



LakeSmart in Action:

New Online Tools and a Community-based Approach

Lakes Congress 2026

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Today's Agenda

- Brief Overview of the LakeSmart Program
- LakeSmart Community Success
- The LakeSmart Portal
- Questions





LakeSmart is about encouraging community members to live in a lake-friendly way.

It's free, non-regulatory program that's centered on voluntary education and recognition.





The goal? Educate and equip property owners with the knowledge to make informed choices.



What Does The LakeSmart Program Look At?



- **Your Property:** areas of your land influencing the lake
- **Your Home:** structures and systems, possible sources of polluted water
- **Your Lifestyle:** everyday life and personal practices at the lake





In 7 years, we've seen neighbors come together to build a culture around lake-friendly living.





LakeSmart is a community driven program

Through the LakeSmart Community Program, neighbors come together to build a culture of lake-friendly living.





Regarding LakeSmart:

“I have lived on this road for 13 years and this is the first time I have seen the neighbors communicating with each other...”

- Beth Olshansky





A LakeSmart Community

A group of neighbors, property owners, and lake enthusiasts committed to working together to restore and preserve their lake's health by living in a lake-friendly way.





LakeSmart Ambassador

LakeSmart Ambassadors help promote lake-friendly living and support their community's efforts to earn the LakeSmart Community Award.





LakeSmart Ambassador

- Property Tour Days Planning and Coordination
- Community Engagement
- Promotion and Outreach



Benefits of Becoming a LakeSmart Community



- Unite neighbors around shared responsibility for your lake.
- Prevent erosion, septic failures, and shoreline erosion.
- Reduce harmful algal blooms, such as potentially toxic cyanobacteria blooms.
- Protect property values with a clean and healthy lake.
- Preserve the lake's enjoyment for future generations.
- Keep water clean and safe for recreation and wildlife.



Benefits of Becoming a LakeSmart Community



- LakeSmart Community Signs
- The LakeSmart Community Handbook
- In-person LakeSmart Property Tours
- Exclusive access to the new LakeSmart Portal
- Ability to earn the LakeSmart Community Award





How can you help your lake become a LakeSmart Community?



Establishing a LakeSmart Community

Step 1: Fill out an application.

Come prepared to:

- Identify a local coordinator, “LakeSmart Ambassador”
- Determine the number of properties in your community
- Set your goals to receive LakeSmart Community Award.

NH LAKES Recognizes this Community
Dedicated to Lake-Friendly Living



LakeSmart

COMMUNITY

LakeSmart is a NH LAKES program.
Learn more at nhlakes.org



nhlakes.org/lakesmart



Establishing a LakeSmart Community

Step Two: Get your Community
Involved. The Ambassador:

- Presents at meetings, knocks on doors, and introduces LakeSmart.
- Reserves specific dates for individuals to receive a property tour.
- Signs up property owners for their in-person tour.





Establishing a LakeSmart Community

Step Three: Your Community Property Tour Day!

- Participants connect with their Ambassador to receive in-person tours.
- Properties are toured by NH LAKES-trained LakeSmart Guides.





Establishing a LakeSmart Community

Step Four: Keep the momentum!

- Share your LakeSmart stats with the Community.
- Celebrate successes and spread news about tours.
- Help set up community events and resources based on lake-friendly projects your community wants!





Earning the LakeSmart Community Award

LakeSmart Community Award: When 15% of individual property owners in the community have earned the LakeSmart Award.





LakeSmart Community Award

This certifies that

has shown outstanding leadership in lake-friendly living,
reflected in the wide attainment of LakeSmart Awards by
property owners throughout their community.

Andrea LaMoreaux
President



Date



Establishing a LakeSmart Community

Step Four: Keep the momentum!

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- Help set up community events and resources based on lake-friendly projects your community wants!





Community Action: Working with Local Businesses

Groups like Wentworth Watershed Association work with a local business, Van Berkum Nursery, to promote native plants adapted to the lake's shoreline



Community Action: Septic System Care



- Mendums Pond homeowners worked together to have their septic systems inspected
- Worked with local septic inspectors and professionals for bulk rates and earlier, group inspections





Community Action: Many Hands Make Light Work

The town of Bradford and community members around Lake Massasecum have donated time, swale socks, and plants to French's Park in erosion control efforts around the public area.





Community Action: Sharing Resources

Sharing plants to strengthen shoreline buffers in the community





Community Action: Sharing Skills

Boots on the Ground is a group of 60+ volunteers who help implement best management practices around Kanasatka.



Introducing: The LakeSmart Portal

- Free, online lake-friendly platform offered by NH LAKES
- Access all features when you join your LakeSmart Community and schedule an in-person property tour!





Lake-friendly living for
clean and healthy lakes.

[Property Tour](#)

[Resources](#)

[Community](#)

[Log Out](#)



Brea Arvidson

LakeSmart Status: Not Started

Lake: Turkey Ponds

[Edit Profile](#)

17 Chenell Dr, Concord, NH 03301, USA

[LakeSmart? Start Here](#)



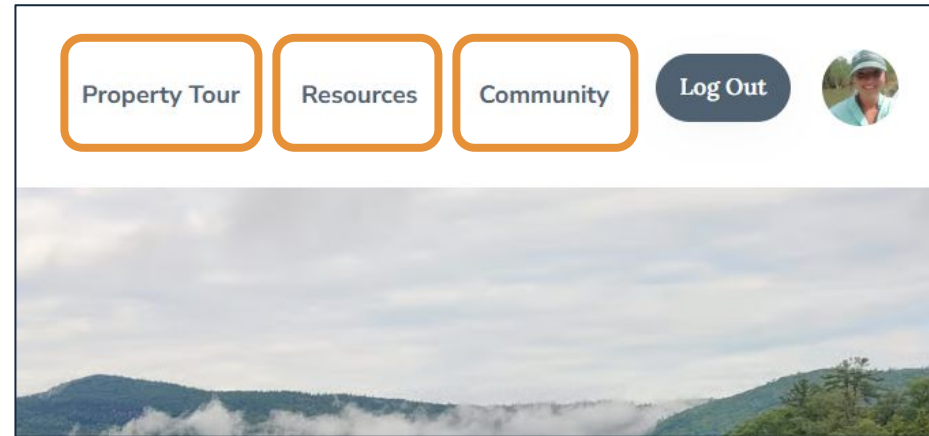
Why “The Portal”?

- Lake-Friendly Living at your fingertips
- Personalized space, dedicated to your lake-friendly journey
- Connect with your community

In the LakeSmart Portal:



- Your Profile for your LakeSmart journey
- LakeSmart Property Tour feedback
- LakeSmart Resource Library
- Community Dashboard





Tour Feedback and Action Items

- Suggestions from your Property Tour
- Track completed items
- Linked Resources
- Request a follow-up tour when you've completed all items

Brea Arvidson
17 Chenell Dr, Concord, NH 03301, USA
LakeSmart Status: In Progress
Lake: Turkey Ponds

[Edit Profile](#)

LakeSmart in Progress - See Your Feedback Below

Lake-Friendly Action Items
Complete your action items below and request a follow-up when you're ready!

Incomplete Action Items
The questions below link to your survey answers for your reference.

Are there areas of exposed soil on your property during spring, summer, and early fall?

Stabilize the soil in your yard.

[Resource](#)
[Upload Photo](#)

Are there unused grassy areas on your property?

Transition to a natural lawn instead of grooming for grass. Or, consider designating flower garden space in your unused grassy areas.

[Resource](#)
[Upload Photo](#)

[Request Follow-Up](#)

LakeSmart Resource Library



Lake-friendly living for
clean and healthy lakes.

Property Tour

Resources

Community

Log Out



Your LakeSmart Resource Library

Use this list of resources to help you learn about and complete lake-friendly living projects on your property, in your home, and in your everyday life! Select resource by category or see the full library below.

Choose Category

- Ever-growing list of lake-friendly resources
- Navigate by lake-friendly category
- Clickable resources: blogs, PDFs, websites, etc.
- Not just NH LAKES resources

Community Dashboard

As a Participant:

- Track your Community's LakeSmart Progress towards the Community Award
- Learn about local lake-friendly opportunities
- See what other communities are doing in New Hampshire



Welcome to your LakeSmart Community Dashboard for:

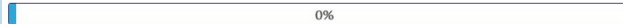
NH LAKES

Your hub for staying connected with your community and discovering local lake-friendly initiatives.

Dashboard

Community Info

Your Community's LakeSmart Progress



Local Lake-Friendly Opportunities

8 days ago

Community Conversation: Protect Our Shoreline

Join us at the Town Hall in October to learn more about how we can protect our shoreline. Bring your ideas and examples of what you can and want to do to revegetate and improve our shoreland area. Refreshments offered! ...

Communities in Action

A highlight reel of other communities engaging in lake-friendly living.



Community Dashboard

As a Participant:

- Contact your Ambassador
- See neighbors who've joined the LakeSmart Community (just names, no other personal information)



Welcome to your LakeSmart Community Dashboard for:

NH LAKES

Your hub for staying connected with your community and discovering local lake-friendly initiatives.

Dashboard

Community Info

Users in your Community: 6
Community Members



Bec Rand

Not Started

Edit

View



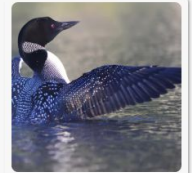
Brea Arvidson

Started

Edit

View

Your LakeSmart Ambassador(s)



Kat Kelleher

In Progress

Contact



Community Dashboard

As an **Ambassador**:

- Track your Community's LakeSmart Progress towards the Community Award
- Share your events or local lake-friendly opportunities
- Access training materials and the Tour Scheduler



Welcome to your LakeSmart Community Dashboard for:

NH LAKES

Your hub for staying connected with your community and discovering local lake-friendly initiatives.

Dashboard

Community Info

Ambassadors

Community Action

Notifications



Add Community Action +

All Published Actions:



Community Conversation: Protect Our Shoreline

Resources

Training Access
Handbook
Ambassador Presentation
Tour Scheduler



Questions?





Contact us

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Get started at nhlakes.org/lakesmart