



Wilson Lake News

Spring, 2017

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.

Board of Directors:

- President: Jeanne Achille
477-0310/jach28@gmail.com
- Vice President: Jeff Brown
- Treasurer: Ann Marie Nadeau
- Secretary:
- Bob Anderson
- Linda Cote
- Arlie McGaw
- Heidi McGaw
- Dan Orino
- Bill Pimental
- Teg Rood

Wilson Lake Association and AWWA: New WLA Clean Water Project!

No matter how much time you get to spend at the lake, the main attraction and the foundation of your property value is the quality of the water. Erosion and invasive species are the two biggest threats. No matter how small an event of either, it impacts the entire lake—and all of us. The WLA serves to pool our resources and focus our efforts and dollars to help prevent those events.

We're delighted to tell you about a new program we've started called **The Wilson Lake Clean Water Project**. If you think you may have an erosion issue on your property, whether it may have been identified in the 2009 Watershed Survey and you haven't moved forward on addressing it, or it's something new that has been created by storm events, this program can help.

You can start the ball rolling by calling Amy Arsenault at the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance (AWWA) at 603-473-2500 and telling her you want to take advantage of **The Wilson Lake Clean Water Project**. She will determine if you have a problem, develop a solution and you may qualify to become a Project Host. The Youth Conservation Corps will provide free labor to implement the plan. **WLA has initially budgeted \$400 for the program and will pay 50% of the material costs (up to \$100) for the first four homeowners to become part of this project.**

The WLA exists to benefit everyone on the lake—and you have a very important role to play! We look forward to working with you and AWWA to protect the lake.

Happenings on Wilson Lake this season:

Planning is underway for the 2017 season and we expect to continue with popular, new and necessary activities:

- ◇ As always, we begin with the **membership drive**. You'll find the form on page 3 and we ask you to be sure your information is updated. If you are new to Wilson Lake please give serious consideration to joining us and taking part in lake activities. If you haven't asked to be put on the list yet, please include your email address on your membership form.
- ◇ **Breakfast Social, July 1, 9:00 to 11:00! Mark your calendar** for our first ever! It will be a pot luck affair held at 346 Peacock Road at the Brown-Haft home. See special article inside.
- ◇ **The Boat Parade** will be held as usual at 10:00AM on the Fourth of July. Decorate your boat and meet in the canal by the public boat ramp for our annual, fun circuit around the lake.
- ◇ **Plant paddles** will begin in July. Watch your emails and our web site for more information. You can always conduct your own paddle and remember to watch for "Plastigon Noodlius," our virtual invasive species. Bring it to Jeanne and win a WLA baseball cap! (One cap per sharp-eyed finder, please.)
- ◇ **The Annual Meeting** will be held on July 8. Venue is not set. TBD.
- ◇ Install **new bulletin board** at the public boat ramp on Youngs' Ridge Road.
- ◇ **Invasive Plant Training**—a free training of what to look for on the lake. June 16. 10-4.

Next Board Meeting:

June 17, 2017 9:00AM
94 Peacock Road
All WLA members welcome

Our Website:
Wilsonlake.net

Boating Safety Classes
May 13 & Aug. 12,
Call Bob Anderson: 477-8588



Plant paddlers on Wilson Lake

Notes from the President:

Who are the members of the Wilson Lake Association Board of Directors? We are your neighbors on the lake. Some of us trace our relationship with Wilson Lake back to our childhoods when we came up for weekends and vacations with our parents or grandparents. We can remember when there were few homes, mostly seasonal camps on the eastern and southern shores, and almost nobody worried about the health or future of the lake. Others of us are more recent arrivals, and may have searched carefully for a lake that had good water quality and no invasive aquatic plants threatening the long term water quality.

Whether we find ourselves among the long time friends of Wilson Lake, with the newest lakers or somewhere in between, we're here because we love the lake lifestyle. We invite our family and friends to share the recreational and social activities lake living has to offer.

Board members are people who live here full time, part time or travel from towns or cities in other states. What we all have in common is our desire to protect and maintain the health and character of Wilson Lake and the Town of Acton. We are willing to give some of our precious time to ensure that these qualities are preserved for future generations.

Board Members have a deep love of Wilson Lake, are willing to attend various meetings and promote, whenever possible, the mission of Wilson Lake Association and the benefits of living on a highly desirable lake.

Who is a Board member? Someone just like you! Please take part, however you can, in your lake association.

See you on the lake!

Jeanne

Did You Ever Hear of a Bio Blitz?!

Save the date for a special event at the [Province Lake Golf Course](#) on June 3rd (rain date June 4). As part of the golf course's application to become a certified [Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary](#), AWWA is helping to host a "BioBlitz", in which experts help attendees identify as many plant and animal species as possible during the course of the event. For more info about taking part, call AWWA at 603-473-2500. They'll be sending out an announcement soon about registering to attend. All are welcome!

New this year: Please Plan on Joining Us!!!

Wilson Lake Community Potluck Breakfast!
Saturday , July 1st, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Bring your favorite breakfast food and lawn chairs
Coffee, tea, milk and juice provided

Bring your houseguests. All are welcome on this busy weekend!

Hosted by Rachel and Jeff Brown
346 Peacock Road - rain date: Sunday, July 2nd, 9-11



Buffleheads 4/20/2017



Loons gathering for migration

July 8, 2017 - Annual Meeting

Plans for this year's meeting are on hold due to the unavailability of the Public Safety Building. Information will be sent via email and published on our web site when it is confirmed. Thanks for your understanding!

VLMPs Invasive Plants 101 will be presented on June 16 at the Anderson Learning Center on Bradeen St. in Springvale. It's free and teaches us to recognize invasive species and protect our lake. 10AM to 4PM—Bring lunch—Snacks provided Please register at Mainevlmp.org

Membership : Your Dues Help Protect Your Lake!

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

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Lake Address _____

Telephone _____

Lake Telephone _____

Email address _____ (The email list has proved useful in sending out timely information mid-season. If you're not yet on it, please consider its advantages.—Please enter address carefully!)

Send to: Wilson Lake Association _____ Please put my name in the hat to be leader of the parade!
P.O.Box 162
Acton, ME 04001



What is Your Property Worth to You? By Linda Cote of Maine Real Estate and WLA

A healthy lake promotes a healthy market value for your home. Waterfront property is well sought after, year after year. Lakefront homes are a highlight of Maine, and if you have property on Wilson Lake, you're in luck! Wilson Lake is clean, spring fed and as clear as can be. It has been lovingly maintained and given the proper attention to offer education to residents to help keep our lake clean, largely thanks to volunteers and members of the WLA, and our friends at AWWA.

However, harmful occurrences in any lake can change the value of a home tremendously. For example, a home on Wilson Lake with a market value of \$325,000, could plummet to a value of \$250,000, or less, if the quality of the lake becomes less than satisfactory. Occurrences can happen quickly and harshly. That's why it is crucial for each property owner to know our lake and be mindful of our surroundings.

You may already be aware that Lake Arrowhead in Waterboro has had milfoil issues for years. The property values continually decrease because of the poor quality of the lake. There are beautiful homes selling under \$200,000. It may sound like a great bargain, but the resale value is grim. Home owners continue to lose value in their homes each year. The reality is that any lake is at risk.

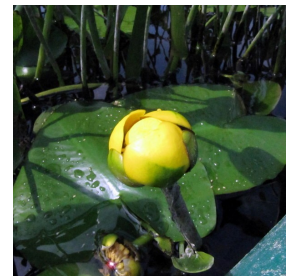
Property values are currently at their best in years, especially lakefront homes. Let's do our part to make sure our homes and properties remain at high market value.

The Boat Parade:

It's become one of our favorite activities and we'll do it again to celebrate America's Independence Day. Join us at the Boat Ramp on Youngs' Ridge Road when we kick off with a rousing tour of the lake at 10:00AM.



Fragrant Water Lily



Spatterdock



Patti's Produce Stand: Patti will re-open her stand on Peacock Road with eggs and seedlings for your garden. Look for it Mid-May. Remember all profits go to benefit the school in India !

Progress on the Dam:

If you've launched your boat at the public ramp this year, You've probably noticed that the dam is looking spiffy. David Winchell, Jr. and his crew installed a custom-made dam and replaced the missing and rotted culvert under Youngs' Ridge Road. The next phase is to include a mechanical lift to enable us to raise and lower water levels when necessary.



**PO Box 162
Acton, ME 04001**

To:

What's the Latest About Saving Goat Hill?

WLA recognizes the importance of preserving Goat Hill which is visible above the eastern shore of our lake. We realize the value of keeping this vital acreage free of development in order to protect the water quality of our lake. If you have donated some of your hard earned money to this project, we join Three Rivers Land Trust and the Town of Acton in thanking you. If you can possibly make another donation you will bring the project closer to fulfillment. Your kind generosity protects the lake we all love.

Here's an update from Ruth Gutman who is spearheading the fundraising:

The goal of making Goat Hill forever available to the public is within reach. Three Rivers Land Trust has been working diligently for more than two years to transition the former Romac Orchard in Acton into new ownership while ensuring a future for farming, forestry and public access to the spectacular Goat Hill.

We are so excited by the recent award of a \$118,000 grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund as well as the steady contributions of community members, including a generous \$1000 gift from Wilson Lake Association. It has been a true community effort and we are now within \$20,000 of our fundraising goal.

We think of Goat Hill as the keystone that ties together the work of lake associations in the area. Its forested flank filters safeguard the future for lake residents.

There's a more immediate benefit as well—a new place for picnics, hikes, and other outings. Part of the deal involves the Town of Acton acquiring 25 acres and developing a smooth, gradually ascending trail to a park at the summit. If we're successful, you'll have a new option when summer guests tire of boating and swimming. Wouldn't you love to be able to say, "Have you ever seen the view from Goat Hill?"

Your support in the form of gifts toward the Romac Orchard/Goat Hill project, and annual membership dues, makes all the difference to our work and the health and well-being of our lakes and watersheds.

For more information, please contact Ruth Gutman at (207) 370-4191 or info@3rlt.org