

# TADPOLE PATROL FRIENDS OF THE COBBOSSEE WATERSHED

Come learn about lakes this summer aboard the OTTER II, the Friends 22' pontoon boat "floating classroom", where children experience interactive, hands-on, FUN activities that focus on watershed protection and water quality. Five levels of these popular programs are offered for youth in grades 2-12 and adults of all ages!!

**Tadpole Patrol** is for children entering grades 2-3-4. Participants are introduced to lake ecology through exploration, observing of wildlife, and learning the basics of water testing with professional equipment. Each child will earn a Tadpole Patrol badge, t-shirt and prize grab bag, and each session can accommodate up to (10) children.

**TP II-LSI! (Lake Science Investigators)** is for kids entering grades 4-5-6. Building on the fundamentals covered in Tadpole Patrol, participants are placed in the role of "science investigator" as they observe the lake ecosystem, conduct water quality tests and record their data in their own keepsake journal. Binoculars will help identify species living above the water, while an underwater camera will be used to 'spy' on aquatic life living beneath the surface. Participants will also begin to learn about identifying native and non-native plant species. Each participant will receive a waterproof knapsack and LSI Journal, and each session can accommodate up to (8) kids.

**TP 3 – Jr. Lake Monitors** is for youth entering grades 6 and up. Designed for youth who have previously experienced Tadpole Patrol I and II (although not required), TP3 participants are educated in proper water quality data measurement techniques and conduct precise measurements themselves, then analyze and compare their results against data recorded by the Cobbossee Watershed District over the past 30+ years. Results will be posted on the Friends website for others to observe, with an option for each Jr. Monitor to have their data be personally recognized. Participants will receive a certificate of achievement, and each session can accommodate up to (8) young adults.

**Family Tadpole Patrol!** Here is a Tadpole Patrol experience for the whole family! During an hour and half long excursion, "kids of all ages" will be engaged in observing wildlife above and below the water, learn and share information about the human and natural history of the lake, and use some of our water monitoring equipment. What a fun experience for you and your child/grandchildren/friend to have together! Each session can accommodate up to (10) people.

**Spotter's Amphibious Adventure!** What better way to explore the watershed than to explore both land and water! Cruise aboard the OTTER II to a private island in the middle of the lake. Once on the island we will explore, learn about the importance of riparian areas for wildlife, the benefits of preserving wild spaces, and the basics of the "Leave No Trace" method of enjoying nature. Offered on Cobbossee and Annabessacook Lake and open to children ages 8 and up.

**Sponsored by Kennebec Savings Bank, Augusta Fuel Company, Modern Woodmen of America and Clark**

**Marine,** a total of 23 separate sessions will be offered throughout the Cobbossee Watershed this summer, including the following dates at Norcross Point on Maranacook Lake in Winthrop:

<u>Date</u>			
Friday July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tadpole Patrol (9:30am-12:00pm)	Family TP (1:00pm-2:30pm)	Family TP (3:00pm-4:30pm)
Thursday July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Tadpole Patrol (9:30am-12:00pm)	TP II-LSI (1:00pm-4:00pm)	
Friday July 10 <sup>th</sup>	Tadpole Patrol (9:30am-12:00pm)	TPII-LSI (1:00pm-4:00pm)	
Thursday July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tadpole Patrol (9:30am-12:00pm)	TPII-LSI (1:00pm-4:00pm)	
Friday July 31 <sup>st</sup>	Tadpole Patrol (9:30am -12:00pm)	Family TP (1:00pm-2:30pm)	Family TP (3:00pm-4:30pm)

The Friends can also accommodate private group sessions, such as scout troops or homeschoolers as well as offering birthday parties aboard the Otter II. Please visit the Friends website for more information, dates, fees and the registration form:

[www.watershedfriends.com](http://www.watershedfriends.com)

