

Bringing the Lake Host Program to the Lake You Love



Kat Kelleher, Conservation Program Coordinator
November 15, 2023



We are the voice for all of New Hampshire's 1,000 lakes.





**Our mission is to
restore and preserve
the health of New
Hampshire's lakes!**



Photo Credit: D. Clark



New Hampshire is home to some of the cleanest & healthiest lakes & ponds in the country.



Our lakes are threatened...

Boats, trailers, and recreational gear that haven't been cleaned, drained, and dried can transport invasive plants and animals between waterbodies.





Our lakes are threatened...

- AIS can make recreation unsafe and unpleasant
- They can disrupt the balance of water ecosystems by growing too much
- They threaten the beauty, ecology, recreation, and economy of lakes and ponds

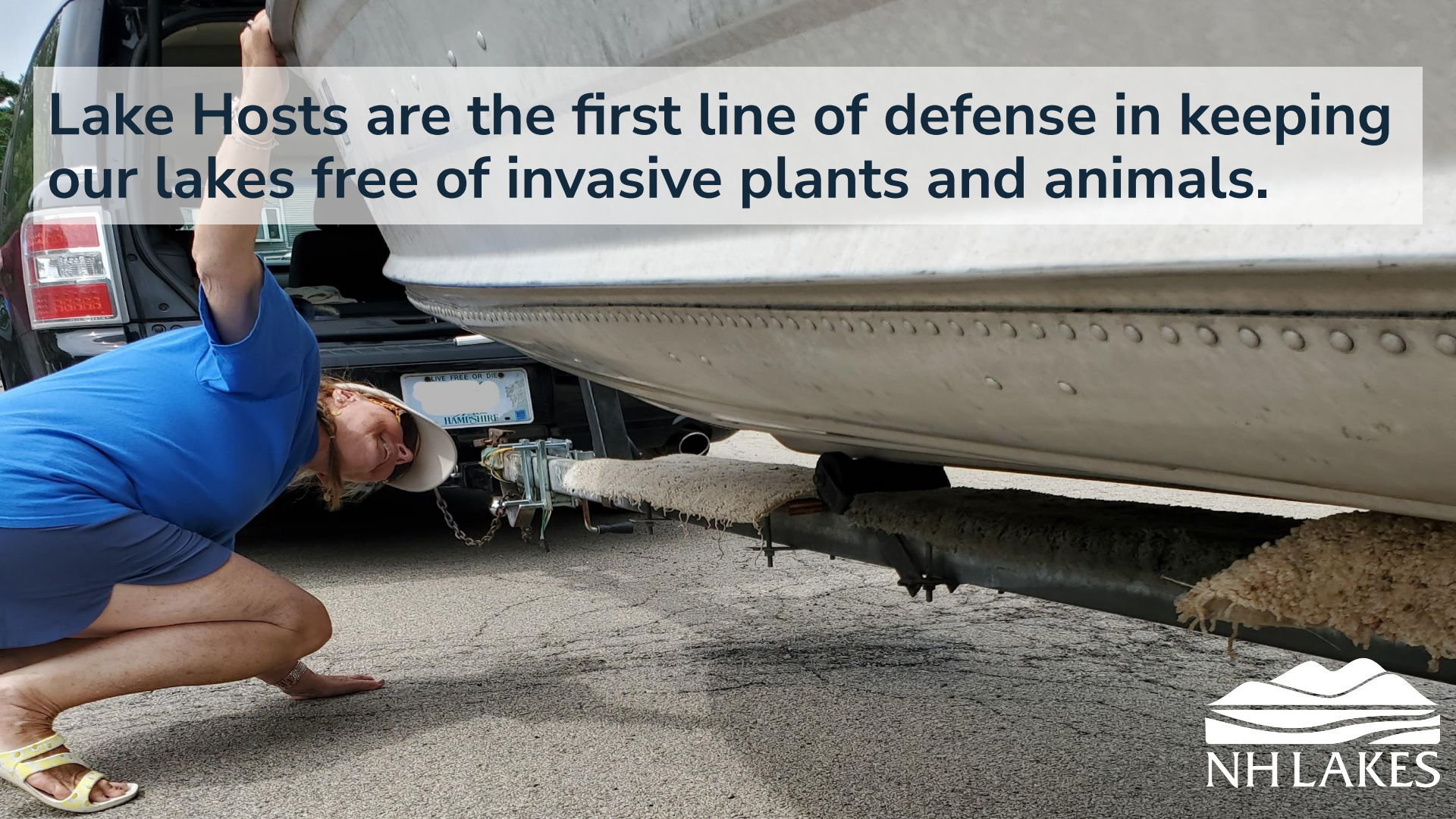




One of the most irrational things we can do is pretend our lakes will protect themselves.



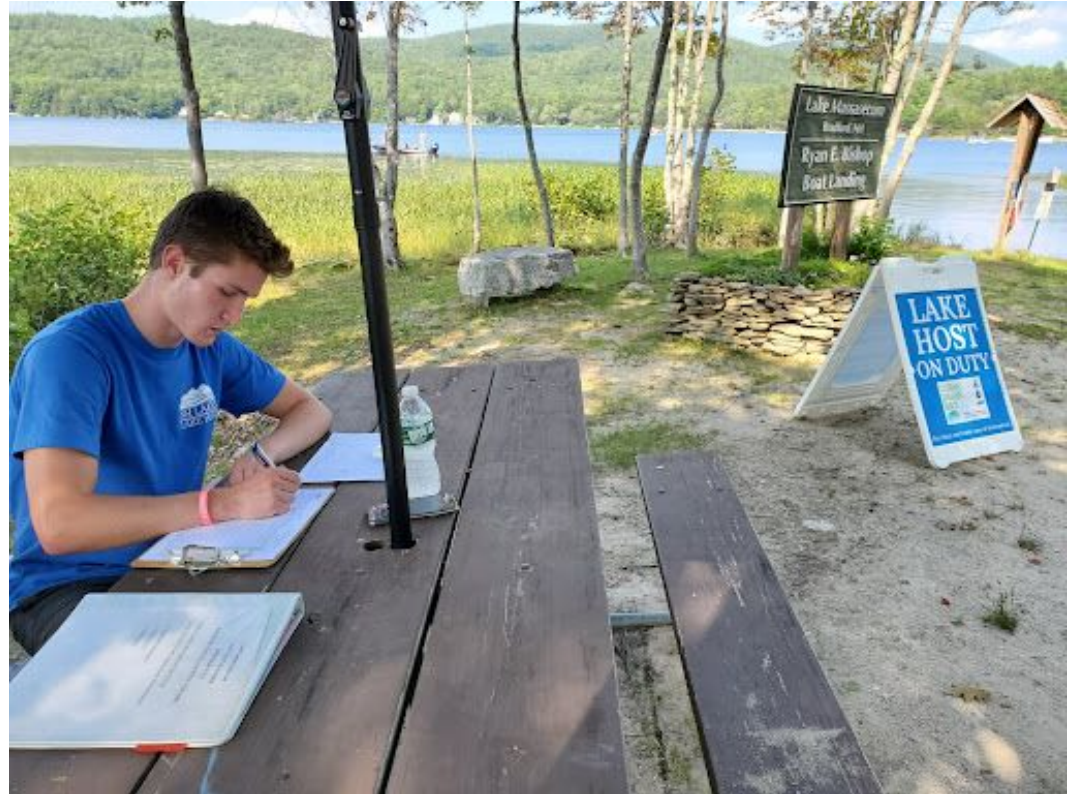
Lake Hosts are the first line of defense in keeping our lakes free of invasive plants and animals.





Since 2002, the Lake Hosts
Across New Hampshire have:

- Worked with hundreds of partnering groups
- Record 1,665 total saves of aquatic invasive species during inspections across 77 different lakes
- Given 1,537,350 complimentary boater inspections





How Lake Hosts Protect Your Lakes





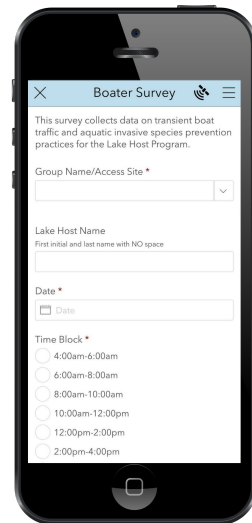
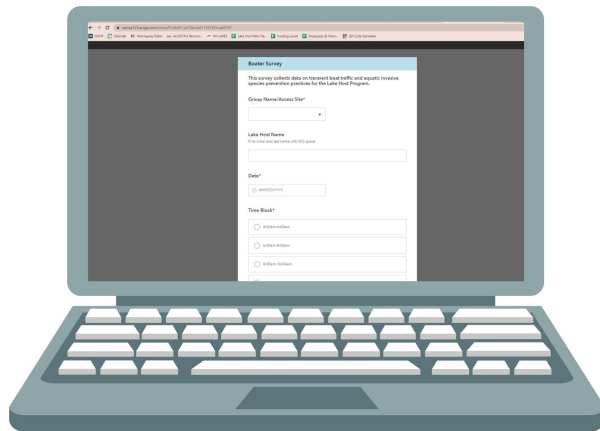
These simple steps prevent the spread:

- **Clean** off all plants, animals, and debris from boats, trailer, and recreational gear. Cleaning is the law in NH.
- **Drain** all water and open drain plugs. Draining is the law in NH.
- Allow to **dry** for five days in the sun.



Lake Hosts Collect Boater Survey Data Using the Field App

- **Works in remote areas with no cell reception!**
- Collects clean mappable data for research
- Useful summary charts of inspections by Lake Host, Date, Time, etc. are accessible in real time
- Inspections determine your award for next season





Lake Hosts Report Suspicious Specimens Directly Through the App

Getting Your Team Involved





Terms of Participation

- Appoint Lake Host Coordinator
- Recruit Lake Hosts
- Verify timesheets and maintain data collection of boat inspections and volunteer match
- 100% Match in groups participating in the Payroll Award



Lake Host Coordinator



- Employee and volunteer recruitment
- Set schedule and approve timecards
- Visiting the ramp regularly
- Ensure boater data and volunteer match are entered and submitted
- Point Person for NH LAKES
- Make sure local group operates within the Term of Participation



**You do not need Paid Lake Hosts or
funding to start your Lake Host Program**





Programs with Paid Lake Hosts





Lake Host Payroll Award

- All Lake Host Uniforms and materials are provided
- Funds For Paid Lake Hosts
- Base level of funding available for new groups
- Returning groups receive increased funding based on number of ramps, the previous year's number of boat inspections, and the previous year's match





Funding Your Lake Host Program

- Lake Association Pledges
- Town or Municipality Contribution
- Lake Host Charitable Giving Fund





Lake Host Employment Status and Pay

- Paid Lake Hosts are NH LAKES Seasonal Employees
- Payroll costs include 15% statutory benefits





- Groups receiving the Payroll Award must match 100% the value of their Payroll Award
- Match can be made in the value of Volunteer Time, or by local funds provided to extend paid Lake Host coverage
- If your group exceeds 300% of match, you receive a bonus to your payroll award next year.



Tracking Volunteer Time



**The Lake Hosts
might not be at the
ramp yet, but the
Lake Host Program
work can begin in
January!**



Lake Host Payroll Award

Application: February - March

- ★ Opens mid-March
- ★ Online application
- ★ Includes step-by-step video on how to fill it out
- ★ Includes budget calculator to estimate your group's needed funds to paid ramp hours ratio
- ★ Posted on nhlakes.org
- ★ Email Kat Kelleher at kkelleher@nhlakes.org to be on a notifying list





Start Recruiting Volunteer Lake Hosts: March - April



- Ask association members to pledge time
- Reach out to established local groups (Churches, women's groups, National Honors Society, etc.)
- Interview potential Lake Hosts and give them the volunteer link to collect emergency information



Start Recruiting Paid Lake Hosts: March - April



- Reach out to local colleges
- Post on job boards, Facebook, or local news papers
- Advertise your pay rates and hours available
- Interview potential hires and submit them to NH LAKES for onboarding



Confirming Hires & Lake Host Program Training: May

- Trainings are online, published in May, and accessible through the entire season
- “How to Lake Host”
- “Lake Host Program Administration”
- “Fundraising for your Lake Host Program”



Lake Hosts Protect New Hampshire's Lakes:



June - Early October



During the summer there are:

- Biweekly payrolls for paid lake Hosts
- Ongoing ID of suspicious specimens are made on samples
- Weekly weekly financial reports to group leadership





Final Activity Reports Sent: November

NH LAKES reports out:

- Your group's AIS Relationship (boats that came from or depart to infested water bodies)
- Your group's boater data
- Your group's final financial and volunteer information
- The program's saves and survey numbers





Protecting the lakes we all love.





Contact us

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Get started at nhlakes.org/lake-host