



Lakes in Spring

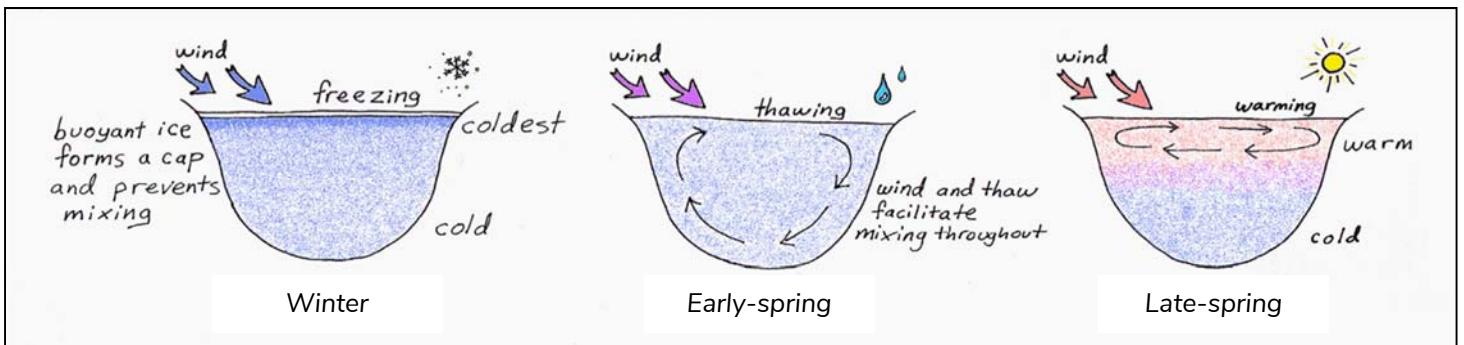
Ah, the ice on your favorite lake has finally melted and you may be feeling rejuvenated as daydreams of swimming in the lake fill your head.

After a long winter, the lake is also experiencing rejuvenation. Now that the ice has melted, the lake is no longer sealed off from the atmosphere. The spring winds are helping to mix much needed oxygen into the oxygen-starved waters, bringing relief to many of the aquatic organisms that rely on this vital compound. The spring rains are contributing important nutrients including phosphorus (but hopefully not too much!) that plants and algae, which make up the base of the aquatic food web, need to grow. And, the sun's intensity is increasing every day, slowly warming up the surface water of the lake.



Newfound Lake in spring

You won't have to daydream about your first swim for too much longer—soon the water will be warm enough!



Lake water circulation patterns change as the seasons change.

NH LAKES is the only statewide, member-supported nonprofit organization working to keep New Hampshire's lakes clean and healthy, now and in the future. The organization works with partners, promotes clean water policies and responsible use, and inspires the public to care for our lakes. For information, visit www.nhlakes.org, email info@nhlakes.org, or call 603.226.0299.

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