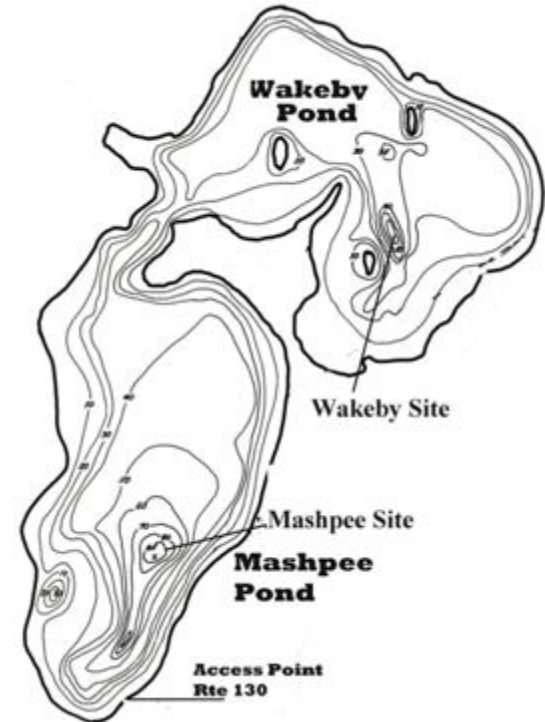


**MASHPEE & WAKEBY LAKES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
NEWSLETTER**



VOL. 14, NUMBER 2, FALL 2014

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.

“We have forgotten how to be good guests, how to walk lightly on the earth as its other creatures do.”

Barbara Ward “Only One Earth” 1972

**Mashpee-Wakeby Lake
Management Committee
Mashpee Town Hall
Mashpee MA, 02649**

2.

Barnstable County tests Mashpee Pond weekly during swim season: One failure noted in 2014

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 July 17th, but was OK on a re- test on July 18th.

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.

Debi McManus , Chairman — Lake shore property owner
94 Lakewood Ave. Mashpee, MA 01908-1866
Email: Damdesign@aol.com

Brian Mauro, Vice Chairman, Mashpee Shores Assoc.
12 Poplar Drive Mashpee, MA 02649 508-873-6856
Email: Brian_Rescue1@MSN.Com

Linda Smith, Lake shore property owner
33 Sturgis Lane, Mashpee, MA 02649 508-477-0504
Email: kitchensmith@aol.com

Donald MacDonald, Waterways Commission, Lakewood Assoc.
13 Maple St. Mashpee, MA 02649 508-477-1795
Email: dmacd49@gmail.com

Barbara Nichols, Secretary- Lake Shore property owner
23 Melissa Ave, Mashpee, MA 01908-1848
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Mashpee Nitrogen Bylaw

The Mashpee Town meeting voted in favor of or of a new nitrogen bylaw similar to those enacted in Orleans and Falmouth. It limits the application of nitrogen on turf between October 30 and April 14th. It also prohibits the application of nitrogen on non-turf such as pavement, and prohibits its use just before a heavy rain. It also bans the use of nitrogen within 100 feet of wetlands.

The bylaw was unanimously approved by the Cape Cod Commission on November 13th, and also will be reviewed by the Massachusetts Attorney General's office in early 2015. This is part of the process to get the bylaw approved and on the books as an official town ordinance before next springs' growing season.

Although nitrogen is a big part of the degradation of salt water bays and estuaries, phosphorus in fertilizers is more responsible for degrading the fresh water ponds and rivers. State regulations govern the application of phosphorus. Residents should minimize the use of phosphorus fertilizers and be mindful to use low or no phosphorus compounds in the home.

Lowell Holly Reservation

The Trustees of Reservations have owned and provided stewardship for Lowell Holly Reservation since 1942. Lowell Holly Reservation is a Cape Cod gem hosting landscape qualities that provide stunning views and unique ecological features. The reservation's main geographical feature is a peninsula of land dividing Wakeby and Mashpee Ponds offering a sandy beach available to swimmers and visitors year-round. This past summer season the beach at Lowell Holly was marked by swim buoys and the area was restricted to non motorized boats only. The Trustees is a member supported organization, with membership dues supporting the upkeep of our properties. Our members had contacted us expressing their concern over the use of the beach area and the number of boaters there. After two seasons of meeting people using the beach and explaining our rules and regulations we felt that this management change was necessary. As stewards of the property we encourage active use, and request that all visitors please share in preserving its beauty through a carry-in, carry-out policy. The Trustees wish all visitors an enjoyable experience and welcome any comments or feedback. We encourage passionate visitors to become more involved with the organization through volunteering or supporting the Trustees work in preserving Massachusetts most special places. For more information please visit www.thetrustees.org or contact Diane Lang, Superintendent, at dlang@ttor.org. Diane Lang

4.

How Big is Too Big for the Lake?

This question has been raised for discussion at our meeting. Larger boats are being launched, and they have difficulty on the ramp, both going in and coming out. In addition they cause a large wake near shore. A proposed length of 25 feet has been suggested. This size limitation would have to be approved by both Sandwich and Mashpee, and then the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.



The Lake Level

In 2014, the lake level has varied from 55.5 ft. above sea level to 55.0. The fall rains have brought it back up to 55.3 feet.

Increased Harbormaster Activity

The Town is considering increasing the funding of the harbormaster's budget to allow more coverage on the major bodies of water in Mashpee. This would provide additional safety measures for all who use these resources.

9.

Fanwort



Thank you, Bill Taylor

Bill Taylor recently resigned from this committee after 18 years of service. The committee was formed in 1996, and Bill was the last of the original members remaining.

His faithful service is much appreciated.

We will miss you, Bill!

Fanwort

Fanwort is an invasive submerged aquatic plant native to the southern US and likely introduced to Massachusetts via the aquarium trade. The green fan-like underwater leaves, which average two inches across, grow on a stem that can grow to six feet in length. Small diamond shaped leaves float on the surface and white or cream flowers form during May through September.

Fanwort reproduces by both vegetative methods and seed formation. Pieces that break off a plant can re-sprout and grow into new plant, and seeds are also formed.

Fanwort can out-compete native vegetation, and when dense mats of Fanwort decay, available oxygen in the water may be depleted, causing fish kills and harm to other organisms.

One management method is careful mechanical removal.

Never dump aquarium contents into a body of water.

Fanwort is on the Massachusetts Prohibited Plant list as of January 1, 2006.

References: (or for more information)

1) www.mass.gov/dcr/waterSupply/lakepond/geir.

<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/cacapic.html>

<http://www.bio.umass.edu/biology/conn.river/cabomba.html>

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/weeds>

Mashpee & Wakeby Lake Management Committee welcomed Mr. Stephen Mone, Harbormaster to our October 23th. meeting.

Mr. Mone said he felt that the summer season had gone OK although he was missing one of the Assistant Harbormasters, Peter Prescott, who was ill and died August 7th. 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.

The committee felt the closure of Lowell Holly Beach to motorized boats discouraged some of the unruly boaters. There were less personal watercraft and boats with loud exhausts racing around.

Being Responsible

They say "If you are lucky enough to live near the water, you are lucky enough!" But it comes with a responsibility to take care of the waterways. We all need to be educated about fertilizers and the damage it is doing to our lakes, ponds and wetlands.

No one within 100 feet of any shoreline or wetlands should be applying any kind of fertilizer or chemicals to their lawn. The high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus in the water from fertilizers, septic systems and animal waste is causing algae blooms, degrading habitat and killing fish.

With the cooperation of everyone living near the water, we can keep the water clean and healthy.

Then, we will all feel lucky enough to live near the water.



Brian, Linda and Don

Meet Our New Members

Don MacDonald and his wife have owned their home in Mashpee for 10 years. They live in the Lakewood Association area and are active in that organization. They lived and raised their family in Southern NH (Hampstead) for 40 years and have 5 grandsons ranging in age from 5 to 13. When they moved here, Mashpee Wakeby Lake played a major role in selecting their home. Donald's hobbies are boating, both on the Lake and on the Sound, and golf. Donald said "I am interested in helping to preserve this important asset for the community by participating on the Mashpee Wakeby Lake Management Committee. I am also part of the Mashpee Waterways Commission and participate in the Water Quality Testing Program, which monitors the estuaries and lakes."

7.

Brian Mauro, who has a Master's Degree in Emergency Management and Bachelors in Fire Science, retired from the Framingham Fire Department where he served as Fire Marshal. Brian was a member of the Southborough Conservation Committee and Chairperson. He also was on the recycling Committee there. Brian has now been living in Mashpee full time for two years after owning property here for five years. Brian feels that "the lake is a very important part of Mashpee's history and should be preserved as much as possible."

Linda Smith, a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, is married and has a daughter who is a college student, and a step daughter who is a nurse. With a degree in Urban Planning, she currently is a Senior Project Manager for the Mass. Dept. of Transportation in Boston. About thirty five years ago, she rented a cottage on the lake while working in local restaurants, and eight years ago had the opportunity to buy this same cottage. Linda says "I am thrilled to have a permanent home on the lake and I am committed to its continued quality and beauty."