program. These funds provide staffing for at least 7 DEP positions that protect Maine's Lakes and the funding for matching grants to reduce NPS pollution to our lakes, rivers, and streams. The answer to weathering this storm is to enlist the help of our congressional representatives during the critical legislative and budgeting season taking place over the next couple of months. This in turn requires us to enlist your help in letting your Senators and Representatives know that these proposals seriously threaten Maine's Lakes and are unacceptable.

To that end, MLS is embarking on a stepped-up advocacy and policy campaign to make you, our members, more aware of these issues and actions you can take to help. We will be partnering with other Maine environmental organizations to mount educational press conferences, meetings with congressional delegates and staff, and organize letter-writing campaigns by our board and membership. Over the past few years our advocacy and policy efforts have taken on additional importance. I emphasize that our advocacy is strictly nonpartisan and science-based. We work to educate legislators from both sides of the aisle and enlist their help in implementing sound, science-based legislation, including testimony at public hearings and work sessions, usually at the state level but also nationally where necessary. Protection of Maine's lakes requires bipartisan support and time is of the essence.

Your participation in these efforts is critical. Legislators listen to their constituents and are influenced by your phone calls and letters. We need your help. The more members we have participating, the more effective our advocacy can be. Help protect a lake you love and all its Maine sister lakes. Ben Franklin once said, “When the well runs dry, then we know the value of water.” Hopefully we will know the value of our lakes in time to avoid a similar fate for our lakes.

As Best regards,

Peter

President, Maine Lakes Society



Continued...

WATER QUALITY: Our Mission

- 1. LakeSmart** - line up new candidates; coordinate with evaluator; conduct initial screening interviews, keep records.
- 2. CBI Monitoring** – coordinate students; coordinate adult support; develop and maintain sponsorships; enter data of results.
- 3. Water Testing** – Secchi Disk readings; Dissolved Oxygen (DO) readings; Phosphorous samples; Hobo placement; other types of tests
- 4. Work with watershed survey/steering committee to complete implementation of remedies** (for example roads and culverts – town roads and camp roads; inventory and maintain status of condition)

ADMINISTRATION – Organizational Development and Support

- 1. Newsletter** – write; edit; layout; print; mail; maintain mailing lists, both paper and electronic
- 2. Corporate Partnerships** – renew old newsletter ads; solicit new ads; maintain mailing lists; coordinate with CBI sponsorships; develop Annual Partner Day
- 3. Individual/Family Memberships** – renew old members; recruit new members; create new sources of members; maintain mailing list
- 4. Financial Stability/Budget** – work with Treasurer and President to prepare annual budget; oversee and audit budget quarterly
- 5. Fundraising as Necessary** – develop ideas for producing new sources of revenue and ways to develop these ideas constructively; grant writing; business sponsorships and ads.
- 6. Website Maintenance** - maintain our current website presence; review other websites to ensure we are competitive
- 7. Social Media Presence** – develop and maintain relationships with the press, Facebook account, and be aware of current trends in this area
- 8. Mailing List Maintenance** – work with membership committee to update and add new entries and to purge old entries

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Awareness of FOWL and our Mission

- 1. Loon Program** – maintain in Wilton third grade; possibly expand to other schools; UMF alliance?
- 2. Prince Scholarship** – maintain current scholarship with Mt. Blue High School; develop new one with Spruce Mtn.?
- 3. Blueberry Festival Involvement** – continue to coordinate boat rides and loon booth; consider other opportunities
- 4. Kiosk Maintenance** – maintain with informative and interesting displays; attempt to involve other organizations in winter months; establish rules and schedule for use
- 5. Build/retain relationships with** - Maine Lakes Society (MLS); Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (MVLP); Lakes Environmental Association (LEA); DEP, and other related organizations
- 6. Build/retain relationships with other educational outlets** – UMF; Mt. Blue; Spruce Mt. and other local schools and organizations (e.g. Tyngtown, Wilton Fish and Game; Lions, etc.)
- 7. Expand the school awareness programs with help from** – UMF and Maine Lakes Society; perhaps include the Melinda Ann floating classroom

You might like to try this exercise on your own or borrow our categories to ‘divide and conquer’ your own work. I’m sure that like us, you will have programs that are unique to your situation, such as FOWL’s Loon Awareness Program. I would like to hear from you about your standard operating procedures and unique programs, and your challenges, too. Please drop me an email at wynnmuller@comcast.net with some of the committees that exist within your lake association.

2017 Maine Lakes Society Stewardship Awards

continued from front page...

• **Lake or Watershed Association of the Year** Are you proud of your lake association? Is it active in support of education, invasive species prevention or control, and water quality protection? How about outreach? Is your membership energized and informed? Tell us about your activities and programs so we can recognize and learn from real achievements.

Nominations are due by March 15, 2018. Please use the form below and send it to us at
PO Box 447, Belgrade lakes ME 04918, or info@mainelakessociety.org
Awards will be presented at the 48th Maine Lakes Conference, June 23, 2018!



LAKE STEWARDSHIP NOMINATION FORM

Please complete this form and send it to the Maine Lakes Society, PO Box 137, Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918 by March 15, 2018

Please check one category:

_____ Lake Steward of the Year

_____ Lake or Watershed Association of the Year

Nominee for Lake Steward of the Year: _____

or

Nominee for Lake/Watershed Association: _____

____ Best phone number: _____

Best email: _____

Home Lake: _____ Town: _____

Your Name: _____

Best Phone Number: _____

Best email: _____

In 750 words or less, please describe how your nominee meets our criteria:

New Signs from IF&W Inform Boaters About Maine Law

Timothy Peabody, Deputy Commissioner, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries has created new signs that will aid boaters and lake associations in keeping Maine's waters clean and safe for all to enjoy.

Headlining the sign is Maine's new law, An Act To Increase Penalties for the Discharge of Sewage, Septic Fluids, Garbage, Sanitary Waste or Other Pollutants from Watercraft into Inland Waters (PUBLIC LAW 2017 CHAPTER 49 – LD 357).

This new law became effective on November 1, and it creates an increased penalty if a person is convicted of discharging, spilling or permitting the discharge of sewage, septic fluids, garbage or other pollutants from a watercraft. The penalty is a civil violation with a minimum fine of \$500 and a maximum fine of \$10,000.

The signs also include important information about laws pertaining to personal floatation devices, harassing wildlife in a watercraft, operating watercraft under the influence and Maine's headway speed law. Law enforcement contact information is also posted on the sign.

The 12" x 18" aluminum signs are pre-drilled and easily mount to a metal or wood post. These signs are available to those who need them for a town-owned or private water access site. The state will be posting these signs as part of regular scheduled maintenance visits at approximately 500 state-owned water access sites.

If you have a town-operated or private water access site and you would like one of these signs to place at the launch site, you can contact the department at one of the numbers below and schedule a pickup of your free sign. We respectfully must limit signs to one per access site.

Those interested in Maine's woods, waters and water access sites should also check out the Department's improved website at www.mefishwildlife.com. The new site is mobile-friendly and provides users with registrations, licenses, fish and wildlife species information, and laws and rules.

We appreciate all that you do for Maine's waterways, and hope this new law and sign will help keep Maine's waters safe and clean for generations to come.

MDIFW Headquarters

284 State Street
Augusta, ME 04333-0041
(207) 287-8000

Southwestern Division - Gray

RR1, 358 Shaker Road
Gray, ME 04039
(207) 657-2345

Southwestern Division – Sidney

270 Lyons Road
Sidney, ME 04330
(207) 547-5300

Downeast Division - Bangor

650 State Street
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 941-4440

Northeastern Division - Ashland

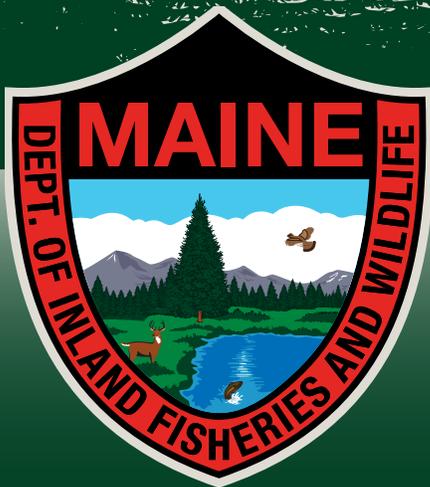
Physical Address: 63 Station Hill Road
Mailing Address: PO Box 447, Ashland, ME 04732
(207) 435-3231

Central Division - Greenville

Physical Address: 19 Village Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 551,
Greenville, ME 04441
(207) 695-3756

STATE OF MAINE LAWS

- ❖ Waste discharge from watercraft is prohibited on inland waters and ice (38 MRSA §423). Violations will result in a \$500 minimum fine.
- ❖ Watercraft must be operated in a manner that will not harass wild animals or birds (12 MRSA § 13068-A).
- ❖ An approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) must be available for each person on a watercraft. PFDs must be worn at all times by children 10 years old or younger (12 MRSA §13068-A).
- ❖ A person may not operate a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol or drugs (12 MRSA §10701).
- ❖ Within 200 feet of any shore watercraft cannot exceed headway speed (12 MRSA §13068-A). Headway speed is the minimal amount required to steer.



REPORT VIOLATIONS TO THE MAINE WARDEN SERVICE
GRAY 1-800-228-0857 AUGUSTA 1-800-452-4664
BANGOR 1-800-432-7381 HOULTON 1-800-924-2261

mefishwildlife.com

All in for the Maine Outdoors

Water is a Non-Partisan Issue Continued

You Stepped Up, and We Thank You

Recently we asked you for help on these two issues. 40 associations and nearly 200 individuals signed the letter I delivered to Senators Collins and King, Representatives Pingree and Poliquin in Washington, DC December 6. This powerful response carried real weight, but the fight is not over.

The budget vote will take place soon. Reflecting broad public support for environmental measures, the Senate has recommended a 1% cut to EPA funds (way down from Trump's 31%) and keeps 319 funds for 2018 at 2017 levels. We hope the House will follow suit, but there's no guarantee. The fate of WOTUS looks worse. A provision (AKA rider) eliminating public hearings and comment has been added to it. If successful, the administration will be able to silently rescind WOTUS behind closed doors, causing environmental damage across the nation and setting an appalling, undemocratic precedent.

More Help is Needed

We need to send this simple message to our senators and representatives: "No Cuts, No Riders!" If your primary residence is Maine, will you hop online to the websites for Senators Collins and King and Representatives Pingree and Poliquin and ask them to vote against the WOTUS rider and stand firm on USEPA funding? It's easy to do, and a good habit to develop! The simplest way to reach them is to Google the name of each delegate. A form for submitting comments will pop up. Fill it in and be sure to identify your home lake(s) and tell them why lakes are important when you solicit their help.

Immediate Lake Action here in Maine

The Maine Lakes Society has introduced a bill to double the capacity of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) funds to restore and protect lakes. Our bill, **LD 178: An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Provide Jobs, Improve Road Infrastructure and Protect Water Resources will be heard by the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee on January 9**. This is a \$5M bond that will augment the funds MEDEP has for 319 nonpoint source remediation by \$1,000,000 a year for 5 years. As you know, MEDEP's 319 Program funds projects that correct pollution issues in lakes, streams and rivers. Representative Russell Black of Wilton, a great friend of Maine's lakes, sponsored the bill.

Our lakes need these funds, and we need your help to pass this bill and take it successfully to voters in June. The hearing takes place at 1pm in Room 228 of the State House, Augusta. Be there if you can and testify if you are able.

Throughout this legislative session, we will be monitoring all bills affecting lakes and their watersheds on your behalf. Stay tuned in to legislative news by signing up for Alerts at www.mainelakessociety.org

Maine COLA

The More Things Change the More We Stay the Same

By Maggie Shannon, Executive Director

A while back, the Maine Congress of Lake Associations (COLA) adopted a new name. We chose the Maine Lakes Society to reflect rapid growth. In a short period of time, we had embraced youth education by absorbing the Maine Lakes Conservancy, greatly stepping up advocacy for lakes in Augusta, adding outreach to individuals as well as lake associations, and adopting LakeSmart, now our flagship program. Throughout this evolution, our commitment to Maine's volunteer lake associations has remained our guiding principle.

But changes can mislead. As an editor of France's oldest daily newspaper, Le Figaro, once quipped, "The more things change, the more they stay the same." He meant that superficial changes make the world appear to shift when, in truth, the underlying reality remains the same. So, just to be clear, we're signaling our continuing commitment to Maine's lake associations with several items in this newsletter.

First, you'll find a new column, **ESPECIALLY FOR LAKE ASSOCIATIONS**, by Maine Lakes Society Board Member Wynn Muller on page 3. Wynn is a seasoned and successful lake association president and an active director of the Society. His passion for lakes expresses itself by sharing knowledge and promoting exchange to raise everyone's game. Many of you know him from presentations at recent conferences.

Wynn's column is a companion to the lakely blog we'll introduce in January. We're building a space on our website where we can exchange easily with each other. We've always been a clearinghouse, now we want to take advantage of new technology to increase our connections. We're planning a spot where lakers can post comments and ask questions week to week and day to day. Look for *In My Element* on January 15.

Next in line is the introduction of annual Awards for Lake Stewardship. Check out the announcement on page 1 and on our website, and submit your nomination! Deadline for submissions is March 15, and Awards will be presented at the Maine Lakes Conference on June 23 at the University of Maine at Farmington.

And finally, to be sure we're on the same page, here is a thumbnail of the major services we provide:

- Free on-call help with organizational development, including consultation and referral on all issues related to lakes and their management via email at info@mainelakessociety.org and 207-495-2301
- Free presentations to lake association gatherings on the status and management of Maine lakes as well as referrals for engaging speakers on a range of subjects.
- Lake science learning and information about relevant programs, and peer-to-peer networking at the annual Maine Lakes Conference (a \$12,000 annual commitment to our community's knowledge base);
- Basic lake science education via The LAKE BOOK, A Handbook for Lake Stewards (hard copy for sale at cost, \$5 plus mailing, and as a pdf), and experiential lake learning aboard Melinda Ann with our Lakes Alive! program;
- Science-based policy and lake advocacy in Augusta and now Washington, DC, defense against rollbacks to Maine's



GIFTING MAINE LAKES

If you shop for friends and loved ones at smile.amazon.com this holiday season, and if you select the Maine Lakes Society, Amazon will donate money to us!

In fact, anytime all year you shop at Amazon Smile, Maine lakes will receive a donation if you name us as a beneficiary. It doesn't cost you a penny, and it helps the Maine Lakes Society field programs like LakeSmart and Lakes Alive! that help you protect your home lake.

After the Storm

By Maggie Shannon

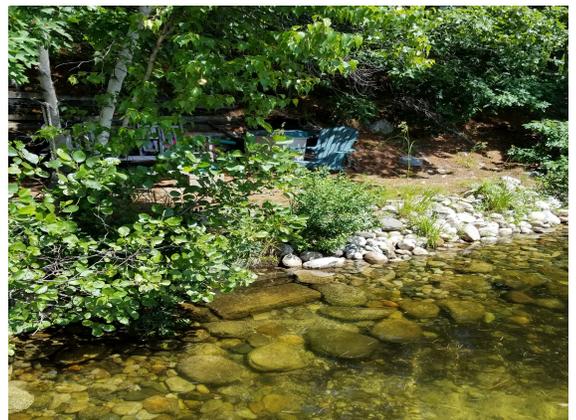
Nathan Durant, BRCA Youth Conservation Corps Director, did research for this article

The October storm that cut power for 70,000 Mainers and downed so many trees reminds us we're living with more extreme weather today. This latest storm damaged so many shorefront buffers because their exposure to the wind's fetch across open water made them susceptible to its power. Buffers prevent water quality declines, loss of beauty, recreation and market value. They also protect 60 species of native Maine wildlife. As you clean up after this latest onslaught, we encourage respect for the Maine laws that protect our waters and wildlife.

Follow these guidelines, and check with your Code Enforcement Officer for local variations:

1. No vegetation should be cut within 75 feet of a great pond. This is a resource protection area protected by the Shoreland Zone Act (SZA). Check with your CEO about permissible selective cutting here.
2. Another law, the Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA), requires that within 100 feet of the high water mark no canopy opening should exceed 250 square feet. If you have lost a canopy tree in that 100-foot zone, you should plan to plant a successor.
3. You may be exempt from these rules if storm-damage, disease, unsafe or dead trees need removal. However, you should replace losses unless successor trees are already present.

Here's a look at some LakeSmart buffers that protect the waters and wildlife we care about.



The Woodlands, First-ever First LakeSmart HOA in Maine

When Rich and Nancy Elias bought a boat 25 years ago, they had no idea how far it would take them. Because Nancy's grandparents had a camp on Snow Pond, the couple started trailering their boat from lake to lake in Central Maine. It wasn't too long before they fell in love with Great Pond. But the affair wasn't always smooth sailing.

They put in to visit friends on one of those summer days when fast-building storms can roll in over the hills with little warning. Amid high winds, thunder and lightning and rushing to get his pregnant new wife to safety, Rich lost reverse and couldn't turn the boat around when he reached the boat launch --which by then was a circus accompanied by a chorus of joyfully barking dogs. Helping hands assured safe landings all around, but Rich and Nancy knew from that moment on that they needed a place of their own so they'd never have to repeat that cliff hanger landing again.

They found and bought a camp soon after. It was in pretty bad shape, but they didn't care; it was on the lake! Their place was in the Woodlands, a 1930's fishing camp that stretches 1400 feet along Great Pond's southwest shore. Built and maintained with an eye for the beauty of woods and water, its log-sided cabins nestle under pines along a remarkably untouched shoreline. Rich says that as soon as they moved in, they began to learn about the lake from home owner meetings. They learned about Milfoil and became involved in surveying for it. And then they learned about water quality declines and became concerned. They learned about LakeSmart, too, and decided to invite a spokesperson to explain it to their board. People got excited and decided they would make sure every owner's property earned the LakeSmart Award.

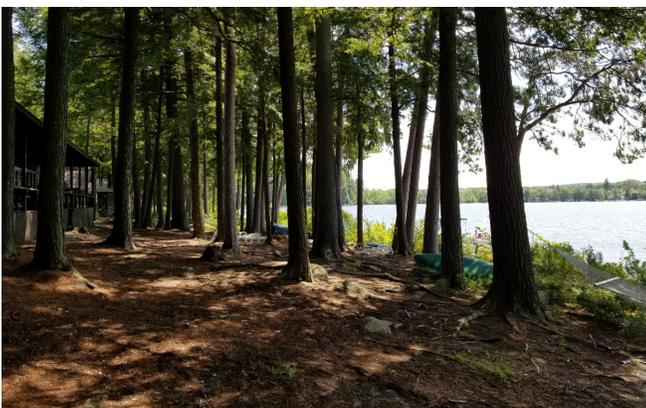
Rich drove the project, saying to neighbors and friends, "What is a camp if you're on a bad lake?" After the board met and determined that they were going to be LakeSmart no matter what, everyone wanted to be part of it. They felt so strongly, they mandated it! Three years later, every camp had passed the evaluation, and The Woodlands had become the first home owner association in Maine (actually on the planet) to have earned the coveted LakeSmart Award.



Nancy and Rich Elias at the Woodlands in September 2017



"How can you not get involved with this?" Rich Elias, Belgrade, 2017



LakesAlive! turns nature into the classroom. Below are some examples of youth education activities provided to local schools by the Maine Lakes Society. Projects are funded by local businesses, grants and individual donors.

Floating Classroom (Benthic Dredge)



Remote Operated Underwater Vehicle



Hunting for Macroinvertebrates & Conducting a Stream Assessment



Students Making Visual Observations (Habitat, Flora & Fauna)



LakesAlive! combines learning both in the classroom and out. Art and science are paired up to integrate and highlight what students have learned. Students become scientists.

Data Collection & Analysis



Dragonfly Larvae through a Microscope



Combining Art & Science to Express Knowledge of a Subject



Classroom Visits Enhance Learning about Watersheds



MARTHA STEWARD'S

2018 PLANNING GUIDE

January

- 2 Mail Lake Association Renewals with thanks to our members
- 6 Hold Association Board Meeting to plan for 2018
- 31 Full moon ski on the lake!

February

- 3 Board meets to pass budget
- ♥ Mail Membership dues to the Maine Lakes Society
- 15 Start to gather spring newsletter articles

March

- 2 Attend **LEA Milfoil Summit!**
- 20 Complete and Mail newsletter
- 23 Plan garden. Plant seeds.
- 29 Attend UMO **Sustainability and Water Conference** in Augusta

April

- 1 Sign-up for **Maine Lakes Conference!**
- ? Loon fly-overs start!
- ? Record Ice- Out Date
- 22 Mail Annual Meeting invite to Members on Earth Day

May

- 1 Remind members to sign up for the **Maine Lakes Conference June 23**
- 15 Put docks and boats in!
- 12 Hold **Buffer Plant Sale** for members
- 29 Full Moon Cruise with friends

June

- 1 Start LakeSmart and CBI programs
- 8 Attend LakeSmart Training Workshop
- 21 Celebrate Summer with a sailboat race and cook out!
- 23 Attend **Maine Lakes Conference!**

July

- July is **Lake Appreciation Month!**
- 4th of July Boat Parade on the Lake
- 14 Hold Kayak Race and Picnic
- 15 Send first CBI Report to LEA
- 21 Do Maine Audubon Loon Count
- 28 Attend **VLMP Annual Meeting**

August

- Summer Celebrations!
- 4 Hold **Lake Association Annual Meeting**
- 4 Present LakeSmart Awards!
- 11 Hold Are You Buff Enough Workshop
- 14 Unplug! Family arrives for vacation!

September

- 3 Hold appreciation party for Lake Association volunteers
- 3 Gather fall newsletter articles
- 10 Birches and maples color up
- 15 Order wood for winter

October

- 15 Take docks and boats out! Put garden to bed.
- 15 Send the last **CBI** report to LEA
- 24 Mail Fall Newsletter, be sure to include Annual Meeting date

November

- 4 Mail Annual Appeal to lake Association members
- 10 Attend holiday party for Lake Association Board Members
- 15 Report all **LakeSmart** Awards and Commendations to MLS

December

In the bustle of this busy month, a quiet moment comes when the murmur of waves along the shore begins to echo in our deep hearts' core, and -- like the poet Yeats -- we'll stop and think of summertime once more.

Maine Lakes Society
FOR THE SAKE OF MAINE'S LAKES

Thank You to Our 2017 Sponsors!

As our thank you to the Sponsors of the 47th Maine Lakes Conference, we are printing their logos here | Let's support these Lake-Friendly Maine Businesses!

L.L.Bean



Portland Water District
FROM SEBAGO LAKE TO CASCO BAY

A. E. Hodsdon



Maine Lakes Society

P.O. Box 447
Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918
www.mainelakessociety.org



Find us on
Facebook!



SAVE THE DATE!

47TH Annual Maine Lakes Conference

It Takes a Village to Protect Maine Lakes

On June 23, 2018, at the University of Maine, Farmington

A lot is happening in the world of lakes today and the Maine Lakes Conference is the place to find out about it all. Renowned lake activist Peter Lowell will start us off by sharing *Lessons Learned* from 45 years at the helm of the Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) in Bridgton. Following Peter's Keynote, a panel of loon experts from across New England will discuss *Loons, Eagles and Other Considerations: The Future of Loons in Maine*. After a networking lunch, you'll choose from workshops on varied topics and have the chance to win big at our Raffle!

We're pleased to be at the University of Maine at Farmington this year. It's a great venue and accessible to Sebago, Moosehead, Rangeley, Midcoast, north central and even southern Maine lake regions. If you're coming from a distance, you can take advantage of comfortable and reasonable accommodations at the University. Mark your calendar today and plan to bring a friend.