Mashpee MA, 02649 Mashpee Town Hall

MASHPEE & WAKEBY LAKES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE **NEWSLETTER**



VOL. 13, NUMBER 2, FALL 2013

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.

The conservation of natural resources is the fundamental problem, it will avail us little to solve all others.

Theodore Roosevelt

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Barnstable County tests Mashpee Pond weekly during swim season: One failure noted in 2013

The sampling program serves fourteen towns on the Cape and tests both salt and fresh water beaches. Barnstable County tests area beaches for bacterial indicators weekly to assure swimmers safety. Both Attaquin Beach and Camp Farley sites are tested in Mashpee Pond, and results are posted on the web at www.barnstablecountyhealth.org/bsmashpee.

One sample this summer failed to pass. Attaquin Beach did not pass on June 6th, but was OK on a re- test on June 7th.

The other site at Camp Farley was deemed safe for swimming throughout the season.

The Mass. State Code for Bathing Beaches, amended in 2010, requires permanent beach signs showing permit number and sampling dates for bacteria. Closed beaches will have warning signs posted in a conspicuous place to prevent public contact with potentially contaminated waters.



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 PM 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.

Andrew Gottlieb, Chairman 119 Pickerel Cove Rd. Mashpee, MA 617-797-3302 argottlieb@gmail.com

William R. Taylor, Vice Chairman - Waterways Commission 31 Godfrey Road Mashpee, MA 508-477-6739 Email: nobsque@comcast.net

Barbara Nichols, Secretary- Lake Shore Property Owner 23 Melissa Ave, Mashpee, MA 508-539-1848

Email: <u>barbnich@cape.com</u>

Debi McManus — Lake Shore Property Owner 94 Lakewood Ave. Mashpee, MA 508-868-1866

Email: Damdesign@aol.com

Vacancy

Harbormaster report con't

Mr. Mone suggested changing the time of ramp coverage at the state boat ramp to start later as most of the problems tend to happen after the attendant leaves in the afternoon.

We would like to thank Mr. Mone for attending our meeting and keeping us up-dated.

We are hoping that 2014 is a safe and not so loud summer.

Thank you, George

George Bingham III Retires

George, who has served on Mashpee Wakeby Lake Management Committee for over 11 years recently retired from the committee.

He was dedicated to preserving the lake and Mashpee River. The members of the committee will miss George and wish him well in his future endeavors. This opens up a vacancy on the committee. Please notify the Selectmen's office if you are interested. Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday evening monthly except December.

3. Mooring Enforcement Alert

The Mashpee Harbormaster has made compliance with the mooring regulations a priority for the upcoming spring season. Non-compliant moorings were tagged during the summer of 2013 and residents were given an opportunity to address any compliance problems. While many issues were resolved, some moorings remain out of compliance for issues ranging from improper markings, missing numbers, inadequate or worn chains and anchors or for other reasons. This winter is a good time for anyone with a problem to contact the Harbormaster to discuss a plan to achieve compliance.

The Harbormaster has notified the committee that non-compliant moorings will be removed this spring. The removal of moorings is an expensive and time-consuming process for the Town and is something that no one wants to see happen. If you have any questions about the status of your mooring, contact the Harbormaster, Stephen Mone at 508-539-1450, this winter to avoid problems this spring and summer.

Water Quality of Mashpee and Wakeby Ponds

We now have 10 years of data on the water quality of Mashpee Lakes. Ed Eichner and Brian Howes at SMAST interpret the data as collected by local volunteers. The school of Marine Science and Technology at UMass, Dartmouth continues to provide this lab data without cost and in support of the Cape Cod Pond and Lake Stewards (PALS) Program.

The data from 2012 showed a slight improvement in chlorophyll a, and transparency as measured by the secchi disc.

However the phosphorus levels continue to get worse each year. Fertilizer use, septic systems, and waterfowl all contribute to the problem.

Mashp	ee Lar	ke Phos	sphorus Level	S
2011	3 m	denth	15.2 ua/l	

2011 2011	3 m. depth 9m.	15.2 ug/l 13.6 ug/l	2012 2012	15.8 ug/l 25.4ug/l		
Wakeby Lake Phosphorus Levels						
2011	3m. depth	16.7 ug/l	2012	18 ug/l		
2011	9m.	85.8 ug/l	2012	92.9 ug/l		

Phosphorus readings above 24 ug/l fall in the eutrophic range. The numbers from the deeper holes are even worse. As you can see by the numbers, the phosphorus is at higher concentrations in Wakeby than Mashpee Lake. We need to reverse this trend. The health of these lakes depends on each one of us.

Harbormaster Report for 2013

Mashpee & Wakeby Lake Management Committee was happy to have Mr. Stephen Mone attend our October 24th. meeting. We discussed concerns about boats exceeding speed limits and having loud exhausts this past summer on Mashpee and Wakeby lakes.

Mr. Mone said he felt that the summer season had gone well. He had one of his men patrolling the lake 4 days a week for 6 hour shifts and responded at other times when they were called with problems.

Mr. Mone said violations were written, but he was unable to give us any information on the number and type. There was an increase in safety checks that resulted in boats being asked to leave the lake until they were in compliance with the rules. It was suggested that violations could be posted in the police beats in the newspaper, hoping it would deter violators.

We brought up concerns that the Trustees from Lowell Holly Reservation have about their beautiful beach and hope to discuss it more at a meeting with them in the future.

Lowell Holly Reservation Diane Lang

The Trustees of Reservations own and manage Lowell Holly Reservation, the peninsula of land dividing Wakeby and Mashpee Ponds. Lowell Holly Reservation offers the only sandy beach available to boaters on the water. This season the beach was heavily used, especially on weekends. Although many boaters followed the rules and regulations on the property, there continued to be open fires, trash, and use of the woods as toilets. There were many safety concerns regarding the speed of boats arriving on the beach and by jet skis and boats, while swimmers were in the water, which is a violation of the rules on the pond. The Trustees are considering implementing either a fee to boaters or possibly closing the beach to motor boats completely. If the beach is closed, it will be accessible by non motorized boat craft such as canoes, kayaks or sailboats. Comments or questions are welcome. For more information visit www.thetrustees.org or contact Diane Lang, Superintendent. 774-302-0779. dlang@ttor.org.

5.

How to reduce Storm Water:

The reduction of storm water will decrease the pollution in our streams and lakes. For decades, we have been creating more roofs, parking lots, and asphalt walkways leading to our waterways. Every time it rains, water carrying pollutants, is sent into our bodies of water.

Each of us can take actions to reduce the problem.

Actions include tree planting, buffers, rain gardens, pervious pavers, native meadows, green roofs, downspout disconnects and conservation landscaping. Contaminants from winter de-icing, vehicle maintenance, pet waste, garden and lawn care should be kept away from the lake. Dumping into storm drains should be avoided.

Buffers:

- 1. Slow water runoff and enhance infiltration
- 2. Trap pollutants in surface runoff
- 3. Trap pollutants in subsurface flow
- 4. Stabilize soil
- 5. Reduce bank erosion



European Naiad

<u>Description:</u> Ninjas minor is an annual, rooted, submerged exotic plant, originally from Europe. It is found in several western Massachusetts water bodies. Leaves are lime green, slender and 1 ¾ inches long with 6-15 deep teeth along the margins. <u>Reproduction:</u> The plant reproduces by stem fragmentation and seeds. Small fruits develop in the leaf axils and later in the summer, become brittle and fragment.

Impacts: European Naiad grows and reproduces rapidly and can displace native species. It can produce dense mats of vegetation on the surface, which intercepts sunlight. These mats can hamper fishing, swimming, and other recreational activities. When the mats decay, available oxygen is depleted which can lead to fish kills.

7.

Management methods:

Management methods include mechanical removal, benthic barriers and herbicides. When harvesting the plants, care must be taken too prevent fragmentation which can spread the plant. Herbicides should not be used by anyone except a licensed applicator.

Further information can be found at www.mass.gov/lakes and ponds

Prevent the spread of invasive weeds.

Wash boats before launching them in the lake after being in another body of water.

Don't dump aquarium contents in the lake.