

# Get to Know Our Lake

## Calendar of Events

**Webster Lake Clean Up Days**  
Sundays, May 28th, July 16th, &  
October 8th – 10:00am-Noon

**WLA Board of Directors Meeting**  
Saturday, June 3rd, 10:00am

**Boat Parade**  
Saturday, July 1st  
2:30pm meet at Griffin Beach  
(rain date Sunday, July 2nd at Noon)

**WLA Annual Yard Sale**  
Saturday, July 15th  
181 Webster Lake Road  
9:00am-3:00pm  
Drop-off items at 181 Webster Lake Rd.,  
Friday, July 14th, 3:00pm-6:00pm

**Annual Meeting**  
Saturday, August 5th  
Franklin Elks Club, 125 S. Main St.  
9:00am Coffee, 9:30am Meeting

**WLA Board of Directors Meeting**  
Saturday, September 2nd, Noon

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

## Lagace Beach Boat Launch Update



As many of you are aware, the WLA has been working with the city for close to three years to improve launch conditions at the boat ramp. A permit to do dredging at the launch was approved by the Department of Environmental Services in January. A Request for Bids was sent out in February and a contract has been awarded to Daniels Construction out of Ascutney, Vermont. They have done some work with the city previously. We hoped that the work could be done by April 30, 2023, however the city could not

come up with funding. I spoke with the City Manager in mid-April and she indicated she was hopeful of having funds by the end of June. The 2023-2024 budget work will begin in May. There may be some year-end funds available that she will commit to using for the boat launch project. Due to water levels and summer activity on the lake, the work would have to be put off until October of this year. I will continue to be in touch with the City Manager and keep all of you abreast of any changes.

## **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	603-848-8094
Weed Watcher Volunteers	603-271-2248
Wetlands Concerns	603-271-2147
Webster Lake Association	603-671-7961



# Meet Your WLA Board Members

Enjoy reading about your current WLA Board Members. They, like so many others before them, have worked to keep the association active. They volunteer their time to make sure Webster Lake continues to be a healthy and fun place to spend summers. Please thank them if you see them around the lake.

## Val Perkins President

Val lives with her husband Jeff on Webster Avenue. Jeff's parents bought the "camp" in 1968. Val was introduced to the lake in 1970. They feel very fortunate to now live at the lake year-round. They enjoy all the lake has to offer in all four seasons. Swimming, boating, paddle boarding, snowmobiling, skating, snowshoeing, and Fall foliage are just a few of their favorites. Their sons grew up spending summers at the lake and now their five grandchildren are making wonderful lakeside memories. Jeff and Val love that Webster Lake holds a special place in the hearts of four generations. Since becoming president of the Webster Lake Association in 2018, Val has strived to educate everyone on how to keep the lake healthy so that more generations will be able to enjoy this wonderful place.



## Bonnie Moore Vice President

Bonnie is a mechanical engineer, contractor, and property manager from Massachusetts. She has enjoyed her "little piece of heaven" and spending time on the lake since 2013. She loves to hike, snorkel, kayak and mountain bike.



## John Miller Treasurer

John and his wife, Deb, bought their house on Webster Lake in 1983 while living outside Boston. For years they commuted to the lake on weekends in the summers. Once retired in 2013, they moved to Virginia, and now drive up and spend the whole summer at the lake. Their interests are "naturally propelled" water toys: a couple small sailboats, kayak, canoe, paddle boards, a training rowing shell, and a Hydro Bike (they retired their windsurfers a couple years ago) ...and now their 20-month-old grandson and soon-to-be new little sister.



## Buddy Potts Secretary

Buddy is a retired elevator industry executive and former elevator company owner. Elevators were his career; northern New England lakes are his passion. His wife, Annie, and her family are from Maine. They owned a camp on the Tacoma Lakes in Litchfield, Maine from 1998-2020, where they spent many wonderful weekends. In 2020, they sold that property and moved here to Webster Lake.



While in Maine, Buddy served as a board member and officer of the Tacoma Lakes Association, so he is not new to lake associations.

"The Tacoma Lakes face many of the same challenges as Webster Lake," says Buddy. "As our children and grandchildren build their lake memories, we must consider what kind of legacy we will leave for them".

## Kim Bonin Board Member

Kim lives with her husband, Jeremy, on Lake Shore Drive. Together, they are the owners of Bonin



Architects & Associates in New London & Meredith, NH. Additionally, Kim is a professionally trained voice-over artist and audio book narrator through her other business, Pin Drop Productions, LLC.

In her free time, Kim enjoys all that Webster Lake has to offer, such as sunrise paddle boarding, boating, nordic skating, cross country skiing, and spending time with their grown children. Kim also enjoys traveling with Jeremy to as many National Parks as possible in their Air Stream travel trailer, along with their Bernedoodle dog, Zuzu.

## Brian Campbell Board Member

Brian lives on Webster Lake Road with his wife Christine. They bought their house in 1998 and have been living here full-time since 2005. Brian has volunteered for the WLA for the past 16+ years doing water testing, yard sale set up/clean up, and helping to build the Steadman Pavilion. Brian has also had some of the most creative boat decorations for the WLA Boat Parade over the years.





## Marcia Feener Board Member

Marcia has lived full time on Webster Avenue since 1998 in the “cottage” she and her husband bought in 1972 and rebuilt. Marcia has been on the Board of Directors for many years. She takes care of the Membership Records. While at the lake, she continued her management consulting/training business, Feener Associates LLC. She is now enjoying retirement, spending winters in Charlotte, NC, and seeing her southern families and grandchildren.



## Ted Starkweather Board Member

Ted and his wife, Gail, live on Webster Lake Road. They built their home here at the lake 45 years ago. They also joined the WLA at that time. Their three sons grew up here and attended the local schools and are doing well.



Ted is a retired Command Sargent Major in the US Army. He retired from the Franklin Fire Department, as a shift captain, after 34 years of service. Ted has served as a Ward 1 City Councilor for 18 years and has been on the WLA Board of Directors for many years.

## Neil Twomey Board Member

Neil's family has been vacationing on Webster Lake since 1958. In 1967, Jack and Maureen Twomey, his parents, purchased their vacation home on Lake Shore Drive. His family has been an active member in the Webster Lake Association (WLA) since its inception.



Neil has been retired for more than twenty years. He, and his wife Pauline, spend several months on the lake each summer. Neil worked in senior management for several major financial entities throughout his career and has lived in Massachusetts, Washington DC, California, Louisiana, and Texas. After retirement, Neil was elected as a director of a local utility district and twice elected to the Texas' Association of Water Board Directors.

For the previous two years, Neil has assisted in the WLA's water testing program. He was elected to the WLA board in 2022. In 2021, he also volunteered to be a member of a WLA committee to research the lake's boat launch issues due to the deferred maintenance by the city.

# Lake Foam

(Article originally published by New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services)

Lakeshore property owners sometimes become concerned about lake foaming. However, most foam observed in lakes and streams is a product of nature; foam is not necessarily an indicator of pollution and it is not necessarily indicative of something bad. Small trout streams, for example, often have naturally occurring pools of foam where fish will hide.



## What causes the foaming of surface waters?

Foaming on lakes is not a new phenomenon. It is a natural process created when the surface tension of water (attraction of surface molecules for each other) is reduced and the air is mixed in, forming bubbles.

All lakes contain organic matter, such as algae and plants, and when this matter decomposes, cellular products (surfactants) are released into the water, which lessens the surface tension. When the wind blows, the waves that form on the lake agitate this surface agent, thus transforming it into sudsy white foam. Waves from boats may also increase foaming when surfactants are present. Natural foam has a somewhat earthy or fishy aroma and may have an off-white, tan, or brown color.

However, man-made agents can also reduce surface tension. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, many communities experienced tremendous foam problems in lakes, rivers, sewage treatment plants, and even in drinking water from contaminated wells. This foam was caused by synthetic laundry detergents that were highly resistant to chemical breakdown, and only slowly degradable (broken down by bacteria). By law, the sudsing agent of all detergents now on the market must be biodegradable. This means that they quickly lose their ability to cause foaming and are unable to produce the long-lasting foam found along many shores. Foam from soaps or detergent will have a noticeable perfume smell and is usually whiter in color.

## Where is lake foam found?

Foam will frequently form parallel streaks in the open water, caused by wind-induced surface currents. It will also collect on windward shores, coves, or in eddies. A variety of organic material can get caught in the surface water and may aggregate with the foam. For example, decaying cyanobacterial blooms can also be mixed in with these foamy events.

Please contact the NHDES Harmful Algal and Cyanobacterial Bloom Program for inquiries on surface scums, foams, streaks, discoloration of water, cyanobacteria bloom or algae questions. A microscopic examination of anything is recommended. Send your photos to **603-848-8094** or email to **hab@des.nh.gov**.

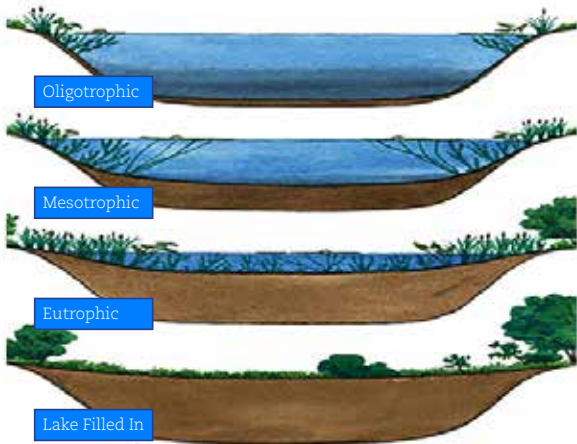
# The Life of a Lake

(Article originally published by NH Lakes)

Fifteen thousand years ago, New Hampshire's natural lakes and ponds were created by the retreat of glaciers, and they have been going through a natural process of filling-in since then. In the field of science known as ecology—the study of relationships between living things and their environment—'succession' is a term used to describe the gradual change in an environment and its biological inhabitants over time.

Although most of New Hampshire's natural lakes are approximately the same age, they are filling in with sediment at different rates. Lakes are said to be 'young' if they are filling in very slowly and their characteristics have not changed much since the lake was formed. A lake is considered 'old' if it is filling in much quicker, so an 'old' lake will be very different from when it first formed. The natural process of succession in which a lake fills in with sediment and gets shallower continues as a lake changes to a pond, pond to marsh, marsh to meadow, and meadow to dry land.

Young lakes are classified as 'oligotrophic,' literally meaning 'not much nutrition.' In New Hampshire, these lakes typically contain low concentrations of nutrients (such as phosphorus), are steep-sided, have clear water, have sand or rock along most of the shoreline, contain few aquatic plants, support little algal growth, and support cold water fisheries. Webster Lake was reclassified as "Oligotrophic" in 1993.



Older-aged lakes are classified as "eutrophic," meaning "adequate nutrition," and contain high concentrations of nutrients, are shallow, have sediment accumulated on most of the lake bottom, contain extensive plant beds, support much algal growth, and support warm water fisheries.

"Mesotrophic" lakes are intermediate between oligotrophic and eutrophic lakes, which mean they have "middle nutrition."

Over a very, very long time, the lake will accumulate sediment and move from being a young oligotrophic lake, to middle-aged and mesotrophic, to old and eutrophic, and finally the lake will 'die' once it has filled in completely. Of the thousand or so lakes and ponds in New Hampshire, almost half are mesotrophic, right in the middle of their aging process, and around a quarter of the total number of lakes are in the oligotrophic and eutrophic stages. This distribution makes a pretty good bell curve graph, but another way to measure the trophic states of New Hampshire's lakes is by surface area instead of number of lakes. Most of the total lake surface area in the state is classified as oligotrophic.

To help assess the trophic state (as well as other things) of Webster Lake, the WLA participates with the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program. We have done so since 1986.

## 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. 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 system pumped on Friday, June 2nd or Monday, June 5th. The special rate will be \$190 per tank, up to 1,000 gallons. Remember a properly working septic system helps keep our lake healthy and you will be living lake friendly. Call 603-934-4145 to schedule and mention Webster Lake.

**The WLA Little Free Libraries** will be open from June 15th to September 15th. Take a book or leave a book at one of the libraries located at 30 Lake Shore Drive, 74 Webster Avenue, and the Steadman Pavilion at Griffin Beach. Thank you, Linda Stronge and Bruce Browne, for coordinating this program.

**Please remember to update your contact information** with the WLA. We want to keep current street addresses, email addresses and phone numbers in our database. You can email Val Perkins at [perks1427@yahoo.com](mailto:perks1427@yahoo.com), or fill out your membership printed form, or online at [www.websterlakenh.com](http://www.websterlakenh.com), when paying dues with these changes.

### Webster Lake Association

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Phone: (603) 671-7961

### Board of Directors

Val Perkins, President  
Bonnie Moore, Vice President  
Buddy Potts, Secretary  
John Miller, Treasurer  
Kim Bonin  
Brian Campbell  
Marcia Feener  
Ted Starkweather  
Neil Twomey

