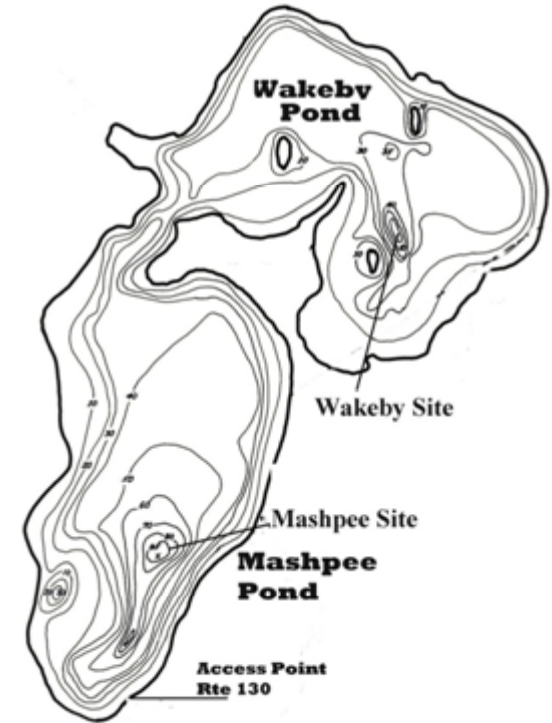


**MASHPEE & WAKEBY LAKES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
NEWSLETTER**



VOL. 12, NUMBER 1, SPRING 2012

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

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.

"There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before."

~Robert Lynd, *The Blue Lion and Other Essays*

Asian Clam: An Exotic Aquatic Species

Corbicula fluminea

Description

- Asian clams are native to South East Asia and were first reported on the west coast of the United States around 1930. They have since spread to over 39 states, including three waterbodies in Massachusetts.
- Asian Clams are small, averaging less than 25mm (1.5 inches) and rarely exceed 50 mm.
- Shells are light green/light brown with distinctive elevated concentric ridges on their shell.
- Asian Clams have two lateral teeth and 3 cardinal teeth visible inside their shell. 1

Habitat

The Asian Clam is a very hardy and persistent species that has become established across the United States above 40 degrees latitude.

This species has been documented in a few locations in MA, (Webster Lake and Tispaquin Pond) and is established in bordering states (VT,NY).



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 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.

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Lake Shore Property Owner
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Email: argottlieb@gmail.com



Pickerel Cove Recreation Area

Construction of the Pickerel Cove Recreation Area is underway. The Town is building limited recreational improvements on the site of the old Camp Vinhaven site. The first phase of the project is construction of 2 acres of fields that are accessed from Rt. 130. This phase is complete as the areas has been cleared and seeded.

The second phase, scheduled to begin when engineering drawings are completed, consists of a small parking area and kayak/canoe launch in Pickerel Cove. The small gravel parking lot will be accessed from Pickerel Cove Road and boats will have to be carried from the parking area.

Asian Clam: An Exotic Aquatic Species (cont)

Reproduction

Young that are hatched in the spring usually attain sexual maturity by the fall, and may live for up to seven years. Asian Clams typically spawn between July and September. Asian Clams can release over 320-387 offspring daily, depending on the conditions.

Impacts and Threats Posed by Asian Clam

Asian Clam is a prolific and highly competitive species that is capable of rapid growth and spread. Asian Clam can displace native species, reduce biodiversity, alter the food chain, and damage equipment (including boat motors, intake pipes, diving gear, commercial water systems). Many native mussels are now threatened and in danger of becoming extinct due to infestations of Asian Clams.

Management Methods

Management methods currently include mechanical methods, chemical control and temperature alteration, although many of these are not suitable options for lakes and ponds. Prevention is the best line of defense when dealing with Asian Clams. In 1987, Massachusetts passed a regulation that prevents the importation, sale or transport of this species. Asian Clams are still sold commercially as bait throughout the United States, and in the aquarium trade as pygmy or gold clams.

Prevent The Spread!

- Never release any plant or animal into a waterbody unless it came from that waterbody.
- Flush engines, dispose of bait, bilge water, bait bucket water on dry land away from shore.
- Spread the word to other boaters and fisherman.

For more information please contact:

D.C.R. Office of Water Resources, Lakes and Ponds Program

James Straub at: jim.straub@state.ma.us

Or visit the Lakes and Ponds web site at:

<http://www.mass.gov/lakesandponds>

Excerpts from an article prepared by Michelle Robinson: January 2004



Invasive Species

There are two invasive species that are becoming a major concern in the lake. The first is a weed that first appeared 3 years ago. The weed looks like an aquarium plant and has yet to be definitively identified. A sample will be taken this growing season for identification. A management strategy cannot be developed until the weed type has been confirmed, but the weed smothers the plant and bottom life and is a threat to the lake's health.

The other invasive is an Asian clam. The clam is a threat to outcompete native mollusks for food, putting this already threatened species at greater risk.

Both the weed and the clam are thought to have entered the lake through disposal of aquarium contents into the pond. It is hard to know what the effect of the introduction of foreign species will be on the pond, so it is best to not place any plant, mollusk or fish from any source into the pond. Preventing the introduction of foreign species is the best approach to protecting the lake since management measures are often both expensive and ineffective.

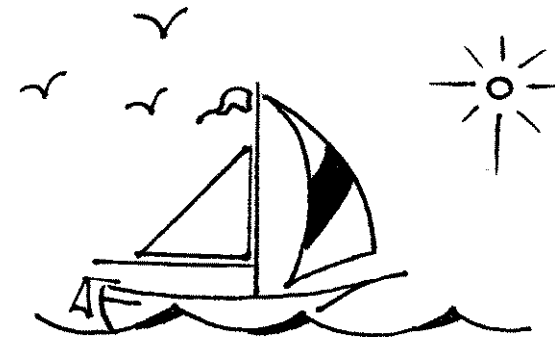
Boat Ramp Fees Increase on Mashpee-Wakeby

The boat ramp is located to the north of Rt. 130, just after the intersection of Great Neck Road North.

A fee will be collected on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays during the summer months between Memorial Day and Labor Day. They will be collecting \$ 7.00 for Mass. residents to launch a boat and \$15.00 for out of state registrations.

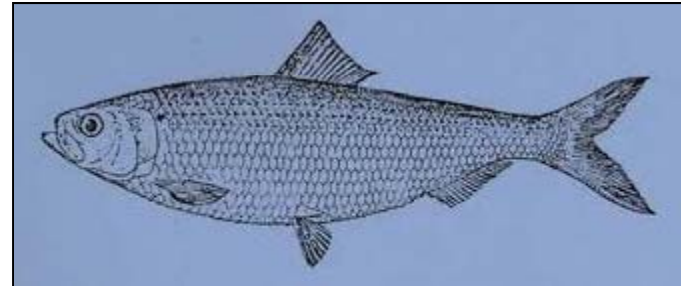
There is a paved parking lot with room for 44 cars with trailers. When it is full you will not be able to launch a boat until someone leaves. So please pay attention to the fishing tournaments schedule, for the parking will fill up faster on those days. Have a super, safe, summer.

Debi McManus



Non-emergency Problems

If you need to report a problem on the pond, the best way is to phone the Police at 508-539-1480, the non-emergency dispatch line. The dispatcher will contact the on-duty Harbormaster or Waterways assistant. Calling the Police line ensures that your complaint will be handled in a timely and safe fashion.



Lake level and Herring

The lake level has fluctuated between 55.3 (April 2012) and 55.7 (August 2011) feet above sea level during the past eight months. This level allows the herring to get up into the lake, and is not high enough to cause erosion.

Large numbers of herring have been seen this spring, spawning along the Mashpee and Wakeby shores. A moratorium on the taking of herring, except by the Wampanoag tribe, has been in place since 2005. Volunteers have been trained to count herring in ten minute intervals at the rivers, and the Association to Preserve Cape Cod will tally the numbers later this summer. It is expected that the number of herring returning to the Mashpee, Santuit and Quashnet Rivers will finally show an increase.



2012 Bass Tournaments as listed May 1, 2012

The web address for tournament listings is available online at:

http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/pab/pab_schedevents.htm#m

4/1/2012	23	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Tri County Bassmasters
4/14/2012	24	5:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Mass Bass State Team
4/15/2012	17	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	12:00 PM	Rayn-Water Bass Club
4/22/2012	17	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Forge Pond Bassmasters
5/5/2012	15	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Central Mass Bassers
5/11/2012	13	5:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	United Bass Anglers
5/19/2012	24	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	2:00 PM	Mass Bass Federation Youth- Junior
5/20/2012	22	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	1:00 PM	Baystate Rodbenders
5/27/2012	35	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	American Bass Angers Division 5
6/2/2012	24	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Northern RI Bass Anglers
6/3/2012	15	5:30 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Mass Bass Busters
6/9/2012	24	5:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Federation Nation of Mass
6/23/2012	22	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	9:00 PM	Eastside Sport Fishing Club
7/14/2012	24	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Captain Bub's Bass Trail

7/18/2012	24	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Take-A-Break Tournament Trail
7/28/2012	20	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Happy Hookers Bass Club
8/4/2012	13	5:30 AM	7:00 AM	1:00 PM	Bass Boys
8/19/2012	17	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	2:00 PM	Mass Fish Finders (M.A.F.F.)
9/8/2012	11	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	A-1 Bass
9/9/2012	17	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	South Shore Bass Masters
9/12/2012	20	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Take-A-Break Tournament Trail
9/16/2012	60	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	American Bass Angers Division 5
9/29/2012	20	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	2:00 PM	Silver City Lunkers
10/6/2012	10	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	All State Bass Anglers
10/7/2012	17	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	3:30 PM	Mystic Valley Bass Anglers
10/14/2012	15	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Bass Bums