



Wilson Lake News

May, 2013

Mission Statement: The Wilson Lake Association will establish and maintain a program that will reverse any trend of degrading the water quality in Wilson Lake and result in continuous improvement in water quality. The Association will also encourage all the Lake's stakeholders to be involved and support a cooperative effort to reduce or eliminate the impact of contaminants on lake water quality.

Maine DEP Grant Benefits Eagle Road and Hawk Road and All of Wilson Lake!

You may recall that the Wilson Lake Association, in 2009, conducted a thorough survey of properties in the watershed of our lake. Many sites that showed significant signs of storm water erosion were identified and homeowners and town officials were contacted with recommendations for correcting problem areas. Many lakers took advantage of the opportunity to obtain free technical assistance plans from the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance and some benefitted from the Youth Conservation Corps Project Host plan to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to correct their issues. A major result of the survey was the pinpointing of serious problems on both Eagle Road and Hawk Road. Owners on both roads formed statutory road associations enabling them to qualify for a Federal Clean Waters Grant through the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

This grant was written, on the behalf of Eagle and Hawk Roads on Wilson Lake, and Langley Shores Drive and Abbott/Jericho Roads on Great East Lake, by the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance and York County Soil and Water Conservation District. Both Eagle and Hawk Road Associations wasted no time installing Best Management Practices. These accepted techniques for controlling storm water have held up well during the tumultuous rain and snow storms we have experienced this past winter. Members of the associations pitched in to help as well. The two year grant will be further utilized in 2013 to continue to improve the roads. Once all projects are completed, it should be a matter of maintenance to keep the two roads in a more positive condition. Wendy Garland of Maine's Department of Environment Protection, who oversees the grant, commented at a March Steering Committee meeting that she was very impressed by the speed and efficiency of the projects. WLA offers its congratulations to the homeowners and officers of the road associations. Their activities will benefit the quality of water on Wilson Lake and, thus, all of us!

Membership:

Once again it is time to ask you to renew your commitment to The Wilson Lake Association by sending your annual dues of \$20. You will find a pre-addressed envelope enclosed for your convenience.. The work of the Wilson Lake Association is dependent upon the generous contributions of our members of time and money to protect our lake.

As a reminder, some of the ways your dues help our community:

- collect water quality data
- conduct watershed storm water erosion surveys
- support Wilson Lake Road Associations
- Publish semi-annual newsletter
- maintain bulletin board at public ramp
- organize boat parade
- maintain road signs, 200' buoy markers, public ramp
- promote education through informational publications
- conduct annual meeting with informational topics of interest to lakers
- conduct invasive plant inspection paddles
- Sponsor Discovery Cruises with AWWA
- Support lake partner organizations: ex, AWWA, VLMP, COLA, LEA

Find your membership form on page 3 and return it ASAP!

Website: Remember to check www.wilsonlake.net for news about your lake.

2013 Boat Parade:

Once again WLA will organize a Fourth of July Boat Parade. Last year saw 28 boats join in this festive flotilla which proceeded around the lake with lots of energy and enjoyment for all.

We will meet at the area by the public ramp and begin our procession at 10:00 am in a counter clockwise direction around the lake. Don your patriotic colors, decorate your boat of any size and join in the fun.

A lead boat will be chosen by a random drawing of names of anyone interested. If you would like to be included in the drawing please fill in the area on the membership form.

The only requirement is that your boat be able to mount the WLA Boat Parade Banner.

Annual Meeting:

July 6, 2013 at 9:00 am the Wilson Lake Association will conduct its Annual Meeting to be held at the Acton Public Safety Building on Route 109.

A short business meeting will be followed by guest speakers with topics of interest for homeowners on a lakeshore. You may, also, obtain a fire permit for seasonal campfires during this meeting and catch up with news of activities on the lake.

A Note from the President's Desk:

Ahhh! We've made it through another winter and are rushing headlong into an active Summer season with boating, fishing, swimming, barbecues and wonderful times with family and friends on our beautiful lake. If you are anything like me, you can't wait to get your dock into the lake and are anxious for the water to get warm enough for swimming. I'm hopeful that the loons will finally use the nesting raft and be successful in hatching one or two chicks this year. Ever hopeful that this will happen, I will follow advice from our own loon expert, John Nadeau, and change the location of the raft. We can all help by steering clear of the raft and helping the loons to feel safe and secure wherever they choose to nest. Keep in mind that curious onlookers threaten them and might cause them to abandon the nest. If you must photograph them, do so from a distance with a telephoto lens.

What are your favorite activities on the lake? Will you be able and willing to devote some time to helping to protect it by one of many possible positive changes in the way you treat your valuable shorefront property? Will you attend a septic social to learn about the way to properly maintain your septic system and leach field? Or maybe you could ask Dustin Johnson of AWWA to visit your site to design a plan for controlling the storm water run-off from your property. We know that run-off contributes to the downgrade of water quality in a very big way.

And then there are those nuisance invasive plants! Nearby lakes like Balch, Belleau, Arrowhead and Pickerel Pond spend thousands of dollars each year to try to bring these plants under control. Can you spend a half hour once or twice a summer to inspect the water in front of your property, or even better, join in a plant patrol to do a wider area?

I hope you will join together with the many members of WLA by sending in your dues and choosing how you can help be a protector of our valuable asset: Wilson Lake.

Have a safe, relaxing and fun season!

Jeanne

Board of Directors:

- President: Jeanne Achille
- Vice President: Jeff Brown
- Treasurer: Ann Marie Nadeau
- Acting Secretary: Celia Thibodeau
- Dan Orino
- Bill Pimental
- Teg Rood
- Glenn Wildes
- Betty Wildes
- You???



Plant Paddle on Wilson Lake—2012

Septic Socials:

This summer a Septic Social will be hosted by Jeanne Achille, coordinated by the York County Soil and Water Conservation District. This will be a casual get together with neighbors to learn about the workings of our septic systems, how they affect our lake, how to maintain them and what to do if they fail. Refreshments will be provided and you will have an opportunity to ask questions and meet fellow lakere. More information will be posted on the web site and announced at the Annual Meeting on July 6.

Next Board Meeting

The next WLA Board meeting is set for June 1 at 9:00 AM at 94 Peacock Road. All members are welcome to attend.

Going for a Walk?

So many of us love to walk the camp roads around the lake. As you head out take a look at the improvements on Hawk and Eagle Roads.

Some of the more ambitious folks even carry a bag and pick up trash as they walk. Thanks for your help!

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Boating Safety:

Boating safety classes are offered 3 times a year and provide the participants a lifetime certification good in all 50 states. The dates have been set for this year as follows: April 20, July 13, and September 28. The cost is \$5 and interested boaters should contact Robert Anderson at 477-8588 to register.

Photos:

We'd love to add new photos to our website. If you have any that you've taken around the lake and would like to see them published (www.wilsonlake.net), send them to jach28@gmail.com



Boat Parade—2012

Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance: www.awwatersheds.org

Once again the Youth Conservation Corps will be hiring local high school students to work with Program Manager Dustin Johnson and our experienced crew leaders to install BMPs on public and private properties to reduce storm water erosion. Interested students are invited to call AWWA at 603-473-2500 to obtain an application.

AWWA has been conducting a Clean Water Campaign each June and invites all interested homeowners, town officials, contractors, landscape business owners to attend. This year's meeting will be held on June 29 at the Acton Congregational Church from 9:00am to noon. You are invited to come and learn how to make your property friendly to lakes, rivers and streams. Experts from Maine's DEP and New Hampshire's DES are collaborating with AWWA for this event. Call AWWA to register and obtain more information.

AWWA has had a large impact on the thinking of the watershed community and has proved instrumental in garnering an appreciation for protecting the quality of lake water in our towns. Both homeowners (on or off the lake fronts) and town officials are realizing the importance of high quality water to the financial stability of our towns. We are proud to be associated with this organization which is receiving national attention for its work.

Wilson Lake Association supports AWWA and we hope you will, too!

Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program: www.mainevlmp.org

MeVLMP has been performing valuable services for lake associations for many years. They train and certify water quality monitors on local lakes who collect data such as clarity, oxygen levels and phosphorus content. This data is then collated and studied to identify trends in lake quality.

VLMP also conducts training programs to enable interested persons to identify invasive plants in their lakes. These trainings are free to anyone who wants to learn and are extremely interesting. It would be so helpful to have more people on Wilson Lake become certified as Plant Patrollers to protect our lake. Visit the web site to learn more about dates and programs.

Many lake associations take advantage of the Courtesy Boat Inspector Program offered by VLMP. These inspectors are either volunteers or paid personnel who monitor public boat ramps and inspect incoming and outgoing boats and trailers for plant fragments. These fragments are the most common means of bringing invasive species into a clean body of water. To date, Wilson Lake has been very fortunate to have avoided infestation. Our Board of Directors feels that with conscientious plant patrollers we can best protect our lake. Our transient boaters, at this point, do not warrant the establishment of a Courtesy Boat Inspection Program. However, it is something we may institute in the future. Your opinion on this and other lake issues is important and welcome.



Membership Form:

I want to help protect and preserve Wilson Lake for future generations and enclose my annual contribution of \$20.
(Please make checks payable to Wilson Lake Association.)

I am including an additional donation of \$_____

Name_____

Mailing Address_____ Lake Address _____

Telephone_____ Lake Telephone_____

Email address_____

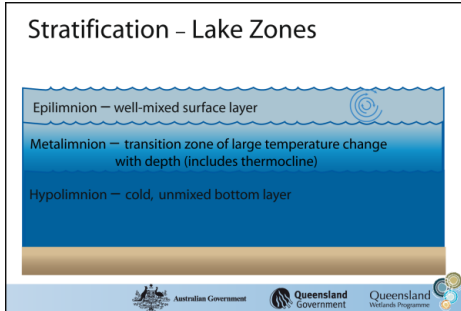
Mail this form with your check in the enclosed envelope to
Wilson Lake Association
P.O.Box 162
Acton, ME 04001

Please check here if you wish to enter the drawing to be the lead boat for the Boat Parade

Learning about our lake:

This article is reprinted from AWWA's blog.

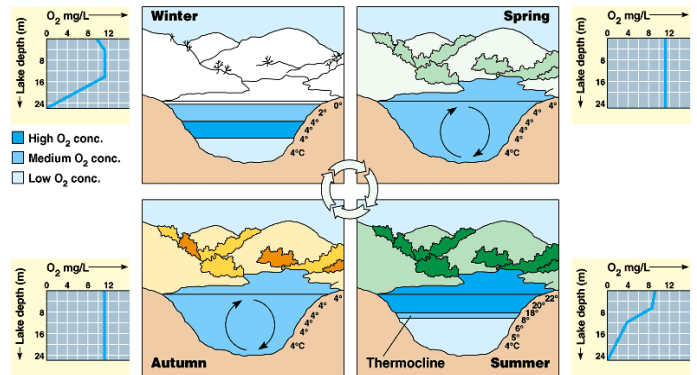
Lake stratification is an incredibly important physical characteristic of lakes that drives many biological and chemical characteristics. **Lake stratification** is the separation of a lake into three layers. This separation occurs from thermal differences between these layers and thus a density difference between the top, middle, and bottom layers.



The image above (courtesy of Australian Government) shows the three layers a lake will separate into during the summer months. The upper most layer is called the *epilimnion*. The epilimnion is the well mixed surface layer, usually with warmer water and high dissolved oxygen concentrations. The middle layer is called

the *metalimnion*. The metalimnion is the transition zone between the top and bottom layers. This layer is characterized by a rapid decrease in temperature with depth. The bottom layer is called the *hypolimnion*. The hypolimnion is characterized by cold, poorly mixed waters that can have dissolved oxygen depletion as the season goes on.

These layers don't stay this way all season, in fact, they are usually only present during the summer months. The image below shows a more detailed seasonal view of lake mixing and temperature profiles (courtesy of Pearson Education, INC).



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To: