



# NEWSLETTER

2023

## From the President...

Excitement abounds with Friends of Wilson Pond Area, Inc. First, the generous gift of 15.85 acres by Charlie and Barbara Adams to Friends expanded land conservation on Lower Wilson Pond. In February 2023 anonymous donors gifted \$160,000 to us and in March anonymous donors gave securities worth \$40,000 to Friends. The generous donation and the securities are donor restricted funds and can only be used for specific purposes, one of which is a Stewardship Fund which will allow for maintenance and improvements upon both the Adams Preserve and our 1998 Conservation Easement. Thank you donors-you take our breath away!!!!

Friends applied for and received a property tax exemption from the town of Greenville on the Adams Preserve. The Board of Directors will consider a donation each year to the town in lieu of taxes.

All this activity led to the formation of a Finance Committee and an Anonymous Contributions Committee. The Finance Committee created an account at Camden National Bank to accept securities and invested the cash gift in Certificates of Deposit at Camden National Bank and Bangor Savings Bank.

The 2023 Ice Out Contest winners are Ed Linz and Melissa Tweedie. Congratulations!

Please mark your calendars NOW for the Annual Meeting: JULY 8 @ 10am location TBA. The Annual Meeting is at 10 am followed by Fire Safety Program @ 11 am, Lunch and Socializing at 12:30.

Old Camp Days: On July 22 @11 am, Join us at Johnson's camp on 33 Johnson Road for a BBQ. July 23 from 8-10 am is the Pancake Breakfast at Birch Point Campsite with Chef Shafer

Remember to check the website [www.fowpa.org](http://www.fowpa.org) for expanded information about all events.

Thank you to Christine Conrad, Max Hall and Norm Lamonde, our Communications Committee, for the new website and our ability to use Constant Contact.

Sincerely,

Kay Johnson, President



Friends of Wilson Ponds  
PO Box 454  
Greenville, Maine 04441

Please make a donation in her honor to your favorite non-profit charity.

Margaret Mary (Feezer) Pecoraro of Plymouth died peacefully on December 7, 2022 in her home, with family present. She was 77. Margaret was raised in Mankato, Minnesota.

Margaret lived in Plymouth, MA and taught history at Silver Lake Middle School in Kingston, MA for 35 years. It was at Silver Lake where she met Michael Paul Pecoraro, her fellow history teacher who became her husband.

Margaret was very artistic and creative. She loved to knit and crochet and was a stellar cook. She had three places she loved, Mankato, Minnesota; Plymouth, Massachusetts; and Greenville, Maine. Margaret helped, gave advice, and embraced family and friends in all three communities. But Wilson Pond in Greenville, Maine was Margaret's happy place where she was an active member of Friends of Wilson Ponds and the Wilson Pond Association.

## FOWPA mourns the loss of Margaret Pecoraro.

## Loon Count Results 2022

	Adults	Chicks	Total
Upper Wilson	7	2	9
Forrest Chamberlain	7	2	9
Lower Wilson			15-16
Jan Santerre	8		
Kaethe Weingarten	1		
Josh Shoemaker			
Dot Lamson	3		
Jane Benson	0		
Cheryl Brown	1		
Tony & Dosey Pike	3		

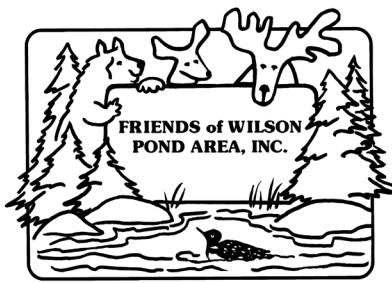
Thank you to our 2022 Loon Count Volunteers!

Loon Count 2023 will be on July 15. **Volunteers Needed!** Contact Kay at [kayorkjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:kayorkjohnson@gmail.com) to volunteer.



# Subscribe at fowpa.org

Simply go to FOWPA.org and click on the eNewsletter sign up.



## About FOWPA

In 1991 the Friends of Wilson Pond Area was formed. We acquired a conservation easement along the eastern and southern shores of Lower Wilson Pond in 1998. This easement guarantees no development within 500ft of the pond along nearly three miles of the shore, conserving 150 acres.

## Our Mission

To protect and conserve Upper and Lower Wilson Ponds and their surrounding areas for the benefit of residents and visitors.

## Our Goals

- Preserve biological diversity and ecological integrity of the area.
- Preserve soil, air and water quality.
- Preserve scenic vistas and the quietness of the area.
- Fulfill the responsibilities required by the current conservation easement.
- Promote public education pertaining to land conservation and ecological topics.
- Work with landowners and other organizations in the preservation of land.
- Seek funding and support for educational programs and land conservation.

## Board of Directors

President Kay Johnson	Directors:
Vice President Jan Santerre	Hilary Worthen
Secretary Cheryl Brown	Chris Reardon
Treasurer Margaret Phillips	Norm Lamonde
	Patterson Shafer
	Josh Shoemaker
	Christine Conrad
	Thomas Comitta

Thank you to Mike DeCaprio for your service as a member of the Board of Directors. Mike will continue to care for our campsites as he has done for many years.

## BECOME A MEMBER or RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Membership is \$25 per family \$15 per individual per year. We gratefully receive donations in any amount for our Stewardship Program. Pay online at FOWPA.org or complete the information below and mail in a check made out to the “Friends of Wilson Pond Area.” THANK YOU!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐NEW OR ☐RENEWING MEMBER  
Dues: ☐\$15 (Individual) ☐ \$25 (Family)  
Donation: ☐\$100 ☐\$50 ☐\$25 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please send to  
Treasurer, Friends of Wilson Pond Area  
PO Box 454  
Greenville, ME 04441

Please indicate below if you would like to receive your Newsletters via e mail. This saves trees and postage.

☐ E-mail Delivery Please

## A Reminder.

Membership Dues of \$15 single, \$25 family are paid annually. We gratefully accept back dues and donations at any time. Your dues help fund the Teen Wilderness Expedition, our programs, administrative costs, training for Invasive Plant Patrollers and Water Quality Monitors.

## Join Us.

Please consider serving on a committee. Go to our fowpa.org for the list of committees, current members, and a sign up form.

# LakeSmart Redux

Article courtesy of Lakes Environmental Association  
By Charlie Tarbell, LEA treasurer

Who doesn’t like to be recognized? It makes us feel good. Essentially, recognition is what LakeSmart Awards are: Recognition of a “job well done” in managing your lakefront property – benefitting your lake’s water quality. Yes, I’m aware that the LakeSmart “evaluations” are primarily education, not inspection, but the award recognition certainly doesn’t hurt.

Well, you may or may not recall that I had a LakeSmart evaluation of my property on Keoka Lake a couple of years ago...in the “beforetimes.” I didn’t receive an award. Although I initially did not achieve recognition, I succeeded in getting an education in lakeside property management. Indeed, I found out that what I once thought was solid buffer-zone management could really use some improvement.

I learned about soil stabilization techniques, duff management, and native plantings. I took some incremental steps to bolster my buffer zone by allowing some additional growth of vegetation, adding to the duff layer, delineating key pathways to the lake, and planting something called blueberry sod that I obtained from Blue Meadow Nursery in Lovell Maine. My improvements are proof-positive that you can teach an old dog new tricks.

Fast forward two years. The Keoka LakeSmart team (an epic volunteer threesome of well-trained lakefront property managers) re-evaluated my property. They found the changes I had made, together with the pre-existing solid management of my driveway, septic system, and roofline runoff, qualified me for a highly-coveted LakeSmart Award. Imagine my delight.

I want to urge any of you who have not yet taken advantage of the LakeSmart program to please do so. LakeSmart is about education. I thought I knew what I was doing in managing my buffer zone, but I found I could do better for the sake of my lake.

Our “boots on the ground” LakeSmart evaluator is Kacey Weber of Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District. Kacey travels from Dover-Foxcroft and would like to have six or more inspections to do in a day. So please ask your neighbors and friends to participate in this effort to keep the waters of Wilson Ponds and the Moosehead region pristine as they are now!!!

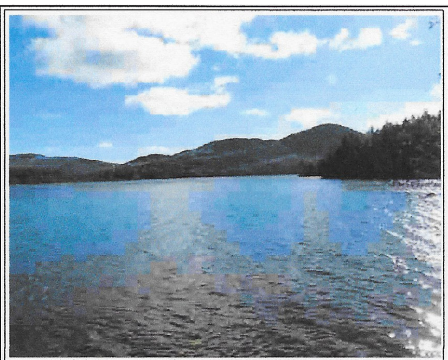
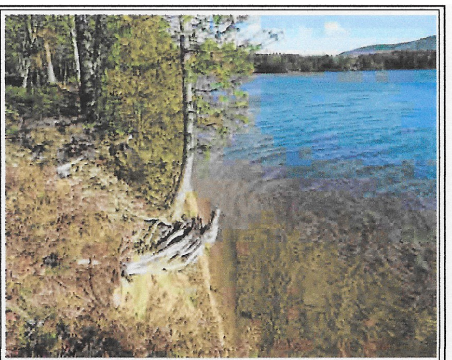
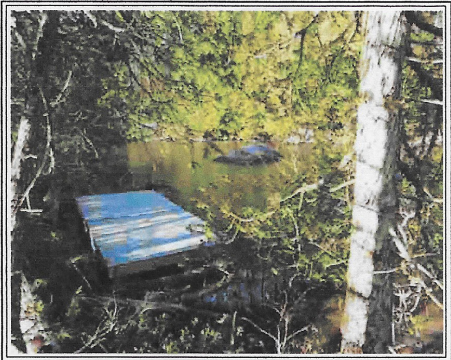
Kacey is available in June and August for LakeSmart evaluations. To schedule appointments, please contact her at katherine.weber@pisca-taquisswcd.org.





# What is the Wilson Ponds Watershed?

In case you have ever wondered just what the Wilson Ponds Watershed is, Steven Lamonde created this map for Friends of Wilson Ponds that outlines the watershed boundaries.



## Over 15 acres in conservation donated Charlie and Barbara Adams creates “Adams Preserve”

On December 28, 2022, at 10:57 am Friends of Wilson Ponds gratefully accepted the gift of 15.85 acres generously donated by Charles and Barbara Adams. The property has 313 feet of shore frontage on Lower Wilson Pond and stretches northward to the Scammon Road. The land will remain in conservation forever protecting healthy species habitats, biological diversity, and the watershed. In conversations with Charlie and Barbara, we learned that the property was purchased about

1951 by Charlie's father, Edward, from Francis Crowley for \$500 with the option to buy the second lot for \$300. The Adams family connection to the area began when Reverend Bob Mahew suggested that Edward, Charlie and Charlie's brother go hunting in the Moosehead area. Charlie talked about the building of the cabin, which will remain in the Adams family along with 2 acres. He stated that all the building material was transported from Massachusetts in a pick-up truck when the turnpike

ended in Augusta. The lumber was salvaged from an old inn in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, which Charlie and his father tore down. There is much more to this story—installments will appear on our website [www.fowpa.org](http://www.fowpa.org).

***Thank you very much, Charlie and Barbara, for helping Friends of Wilson Ponds live their mission of conserving property around our Ponds.***

### Friends of Wilson Pond Partners

Friends of Wilson Ponds works with several other conservation and environmental groups.

Lake Stewards of Maine  
[lakestewardsmaineofmaine.org](http://lakestewardsmaineofmaine.org)

Forest Society of Maine  
[fsmaine.org](http://fsmaine.org)

Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District  
[piscataquisswcd.org](http://piscataquisswcd.org)

Lakes Environmental Association  
[mainelakes.org](http://mainelakes.org)

Maine Coast Heritage Trust  
[mcht.org](http://mcht.org)

Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
[maine.gov/dep](http://maine.gov/dep)

Appalachian Mountain Club  
[outdoors.org](http://outdoors.org)

Maine Mountain Collaborative  
[mainemountaincollaborative.org](http://mainemountaincollaborative.org)





2022 Teen Wilderness Expedition alumni.

# 2023 Teen Wilderness Expedition Franklin C. Mclver Scholarships Awarded to Lily Osborne and Abel Barker

We are delighted to announce that Lily Osborne and Abel Barker will attend the Teen Wilderness Expedition at the AMC Gorman Chairback Lodge from July 18-20.

Lily's great-great grandparents, Malcolm and Madeline Folsom, built a camp on Lower Wilson Pond in the early 1940's. Lily and her family enjoy coming to camp in all seasons. Lily, her twin sister, brother and cousins are often the first to swim in the pond with ice cakes floating around!

Lily writes in her application: "Some of the things I would like to do while at TWE is fish, hike, swim and socialize with people."

Abel Barker was also awarded Franklin Mclver scholarship for 2023 Teen Wilderness Expedition.

Abel states "I want to attend TWE because as the climate changes so will Maine. This could be a good opportunity for me to learn more about Maine's nature so I can help Maine adjust to climate change."



Lily Osborne, a 2023 Mclver Scholarship awardee.



Abel Barker, a 2023 Mclver Scholarship awardee.

Abel is the son of Friends of Wilson Ponds' Upper Pond water quality monitor, Abe Barker.

Franklin Cole Mclver Scholarships are awarded to two teens each year. Our TWE scholarship alums are Graceanne Brinkworth, Sophia Caiazzo, Lila Kronholm, Skylar Larabee, Devin Lauritsen, Chase Philbrook, Byron Santerre, Eben Santerre, Sky Scott, Tracer St. Jean and Dale Turner.

## Plant Paddle at the Sawyer Pond Boat Launch in Greenville, Come one and all!

August 1, Tuesday at 4:40pm - 7pm-- Join Kacey Weber of Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District, Jonnie Maloney, Lake Stewards of Maine, and Friends of Wilson Ponds Invasive Plant Patrollers for the Plant Paddle on Sawyer Pond.

A Plant Paddle – what is that? A 2 to 3 hour event where we will paddle about in kayaks and canoes and gather aquatic plants for identification. It is fun way to become familiar with native aquatic plants and learn about the threat of invasive aquatic plants and the importance of early detection.

We are happy to report that no invasive aquatic plants are currently known to be in Sawyer Pond.

Please go to [piscataquisswcd.org/event/plant-paddle](https://piscataquisswcd.org/event/plant-paddle) or watch our website [www.fowpa.org](http://www.fowpa.org) for additional information and registration.



## Courtesy Boat Inspections

Courtesy Boat Inspections in 2023 will be conducted by volunteers. Last year Friends did a few days of inspections at the Lower Wilson Pond boat launch and at the Greenville Junction Wharf on Moosehead Lake. There is much more that can be done if more volunteers and staff were available. We would like to monitor the Lower Wilson Pond boat ramp every weekend from Memorial Day until the water level is too low to launch at the boat ramp (usually sometime in September).

Training can be done onsite or online at <https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/invasives/inspect.html>

There are two short videos that will prepare anyone to be a Courtesy Boat Inspector. Onsite training can be accomplished whenever and wherever volunteers are doing inspections.



## Annual Easement Inspection

Our Easement Agreement requires that we inspect the property once a year to be sure there are no encroachments upon it. Due to the ruggedly forested terrain, this is done from the air. Specifically, I contact Currier's Flying Service and make a reservation to fly over the property. Because the foliage is magnificent from the air this is usually done in late September or early October. Here are some photos of the 2022 flight. Hope you enjoy them as much as I enjoyed the flight!

### 2023 Inspection Dates, Times, and Locations (more will be added as inspectors are available)

Lower Wilson Pond Boat Launch	May 27	2-7pm
	May 28	7-noon
Lower Wilson Pond Boat Launch	June 30	2-7pm
	July 1	7-noon
Lily Bay State Park	Sept 1	2-7pm
	Sept 2	8-noon

To sign up email to [friendsofwilsonponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwilsonponds@gmail.com) or visit [fowpa.org](http://fowpa.org)