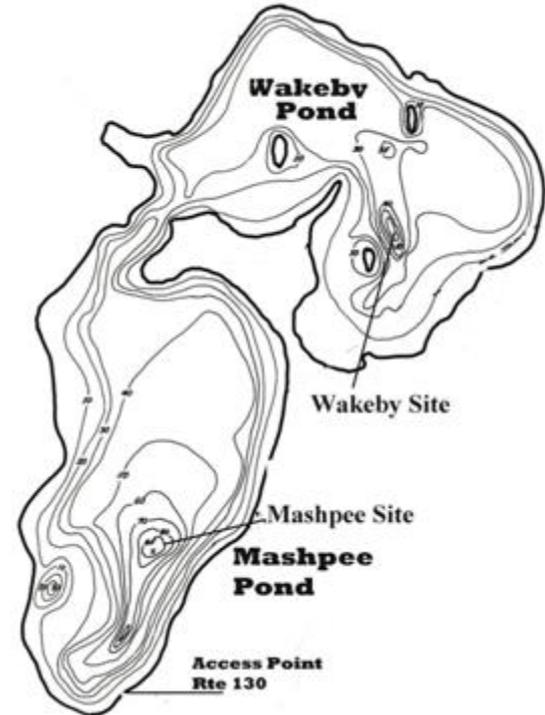


**MASHPEE & WAKEBY LAKES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
NEWSLETTER**



VOL. 15, NUMBER 2, Fall 2015

This newsletter appears in the spring and fall and can be found on the Town web site www.mashpeema.gov under Boards and Committees: Mashpee Wakeby Lake Management.

Be nice to the environment. Be nice to animals.
Be nice to people. If you do that,
you will leave your mark on the world.”

Enock Maregesi

**Mashpee-Wakeby Lake
Management Committee**

Mashpee Town Hall

Mashpee MA, 02649

MASHPEE & WAKEBY LAKE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mashpee & Wakeby Lake Management Committee is comprised of five members from the Mashpee community. They are representative of groups within the Town of Mashpee who have a vested interest in maintaining the beauty and safety of the Lake for the residents' use and enjoyment. The Committee acts as a conduit for the public's interests and concerns about the Lake. It serves as liaison to the Town's governing agencies, recommending necessary actions to be taken. The Committee meets on the fourth Thursday of each month, at 7:30 p.m. at the Mashpee Town Hall. The presence of Mashpee residents at these meetings is encouraged. We urge your participation in the activities of this Committee, to assist in our ongoing efforts to preserve the beauty and safety of the Lake. For more information, contact any of the Committee members listed below.

Debi McManus, Chairman - Lake Shore property owner
94 Lakewood Ave, Mashpee, MA 508-868-1866
Email: damdesign@aol.com

Brian Mauro, Vice Chairman - Mashpee Shores Assoc.
12 Poplar Dr, Mashpee, MA 508-873-6856
Email: Brian_Rescue1@MSN.com

Donald MacDonald, Waterways Commission - Lakewood Assoc.
13 Maple St, Mashpee, MA 508-477-1795
Email: dmacd49@gmail.com

Barbara Nichols, Secretary - Lake Shore property owner
23 Melissa Ave, Mashpee, MA 508-539-1848
Email: barbnich@cape.com

Vacancy



Beach Water Quality Testing

Four seasonal employees of Barnstable County conduct testing of lakes and salt water beaches weekly during the swimming season for Enterococcus and E.coli. It takes 24 hours to run the tests and, if positive, it would be repeated the next day, which is a change from previous years. When the beach was closed as a result of the first test, most repeat tests have been negative. If a repeat test is positive, the Health Agent in Town would be notified to close the beach. Mashpee is tested at both Attaquin Beach and Camp Farley, and tests between June 4th and September 1st have all been negative for the bacteria.

Storm water runoff is the dominant cause for elevated levels of bacteria.

Committee Vacancy

Mashpee Wakeby Lake Management Committee has a vacancy. If you are a Mashpee resident and have an interest in serving on the five person committee, apply through the Selectmen's Office by sending a letter of interest. Sandwich residents are welcome to attend meetings. Except in December, we usually meet on the fourth Thursday of each month in Town Hall at 7:30 PM. Meetings last about an hour. Help is also needed on our twice a year newsletter, which contains articles of news from around the lakes.



Mashpee Harbormaster Position Open

In August, Steve Mone, who has served as Mashpee Harbormaster since 2011, resigned to take a similar position in Scituate. The position has been left open for now.

Lieutenant John J. Santangelo of the Mashpee Police Department will serve as Acting Harbormaster for the Town until a replacement is appointed, which may not be until next spring. The Harbormaster helps protect the safety of persons and vessels that use our waterways.

Rich Santangelo, Assistant Harbormaster, reported during our August meeting that more citations were being written, as there are more boaters with no boating knowledge. A guest at our meeting reported that jet skiers are driving dangerously, endangering swimmers and landing on private property. Perhaps a boating course for a required State license to operate a boat in Massachusetts would help.





Multiflora Rose

Multiflora Rose, a native of Japan, Korea, and eastern China is a thorny, perennial shrub with arching canes. It has showy pink to white flowers beginning in May or June, and develops small red rose hips which stay on the plant through the winter. Classified as invasive and a noxious weed, multiflora rose is extremely prolific and can form impenetrable thickets that exclude native plant species. It can readily be found in Mashpee. Large areas surround the path from Attaquin Beach to the pen surrounding the outflow to the Mashpee River.

Multiflora Rose reproduces by seed and by forming new plants that root from the tips of the arching canes that contact the ground. Fruits are sought after by birds which are the primary dispersers of the seed. One plant may produce a million seeds per year, which remain viable in the ground for up to twenty years.

Safety Hints for Winter

1. Make sure smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are working and have new batteries.
2. Keep dryer vent clear of snow.
3. Be sure a direct heating vent is clear of snow as not to block exhaust fumes.
4. Have heating system checked before cold weather.
5. Make sure outside faucets are shut off and drained.
6. Keep space heaters away from combustibles. They should be UL approved with a safety switch.
7. Keep spare batteries for flashlights and a portable radio.
8. DO NOT run generators inside a house/garage.
9. DO NOT operate a charcoal grill inside a house/garage. They give off large amounts of carbon dioxide.
10. Make sure there are no combustibles on electric baseboard if you have electric heat.

The Lake Level

For the past year, the lake level has been between 55.1 feet above sea level in the summer months up to 55.6 feet above sea level on April 1, 2015. No adjustments have been made in the boards of the fishway, and herring have been able to travel up river in the spring and back down river in October. The increased precipitation of the fall and winter months brings the lake a bit higher than the groundwater of the spring fed lake in the summer months. Levels above 55.5 feet may cause erosion along the shoreline and damage to shore front property.

Winter is Around the Corner

Winter is right around the corner and with it comes thoughts of ice skating, cross country skiing, ice fishing, and other sports we may do on our frozen lakes. It is a good time to remind everyone how dangerous the lake ice can be.

Mashpee/Wakeby is a large body of water with many deep areas. The ice depth is not consistent. Water currents, particularly around outlets, may cause the ice to become quite thin. Be aware that ice can be thin around fallen trees and branches too.

We should also be aware that snow can insulate the ice and keep it from freezing solid. It can hide cracks in the ice from our view. Slush is a sign that the ice is no longer frozen and may be dangerous.

With the New England weather, we need to be especially careful in determining whether the ice thickness is safe enough. Never go out skating or ice fishing alone. Be careful not to let your pets wander out onto the ice. You never know what could happen. The ice can change from day to day. So, please be aware and be safe!

Have a wonderful winter.



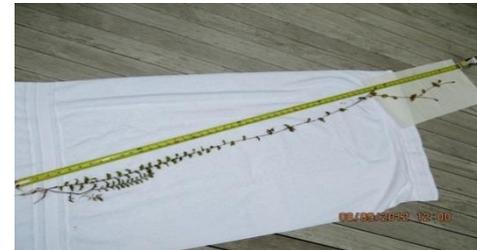
Multiflora Rose Cont'd

Mechanical and chemical methods are currently the most widely used methods for managing Multiflora Rose. Frequent, repeated cutting or mowing, three to six times during the growing season for two to four years, may be effective. Various herbicides have been used successfully in controlling Multiflora Rose, but they may need multiple treatments. Herbicides should not be used near the lake.

More information may be found by cutting and pasting this link into your browser <http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>.

Richardson Pondweed

This weed, which was discovered several years ago, has continued to spread. Large quantities have been noted growing off the Lowell Holly Beach. See the Fall 2012 newsletter for more information.



Water Quality Control Monitoring Technician

During the October 19th Town Meeting, an article passed to create a Water Quality Control Monitoring Technician position for the purpose of protecting, preserving, and enhancing a healthy ecological function of the Town's natural resources. This position will serve under the supervision of the Shellfish Constable, and will assist in the job of enhancing our shellfish and finfish population, restoring water quality, and implementing the Shellfish and Water Quality Monitoring components of Mashpee's Comprehensive Wastewater and Nitrogen Management Plan.

There were several other articles passed related to Shellfish propagation, including purchasing quahog and oyster seed necessary to reduce nitrogen in our bays. If this work is successful, it could save the Town the very high cost of having to sewer many parts of our community over the next several decades.

Power Loading of Boats at Town Ramps

Also at the October 19th Town Meeting, a proposal passed to prohibit power loading at all Mashpee Public Access Ramps under the ownership and/or control of the Town of Mashpee. This includes the Mashpee/Wakeby ramp. Power loading is defined as any use of a watercraft's motor to facilitate the loading or unloading of a watercraft on or off a trailer.

This requirement is being implemented to reduce ramp damage caused by power loading. The operator of any watercraft who violates this section may be subject to a fine in the amount of \$100 for each offense. The intent of this new law is to stop the boaters from creating prop wash that has moved sand from the bottom of the cement ramps, creating holes where trailers drop off the end and eventually wash material out from under the cement ramp, causing the ramp to break apart.

