

Webster Lake Association

News

 Spring 2013

In this issue . . .

New Dam	1
Independence Day Events	2
Storm Water Project	2
Pavilion Possibility	3
Newsy Updates	4
Calendar	4

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

State Rebuilds Chance Pond Dam

During the latter part of this winter and early spring, the State of New Hampshire took advantage of down time on Webster Lake to rebuild the Chance Pond Dam.

The effort began by building an earthen coffer dam and opening the flood gates in order to deflect water from the project and lower the levels as much as possible.

After the coffer dam was in place, and Chance Pond was lowered by five feet, construction began. Demolition of the old dam was the first order of business. Following that procedure, concrete forms were built and reinforcing rods were placed within the structure. The construction took place over many weeks as the crew dealt with weather issues and spent time implementing quality construction techniques.

The concrete pour took place in several stages with the resulting product much larger in width and beefier all around.

While the function is the same, it is reassuring to know that the new dam will provide controlled lake levels for years to come.



Independence Day Events

This year's Independence Day celebrations will kick off with our annual "Breakfast on the Beach" social get together on Griffin Beach on Saturday, July 6th. 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 6th, 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. The theme this year is open patriotic with a tribute to the military. Boats will go at headway speed in a counter-clockwise direction.

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 your 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

Storm Water Project

The City, with the cooperation of local landowners and the Webster Lake Association, is working on a major storm water project on Lakeshore Drive. Restoration of the wetlands where the five old Pessco cottages once stood is now complete. The gist of the project is to direct storm water into this remediation area so that it does not adversely affect the lake. Water coming off the hill has been a major source of storm water pollution, our number one source of Phosphorus. The project has several phases, but the money has now dried up or run out. The next phase, one that will have a great affect on controlling the storm water, is the construction of several storm drains and a pipeline that will direct water from the hill into the remediation area. Without this phase, storm water will continue to adversely affect our beloved waters. With all that in mind, the WLA board agreed to issue the City a check for \$8,000 to help complete the pipeline. Keep in mind we did receive \$5,000 from Franklin Savings bank two years ago to help preserve and protect the lake. That money is still in our account and we have more than enough to cover the rest. Money sitting in our bank account does the lake no good unless spent in wise, targeted and directed efforts to combat our #1 enemy, storm water.



Webster Lake Association

Working Together to Preserve and Protect

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Pavilion Possibility

After prematurely removing the tent during a very windy Sunday this February at the Ice Fishing Derby, the idea developed of building a permanent structure in the form of a pavilion to benefit Griffin Beach events. The structure would 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.

The facility would be managed by Franklin Parks and Recreation who currently manage the beach and parking facilities.

The structure, 20 x 40 in size and similar to the one pictured below is a pole barn style gable roof on a cement slab. Pricing for the materials are coming in at around \$15,000. Construction labor of the pavilion would be provided on a volunteer basis.

In April a presentation of this idea was floated before City Council. All the members had positive comments with recommendations on how to proceed. At this time we are attempting to obtain approval from DES through the amendment of an existing open permit.

The project will be privately funded. Fundraising efforts will begin in earnest as soon as the DES approval is granted. Possible funding sources include individuals, civic organizations, and fishing derby receipts. We're also making the suggestion that the pavilion could bear the name of an individual or organization willing to make a large donation. A plaque might bear the names of those making smaller donations. So, for a \$10,000 donation the pavilion could be in your name! More information on fundraising will be forthcoming.



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 phosphorus 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 to 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.

State says hydrilla is next big threat

According to DES, the latest threat to New Hampshire lakes is an invasive plant called hydrilla, spread not only by the uneducated boater, but also by water fowl. "This species is so rapacious and grows so quickly, that it threatens to replace milfoil as the number one enemy of our lakes and ponds," states DES representative Amy Smagula.

Another new threat is the Asian clam. This exotic species likes sand and will multiply rapidly in sandy areas of ponds and lakes, colonizing the habitat and depleting food sources that are essential to the survival of native species.

"Our greatest weapon in the fight against invasives is prevention," says Smagula.

The Weed Watcher and Lake Host Programs play a very important part in helping to keep invasives out of the state's lakes and ponds. Webster Lake Association is participating in the Lake Host program and has hosted Weed Watchers as well. Volunteers are always needed.



Northern Rail Trail to extend south

NH Trails Bureau has recently informed Friends of Northern Rail Trail (FNRT) that it has been awarded a grant to extend the resurfacing of the Northern Rail Trail south from Gerrish Depot towards Concord and Boscawen. Final approval is expected in time for the work to be done by late summer.

A new grant from Trails Bureau will allow FNRT to build to Depot Street in the center of Boscawen. An additional \$60,000 will be used to build the final section of trail from Depot Street to the Hannah-Dustan Park and Ride at Exit 17 from I-93, near the Boscawen-Concord town line. Monies have also been obtained to finish laying stone dust on the last mile of trail in Merrimack County between the Danbury Town Garage and the Grafton County line. Work on this is also planned for this summer.

Get out and enjoy the 23 miles of the Northern Rail Trail that runs adjacent to the lake parallel to Rt. 11.

Calendar

JULY

Breakfast on the Beach

Sat., July 6, 2013, 8-11 a.m.
Rain-date Sun., July 7th
Griffin Beach

Boat Parade

Sat., July 6, 2013, 2:30 p.m.
Rain-date Sun., July 7th
Gather at Griffin Beach area
Patriotic Military theme; counter-clockwise this year

Annual Yard Sale

Sat., July 13, 2013, 9:00 - 3:00
146 Webster Lake Road
(Rt. 11) Questions?
Contact Laurie Salame
at Lsalame@isenberg.umass.edu

Save up all your unwanted items for the annual yard sale. Bring them to the site on Friday afternoon!

AUGUST

Annual Meeting

Sat., Aug. 3, 2013
9:00 - Coffee
9:30 - Meeting
Franklin Library, second floor
(Minutes of last year's Meeting available at websterlakeassociationnh.com)

SEPTEMBER

Annual Food Drive/ Ice Cream Social

Sat., Aug. 31, 2013; 2-4 p.m.
Webster Lake residents are asked to bring nonperishable food items to Griffin Beach or to designated drop off points (see road signs).

**SAVE \$65
ONLY \$135!***

ROWELL'S

SEWER & DRAIN

2 Days Only for Big Savings for lakefront property owners and properties across the street with lakefront footage.

Friday, June 7, or Monday, June 10, 2013

Call 603-934-4145

or schedule online at www.rowellseptic.com

*1,000 gallons or less; tanks in excess of 1,000 gallons will be charged 14 cents per gallon