



Windy Waters Conservancy Newsletter

<http://www.waukewan.org>

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Dedicated to protecting and conserving the Waukewan watershed

Spring 2022

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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.

E-Mail Request

Occasionally we have sent out an e-mail to all those for which we had an e-mail address. Examples of the e-mails we've sent are to advise everyone when a wayward boat or swim platform has been found, or to announce a planned snail hunt. And most importantly, an alert process is being developed to warn us when a hazzardous Cyanobacteria bloom is reported. You could expect about 6 to 10 e-mails per year; hardly an imposition.

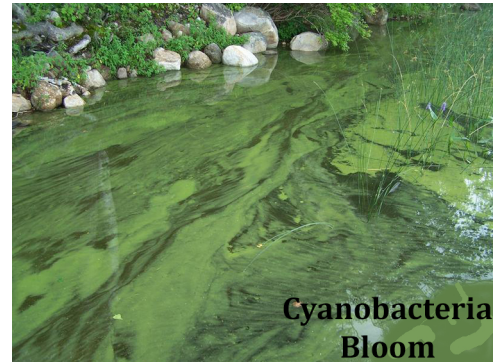
Rest assured that we have never given out anyone's e-mail address to others, nor will we.

If you agree that there are times when an e-mail from us would be usefull, send your e-mail address to wwc-support@waukewan.org

Cyanobacteria : A threat to all of us.

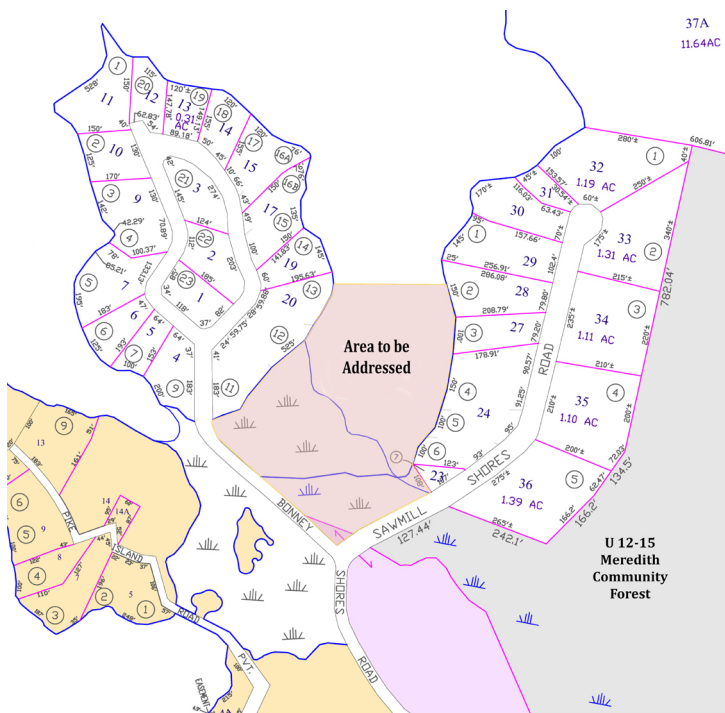
Lake Waukewan has experienced cyanobacteria blooms; fortunately these were mostly small and of short duration. But make no mistake, it won't stay that way unless we all do our part in preventing or minimizing these outbreaks. There are cases in other lakes, some close to home, of cyanobacteria blooms becoming so severe that it presented a health threat to people and pets, blocked the recreational use of affected lakes, and diminished property values. We can't let this happen to Waukewan.

So what can you, the individual homeowner, do about it? The biggest contributor to these outbreaks is excess nutrients in the water, caused by stormwater runoff, use of fertilizers and weed killers, and soaps and detergents high in Phosphates. The last two are simple to fix; just don't do that. Knowing what we now know about their harmful effects there is no excuse for using fertilizers or phosphate laden soaps near the lake.



Runoff into the lake is another matter. It may be harder to solve, but there is plenty of help. The NHDES has published a great resource for homeowners – NH Homeowner's Guide to Stormwater Management. The guide has DIY instructions for installing dripline trenches, rain gardens, infiltration steps, and more. The Winnepesaukee Association's Blue Crew is available to come out to your home, and conduct a free, voluntary, and confidential site visit to assess your property and provide recommendations for reducing stormwater runoff in order to make your property more lake friendly. And don't forget, the Windy Waters Conservancy still has the grant program for members which will cover half of the cost of runoff remediation up to \$500. Lastly, educate yourself. Learn more about the causes and harmful effects of cyanobacteria blooms. Investigate the NH Lakes' Lake Smart Program and how you can help protect this precious asset, Lake Waukewan. Attend the Waukewan Watershed Committee's Outreach Event and the Windy Waters Conservancy's Annual Meeting to learn more. And mostly take action to do your part.

The Windy Waters Conservancy will hold it's Annual Meeting on July 28th. at the Community Center. Registration starts at 6:00 PM and the meeting will begin at 6:30. All are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!



Source: Town of Meredith Tax Map S-16

Jenness Cove Update

As mentioned in our last newsletter, several Windy Waters Conservancy (WWC) members have raised an issue about Jenness Cove concerning increased sedimentation and vegetation coverage. They asked if there was anything WWC could do to help as they were having trouble getting to their docks and concerned that their waterfront was becoming more like a marsh. This could significantly diminish their property values and the increased vegetation could also encourage Cyanobacteria blooms with associated health risks. We sought professional help from DuBois and King the environmental engineering firm that completed the recent Monkey Pond survey to determine the causes and what, if anything, could be done.

The cost of such a study is between \$6,000 and \$7,000. The Board felt that this was more membership money than we should commit so we decided to approach those most affected, the abutters to the cove, offering to cover half if they would cover the rest. The result was very positive, with 18 of the 26 abutters agreeing to contribute \$300 each to fund the study. DuBois & King conducted their first field visit on April 15th. at 10:30 AM. We expect to have their draft report by mid May. Our hope is that D&K can provide a viable and affordable solution. A special thanks to those 18 generous contributors for being so willing to protect our lake.

Lake Waukegan's 2022 Lake Host Program NEEDS Volunteers.

Variable milfoil and other invasive plants and animals are a serious problem in New Hampshire. Once these species are established in a body of water, it's almost impossible to eradicate them. Milfoil seriously compromises the recreational, ecological, and economic value of a lake, costing tens of thousands of dollars to control annually.

The objectives of the NH LAKES Lake Host program are "to place trained lake Hosts at public motorized boat launch sites to:

- educate visiting boaters about exotic species by distributing brochures, answering questions, and completing a brief boater survey.
- conduct courtesy boat and trailer inspections of vessels both entering and leaving public waters;
- show boaters where to look for hitch-hiking plant fragments on boats and trailers and encourage them to conduct self-inspections;
- remove and properly dispose of all plant material found, and send samples of suspicious plants removed from vessels to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for identification."

This summer, Lake Waukegan will again be protected from variable milfoil and other invasive aquatic species through the efforts of three Paid Lake Hosts, as well as Volunteer Hosts, working at Waukegan's Public Boat Launching Ramp. The Paid Hosts will start Memorial Weekend and will cover Fridays, weekends and holidays. Our Volunteers will start July 5th and will cover as many other weekdays as possible.

Last year, our group of Lake Hosts performed 1337 inspections, and NO invasive species/weeds were found. This indicates that Waukegan's boaters are well informed and responsible as to the cleaning and inspecting of their boats and trailers. Inspection numbers have been down the last 2 years, however, due to Covid and bad weekend weather.

THE LAKE WAUKEGAN LAKE HOST PROGRAM REALLY NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS TO WORK ON JULY AND AUGUST WEEKDAYS.

Cont. Page 3

Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP)

Our Ongoing Commitment

Lake Host Program, cont.

For the Summer season of 2021, monthly water samples were collected and submitted to the testing labs at NHDES. The good news is that DES reports that Lake Waukegan is still considered Oligotrophic, the highest designation of a "young and healthy" lake, However, a number of concerning trends were identified and highlighted by the DES report.

Reported levels of Phosphorus were again elevated at both deep spot testing sites, Winona in the Southern part and Mayo in the Northern part of our lake. The northern section of our lake at the Mayo deep test site evidenced a four year progression of increasing phosphorus levels, numbers not seen since 1996.

Phosphorus is the most significant nutrient contributor to the feeding of algal and Cyanobacteria growth, with all the associated health and water quality concerns. Analysis of the extensive data found in the DES report points to an increased and ongoing nutrient laden run-off from our surrounding properties.

The Winter of 2022 saw the beginning of our winter season water sampling efforts, affording us a new perspective on the health of our lake under the winter ice. This was a first for Lake Waukegan, creating a parallel data collection stream to compare to the thirty year history of Summer season reports.



We extend our thanks and appreciation to our 'Winter Testers' Jamie Irving and John Slavik, and the 'Summer Testers' John DeMichaelis and Frank Murphy, for all your time and dedication. Thanks also to George Earl of Mayo Farms and Tim Whiting for graciously allowing their properties for lake access

points. The full texts of the DES reports, for both Northern and Southern deep spots on the lake as well as multiple tributary testing sites is readily available on the Windy Waters website at <https://wwc.waukegan.org/vlap.html>. It's an easy read and quite informative.

For VLAP,
Frank Murphy

A Host's time spent manning the Lake Waukegan ramp can range from 1-4 hours per week, according to your schedule. An hour of training will be provided for each Host.

Please contact Tim Whiting, Waukegan's Lake Host Point Person, at 603-279-7834 for questions or further information – or, email tlwhiting68@gmail.com to sign up as a Waukegan Lake Host Volunteer. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE

Did you know that there is a place to go to learn about storm water runoff projects, how to keep the lakes healthy, how storm water feeds cyanobacteria blooms and get a 15% coupon off of native plants?

Join the Waukegan Watershed Advisory Committee, Lake Winnepesaukee Association, Windy Waters Conservancy and Stephens Landscaping on:

Wednesday July 20th at the Meredith Community Center. Doors open at 6:30 PM.
Light refreshments will be served.

STORM WATER RUNOFF GRANTS

Windy Water Conservancy is offering it's Grant Program again for 2022.

It's simple. You invest some money on your property to mitigate storm water runoff and WWC will reimburse you half of your expenses, up to \$500.00.

If you think you don't have storm water runoff, think again. Next time it rains, go out and check your property. Those rivulets you see are caused by runoff. You can do something to stop it. Rain gardens, dry wells, swales and native shrubs are just a few ways to do it.

Storm water runoff is the primary cause of many water quality issues, including cyanobacteria blooms.

In addition to the Grant Program, Stephens Landscaping is offering 15% off native plantings for WWC members.

It's a win-win for you and Waukegan.

For more ideas and information visit our website at <https://wwc.waukegan.org> or contact us directly at wwc-support@waukegan.org

2022 Legislative Updates as of March 2022 HOUSE BILLS TO WATCH:

HB1066: This requires the commissioner of the department of environmental services to prepare a plan relative to cyanobacterial blooms in New Hampshire

PASSED HOUSE- Active in Senate

HB1042: Requires notice to vacationers about bacteria in water bodies

Inexpedient to Legislate (Killed in House)

HB1071: Requires wake boats/wake surfing setback of 250 feet from shore, docks and other boats.

Inexpedient to Legislate

HB1227: Refines definition of Prime Wetlands

Tabled in House

HB1424: Remove 45mph daytime speed limit on Lake Winnepesaukee.

Inexpedient to Legislate (Killed in House)

HB1528: Establish a public boat access donation program for non-motorized watercraft.

Amended by House for NH Fish & Game to prepare report. PASSED HOUSE in Senate

HB1418: Relative to permit notification for certain homeowner shore land projects.

Inexpedient to Legislate

For more current information go to: gencourt.state.nh.us

Traffic Alert : Mosquito Bridge construction is slated from Memorial Day to Columbus Day . There will be no thru traffic on Waukewan Road during that time.

Memberships & Donations

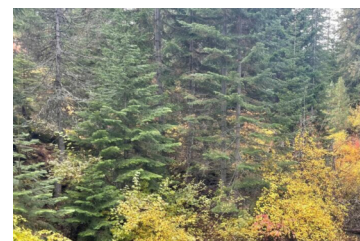
Ever since our founding 31 years ago as the Waukewan Shore Owner's Association, we have worked to protect and preserve the quality of our beautiful lakes. It's your dues and contributions that have allowed us such great success with placing land in conservation, such as the Spear, Baird, and Bergeron 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 waukewan.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

Reservoir Brook Restoration- Monkey Pond

Through a Moose Plate Grant obtained by the Belknap County Conservation Commission, the commission, along with NH Fish & Game and Trout Unlimited have spear headed a project to maintain Monkey Pond's ecological integrity and flood storage potential by placing in-stream large wood in Reservoir Brook. The project will mimic the natural occurrence that happens when a tree dies and falls into a stream. Installing these logs will reduce sediment down stream and ultimately in Monkey Pond, as well as form habitat for eastern Brook trout. The project is slated to begin this fall.

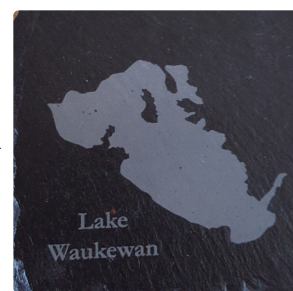


A Message from the Board :

Our membership year runs from July 1st. through June 30th. Now is a good time to renew your membership for this year if you haven't already done so. Remember, your dues go to protecting your lake!

We are very happy to announce that Jamie Irving has joined our board. Jamie is the owner of North Wing Design & Permits (Shoreland and Wetland). And, as a certified diver Jamie has lent considerable help to the summer snail hunts. As always, we are hoping to add more members and to gain more volunteers to join our Board of Directors. Our by-laws call for up to eleven board members so there are still three openings. 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. It also includes a pair of Waukewan coasters. If you have a new neighbor that we should contact please let us know.



We hope everyone stays safe and healthy during these "Pandemic" times and hope you all have a great summer season.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our annual meeting on July 28, 2022.

Best Wishes, the WWC Board of Directors

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