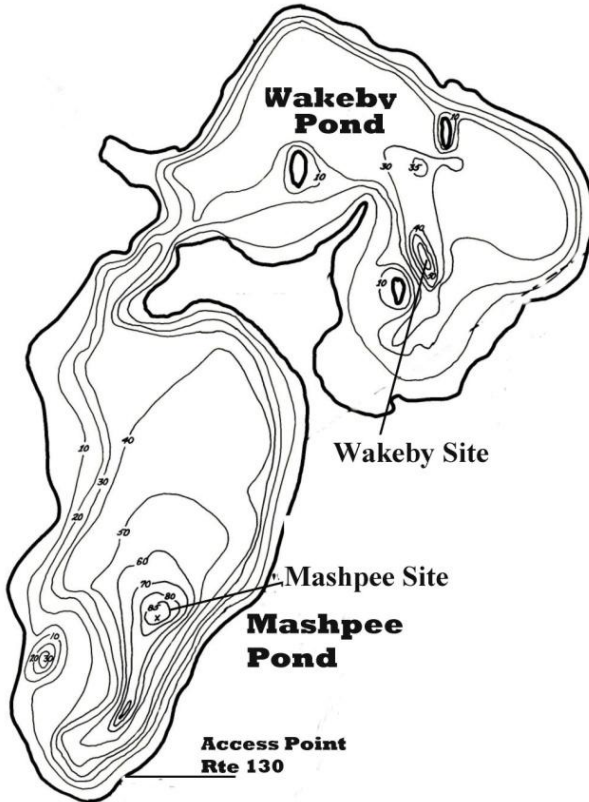


# MASHPEE & WAKEBY LAKES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER



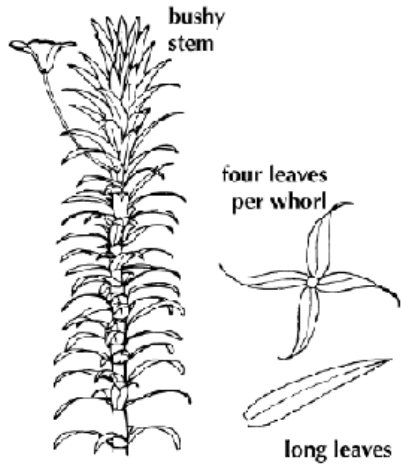
**VOL11, Number 1, Spring 2011**

This Newsletter's notification of availability is by email list only. If you have a neighbor who would like to be added to the e-mail list they should forward their email address to: [mashpeewakeby@comcast.net](mailto:mashpeewakeby@comcast.net)

It's hard for the modern generation to understand Thoreau, who lived beside a pond but didn't own water skis or a snorkel."

~ Bill Vaughn

## **Brazilian Water Weed: An invasive Aquatic Plant**



### **Description**

Brazilian Waterweed (*Egeria densa*) is a robust submerged aggressive invasive aquatic plant and is normally called South American Waterweed.

The strap-shaped leaves are bright green, 1" long and ¼" wide, and the tips end in a point. The leaf margins have small serrations that can be seen with a hand lenses, but no teeth are present on the lower midrib of the leaf. Leaves are arranged in whorls of 4-8, but most often occur in whorls of 4.

It is a very hardy and persistent species that has established itself in a wide range of aquatic habitats, tolerating a variety of habitats and water conditions, including oligotrophic (nutrient poor) and eutrophic (nutrient rich) lakes.

It was first documented in Massachusetts in Abington in 1940.

It may be confused with the native Common Waterweed (*Elodea*) or non-native Hydrilla

Brazilian Waterweed is more robust, leafy, and larger than either Hydrilla or Elodea. Common Waterweed has leaves that are small and arranged in whorls of three. Hydrilla has small leaves arranged in whorls of 4-8 with distinctly serrated leaf margins.

## **Perch Bug (Dragonfly Nymph)**



A bait fisherman's delight, these nymphs vary in shape, but most have robust, elongated, or "spider-like" bodies, often with algae growing on their backs; six legs at side of body or near front on elongated species; two large eyes at sides of heads; a pair of small wings begins to develop on back; color varies from brown, black, but often green; length up to 2 inches

The adult's eggs are deposited on surface of water and drift to bottom. The adult dragonfly is similar to adult damselflies, but the two pairs of wings are flat or horizontal at rest; some species can attain lengths of over 4 inches.

These nymphs are predaceous and feed upon other aquatic macro-invertebrates, small fish, and tadpoles.

Dragonflies are found in slower moving streams and in ponds.

## **Scheduled Bass Tournaments (5/3/11)**

For current info:

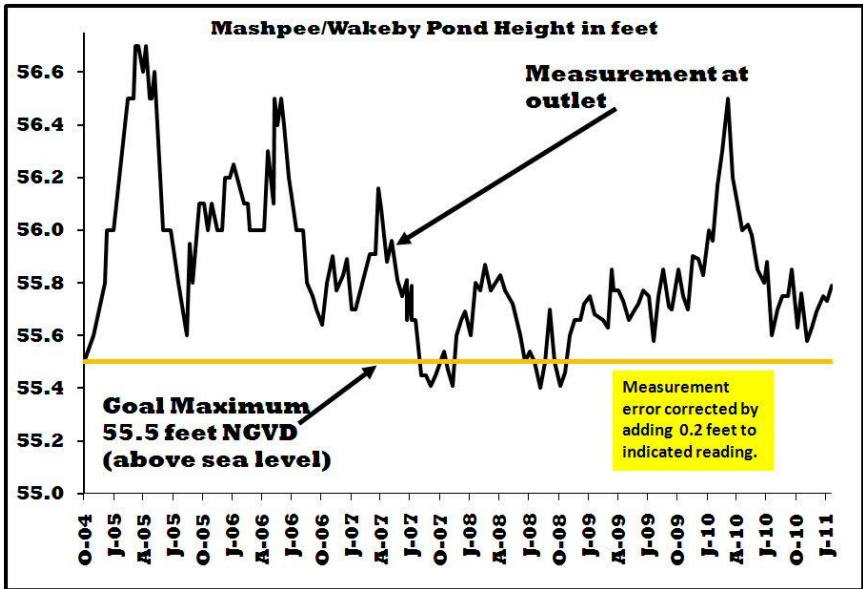
[http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/pab/pab\\_schedevents.htm#m](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/pab/pab_schedevents.htm#m)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Boats</b>	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Group</b>
Saturday, April 16, 2011	36	5:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Mass Bass State Team
Sunday, April 17, 2011	25	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	USA Bassin
Saturday, April 23, 2011	20	5:30 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Cabin Fever Bass Club
Sunday, May 01, 2011	22	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	1:00 PM	Baystate Rodbenders
Saturday, May 07, 2011	20	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	American Bass Anglers Couples Series
Sunday, May 08, 2011	13	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	RI Bass Anglers
Sunday, May 29, 2011	40	5:30 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	New England East-Division 5
Saturday, June 11, 2011	17	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	9:00 PM	Bass Busters
Sunday, June 12, 2011	20	5:30 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Weed Hawg Anglers
Saturday, June 18, 2011	25	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Federation Nation of Massachusetts
Sunday, June 26, 2011	22	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	1:00 PM	Baystate Rodbenders
Wednesday, July 13, 2011	24	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Take-A-Break Tournament Trail

Saturday, July 16, 2011	13	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	2:00 AM	Rod Jockeys of Cape Cod
Saturday, July 23, 2011	22	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Happy Hookers Bass Club
Friday, August 12, 2011	17	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	South Shore Bass Masters
Saturday, August 20, 2011	20	3:30 PM	4:00 PM	12:00 AM	Plymouth Rock Bassmasters
Sunday, August 21, 2011	15	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	1:00 PM	Rayn-Water Bass Club
Saturday, September 10, 2011	15	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:30 PM	Wachusett Bassmasters
Sunday, September 11, 2011	20	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Coventry Bass Anglers
Wednesday, September 14, 2011	18	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Take-A-Break Tournament Trail
Saturday, September 24, 2011	25	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Freedom Bass
Sunday, September 25, 2011	21	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	RI Bass Federation
Saturday, October 08, 2011	25	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Avid Anglers
Sunday, October 09, 2011	17	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Southcoast Bass Anglers

## **Pond Height**

Our charted values have been updated to minimize reading errors due to the measurement location in the outlet flume. As the water exits the pond the measurement is made at a down-slope (flume gate) location, thusly introducing reading error.



## Didymo

Here is a new threat. It is a diatom (algae) that goes by the nickname “Rock Snot”. Originally a Northwest United States resident, it has shown up in Vermont, New Hampshire, New York and Pennsylvania. It can be transported in many ways related to boating and fishing. One suspected carrier is felt-soled waders.



Didymo can be killed, on equipment, by heat, Clorox or complete drying. Unfortunately, many items including felt sole waders are notoriously difficult to bring to the completely dry condition required to eliminate this scourge.

## **Phosphorus in Lawn Fertilizers**

The Fall Town Meeting Warrant is expected to have an article aimed at reducing phosphorus (a nutrient) contamination of our surface fresh waterbodies.

The purpose of the proposed “Bylaw is to regulate the application of lawn fertilizer containing environmentally harmful nutrients and contaminants, including phosphorous, within the Town of Mashpee (“Town”) and to prohibit the use of such fertilizers on all land located within the geographical boundaries of the Town, including land owned by the Town, to prevent such harmful nutrients and contaminants from entering any of Mashpee’s rivers, ponds, lakes, the ocean and tributaries thereof in order to minimize the potential for growth of toxin producing algae, reduce non-point source pollution, and improve the quality of the Town’s water resources, as envisioned under the federal Clean Water Act.”

Exceptions are provided in the bylaw for new lawns or where soil tests indicate a need for added phosphorus.

The bylaw states “No person shall apply any lawn fertilizer that, as labeled, contains more than zero (0) percent phosphorous or any other compound containing phosphorous, such as phosphate, No person shall apply any lawn fertilizer when the ground is frozen, No person shall cause lawn fertilizer to be applied to, or in such a manner that it may run onto, any impervious surface including parking lots, roadways and sidewalks. If such an application occurs, the fertilizer must be immediately contained and collected and either legally applied to turf or placed in a sealed container.”

## **Hans Fritschi**

Hans Fritschi was a member of Mashpee Wakeby Lake Management committee and worked for the preservation of Mashpee and Wakeby ponds for nearly 12 years.

His resignation was accepted by the Selectmen on December 6<sup>th</sup>, and a certificate of appreciation was read at the Selectmen’s meeting on January 10, 2011.

# MASHPEE-WAKEBY BOATING REGULATIONS

By Hans Fritschi

Motor boating, water skiing, and jet skiing on Lake Mashpee-Wakeby are governed by state regulations established for “great ponds” (lakes that are 500 acres or larger). Their primary purpose is safety as well as courtesy and noise control. The lake has grown considerably in popularity in recent years for boating, water-skiing, tubing, fishing, bass tournaments and swimming, by both residents and non-residents of Mashpee and Sandwich. The Mashpee-Wakeby Lake Management Committee therefore is encouraging all users of the lake to abide by the regulations as well as to use common courtesy for others.

General state regulations were modified in 2003 for improved Safety and noise control after public hearings with Col. Richard Murray, Director of Massachusetts Environmental Police.

Below are some of the regulations:

- Hours of operation: Personal watercraft (jet skis) from sunrise until 7:00 PM or sunset (whichever is earlier). Water-skiing, tubing, and kneeboarding from sunrise until sunset (the general state regulation,
- Headway speed required (no wake; absolute maximum 6 MPH): within 150 ft of any swimmer, rowboat or other non-powered boat, mooring area, boat launch facility, floating raft, or in the channel connecting the lakes. Within 300 ft of the shoreline of a swimming area, public or private.
- Overall speed limit: 45 MPH.
- Personal flotation devices to be worn at all times: by anyone while on personal watercraft, by children 12 and under, or while skiing or being towed in any manner. Also while in a canoe or kayak between Sept. 15 and May 15.
- Minimum age: 16 for personal watercraft. Operators aged 16 or 17 require completion of training in personal watercraft safety and a safety certificate.

The regulations are enforced by the Acting Town of Mashpee Harbor Master, Lt Read, assigned Mashpee Police Officers and by waterways assistants during the summer. They have the power to issue citations and fines, with the increased boating activity on the lake; they intend to have a greater presence for improved enforcement this year. Residents are encouraged to report significant violations to the Harbormaster at any time by calling 508-539-1480 and speak to the on duty dispatcher. In case of emergency, call 911.



## **Follow the Boating Laws *(George Bingham III)***

As a first time registered boat owner, I am looking forward to enjoying the surrounding ocean and our beloved Mashpee Wakeby Pond. As more people enjoy boating in this area, rules and regulations become even more important. Because Mashpee Wakeby Pond is over 500 acres, the Environmental Police of the State of Massachusetts write the boating laws, which are enforced by the Harbormaster and Mashpee Police Department. This committee encourages you to follow posted speeds and boating regulations.

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, 727 boaters died nationally last year from causes that amounted to stupidity. Machinery failure only caused nine. These accidents were caused by operator inattention, inexperience, excessive speed, improper lookout, alcohol abuse and failure to know and exercise Rules of Water Ways. Boating is safe, but it can be made safer by wearing a life jacket at all times, following the Boating Rules, and staying sober so that sound decisions can be made to keep all parties safe this summer. Please enjoy a safe summer whether you are on shore or in a boat. George Bingham III



## **MASHPEE & WAKEBY LAKE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S MISSION**

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 Tuesday 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.

William Marsters Jr., Chairman — Lake Shore Property Owner 100  
Lakewood Drive, Mashpee, MA 508-477-1750

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

Barbara Nichols, Secretary- Lake Shore Property Owner  
23 Melissa Ave, Mashpee, MA 508-539-1848  
Email: [barbnich@cape.com](mailto:barbnich@cape.com)

George G. Bingham III  
18 Bingham Drive Mashpee, MA 508-477-7141  
Email: [g.bingham3@verizon.net](mailto:g.bingham3@verizon.net)

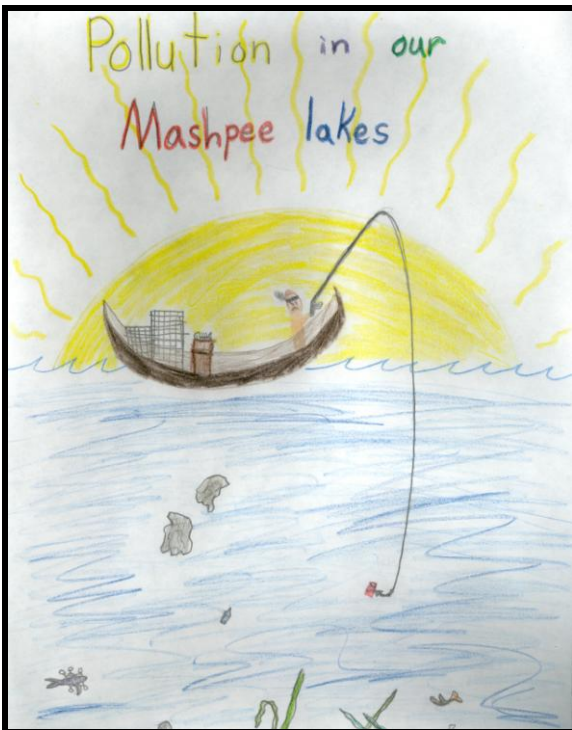
There is currently a vacancy on the committee, although two people have expressed interest. The Selectmen appoint a Mashpee representative to the committee after they receive a letter of interest. The position requires attendance at a meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday evening of the month at the Town Hall, and involvement in writing a biannual newsletter to promote practices to keep our lakes healthy and safe. We would also like to add an alternate to the committee. Please contact the Secretary, Barbara Nichols noted on the back page if you are interested.

## **Mashpee & Wakeby Ponds Bacterial Testing**

[www.barnstablecountyhealth.org/beachsamplingmap.htm](http://www.barnstablecountyhealth.org/beachsamplingmap.htm) is the web address for the County Health Department's beach water quality testing program.

The testing results are posted on the site. Click Mashpee on the interactive map displayed on the page to see information for Mashpee beaches.

Beaches are tested weekly for bacterial indicator organisms during the summer bathing season (June to August). In the event of a beach failure, the beach in question will be re-sampled daily thereafter until results permit re-opening.



**Joseph Howard, Grade 4**

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