



Deering Lake Improvement Association

Newsletter April 2015
www.deeringlake.com

Memorial Day Meeting May 23, 2015

Coffee and doughnuts 8:00 a.m. Call To Order 9:00 a.m.

- **Fire permits are expected to be issued by The Deering Fire Department prior to the start of the meeting.**
- **Annual Dues will be received**
- **PRESENTATION BY: Loon Preservation Committee**



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-

It is the first full day of spring and as I sit here looking out across the lake, through the latest snowfall, it is hard to believe that this winter is ever going to end. We pine for a season like 3 years ago when the ice was out, the lake was full and we launched our pontoon boat on St Patty's day! We did not take the boat out until almost November and had an amazing 8-month season.

Today, however, I know that by Patriot's Day and the Boston Marathon that the lake will be free of ice and the Loons will be back. Then the fun of skating on the best ice we've ever seen, the back-aches from snow shoveling and subsequent battles with ice dams will be just a memory of the winter of 2014/2015 and we'll be focused on the upcoming season.

The Deering 2015 Town Meeting PASSED ballot item: ARTICLE 2, which is an amendment to the existing section that has to do with septic tank pumping, frequency, required reporting and adds aggressive monetary penalties for failure to comply. Clearly this is directed at the lake owners who have the most to lose by not maintaining our systems and as such I have no idea why they would pass such an amendment. For anyone who is interested in the full text, here is a link to the minutes that are on the town web site.

http://www.deering.nh.us/public_documents/DeeringNH_BBoard/04F4B878-000F8513.0/Deering%20Town%20Meeting%20voting%20results%202015.pdf

The first meeting will be Saturday, May 23, 2015 and will include a presentation from The Loon Preservation Committee. I do not have a confirmed name yet but am hoping that the volunteer that did the monitoring of our lake last year will be available. Perhaps she can shed some light on the Loons peculiar behavior.



The next meeting will be Saturday, July 4, 2015 and will include a presentation by Gary Samuels. Gary is a member of the Deering Conservation Committee and Library Board and loves to endlessly talk about the Wild Flowers of Deering. Here's a link to their page off of the town web site.

http://www.deering.nh.us/Public_Documents/DeeringNH_Conservation/documents/WhatsUpFolder/whatsup_page

I have arranged a meeting with the Town's Board of Selectmen for Saturday, August 1, 2015. Last year, this was well received and I believe was a useful face-to-face. I will provide updates for this important event and others at member meetings as well as postings on the DLIA website.

The last meeting of the season will be Saturday, September 5, 2015. I have not started the process of locating a speaker but I am thinking that someone from the State to speak about the Lake Monitoring Program and how the DLIA might be able to contribute to the protection of our most prized possession. In closing I wish all of you the very best and look forward to serving the DLIA.

Karl Hauschildt,
DLIA President

Community Events Calendar

May 2nd Town Roadside cleanup, meet at 9:00am at Town Hall,

*In conjunction with DLIA sponsored Rte. 149 Roadside cleanup, refreshments will be served at the Deering Town Hall

May 9th Hazardous Waste Collection-

Hillsboro Deering Middle School 8:30 a.m.

May 30th Plant Sale- Deering Town Hall 9:00 a.m.

May 23rd Deering Lake Improvement Association Memorial Day Meeting –
Coffee and Doughnuts 8:00a.m.

Call to Order 9:00 a.m. Loon Preservation Committee

June 6th “Fish Free Day” in NH- no license required

June 18th DLIA sponsored Rte. 149 Roadside Clean-up Meet at the Town Hall at 9:00 a.m. See Glenn Clark for details.

July 4th DLIA Meeting – 9:00 a.m. Town Hall (8:00a.m. coffee and doughnuts) Speaker: Dr. Gary Samuels “Some Wildflowers of Deering”

August 1st – Town of Deering Selectmen meet with summer residents- at the Deering Town Hall- Time TBA

September 5th - DLIA Labor Day Meeting- 9:00a.m. Town Hall (8:00a.m. Coffee and doughnuts).

TOWN OF DEERING OFFICIAL CONTACTS

Town Administrator: Russell McAllister 464-3248

Police Chief- James Pushee 464-3127

Fire Chief- Doug Connor 464-3248

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement- Michael Borden 547-0437

Tax Collector/Town Clerk: Carol baker 464-3224

Road Agent: Benjamin Knapp 464-5740

Assessing: Ann Mooney 464-324



Deering Lake Improvement Association

President: Karl Hauschildt

Vice-president: Bob Monahan

Secretary: Mary Guild

Treasurer: Carole Clark

Past President: Carl Thieme

Directors: Doug Dalrymple, Dan Goddu, Bob Compton

Lake Host/Boat launch Monitoring Chair: Larry Sunderland

Membership Committee: Bob Monahan

Lake Testing/ Water Quality: Bob Compton

Weed Watcher Program: Nancy Huckins

**Congratulations to the Deering Lake Ice Out Contest Winner(s)! Glenn Clark and Lillian Carter
- April 17th, 2015!**

Person's Name and Date Guessed			
Carole Clark	April 15	Lillian Carter	April 17
Glenn Clark	April 17	Kirk Searle	April 19
Peg & Karl Hauschildt	April 21	Caldwell/Williams family	April 21
Lori Martinage	April 24	Bob Macentee	April 30
Eric Twardosky	April 30	Paul Faber	May 1
Jen Twardosky	May 2	Tyler Martinage	May 10
Kerry Martinage	May 13	Dick Boudrot	April 27
Allan Maddox	April 30		

Exotic Aquatic Plants and Animals by Larry Sunderland

Application for a grant and participation in the Lake Host Program run by NH Lakes is in the works. * This will be our 14th season inspecting boats entering and leaving Deering Lake at the public launch area for the presence of exotic aquatic plants and animals. With Asian clams established in the Merrimack River and at least one New Hampshire lake, and Zebra Mussels at our doorstep, special emphasis will be placed on these animal species. We will also be emphasizing the education of boaters to clean and drain their boats after each use. For Deering Lake we have had close calls with exotic plants in the last two seasons, making continuation of this program and the Weed Watch program all the more important for the foreseeable future. Our crew of three paid employees will be on the job from 6:00 or 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends and Friday afternoons in July. To extend weekday coverage beyond that we need volunteers from the lake community. Even coming out for two or three hours can be very helpful. One hour of training on site is required.

Day to day management of the program will be by Kyle Belouin as “managing lake host.” Kyle was a lake host last summer and succeeds his sister, Kayla, who so ably managed operations the preceding two years. Larry Sunderland remains overall director and liaison with DLIA and the Town as “agent” for the Conservation Commission, our official link with NH Lakes.

Legislation by Larry Sunderland

Lakes-related legislation this year largely concerns individual lakes, with nothing of major importance like the restrictions on certain lead jigs that go into effect in 2016. There are two House bills concerning exotic aquatic species that we testified on in committee (on behalf of New Hampshire Audubon.) One added animal species to plant species in statutes involving nuisance exotic species. It was passed by the House and as of this writing is pending before the Senate.

The other involved the inspection of boats participating in events such as bass fishing tournaments. Our testimony was based primarily on our experience on Deering Lake, where participating boats sometimes are launched even before the specially early hour that we try to cover when we know



about a scheduled event. We also cited the impatience of some participants that has resulted in boats not being cleaned beforehand and thus arriving with plant materials, including exotic species. While there was general recognition of these and other problems,

agencies charged with enforcement – Marine Patrol and Department of Environmental Services – argued that inspections where there is no Lake Host program would be impractical and strain already inadequate finances. NH Lakes tried to find a compromise, perhaps encouraging fishing clubs to conduct self-inspections. This bill, watered down from the original language, was defeated in committee and by the full House of Representatives.

* Approval was expected April 17 but was put off a week because of a delay in transferring funds from Department of Environmental Safety.





Town of Deering Planning Board Discussion and Action about Septic Tank Pumping within the Deering Lake Watershed

At last summer's joint meeting between DLIA members and Town of Deering Selectmen, lake shoreline landowners voiced concern about the mandate in the Deering Lake Watershed Protection Ordinance that required septic tank pumping at a minimum of every three years. DLIA members also questioned Selectmen on the lack of follow-through by the Town toward landowners identified as "non-compliant". Up to that point, not much action beyond a registered letter sent by the Town had ever been taken against non-compliant landowners within the Deering Lake watershed.

Late last fall, based on Planning Board member Peter Kaplan's draft amendments to the Watershed Protection Ordinance, the Board discussed changes that would allow those who believe their septic systems do not need to be pumped every three years to seek an assessment by a state approved septic system evaluator in order to establish a longer pumping period.

The draft also specified fines that would be imposed on all non-compliant landowners and established that all new or repaired septic systems receive a designated pumping interval by that system's designer.

During the discussion, Planning Board member Bob Compton noted that the official Town septic pumping list of landowners was incomplete and formally requested that the Town Administrator review all records to assure that notices of pumping requirements are being sent to all residents within the Watershed Overlay, not just homes on the lakefront.

The issue about "non-compliance" was discussed at length. Compton noted that almost every person of the list had already pumped their septic tanks at least once while most had done so twice since the ordinance was enacted in 2004. Compton argued that an amendment to impose the same fine on all landowners, regardless of past compliance, was harsh, especially in light of the fact that landowners of record who have never complied are so few. Accordingly, the Board established a waiver amendment for good cause to avoid injustices and also postponed implementation of the new amendments until late July 2015.

The following are some basic points that came out of the Planning Board's discussion about septic tank pumping intervals:

- 1) Septic pumping every two to three years is the state minimum standard for the majority of septic systems. The Deering Watershed Protection ordinance **allows for up to a five-year interval**. Twenty-seven landowners have taken advantage of the extended pumping schedule and three landowners have shown justification for over five years.
- 2) While septic tank pumping is mandatory for all landowners within the Deering Lake watershed, every other landowner in Deering has an obvious choice: either pump their septic tanks to the state recommended every three-years or run the risk of septic system failure.
- 3) Seasonally used septic tanks are not as efficient as year-round used septic tanks because the bacteria in seasonal septic tanks crash during long periods of non-use. Therefore, an independent inspector may recommend a pumping interval more often than three years or discover system problems that need to be addressed. With this in mind, landowners need to exercise caution in deciding whether to engage an inspector.

Ultimately, the Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Deering voters amend the Deering Lake Watershed Protection ordinance to include the following action items:

- (1) Allow for an independent expert to recommend a period other than the ordinance's three-year period;
- (2) Require that when a system is repaired or replaced or a new system is installed, the septic designer establish an initial interval for the next pumping;
- (3) Refer non-compliance to the Health Officer for Court enforcement and impose a \$250 fine 30 days after the non-compliant owner of record has received a second notification in the form of a certified letter, with the fine doubling every 6 months;
- (4) Allow for suspension of the provisions of the ordinance for good cause upon appeal to the Planning Board; and
- (5) Postpone implementation of the new amendments until July 31, 2015.

Copies of the full text can be secured from the Town Administrator.

Since there are nearly 40 systems due to be pumped in 2015, landowners are urged to seek a group rate and coordinated pumping of their tanks from one of the septic service providers.

Landowners are also urged to use the practices recommended by DES in its Fact Sheet "You and Your Septic System" which can be seen at the following link:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/ssb/documents/ssb-13.pdf>

Submitted by Bob Compton



With its top-heavy physique, energetic flight, and piercing rattle, the **Belted Kingfisher** seems to have an air of self-importance as it patrols up and down rivers and shorelines. It nests in burrows along earthen banks and feeds almost entirely on aquatic prey, diving to catch fish and crayfish with its heavy, straight bill. These ragged-crested birds are a powdery blue-gray; males have one blue band across the white breast, while females have a blue and a chestnut band.



The **chain pickerel** has a distinctive, dark, chain-like pattern on its greenish sides. Its body outline resembles that of the [northern pike](#). It may reach up to 30 in long only on rare occasions. The [opercles](#) and cheeks of the fish are entirely scaled. The average size for chain pickerel, however, is 24 in and 3 lb. (The average chain pickerel caught by fishermen is under 2 lb). It lives around 8 yrs.

The chain pickerel feeds primarily on smaller fish until it grows large enough to ambush large fish from cover with a rapid lunge and to secure it with its sharp teeth. Chain pickerel are also known to eat frogs, worms, mice, crayfish, and a wide variety of other foods. It is not unusual for pickerel to leap out of the water at flying insects, or even at dangling fishing lures.

WINTER ON DEERING LAKE By Dan Goddu

The winter scenery is certainly much better than our old home in Nashua. Despite some who describe Deering Lake in the winter 'like being on the moon,' there have been no sights of Neil Armstrong; at least not this past winter. However, I will say that cars, snowmobiles, and plows do make us run to the windows during the winter. Overall, the snow was slightly deeper and the mornings were slightly colder. But the roads were well plowed making travel very normal.

We lost power only once and that was in early March due to a gust of wind on a very bright sunny day. Joan called me to tell me that she couldn't get to the house because a large limb had fallen and blocked Zoski Road just south of Chipmunk Lane. Allan Maddox was home and he and I moved the limb to the side of the road.

Lots of snowmobilers around again this winter. Spending time with summer friends who came up during February school vacation was certainly a treat!

Perhaps the toughest part is watching the lake level drop in October to remind one that the summer season is truly over. The next toughest part is watching ice out in anticipation of spring and getting the boat to the dock.



Check out the new website! It is much more attractive and easier to update. Take full advantage of all its features – to do so would only mean we have a very active community! Posting pictures, completing your profile, starting and participating in discussions, and posting your items for sale are part of the features that are worth exploring.

I've been thinking about outdoor movie nights, hikes, sunfish regatta/canoe race/paddleboat race, corn hole tournament, and karaoke!

DEERING LAKE PH UPDATE

Last summer, Bob Compton raised concern about the alarming trend of declining PH measure in Deering Lake and promised a follow up. In 2014 Compton noted that sampling results for the upper and middle layer of the lake, as well as tributaries, measured in the desirable range of 6.5-8 for PH. However, the bottom layer measured below desirability (6.3).

Since then, Bob spoke at length with Volunteer Lake Assessment Program Coordinator Sara Steiner at NHDES who said that while the historical data collected since the mid- 1980's for Deering lake shows a steady decline for PH in the hypolimnium, the trend has actually gotten better for the middle and upper layers since 2011. Steiner says the lake's PH should recover but it won't happen overnight. The following is an excerpt from Foster's Daily Democrat that speaks to a scientific study about acid rain and the recovery of New England lakes.

June 10, 2014 "...For more than 40 years, policy makers have been working to reduce acid rain, a serious environmental problem that can devastate lakes, streams, and forests and the plants and animals that live in these ecosystems...

".. Researchers found that sulfate concentration in rain and snow declined by more than 40 percent in the 2000s, and sulfate concentration in lakes declined at a greater rate from 2002 to 2010 than during the 1980s or 1990s...

"This is really good news for New England. Lakes are accelerating in their recovery from the past effects of acid rain. Our data clearly demonstrate that cleaning up air pollution continues to have the desired effect of improving water quality for our region's lakes," said NHAES researcher William McDowell, professor of environmental science and director of the NH Water Resources Research Center.

"Enacted in 1970, the U.S. Clean Air Act was amended in 1990 and implemented in 1994 to regulate emissions, especially from coal-burning power plants. The Clean Air Interstate Rule issued in 2005 by the EPA sought to further reduce sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides by 70 percent. Following these policy changes, total emissions of sulfur and nitrogen in the United States decreased by 51 and 43 percent, respectively, between 2000 and 2010, which was twice the rate of decline for both in the 1990s."

We hope that this upward trend continues for our lake.

Submitted by Bob Compton

Copies of 2014 Deering Lake VLAP Sampling can be viewed at the NHDES website:

<http://des.nh.gov/onestop>