

Webster Lake Association

News

Spring 2014

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Be sure to visit the WLA website (websterlake.mylaketown.com) and create a profile, if you haven't already. Check back frequently to view news and event updates. And check out the live webcam of the lake!

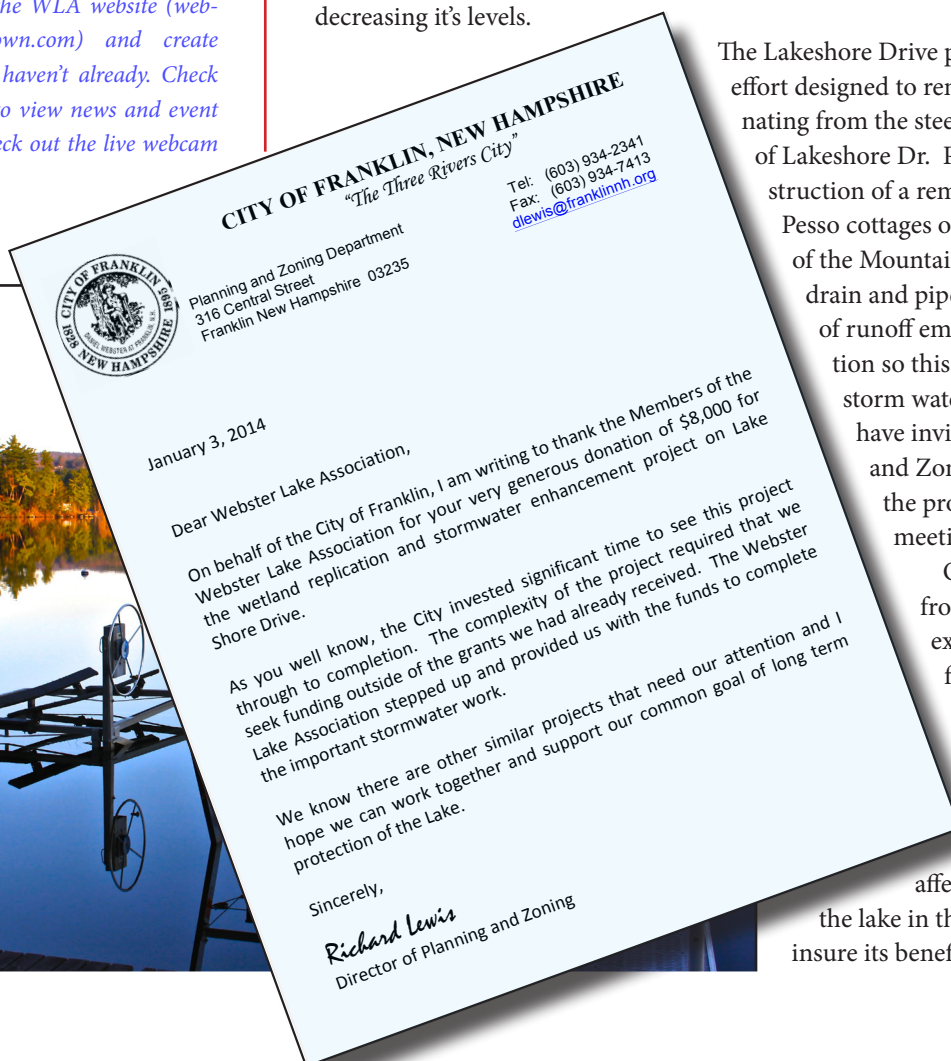
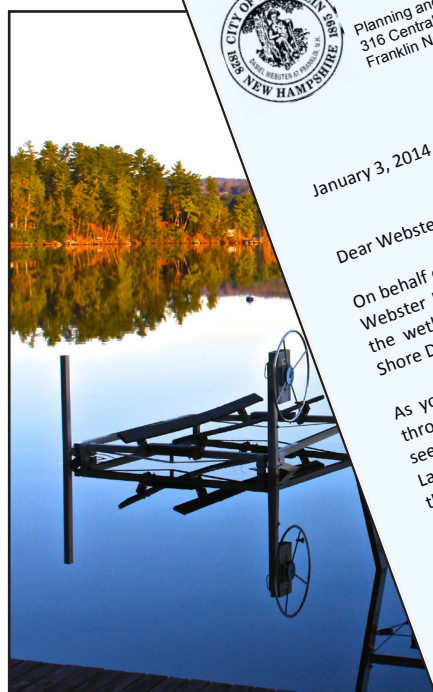
WLA Supports Storm Water Project

The main mission of the Webster Lake Association is to preserve and protect the lake that is dear to all our hearts and an important part of the regional ecosystem and recreation.

Last spring the Board of Directors approved an \$8,000 expenditure to the City of Franklin to complete the storm water project on Lakeshore Drive. (Five thousand dollars of that had been grant money received from Franklin Savings Bank two years earlier to help preserve and protect the lake.) Storm water has been identified as our number one source of nutrients entering the lake and causing cyanobacteria outbreaks. While these outbreaks have lessened over these past several years, the lake still tests for high levels of Phosphorus, so we must remain proactive and diligent in decreasing it's levels.

The Lakeshore Drive project is a multifaceted effort designed to remediate storm water emanating from the steep grade on the north side of Lakeshore Dr. Phases included the reconstruction of a remediation pond where the Pessoa cottages once stood, reconfiguration of the Mountain Boys road, and storm drain and pipe installation. Quite a bit of runoff emanated from this location so this was indeed a worthwhile storm water remediation project. I have invited Director of Planning and Zoning Dick Lewis to explain the project at this year's annual meeting.

On this page is a letter from the City of Franklin expressing their gratitude for the funds from the association to complete the project. This project is a fine example of how your dues and contributions can directly affect the effort to maintain the lake in the condition we expect to insure its benefit to all for the future.



Independence Day Events

This year's Independence Day celebration will kick off with our annual "Breakfast on the Beach" social get-together on Griffin Beach on Saturday, July 5th. We will begin serving breakfast at 8 a.m. and continue until 11 a.m. Come join us in this kick-off to our summer events and re-unite with all your lake friends.

Later the same day, July 5th, the annual Boat Parade will begin with a gathering of decorated boats at the Griffin Beach area. The parade will leave the area at 2:30 p.m., heading in a clockwise direction at headway speed. The theme this year is open patriotic.

Please be aware that much of the debris from fireworks, particularly plastics, never degrades and should therefore always be directed away from the water. Enjoy the Fourth!

Common Courtesy

We all share common responsibilities living in close proximity to one another. Please be considerate of your neighbors' sensitivity to loud noises, parties, fireworks, radios, etc., emanating from your property.

RESOURCES

Boater Education Classes	267-7256
Boater Safety/Marine Patrol	293-2037
Franklin Municipal Services	934-4103
Exotic Plant Concerns	271-2248
Shoreland Concerns	271-2147
Water Quality Concerns	419-9229
Weed Watcher Volunteers	271-2248
Wetlands Concerns	271-2147
Webster Lake Association	671-3405

Update on the Steadman Pavilion

Thanks to all of you who have contributed to the building and upkeep of the Steadman Pavilion scheduled to be built soon on Griffin Beach. Hopefully, by the time this newsletter reaches you the cement foundation will have been poured by Dawson Concrete of Tilton. The next step will be gathering the materials on site and assembling a crew to build the structure.

We can still use more donations, so please consider sending whatever you can afford to the Webster Lake Association at P.O. Box 44, Franklin, NH 03235. One suggestion would be to add a few dollars to the check you send in for your annual dues (\$20). We are planning to have a plaque in the Pavilion with the names of all who have donated a total of over \$100.

Solicitations have been sent out to several civic and business organizations to participate by donating to this community effort.

The structure will provide a sheltered place for those organizations or persons wishing to use this beautiful beach as a place for their event. Possible uses might include Franklin Park and Recreation events, Webster Lake Association events, family outings, weddings, Lakes Region Snowmobile Club events, Franklin Outing Club events, etc. We're really looking forward to using it next winter for the Annual Ice Fishing Derby.

Webster Lake Association

Working Together to Preserve and Protect

P.O. Box 44, West Franklin, NH 03235
www.websterlake.mylaketown.com

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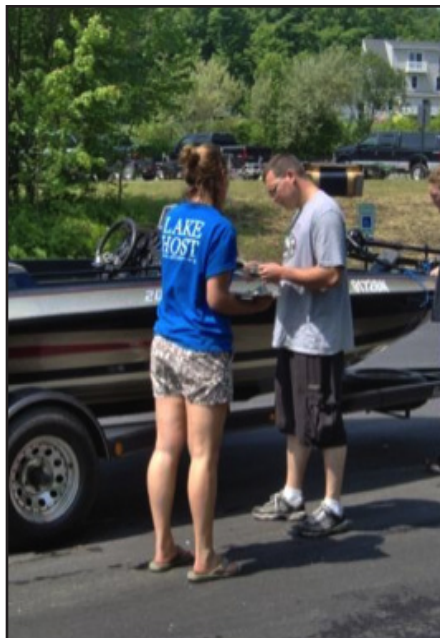
Lake Hosts Needed!

Most members agree that the water quality of our beautiful lake is critical to the enjoyment and value of our properties. One important tool we have in keeping our water free of “aquatic nuisance species” (what we used to call invasives) is our Lake Host Program through the New Hampshire Lakes Association (NHLA). Over the last 10 years, paid and volunteer Lake Hosts have played a pivotal role during peak boating hours in keeping these “nuisances” out of our lake. Recent “saves” at our boat ramp include Eurasian Milfoil, Fanwort, Variable Milfoil, and Curly Leaf Pondweed.

As we gear up for our 11th year, we realize that a barrier to achieving our greatest success with this program is in finding reliable and diligent paid Lake Hosts for the summer. For many years, former point person and full-time lake resident Debbie Steadman was able to use her local contacts, including her own teen children and their friends, to keep this position filled. Thank you, Debbie! Laurie Salame is now acting as the point person but since she is not local, it has been hard for her to tap into local sources of good potential employees. Let's face it, not a lot of people want to work weekends only, starting early in the morning. Young people tend to be the folks most attracted to the job, given the temporary nature of the work, and luring them out of their beds on a summer weekend is no easy task.

Therefore, we are reaching out to our members, both local and seasonal residents. Before we post this job with various employment seeking websites and programs, where the quality and skill level of potential employees is unknown, we are starting with you. Can you look at your own networks, spread the word, and help us find some great Lake Hosts (must be at least 18 years old)? Our goal would be to have a few people trained and assign them their set hours and dates for the entire July-August schedule. However, for a known quality candidate, we would be willing to ensure more hours. We have also increased the pay from minimum wage to \$10 per hour, recognizing both the need to find reliable hosts but also the important role these hosts play on our lake. Interested candidates should contact Laurie Salame via email lsalame@hotmail.com. More information about the program can be found on the NHLA web site education programs link: <http://www.nhlakes.org/>

Thank you for helping us get ready for another great summer at Webster Lake!



We have increased the pay to \$10 an hour, recognizing the important role these hosts play on our lake.

Protecting Lake Environment

Go phosphate-free! The number one source of pollution to NH freshwater is phosphorus. Much of this phosphorus originates from the use of lawn fertilizer. Choose phosphate-free lawn fertilizer, if you must fertilize your lawn. Remember, the Shoreland Protection Act prohibits the use of fertilizer within 25 feet of shorelines and allows slow release only from 25-250 feet. Make your choice phosphate-free. Sta-Green brand is available at Lowes. Look for a zero (0) in the middle number when you buy fertilizer. The lake will thank you.

Runoff direction. Direct the runoff from your property into vegetated areas so that it can be absorbed into the ground before reaching the lake. This will help control nutrients from entering the lake and help lower phosphorus levels.

Headway speed. Please motor at headway speed in shallow waters so as not to stir up the sediment on the bottom. Stirring sediment contributes to cyanobacteria outbreaks.

Cleaning products. Please consider using environmentally-friendly cleaning products. Hannafords sells “Planet” brand biodegradable, phosphate-free products.

Fireworks. Paper, cardboard and plastic waste from summer fireworks have been found in the lake for months after discharge. Please direct any fireworks away from the lake.



Weathering Winter on Webster Lake

It was one of the coldest, snow and ice-covered winters the Webster Lake community has seen in years, but the ice fishermen and snow mobilers loved it. Rumor has it the ice on the lake was over two feet thick. There was so much built up snow and ice on Webster Avenue, the town had to have a front-end bucket loader break it up and scoop it away.

But the lake has its own unique beauty no matter what the season or the conditions. For those of us who live here year-round, we might complain about the plowing and the cold, but we never complain about the view.

The Annual Webster Lake Ice Fishing Derby, jointly sponsored by the Webster

Lake Association, the Franklin Outing Club, and the Elks Club, was once again a big success. Held this year on February 15th and 16th, the revenue of \$2,400 was divided equally among the three sponsoring organizations.

The derby hosted over 200 registrants, 70 of whom were youth under the age of 16. The derby was set up and designed to attract kids to the sport of ice fishing, and awarded over \$1,100 in prize money and trophies; 35 trophies and cash prizes went to youth. With its low entry fees and plentiful fish, the derby hopes to continue to be able to offer kids this opportunity each season.



Calendar

JULY

Breakfast on the Beach

Saturday, July 5, 2014, 8:00 -11:00

Rain-date: Sunday, July 6, 2014

Griffin Beach

Boat Parade

Saturday, July 5, 2014, 2:30 p.m.

Rain-date: Sunday, July 6, 2014

Gather at Griffin Beach area;

Open Patriotic theme;

clockwise this year

Annual Yard Sale

Saturday, July 19, 2014; 9:00 - 3:00

Location to be announced.

Questions? Contact Laurie Salame at lsalame@hotmail.com

AUGUST

Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 2, 2014

9:00 a.m. - Coffee

9:30 a.m. - Meeting

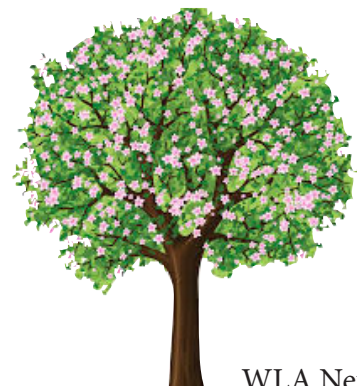
Franklin Library, second Floor

(Minutes of last year's meeting available at websterlake.mylaketown.com)

Annual Food Drive/ Ice Cream Social

Saturday, August 30, 2014; 2:00 - 4:00.

Webster Lake residents are asked to bring nonperishable food items to Griffin Beach or to designated drop-off points (see road signs).



WLA News