



# Wilson Lake News

## Spring, 2015

*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.*

### Public Ramp Hit with Oil Spill!

Acton Road Commissioner David Winchell, Jr. noticed an oil spill at the public boat ramp on Young's Ridge Road in April. He notified Ann Hemenway of the ME Department of Environmental Protection and the two met at the site on April 24. This was designated an emergency situation and Ms Hemenway was able to hurdle the usual paperwork to receive the ok to work with the town and clean up the site as soon as preliminary lab tests were conducted on a sample of the soil.

The remediation work consists of removing all the contaminated soil, which stretches from waters edge to the road, and replacing it with fresh material. The contaminated soil must be disposed of according to state regulations. The cost for the clean-up will be shared by the DEP and the Town of Acton.



Ann Hemenway and David Winchell, Jr.  
At the public boat ramp.

How can this happen? Though we don't know for sure, the most likely scenario is that an ice fisherman may have hit a rock when removing a fishing shack from the lake and punctured a hole in the oil pan or severed a transmission fluid line. This is an important reminder for all citizens to be on the alert for such events and report them immediately to DEP.

**To Report Oil Spills Call Toll Free 1-800-482-0777 24 Hours/Day**

**To Report Hazardous Materials Spills Call Toll Free 1-800-452-4664 24 Hours/Day**

### WLA Annual Meeting:

This year's Annual Meeting will take place on July 11 at 9:00AM at the Acton Public Safety Building on Route 9. A short business segment will be followed by a viewing of "The Hunt for Aquatic Invaders." This 8 minute film was produced and edited by Stephen Underwood for the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and was filmed entirely in Maine lakes.

### July 4th Boat Parade:

What's full of red, white and blue and lots of enthusiasm? It's the Wilson Lake Boat Parade, of course! Join in again on Saturday, July 4, at 10:00AM at the public boat ramp as we circle the lake and begin our holiday celebrations.

Want to lead the parade? Check the box on the membership form and we'll put your name in the drawing.

## A Note from the President's Desk:

Last year at this time I was hoping that Wilson Lakers would be willing to donate some of their precious time on the lake to take part in the VLMP training for identifying invasive aquatic plants. And respond you did! Ten WLers signed up for the training which was conveniently held right here in Acton. As a result we now have our very own invasive plant patrol with more of you recognizing the importance of early detection and joining our group each time we go out for a paddle.

Easily recognizable by our bright lime green T shirts, you'll know we're protecting your best interests when you see us as a large group or just several individuals working together to inspect the shoreline for those nasty invaders. And there's room for more folks to join our ranks. Simply give me a call (207-477-0310) and I'll be happy to give you information. While it is wonderful to have people take the formal one day training, it is not necessary as you can learn on the lake with our group.

Last summer also found us taking part in a pilot program sponsored by the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance and the University of New Hampshire which provided extensive water quality testing every other week throughout the summer. Enclosed on a separate page you will find the results of all this testing, and it is available on our web site. It is our responsibility to provide boat access for Bob Craycraft and/or one of his interns to get out to the testing site. AWWA has purchased the sophisticated technical machines required to do the measurements. WLA pays for some of the chemical analysis which must be sent to a special laboratory while UNH collects and processes the data. As one of four local lakes participating in this project again this year, it is expected that a thorough understanding of the variances in water quality and long term trends can be identified.

Here's hoping you have a wonderful and safe season on this beautiful lake of ours! See you on the water!

Jeanne



Our first Team Plant Paddle on Wilson Lake-2014



Water quality testing July, 2014

### Board of Directors:

- President: Jeanne Achille  
477-0310/jach28@gmail.com
- Vice President: Jeff Brown
- Treasurer: Ann Marie Nadeau
- Secretary: Betty Wildes
- Linda Cote
- Dan Orino
- Bill Pimental
- Teg Rood
- Glenn Wildes

### Next Board Meeting:

**May 30, 9:00AM**

**94 Peacock Road**

**All WLA members welcome**

**Our Website:  
Wilsonlake.net**

### Always Remember—Safety First!

**Take the Boating Safety Class given by our own Bob Anderson. Certification is valid for your lifetime in all 50 states. Call Bob for dates in July and August. 207-477-8588**

**HEADWAY SPEED ONLY WITHIN 200 FEET OF SHORE ON ALL MAINE LAKES—NO WAKE!!!! IT'S THE LAW!!!**

## Membership : Your Dues Help Protect Your Lake!

I want to help protect and preserve Wilson Lake for future generations and enclose my 2015 contribution of \$20. (Please make checks payable to Wilson Lake Association.) A more generous donation is always welcome and will help WLA work to protect our lake!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Wilson Lake Association  
P.O.Box 162  
Acton, ME 04001

\_\_\_\_ Please put my name in the hat to be leader of the parade!



### News From AWWA's Program Manager, Sam Wilson:

The Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance has been awarded a grant by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection for conservation work on Wilson Lake. What does that mean for you? Well, first off, get used to the idea of seeing more green shirts around the lake. AWWA's Youth Conservation Corps will be working on more and more projects on Wilson over the next two years, and we're still looking for projects. If you think you might have erosion from your property entering the lake, contact Sam at AWWA for a free site examination (603)473-2500 or [swilson@awwatersheds.org](mailto:swilson@awwatersheds.org). Signs to be on the lookout for include exposed roots, sections of your lawn where grass won't grow, small gulleys on sloped surfaces down to the lake, and hard, compacted soils.

We'll also be working to assess what the septic situation is like on Wilson Lake. With our recent work on Province Lake, we determined that wastewater systems were contributing to 17% of Province's overall phosphorus load, and we're looking to see what that number looks like on Wilson. Once we know what we're dealing with, we'll be able to offer financial assistance for homeowners to evaluate and update their systems. We'll be sending out a septic survey later this year, and everyone who submits a survey will be entered into a drawing for a valuable prize.

With work from AWWA, the Wilson Lake Association, and homeowners like you, we hope to preserve Wilson Lake for years to come. Have a great summer and enjoy your beautiful lake!



**PO Box 162  
Acton, ME 04001**

**To:**

**FYI—Did You Know? Permitting ABCs for Maine:**

Protection of Maine's watersheds is ensured through the goodwill of lake residents and through laws and ordinances created and enforced by the State of Maine and local municipalities.

Shoreland Zoning Law: Construction, clearing of vegetation and soil movement within 250 feet of lakes, ponds and many wetlands, and within 75 feet, of most streams, falls under the Shoreland Zoning Act which is administered by the Town through the Code Enforcement Officer (Ken Paul).

Contact the DEP and Town CEO if you have any plans to construct, expand or relocate a structure, clear vegetation, create a new path, or driveway, stabilize a shoreline or otherwise disturb the soil on your property. Even if projects are planned with the intent of enhancing the environment, contact the DEP and Town to be sure.

**How to apply for a Permit by Rule with DEP:**

To ensure that permits for small projects are processed swiftly, the DEP has established a streamlined permit process called **Permit by Rule**. These one page forms are simple to fill out and allow DEP to quickly review the project.

- Fill out a notification form before starting any work. Forms are available from your Town CEO, Maine DEP offices, or online at <http://www.state.me.us/dep/blwq/docstand/nrpa/pbrform.pdf>.
- The permit will be reviewed by DEP within 14 days. If you do not hear from DEP within 14 days, you can assume your permit is approved and you can proceed with work on the project.
- Follow all standards required for the specific permitted activities to keep soil erosion to a minimum.

**Be a good lake steward and help protect Wilson Lake for future generations!**