



# Windy Waters Conservancy Newsletter

[waukewan.org](http://waukewan.org)

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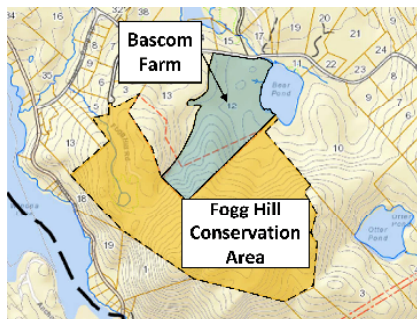
Dedicated to protecting and conserving the Waukewan watershed

Fall 2015 / Winter 2016

## Bear Pond Annex Provides More Headwaters Protection

In 2014 Conservancy members supported the Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) in putting 192 acres entirely within the Waukewan watershed into conservation. That tract, part of Center Harbor's largest undeveloped forest, which is east of Lake Winona, contains critical wetland habitats and the only level peat bog in the area.

There is an opportunity to expand these conserved lands on Fogg Hill. LRCT is now in the process of acquiring 42.7 acres of the Bascom Farm on Piper Hill Road that abuts the Fogg Hill tract on the north and includes over 1,200 ft. of marshy shoreline on Bear Pond. This addition will provide a better point of access for public use and enjoyment of the entire 235-acre conserved property.



Bascom Farm addition to the Fogg Hill Conservation Lands

A member of Windy Waters Conservancy has posted a challenge grant to match members' donations through the Conservancy to the LRCT effort at Bascom Farm. Your support will enable completion of the transaction and the planning documentation required by the government grants that are part of the funding. Please use the dues envelope to include your additional contribution or go to web site, <http://www.waukewan.org/make-a-donation.html>.

## Additional Protection for Snake River Sought

The Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act ("the Act") provides standards for development on the lakes and ponds in the Waukewan watershed. This Act applies to all state waters known as Great Ponds (10 or more acres in surface area) and "Designated Rivers." A Designated River is either one that was on the initial list when the law was enacted or one that is a fourth order stream or higher (a technical measure based on the number of tributaries entering the main stem).



Snake River looking toward Waukewan from above the beaver dam

The Snake River was not on the original list and is a third order stream. Thus, it does not have protection under the Act. Windy Waters Conservancy is leading an initiative to nominate the Snake River in the Rivers Management and Protection Program (RSA 483). Rivers that are accepted into the program are called Designated Rivers and receive extra protections. One of these protections is

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## Our Mission

Our mission puts particular emphasis on protecting the water bodies and the boreal and wetland habitats in the Lake Waukewan Watershed and preserving the natural resources, ecology and scenic beauty of Lake Waukewan, Lake Winona, Bear Pond, Hawkins Pond, Otter Pond and Tuttle Pond and combating, or preventing air, water, noise and light pollution on or around the water bodies and associated wetlands in the watershed. Contributions are tax deductible.

## Envisioning Swazey Park's Future

The Greater Meredith Program is organizing a design charrette to address Swazey Park on Lake Waukewan. A charrette is an intensive planning session where citizens, designers and others collaborate on a vision for the future. It is structured forum for ideas and offers the unique advantage of obtaining immediate feedback. More importantly, it allows everyone who participates to be a mutual author of the plan. The charrette will be facilitated by Chris Williams, AIA, of Christopher P. Williams Architects, PLLC of Meredith. It will be held on a Friday and Saturday in mid-July 2016. Dates will be available in our Spring/Summer newsletter.

## 2016 Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars now for the Annual Meeting which will be held at 6 PM on Monday, July 11th at the Meredith Community Center. Doors will open at 5:30. Details about the technical presentation will be available in our Spring/Summer newsletter.

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the application of the provisions of the Act regarding shoreland development.

Nominating the Snake River is a process that will take over a year to complete and includes legislative approval. You may obtain a copy of the petition from any board member or download it at <http://www.waukewan.org/snake-river-shoreland-act-protection.html>. Please sign it and mail to the WWC or return it to any board member. The application is due to the DES rivers coordinator by May 31, 2016, though earlier submission is advantageous.

During the winter the Conservancy will compile a nomination application and advance the process. If you would like to participate in this project, please contact the Conservancy.

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The name Windy Waters Conservancy™ (WVC) is the Business name of the Waukewan Shore Owners Association, a tax exempt charitable organization within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



Mosquito Bridge from Snake River

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## Mosquito Bridge Replacement on State List

As part of its 10-year plan, the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) proposes to replace Mosquito Bridge, located at the inlet to Lake Waukewan. On 10/27/2015 it held a public meeting with 100 attendees to discuss the plans for bridge and obtain public input. NHDOT outlined a \$1M replacement project to be completed in 2021, which would include 80% federal funding.

The bridge, on the state's Red List, is evaluated twice yearly and could be closed or posted if an inspection shows further deterioration. In addition to the concrete span, NHDOT believes that the stone abutments need repair. Waukewan Road, a Tier 4 State road with low priority for improvements, was installed in 1928. Its decking is 21 ft wide rail-to-rail and 13 ft long. According to federal standards the current guard rails and lane width are insufficient; Federal standards require a bridge with two 11-ft lanes with a 4-ft shoulder.

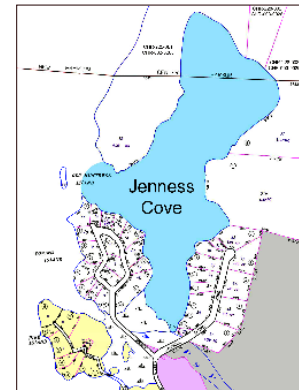
Options discussed at the meeting were: 1) Do nothing, 2) Repair the current bridge with dimensional changes to meet federal standards or 3) Replace the bridge but not change the road pattern in any way.

The meeting participants expressed concerns that widening the bridge will encourage higher speeds and larger vehicles and voiced a wish to keep the rural charm of the community. A petition with 250 signatures supporting repairs of limited scope was submitted to the New Hampton and Center Harbor Selectboards. NHDOT will estimate the cost of the repairing just bridge deck for the next public presentation.

This report is a summary of one written by Bob Vogler. His full report is available at <http://www.waukewan.org/mosquito-bridge.html>.

## No-Wake Zone Sought for Jenness Cove

The Conservancy has initiated the process of obtaining "no wake" designation from the State for the channels around Old Huntress Island and all of Jenness Cove (see map). Don Trudeau is spearheading the work (279-4647, [don.trudeau@waukewan.org](mailto:don.trudeau@waukewan.org)).



Jenness Cove

The objectives of a "no wake" designation are to increase safety for other water activities in the cove, to reduce wave erosion of the shoreline and to enhance the habitat for nesting loons and other wildlife.

The process will take about a year to complete. The first step is obtaining signatures on a petition which is available from Don or <http://www.waukewan.org/jenness-cove.html>. By early in 2016 the petition, application and supporting materials will be submitted to the State. Once the State has determined that the application is complete the State will schedule a public hearing in Meredith. That hearing will likely take place during the summer of 2016. Following the input from the public hearing, the State will act on the application and buoys will be installed.



Typical No-Wake Buoy

## Lots of Ways to Participate

Did you know that a lot of the work that the Conservancy does can be done from anywhere with an internet connection? We hope that you will work with us to support our efforts. Of course, we need and appreciate your continued financial support in dues and contributions to our conservation fund. Your specialized knowledge on a project or your persistent due diligence to monitor local and state governmental agendas are crucial aspects of our work. As spring rolls around there are hands-on efforts for the Lake Host program, lake water sampling, periodic site walks and regular maintenance. So we appreciate any role that you would like to play. Let us hear from you.

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## Membership and Donations

Ever since our founding 26 years ago as the Waukewan Shore Owner's Association, we have worked to protect and preserve the quality of our beautiful lakes. It's your dues and contributions that have allowed us such great success with the Spear, Baird, and Bergeron properties, support for the Lake Host Program, the VLAP efforts, etc. Please renew your membership now so this success can continue. Our membership year is from January through December.

You may send your dues or donation check made out to "Windy Waters Conservancy" to: Windy Waters Conservancy, PO Box 91, Meredith, NH 03253. You may also pay your dues or make a donation on-line with your credit card via PayPal. You do not need to have a PayPal account to use PayPal. Go to [waukewan.org](http://waukewan.org) and click on Membership or Donations.

Category	Amount	Operations Fund	Conservation Fund
Individual or Family (one vote)	\$50+	\$50	Balance
Protector	\$100+	\$50	Balance
Steward	\$250+	\$100	Balance
Conservator	\$500+	\$100	Balance
Life Member	\$1000+	\$250	Balance
Affiliate (Non-voting)	Donation Accepted		
Honorary	Donation Accepted		
Donations	Any	Specify	Specify
Unspecified Donation	Any	100%	0