



2021 SPRING NEWSLETTER

HAPPIER DAYS ARE COMING!

**We have weathered the storm and clearing skies are ahead!
What a year it has been but things are turning the corner.
This summer has the promise of some normality to it. Life at
the lake always brings smiles to our faces.**

The WLA is hopeful that we can bring back our summer activities of Breakfast on the Beach, our Annual Yard Sale, and the Ice Cream Social and Food Drive. Since Independence Day falls on Sunday, most people will have a long weekend. The WLA Board of Directors thought it might be fun to spread out the celebration. Thus, the Breakfast will be on Saturday, July 3rd, 8:00am – 11:00am. We will have the Boat Parade on Sunday, July 4th, at 2:30pm. The rain date will be Monday, July 5th. As was the case last year, there will be no specific theme for the boat parade. Use your great imaginations! Sheila and Al Rainford have offered to host the Yard Sale on their property located at the corner of Webster Avenue and Webster Lake Road. There should be plenty of space to accommodate the event and we thank them for offering their property. At this time, there are still COVID restrictions in place for outdoor events, however those may change in the days ahead. There will be further discussion as to how restrictions may impact our ability to proceed with the events. Watch for more details in future emails but mark your calendars now.

In this edition of the newsletter, enjoy reading information about the Milfoil in Chance Pond, the Lagace Beach boat launch dredging, the Log Cabin Association, and the Marrapese "Keep NH Lakes Clear" Scholarship Fund. Post the newsletter in your cottages and homes as a reference for "Life at Webster Lake". Looking forward to seeing the lake full of summertime fun!

Calendar of Events

WLA Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, June 5th

Breakfast on the Beach
Saturday, July 3rd
Steadman Pavilion
8:00am – 11:00am

Boat Parade
Sunday, July 4th
2:30pm meet at Griffin Beach
(rain date Monday, July 5th)

WLA Annual Yard Sale
Saturday, July 17th
181 Webster Lake Road
9:00am – 3:00pm

Annual Meeting
Saturday, August 7th
Location TBD
9:00am Coffee, 9:30am Meeting

Annual Ice Cream Social/Food Drive
Saturday, September 4th
2:30pm – 4:00pm

WLA RESOURCES

Boater Education Classes	603-267-7256
Boater Safety/Marine Patrol	603-293-2037
Franklin Municipal Services	603-934-4103
Exotic Plant Concerns	603-271-2248
The Loon Center	603-476-5666
Shoreland Concerns	603-271-2147
Water Quality Concerns	603-419-9229
Weed Watcher Volunteers	603-271-2248
Wetlands Concerns	603-271-2147
Webster Lake Association	603-671-7961



Chance Pond Milfoil

by Bonnie Moore

I did a little research on milfoil treatment on my own and then was able to speak to the person who treated Eurasian (E.) milfoil in Chance Pond in 2018 and will again be treating E. milfoil in 2021.

First, Eurasian milfoil is an invasive species that can grow and spread very easily and rapidly. Milfoil plants typically grow from the bottom of the water body toward the surface, seeking the sun. On the surface is where they can be broken by swimmers (human and wildlife), fisherman, boats, kayaks, and paddles. Once these pieces are broken off, any size, they start to grow roots and will float away to start another area of milfoil growth. These pieces can also be carried via animal, fisherman, boat, kayak, swimwear, water shoes, or your hair, and be deposited in another area, water body or land. If it falls on land, it can dry out and then blow into the water and start growing again.

E. Milfoil should NOT be removed by persons not certified by the State to do so. If the milfoil is not removed and disposed of properly, it can promote growth or spread.

Chance Pond was treated for an E. milfoil infestation on June 15, 2018 by SOLitude (a lake management company whose mission is to preserve the natural ecological balance of aquatic ecosystems). NHDES paid for this initial treatment. The herbicide named Procellacor, new at the time, was used with little experience of working with it. However, the July and August 2018 surveys after treatment showed essentially 100% effectiveness.

Unfortunately, in early 2020 a survey showed considerable milfoil infestation in Chance Pond, again. This could have been from a small area of milfoil that wasn't killed or discovered in the pond that regrew and spread, OR it could have been reintroduced by an animal or human. With the prime conditions of 2020 (drought, warm temperatures, lots of sunlight, and low water flow) the milfoil grew very rapidly creating an infestation greater than the 2018 infestation. WLA hired a diver to try to remove the milfoil but found quickly that the effort would be futile, the infestation was just too large.

WLA voted to spend the funds, along with a grant from the State, necessary for the second treatment.

SOLitude will be treating E. milfoil in Chance Pond in June 2021, using the same Procellacor



This is a picture of the E. milfoil in Chance Pond during the summer of 2020.

herbicide but at a slightly lower rate. Procellacor is now widely used, and the company has more experience with how to utilize and disperse it in different water bodies. The herbicide is a liquid that is metered out, based on water body volume, from a John boat (in our case) and a pump to dispense at an appropriate rate. The herbicide is absorbed quickest by milfoil when it is sunny, the water is warm and not flowing too quickly. The herbicide does not affect most other plant life but using treated water on ornamental or vegetable plants will almost immediately attack them. The day before the treatment and during the two weeks after treatment, posters will be displayed around Chance Pond alerting people of the treatment, warnings, and contact information.

The State of NH will impose a 6-hour swimming restriction and a 12-hour irrigation restriction.

The herbicide itself does not have these warnings, at limits used to treat milfoil, but the State requires the postings.

Testing for herbicide levels in treated water body will take place twice within five days of the treatment date. These tests will confirm the herbicide has been absorbed and is no longer present at treatment levels.

Posted signs will then be taken down. Three months or so later a milfoil survey will be done

by the State and SOLitude. Expected results of milfoil mitigation are 90% or better. If the results for some reason were say only 40%, SOLitude would work to correct the issue with more treatment.

After this survey confirms effectiveness of treatment, SOLitude is done. However, a survey may be requested, at no charge and the State will perform one.

It will be prudent that we make sure at least a State survey is done every Spring, along with diver inspections at hot spots and other treatment areas during the summer months when growth is at its peak. Hand picking any new plants at that point is more manageable and if we keep on top of the monitoring and removal, hopefully we will succeed at a full mitigation.

Originally, the milfoil was introduced to Chance Pond in an unknown manner. It can certainly appear again, so education and monitoring are KEY to our success. We of course cannot keep birds or animals from introducing milfoil, but if we can catch it early, we can stop the spread.

We all need to be aware of how milfoil spreads and be able to recognize it and report it to DES (where you saw it and when). We need to educate people (visitors, renters, and children) and report anyone you see being irresponsible with milfoil or other invasive plants.



Plymouth State
UNIVERSITY

Pamela and John F. Marrapese “Keep NH Lakes Clear” Endowed Scholarship Fund

We are proud to share that the Marrapese family scholarship has reached a milestone in 2021. The fund, which began with seed money of approximately \$4,000 in 2003 from WLA members and friends, is a tribute to Pam and John Marrapese. They spent 22 years fighting and winning a decision against a developer's proposed 64 condo units and boatel on the shores of Dyers cove. The fund this year hit the \$50,000 mark! Next stop, \$100,000. The fund is an endowed scholarship at Plymouth State University and is fully invested with the University System of New Hampshire. It pays an annual scholarship to undergrad or graduate students studying lake ecology in the state of New Hampshire. Since its inception, seven students have received over \$10,000 in scholarship support!

As the fund grows, it continues in its mission to increase the visibility of water pollution and invasive species at Webster Lake and throughout all bodies of water in the state. The WLA is honored to participate in a fund that they themselves began so humbly many years ago. Pam, a former president of the WLA from 1995-2000, was always proud of how WLA members were willing to get involved in the fight to preserve the natural beauty and spirit of the land.

The fund welcomes tax-deductible contributions that will continue to grow in perpetuity. Because of you and your support, this vital program will continue to be a success.

To make a gift to the Pamela and John F. Marrapese “Keep NH Lakes Clear” Endowed Scholarship Fund online, go to:
<http://go.plymouth.edu/marrapese>

By check: Made payable to Plymouth State University (PSU), writing “Marrapese Fund” on the memo line and mail to:

University Advancement MSC 50
Plymouth State University
17 High Street, Plymouth, NH 03264

For questions about making a gift, reach out to our dear friend John Scheinman, the Director of Development at Plymouth State:
jscheinman@plymouth.edu – 603-254-6421

Sincerely,
Martha & John Marrapese

Boat Launch Dredging

by Brian Sullivan, Municipal Services Director, City of Franklin

The Webster Lake Boat Launch at Lagace Beach was rebuilt by the State of New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, approximately eleven years ago. At the time of this launch ramp replacement, no dredging was performed due to the magnitude of dredging necessary and wetlands permitting involved with such a project. After construction was completed, the City assumed the responsibility for the maintenance of the ramp itself; however, the dredging of a channel to deeper water was not part of their scope of work.

Discussions with New Hampshire Fish and Game along with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Staff resulted in the need for the City to file a Wetlands Permit. NHDES does not pay for dredging even though Webster Lake is State owned, thus the project costs will be on the City. Given this, the City must pursue alternative funding for the project. This creates a challenge, as the City is coming into a very tight budget year to meet the City Tax Cap.

To complicate matters the boat ramp location is at the worst location. The outlet for the Lake is at the same location as the ramp. This results in lake sediments naturally accumulating at the ramp area and outwards into the area within the lake where a channel will need to be located. Because of this situation, ongoing sedimentation will recur, meaning maintenance dredging will need to be performed on a periodic basis.

The question becomes how much material must be removed, what will be the limits of the work area, where will such a channel be located, and should the channel be clearly designated and marked accordingly. My initial estimates are that approximately 1,000 cubic yards of material must be removed if we decide to fully provide for a navigable channel.



As we have discovered through initial discussions with NHDES, this is going to be a challenge both financially and environmentally. The magnitude of the project will be limited by what is finally acceptable to NHDES, by means of the wetlands permit requirements.

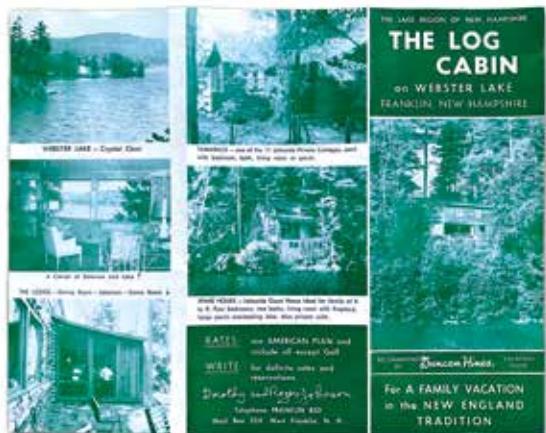
The following is an update of the necessary tasks, listed in sequential order, to be used towards the development of a “Project Pathway”:

- Contact NH Fish and Game to determine the feasibility of amending the current lease agreement with the City of Franklin, NH. The objective is to determine any future maintenance dredging commitment on the part of NH Fish and Game.
- Meet on-site with a qualified representative of NHDES to determine their permitting process, based on various dredging scenarios and what is realistic with special focus on the cubic yards to be removed predicated on the feasibility, with respect to the limits of dredging.
- Meet on-site with local dredging contractors (I have two in mind) for initial input relative to the type of dredging (mechanical versus vacuum dredging). Focusing on cubic yards of dredging material to be removed and dewatered along with potential obstacles.
- Based on above steps develop a “Request for Proposals”(RFP) based on the NHDES pre-qualification list, if one is available, for this type of work. City Staff will provide information available such as past survey plans, the Webster Lake Watershed Management Plan, etc., in order to select a qualified engineering firm.
- Once a firm is selected and permitting is approved, issue the RFP for dredging and select a dredging contractor. The RFP should include bid alternates and phasing of the project.
- Develop a definitive project timeline based on the Webster Lake drawdown period.
- Identify available alternative funding sources based on the above.
- Identify needs and funding for continued maintenance dredging and future funding sources.

This will be a complex and expensive project, based on the many challenges we face and the outcome of permitting requirements. We must work cooperatively to that end.

Communities within the WLA Community

THE LOG CABIN ASSOC. *BY GINA MURPHY*



You may know it as The Log Cabin Association. A group of thirteen cottages nestled on the south/southwestern side of our beautiful Webster Lake, located off Route 11. The Log Cabin, as it was once called, was originally part of the Aiken estate. The family once owned all the property along the west side of the lake that included Aiken Manor and other cottages from the northwest point of Webster Lake, across from Aiken Manor all the way to the southwest end of the lake.

According to Rogers Bruce Johnson in his book Rogers Bruce Stories, The Log Cabin and five additional cottages (Bird's Nest, Spare Hours, Junior, Oak Knoll, and Pine Nook) were built on the shores of Webster Lake in the 1890s by Jonas Aiken as an investment. Aiken earned money from summer rentals.

In 1923, Rogers Bruce Johnson and Dorothy Squires Aiken were married. Rogers and Dorothy spent their summers at Aiken Manor, in Franklin, the former home of Dorothy's grandparents and the summer home of her parents. Dorothy helped her mother run the Manor and, when her mother later passed away, she was left two of the cottages, The Log Cabin and Junior Oak Knoll. Dorothy opened a tearoom in The Log Cabin in the summer of 1928, which became quite successful.

Through-out the 30s, 40s and into the 50s, under the ownership of Rogers and Dorothy Johnson, The Log Cabin continued to grow and expand. The Log Cabin gained three of the Manor's cottages and eventually 10 more cottages were constructed. Three of the cottages constructed were made from the lumber of pine trees that The Cabin lost in the hurricane of 1938. The original Log Cabin was expanded to include a commercial kitchen, dining rooms, porches and a game room. Meals were served here, and it was a social center for guests. Guests visiting the cottages enjoyed tennis, boating, canoeing, and beaches for swimming. It was a popular summer vacation spot. At its peak, The Log Cabin boasted 75 guests and 25 employees.

In December of 1966, The Log Cabin was sold, and The Log Cabin Association was soon formed. Dorothy and Rogers retained the Bird's Nest Cottage. It was converted into a summer residence and was capable of housing 10 guests.

Today there are a total of thirteen privately owned cottages. The tennis courts that were located across from the lake are now long gone, but the beach remains for our members to enjoy. The original Log Cabin is privately owned. There are no longer community meals served there or games to enjoy, however growing up, it was the place for us to hang out! Stepping in, is like stepping back in time. A reminder of 53 years of summers many of us have well enjoyed, and the history of so many summers long ago...

Many thanks to Leigh Webb, and especially Rogers Bruce Johnson and Steve Johnson, for providing much of the content for this article. I have enjoyed the remarkable history lesson.

Reminders

Fireworks are always a concern as Independence Day Celebrations approach. In keeping with the WLA's mission to preserve and protect our beautiful lake, we ask that if you choose to discharge fireworks, please do so away from the lake. The chemicals and debris from fireworks can be harmful to the health of the lake. Fireworks discharged on private property must have the permission of the owner. Please be mindful that fireworks create loud noises which can cause distress to pets, small children, and lake wildlife. The City of Franklin has an ordinance stating fireworks should not be discharged after 9:30pm.

Rowell's Services is once again offering Webster Lake Days. They will be offering a discount to anyone having their septic systems pumped on Friday, June 4th, and Monday, June 7th. The price is \$160 up to a 1000-gallon tank, then 16 cents per gallon over 1000. Remember a properly working septic system helps keep our lake healthy and you will be living lake friendly. Call 603-934-4145 and mention Webster Lake.

Volunteers are always needed in the WLA. If you have some spare time and would like to give back to the WLA, there are many opportunities to volunteer. Our Lake Host program is always looking for people who would like to do boat inspections to help protect our lake from invasive species. Being a Weed Watcher on the lake helps us to know what is growing in our water and make sure everything is native to our area. The WLA-sponsored activities always need volunteers. Please email me at perks1427@yahoo.com if you would like to become a WLA volunteer.



Webster Lake Association

PO Box 44, West Franklin, NH 03235
www.websterlakenh.com
Email: info@websterlakenh.com
Phone: (603) 671-7961

Board of Directors

Val Perkins, President
Joan Ingersoll, Vice President/Secretary
John Miller, Treasurer
Kim Bonin
Brian Campbell
Marcia Feener
Bonnie Moore
Ted Starkweather
Debbie Steadman

