



# Windy Waters Conservancy Newsletter

<http://www.waukewan.org>

Volume 32, No. 1

*Dedicated to protecting and conserving the Waukewan watershed*

Spring 2020

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The name Windy Waters Conservancy™ (WWC) 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.

## **NINETY PER CENT (90%)**

Did you realize that up to 90% of our lake's pollution comes from stormwater runoff from lake front properties? That is an amazing amount of pollution coming from something as common as rainstorms. One would have thought about road salt, road oils, etc.

Actually, it is good news because it means that lakefront property owners can take personal responsibility for preserving, even improving the water quality of Lake Waukewan for generations to come. If you notice ground water running across your property and into the lake during a rainstorm, then there are relatively inexpensive things you can do to mitigate the problem. Waterflow has to be reduced, detained, slowed down or removed.

This sounds like a big deal, but it really isn't. The first place to turn for information is:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organizati>

[on/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/wd-11-11.pdf](http://www.waukewan.org/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/wd-11-11.pdf)

Here you can learn about rain gardens, rubber razors, infiltration steps, dry wells, rain barrels, swales and other techniques which are very effective and generally quite low in cost. This is a great publication which you will find to be very useful.

Next, for the good news. The Windy Waters Conservancy operates a grant program to financially help property owners by covering part of the cost of their remediation project. Windy Waters will provide funding for 50% of your project cost up to \$500. This should make the financial considerations regarding fixing your stormwater runoff issue more palatable. The application and other program parameters can be found at: [www.waukewan.org](http://www.waukewan.org) under the Conservation tab.

If your property has a problem, we urge you to apply for a grant and take action. We are all in this together and we all want to preserve the beauty and cleanliness of our lakes for ourselves and future generations. If you would like to chat with someone about issues on your property, send an email to [art.vonderlinden@waukewan.org](mailto:art.vonderlinden@waukewan.org) and we will arrange for someone to meet with you to discuss your alternatives.



## **Save The Date!**

Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, 9 AM  
Windy Waters Conservancy's 32<sup>nd</sup>. Annual Meeting  
Meredith Community Center-Room B

## **LAVERACK NATURE TRAIL AT HAWKINS BROOK**

The Laverack Nature Trail at Hawkins Brook will offer a scenic, off road pedestrian trail, featuring observation platforms with descriptive signage, located in a large and diverse wetland complex that drains into Lake Winnepesaukee.

The trail is conveniently tucked in the heart of Meredith Village. The trailheads can be found behind Meredith Village Savings Bank and at Prescott Park at the other end of the trail.



The decking is almost finished as of March 16th, and the curbing has begun from the Prescott end of the boardwalk. Railings will come next, along with other finish work.

The Pathways Committee had planned for a June 7, 2020 Grand Opening and Dedication Celebration! But unfortunately the dedication that was scheduled has been postponed due to the corona virus pandemic. We'll try to keep you posted when it's rescheduled..

Hopefully the virus will not hamper the time schedule of Timber and Stone, the developer.

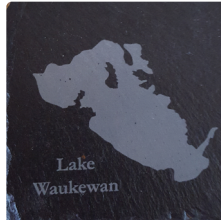
Our Windy Waters Conservancy has donated \$2500, over several years, to support the completion of the trail. We hope you will enjoy this wonderful trail and we look forward to seeing you at the dedication.

## A Message from the Board :

Our membership year runs from July 1st. through June 30th. Now is a good time to renew your membership for the upcoming year. Remember, your dues go to protecting your lake!

As always, we are hoping to add more members and gain more volunteers to join our Board of Directors. We are at a critical point in board membership. We are down to 5 board members, the minimum allowed in our by-laws. Without new board members we will be unable to continue the important environmental work we do to protect our lake. Board membership is rewarding on a personal basis and the organization does wonders for the watershed. So please reconsider joining the board, you can make a difference.

We have put together a welcoming package of information about the lake, the area, important contact info, and the WWC for new neighbors. We are also including two attractive slate coasters featuring Lake Waukegan. All current members will also get them when they attend the next annual meeting. If you're thinking this is just a ploy to get you there, you're right!



Best Wishes, the Board

*Chuck Bassett*  
Secretary, WWC

*Handwritten signature*  
Treasurer WWC

*RA Mintz*  
President, WWC

*Tony Sabutis*  
Asst. Treasurer, WWC

*Handwritten signature*  
Director, WWC

### Memberships & Donations

Ever since our founding 31 years ago as the Waukegan 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 placing land in conservation, such as the Spear, Baird, and Bergeron properties. We also provide support for the Lake Host Program, the VLAP efforts, etc. Please renew your membership so this success can continue. Our membership year

has changed to July 1st. through June 30th. to coincide with our annual meeting in early July. 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. Go to [waukegan.org](http://waukegan.org) and click on Membership or Donations. Contributions are tax deductible. Thank You.

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

## A Special Offer for Members

As we have pointed out, Stormwater runoff is the number one cause of water body impairment. Pollutants are picked up and carried in the runoff, finding their way into the lake. Stormwater runoff is the primary cause of many water quality issues, including cyanobacteria blooms.

In addition to the WWC grant, Windy Waters is happy to announce a partnership with Stephens Landscaping. Because they recognize both the importance of stormwater runoff mitigation and the grant initiative, they will be offering 15% off on native plantings for members of WWC on their property projects. Native plantings include a variety of trees, shrubs, ferns, groundcover and perennials. While your stormwater runoff projects don't have to be grant related, when combining both it's a win-win for you and the lake.

Our current members will receive a coupon for the discount along with this newsletter. Details of the offering are found on our website at <https://wwc.waukegan.org>.

### Legislation that could affect you:

Hearing and meetings have been suspended by both the House and Senate due to Covid-19.

The following are Bills that will be presented once sessions resume:

**SB 713-FN:** Winter maintenance of paved roads and other areas and reducing salt to reduce impact on lakes and other water sources.

**SB 627:** Establishing voluntary dock registration procedure. Registration with DES to reduce complaints, conflict, improve record keeping, and promote hassle free and environmentally protective permit requests.

**HB 1609:** Relative to seasonal platforms on public State waters. Inflatable platforms to be regulated by Department of Safety Division of Marine Patrol, for placement and safety.

**HB 137:** Wake Boat Study Commission. Scheduled to finish its work and issue report June 30, 2020. Since work has been suspended, report date is uncertain.

Concerns: Negative impact on shoreline, shoreline structures, moored boats, churning of lake bottom sediments. Flushing of water in and out of ballast tanks can cause the spread of aquatic invasive species.

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