

# Property Owner Self-Assessment

Congratulations! You are taking the first step in making lake-friendly living the new norm in your community. By taking this self-assessment you will become familiar with ways to manage your property and activities in a lake-friendly way.

The estimated time to complete this survey is 30 minutes - add a few extra minutes if you are submitting photos.

If you have problems or questions on this survey or the program, please email [lakesmart@nhlakes.org](mailto:lakesmart@nhlakes.org) or call 603.226.0299.

\* Required

## 1. Email address \*

### What to Expect

LakeSmart is an education, evaluation, and certification program.

Participation is free, voluntary, and non-regulatory. No property owner will "get in trouble" with local or state authorities through this program.

As you move through this survey, you will be asked mostly 'true' and 'false' questions about your driveway and parking areas, structures, wastewater treatment systems, and yard and play areas. For properties along the water, it will address the shoreline and shallow water areas of the lake too.

### Upon Completion

Upon completion of the Self-Assessment and visual evaluation of your property, you will receive lake-friendly living commendations and recommendations tailored to your unique property.

Properties that achieve LakeSmart status in all areas through this program will be awarded the coveted LakeSmart Award to proudly display.

Thank you for making lake-friendly living the new norm in your community, by leading through example and encouraging your neighbors to do the same!

Ready to get started?!

### Property Owner and Primary Contact Information

Tell us about yourself and how to get in touch! Your information is kept confidential and private.

2. Property Owner First Name \*

---

3. Property Owner Last Name \*

---

4. Phone Number \*

---

5. Email Address \*

---

6. 2nd Property Owner First Name

---

7. 2nd Property Owner Last Name

---

8. 2nd Property Owner Phone Number

---

9. 2nd Property Owner Email Address

---

10. Permanent Mailing Street Address (Ex: 12 Main St or P.O. Box 100) \*

---

11. Permanent Mailing Town (Ex: Concord) \*

---

12. Permanent Mailing State (Ex: NH) \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ AL

☐ AK

☐ AZ

☐ AR

☐ CA

☐ CO

☐ CT

☐ DE

☐ DC

☐ FL

☐ GA

☐ HI

☐ ID

☐ IL

☐ IN

☐ IA

☐ KS

☐ KY

☐ LA

☐ ME

☐ MD

☐ MA

☐ MI

☐ MN

☐ MS

☐ MO

☐ MT

☐ NE

☐ NV

☐ NH

- ☐ NJ
- ☐ NM
- ☐ NY
- ☐ NC
- ☐ ND
- ☐ OH
- ☐ OK
- ☐ OR
- ☐ PA
- ☐ RI
- ☐ SC
- ☐ SD
- ☐ TN
- ☐ TX
- ☐ UT
- ☐ VT
- ☐ VA
- ☐ WA
- ☐ WV
- ☐ WI
- ☐ WY

13. Permanent Mailing Zip Code (Ex: 03301) \*

---

14. Summer Mailing Street Address (Ex: 12 Main St)

\*If different from permanent address

---

15. Summer Mailing Town (Ex: Concord)

\*If different from permanent address

---

16. Summer Mailing Zip (Ex: 03301)

---

17. Summer Mailing State (Ex: NH)

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ AL

☐ AK

☐ AZ

☐ AR

☐ CA

☐ CO

☐ CT

☐ DE

☐ DC

☐ FL

☐ GA

☐ HI

☐ ID

☐ IL

☐ IN

☐ IA

☐ KS

☐ KY

☐ LA

☐ ME

☐ MD

☐ MA

☐ MI

☐ MN

☐ MS

☐ MO

☐ MT

☐ NE

☐ NV

☐ NH

- ☐ NJ
- ☐ NM
- ☐ NY
- ☐ NC
- ☐ ND
- ☐ OH
- ☐ OK
- ☐ OR
- ☐ PA
- ☐ RI
- ☐ SC
- ☐ SD
- ☐ TN
- ☐ TX
- ☐ UT
- ☐ VT
- ☐ VA
- ☐ WA
- ☐ WV
- ☐ WI
- ☐ WY

18. Where you would like your certificate or signs mailed/delivered? \*

Owners of properties that achieve LakeSmart status in at least one area will be awarded a LakeSmart Certificate of Commendation. Owners of property that achieve LakeSmart status in all areas will receive the LakeSmart Award - two yard signs, and dock sign (if applicable). You can help make lake-friendly living the norm in your community by proudly displaying these materials, piquing the interests of your friends and neighbors.

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Permanent mailing address
- ☐ Summer mailing address



## 19. Lake Name

Please keep in mind your lake may be listed as "Winnisquam Lake" instead of "Lake Winnisquam", so please be sure to search for both instances.

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Angle Pond
- ☐ Arlington Mill Reservoir
- ☐ Ashuelot Pond
- ☐ Ayers Island Dam Pond
- ☐ Baboosic Lake
- ☐ Back Lake
- ☐ Balch Pond
- ☐ Baptist Pond
- ☐ Baxter Lake
- ☐ Bearcamp Pond
- ☐ Beaver Lake
- ☐ Belleau Lake
- ☐ Big Island Pond - Derry, Atkinson, Hampstead
- ☐ Black Pond in Lincoln
- ☐ Black Pond in Windsor
- ☐ Blackwater River
- ☐ Blaisdell Lake
- ☐ Boston Lot Lake
- ☐ Bow Lake
- ☐ Bradley Lake
- ☐ Broad Bay
- ☐ Burns Pond
- ☐ Canaan Street Lake
- ☐ Canobie Lake
- ☐ Captain Pond
- ☐ Cass Pond
- ☐ Center Pond
- ☐ Chalk Pond

- ☐ Chase Pond
- ☐ Chesham Pond
- ☐ Christine Lake
- ☐ Chocorua Lake
- ☐ Clement (Joe Sylvia) Pond
- ☐ Clough Pond in Loudon
- ☐ Clough Pond in Belmont
- ☐ Cobbetts Pond
- ☐ Cole Pond
- ☐ Connecticut Lakes
- ☐ Contoocook Lake
- ☐ Contoocook River
- ☐ Conway Lake
- ☐ Cooks Pond
- ☐ Country Pond
- ☐ Crescent Lake in Acworth/Unity
- ☐ Crescent Lake in Wolfeboro
- ☐ Crystal Lake in Enfield
- ☐ Crystal Lake in Gilmanton
- ☐ Crystal Lake in Manchester
- ☐ Dan Hole Pond
- ☐ Deering Lake
- ☐ Diamond Pond
- ☐ Dream Lake
- ☐ Dublin Pond
- ☐ Dummer Pond
- ☐ Duncan Lake
- ☐ Dutchman Pond
- ☐ Eastman Lake
- ☐ Emerald Lake
- ☐ Emerson Pond
- ☐ Flints Pond
- ☐ Forest Lake in Whitefield/Dalton

- ☐ Forest Lake in Winchester
- ☐ Franklin Pierce Lake/Jackman Reservoir
- ☐ French Pond
- ☐ Frost Pond
- ☐ Gilmore Pond
- ☐ Glen Lake
- ☐ Goose Pond in Alexandria
- ☐ Goose Pond in Canaan
- ☐ Goose Pond in New London
- ☐ Gorham Pond
- ☐ Gould Pond
- ☐ Governor's Lake
- ☐ Grafton Pond
- ☐ Granite Lake
- ☐ Great East Lake
- ☐ Great Pond
- ☐ Green's Basin
- ☐ Gregg Lake
- ☐ Halfmoon Lake
- ☐ Halfmoon Pond
- ☐ Harantis Lake
- ☐ Harrisville Pond
- ☐ Harvey Lake
- ☐ Haunted Lake
- ☐ Hawkins Pond
- ☐ Hermit Lake
- ☐ Hidden Lake
- ☐ Highland Lake in Stoddard
- ☐ Highland Lake in Andover
- ☐ Hills Pond
- ☐ Hopkinton-Everett Lake
- ☐ Horn Pond
- ☐ Horseshoe Pond

- ☐ Hudson Pond
- ☐ Hunt's Pond
- ☐ Indian Pond
- ☐ Intervale Pond
- ☐ Island Pond in Stoddard
- ☐ Island Pond in Washington
- ☐ Jenness Pond
- ☐ Kezar Lake
- ☐ Kingston Lake
- ☐ Kingswood Lake
- ☐ Kolelemook Lake
- ☐ Lake Armington
- ☐ Lake Horace
- ☐ Lake Kanasatka
- ☐ Lake Katherine
- ☐ Lake Massasecum
- ☐ Lake Opechee
- ☐ Lake Pemigewasset
- ☐ Lake Potanipo
- ☐ Lake Skatutakee
- ☐ Lake Sunapee
- ☐ Lake Tarleton
- ☐ Lake Umbagog
- ☐ Lake Warren
- ☐ Lake Waukegan
- ☐ Lake Wentworth
- ☐ Lake Wicwas
- ☐ Lake Winnepocket
- ☐ Lake Winnepesaukee
- ☐ Lake Winona
- ☐ Lamprey River
- ☐ Laurel Lake
- ☐ Lee's Pond

- ☐ Lily Lake
- ☐ Little Island Pond
- ☐ Little Squam Lake
- ☐ Little Sunapee
- ☐ Locke Lake
- ☐ Lonesome Lake
- ☐ Long Pond
- ☐ Loon Lake of Freedom
- ☐ Loon Lake in Plymouth
- ☐ Loon Pond
- ☐ Loud Pond
- ☐ Lovejoy Quarry
- ☐ Lovell Lake
- ☐ Lower Beech Pond
- ☐ Lower Kimball
- ☐ Lucas Pond
- ☐ Martin Meadow Pond
- ☐ Mascoma Lake
- ☐ Massabesic Lake
- ☐ May Pond
- ☐ Mendum's Pond
- ☐ Merrimack River
- ☐ Merrymeeting Lake
- ☐ Messer Pond
- ☐ Millen Lake
- ☐ Millville Lake
- ☐ Mirror Lake in Jackson
- ☐ Mirror Lake in Tuftonboro
- ☐ Monomonac Lake
- ☐ Mountain Lakes - Upper and Lower
- ☐ Mountain Pond
- ☐ Mountain View Lake
- ☐ Murray Pond

- ☐ Naticook Lake
- ☐ Newell Pond
- ☐ Newfound Lake
- ☐ North River Lake
- ☐ Northeast Pond
- ☐ Northwood Lake
- ☐ Norway Pond
- ☐ Nubanusit Lake
- ☐ Onway Lake
- ☐ Orange Pond
- ☐ Ossipee Lake
- ☐ Ossipee River
- ☐ Ottarnic Pond
- ☐ Otter Pond
- ☐ Partridge Lake
- ☐ Pawtuckaway Lake
- ☐ Pea Porridge Pond
- ☐ Pearly Pond
- ☐ Pecker Pond
- ☐ Pemigewasset Lake
- ☐ Pemigewasset River
- ☐ Pentacook Lake
- ☐ Pequawket Pond
- ☐ Perkins Pond
- ☐ Phillips Pond in Sandown
- ☐ Pillsbury Lake
- ☐ Pine Island Pond
- ☐ Pine River Pond
- ☐ Piscataquog River
- ☐ Pleasant Lake in Deerfield
- ☐ Pleasant Lake in New London
- ☐ Pleasant Pond in Frankestown
- ☐ Pool Pond

- ☐ Powder Mill Pond
- ☐ Powwow Pond
- ☐ Pratt Pond
- ☐ Province Lake
- ☐ Province Pond
- ☐ Rand Pond
- ☐ Robinson Pond
- ☐ Rock Pond
- ☐ Rockwood Pond
- ☐ Rocky Pond in Gilmanton/Canterbury
- ☐ Rocky Pond in Hollis
- ☐ Rocky Pond in Wentworth
- ☐ Rocky Bound Pond
- ☐ Round Pond
- ☐ Russell Reservoir
- ☐ Rust Pond
- ☐ Saltmarsh Pond
- ☐ Sand Pond
- ☐ Sandogardy Pond
- ☐ Sargent Lake
- ☐ Sargents Pond in Wolfeboro
- ☐ Sawyer Lake
- ☐ Scobie Pond (Haunted Lake)
- ☐ Seavey Pond
- ☐ Sebbins Pond
- ☐ Shellcamp Pond
- ☐ Silver Lake in Belmont and Tilton
- ☐ Silver Lake in Chesham
- ☐ Silver Lake in Harrisville
- ☐ Silver Lake in Hollis
- ☐ Silver Lake in Madison
- ☐ Spectacle Pond
- ☐ Spofford Lake

- ☐ Squam Lake
- ☐ Squamset Bog
- ☐ Stinson Lake
- ☐ Stocker Pond
- ☐ Stone Pond
- ☐ Storrs Pond
- ☐ Suncook Lakes
- ☐ Lower Suncook Lake
- ☐ Upper Suncook Lake
- ☐ Suncook Pond
- ☐ Sunrise Lake
- ☐ Sunset Lake - Wash Pond
- ☐ Swain's Lake
- ☐ Swanzey Lake
- ☐ Thorndike Pond
- ☐ Three Ponds - Upper
- ☐ Three Ponds - Middle
- ☐ Todd Lake
- ☐ Tom's Pond
- ☐ Town House Pond
- ☐ Tucker Pond
- ☐ Turee Pond
- ☐ Uncanoonuc Lake
- ☐ Upper Pond
- ☐ Upper Baker Pond
- ☐ Wakondah Pond
- ☐ Walker Pond
- ☐ Webster Lake
- ☐ White Lake
- ☐ White Oak Pond
- ☐ White's Pond
- ☐ Whittemore Lake
- ☐ Willand Pond



☐ Winnisquam Lake

☐ Zephyr Lake

20. Are you a member of your local lake, road, or watershed association? If yes, which one?

---

Property Information

Tell us about the property you are evaluating through LakeSmart.

21. Property Street Address \*

---

22. Property City \*

---

23. Property State \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ AL

☐ AK

☐ AZ

☐ AR

☐ CA

☐ CO

☐ CT

☐ DE

☐ DC

☐ FL

☐ GA

☐ HI

☐ ID

☐ IL

☐ IN

☐ IA

☐ KS

☐ KY

☐ LA

☐ ME

☐ MD

☐ MA

☐ MI

☐ MN

☐ MS

☐ MO

☐ MT

☐ NE

☐ NV

☐ NH

- ☐ NJ
- ☐ NM
- ☐ NY
- ☐ NC
- ☐ ND
- ☐ OH
- ☐ OK
- ☐ OR
- ☐ PA
- ☐ RI
- ☐ SC
- ☐ SD
- ☐ TN
- ☐ TX
- ☐ UT
- ☐ VT
- ☐ VA
- ☐ WA
- ☐ WV
- ☐ WI
- ☐ WY

24. Property Zip \*

---

25. What year was the house was built? \*

---

26. How many years have you owned the house? \*

---

27. How do you occupy the property: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Year Round

☐ Seasonally

☐ Other: 

---

You may not be  
LakeSmart on your  
first  
evaluation...and  
that's okay!

This program is about inspiring change in your community through leading by example. There are opportunities to become more lake-friendly on every property, and making these improvements is entirely voluntary.

LakeSmart will always provide you with useful feedback tailored to your property to give you an idea of how to become more lake friendly without breaking the bank.

28. Is this your first time taking the LakeSmart Self-Assessment? \*



*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes      *Skip to question 30*

☐ No      *Skip to question 29*

*Skip to question 29*

Welcome back and  
thank you for working  
to improve your  
LakeSmart status!

Property owners like you inspire others to do their part to become LakeSmart. You are well on your way to making a meaningful and positive impact, not just for the health of the lake, but for your community too.

29. Tell us about the improvements you have made to your property and lifestyle to become more LakeSmart and improve your score:

---

---

---

---

---

*Skip to question 94*

What kind of property are you evaluating?

Answering this question accurately helps tailor the survey to your property.

30. Specify the type of property: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Waterfront property (a property with shoreline but not an island property)
- ☐ Island property (with no roadway connection to land) *Skip to question 38*
- ☐ Non-waterfront property

Driveway  
and Parking  
Areas

Runoff water from driveways and parking areas can wash pollutants (including soil) into nearby lakes, rivers, wetlands or storm drains that empty into a waterbody.



## DRIVEWAY & PARKING AREA DESIGN

31. Driveway and parking areas are 'designated.' \*

'Designated' means driving and parking areas are identified and used consistently while other areas on the property are free from driving and parking. This helps to minimize the amount of compacted soil on the property, increasing the area of soil that can soak up rain and runoff water.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False



32. Driveway and parking areas are 'minimized.' \*

'Minimized' means driving and parking are not larger than needed and there are not more areas than needed. Areas used for overflow parking during events and holidays are left in a natural condition in-between uses.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

33. The driveway and parking area surfaces are 'stable.' \*

'Stable' means there is no evidence of materials being washed away and there are no ditches in or along the driveway or parking areas where channels have formed from runoff water.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

34. There is a 'buffer area' between the driveway and the nearby lakes, rivers, wetlands, or storm drains. \*

A 'buffer area' is a healthy band of trees and shrubs (not grass) that helps to slow down, soak up, and filter rain and snow melt running off of the driveway. Buffer areas are a protective boundary that minimize the amount of pollution and sediment carried off the property and into nearby lakes, rivers, wetlands, or storm drains that could eventually discharge into a waterbody. .

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False



## DRIVEWAY MAINTENANCE

Living in New Hampshire means dealing with snow and ice on our driving and parking surfaces. While it's important to ensure our driving and walking surfaces are safe, we have to keep in mind how our de-icing practices can negatively affect the water bodies we love.

Common rock salt is composed of sodium chloride. Chloride is harmful to aquatic animals and it fouls drinking water.

People typically use 30% to 50% more salt than is actually needed to protect public safety. At this time, the only way to prevent chlorides (the toxic part of salt) from reaching surface and groundwater is to minimize the amount applied to roadways and parking lots without compromising safety.

Thoroughly shoveling and sweeping paved surfaces can reduce, or even avoid, the need for salt. If you have multiple entrances to your home, designate one of them as your 'winter entrance' and only maintain the walkway to that door.

### 35. Winter deicing products are used sparingly. \*

If you live in a community that hires contractors for plowing roads or driveways, consider contractors that have valid certifications through the New Hampshire Green SnowPro Program. If no deicing products are used, indicate 'True.'



These professionals are trained and certified in the most up-to-date technologies and snow and ice management practices, ensuring a high level of service and safety to customers, while reducing salt use.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

36. Leftover winter de-icing products are 'cleaned up.' \*

Sand and/or salt left on surfaces between storms and at the end of the winter will eventually wash into the lake. Sweeping these materials up is a quick and easy way to be more lake-friendly. You can re-use this material during the next storm, saving yourself money! If no de-icing products are used, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

37. Additional Information

Please feel free to share additional information that this section may not have covered, or comments or questions you have on this section.

---

---

---

---

---

Inside  
and  
Outside  
of the  
Home

Living in a lake-friendly way goes beyond outdoor activities and landscaping. The way we live in and maintain our home play an important, but often overlooked, role in keeping pollutants out of groundwater and the lake.



38. Is your home serviced by an onsite wastewater treatment system? \* \*

If on a private or community septic system, indicate 'Yes.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No (public sewer connection) *Skip to question 51*

☐ Don't know

Fun  
Facts  
About  
Onsite  
Waste  
Water  
Systems!

Regular maintenance of your onsite wastewater system is key to keeping it safe and functional. Maintenance requirements depend on the type, age, frequency of use, and size of your system but should be done about once every three years or as often as recommended by a professional.

Improper placement of the septic system is common in older systems and this can cause those systems to malfunction during rain or snowmelt events and contaminate ground or surface water. Other factors that can lead to system failure can include tree roots, heavier than normal use during large social gatherings, using excessive amounts of harsh cleaners, garbage disposals and flushing anything other than toilet paper down the drain.

Information adapted from: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/holu/documents/hom-septic.pdf>



Please note: Septic systems vary. Diagram is not to scale.

39. What type of system is used? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Standard Septic System: Made up of a water tight septic tank to catch solids and leach field where grey water is piped into gravel and sand and bacteria and pollutants are removed.

☐ Aerated System: Oxygen is injected into the treatment tank or pre-treatment tank to help bacteria digest waste and then effluent is piped to a dispersal field.

☐ 'Beehive' System: Made up of a regular tank and a soil leaching pit.

☐ Cesspool: A pit lined with cement or stone. Wastewater flows into it and drains into the soil through perforated walls.

☐ Don't know.

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

40. What year was the system installed? (approximately): \*

\_\_\_\_\_

41. I know where the system is located. \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False



42. The system is properly maintained. \*

Always defer to a service provider who maintains certification through the Granite State Designers and Installers Association, for when and how often to inspect and pump your system. These professionals are trained and certified in the most up-to-date technologies and septic management practices, ensuring a high level of service and safety to customers and water quality.



These professionals are trained and certified in the most up-to-date technologies and septic management practices, ensuring a high level of service and safety to customers and water quality.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

43. The wastewater treatment system is 'appropriately sized.' \*

'Appropriately sized' means that the system is large enough for the existing structure and use of the property. Some considerations for the sizing of your system include factors such as the number of bedrooms, the frequency of how you use appliances like dishwashers and washing machines, whether or not you use an in-sink garbage disposal, and if you host large social events on your property. Generally, you should consider this additional use in the sizing of your system. The minimum size for 2, 3, and 4 bedroom homes is 1,250 gallons.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

☐ Don't know

44. There is no evidence of wastewater treatment system failure. \*

Failure could include: Toilets and sinks do not drain slowly or back up when toilets are flushed or laundry is run, the area around the tank and leach field is soft or wet underfoot, and/or foul odors are detected.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

45. There are no trees or shrubs growing on the leach field. \*

A leach field can be easily clogged by the roots of woody plants which can lead to malfunction. Leach fields should only be covered by plants with shallow roots such as ferns, grasses, and non-woody ground covers or wildflowers.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

☐ Don't know location

46. The land surface near the tank and the leach field is 'stable.' \*

'Stable' means that the leach field does not show signs of being worn/washed away and is free from channels and gullies caused by runoff water.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

☐ Don't know location

47. Foods, oils, and chemicals are not poured or flushed down the drain and in-sink garbage disposals are not used to get rid of food waste. \*

This includes coffee grounds, fats, and oils, as well as paint products, bleach, septic tank additives, and toilet deodorizers. Food and fats can clog the system, and chemicals (even septic tank additives marketed as being 'septic system friendly') can kill the 'good' bacteria in wastewater treatment systems that break down waste. Food waste can slow the function and shorten the life of the system.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

48. Water softeners used do not contain chloride. \*

Read the product label. Common water softeners contain potassium chloride or calcium chloride. Chloride in the water is harmful to aquatic animals and it fouls drinking water. If no water softeners are used, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

☐ Don't know

49. Only phosphate-free cleaning products are used inside the home. \*

Phosphorus is the main nutrient that speeds the growth of plants, algae, and harmful algal blooms in lakes. It is often used in laundry and dish detergents, surface cleaners and more! Even 'plant based' products can contain phosphates. Check labels closely.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

☐ Don't know



50. Water conservation efforts are used in the home. \*

Using less water extends the life of wastewater treatment systems and reduces the amount of ground water or surface water used for water supply. Using low flow plumbing fixtures, turning off the water when brushing your teeth, and spacing out loads of laundry throughout the week are all great examples of water conservation.

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ True
- ☐ False
- ☐ Don't know

Outside the  
Home

Water that falls from roofs can wash soil and other pollutants like animal waste into the lake.



51. Waste from pets and/or livestock is regularly 'cleaned up.' \*

'Cleaned up' means that waste is disposed of where it won't be washed into the lake or nearby stream. Pet and livestock waste contain nutrients that speed plant and algal growth in the lake and may contain bacteria and pathogens that can make the water unsafe for recreation. If no outside pets or livestock, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

52. All roof dripline areas are free of 'channels.' \*

Channels look like narrow trenches where soil has been washed away by water falling from the roof. Walk around each building and look at the ground under the edge of the roof (the 'dripline').

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

53. Exterior home heating oil tanks or other storage tanks are in 'good condition' and 'positioned appropriately.' \*

'Good condition' means tanks are not rusty or leaking and 'positioned appropriately' means they are not located under roof driplines where they could be damaged by falling water or snow/ice. This should include all gas, pesticide, oil, and other toxic chemical storage.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

54. Please feel free to share any comments or questions you have on this section:

---

---

---

---

---

Yard,  
Recreation  
Areas, and  
Footpaths

This is the area where you, your family, and friends spend outside time together when not in or on the lake. How this area is used, how much of the area is used, and how intensely it is used affects how runoff water soaks into the ground and the types and amounts of pollutants in runoff water.

A grassy lawn can be a part of a LakeSmart property with lake-friendly sizing and maintenance considerations.





55. The size of the lawn is not 'excessive.' \*

'Excessive' means that the lawn is bigger than is needed for the socializing and activities that take place on your property. Over time, the soil in lawn areas can become compacted which does not allow runoff water to soak into the ground. If no lawn, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

56. The mower bar is set on the highest level and grass clippings are left on the lawn to form mulch. \*

The longer the grass, the longer the roots, and the more runoff water that is absorbed into the ground and less soil is washed away. Grass clippings are a natural fertilizer and help the soil to retain moisture. Grass clippings are not left in an area where they can be washed into the lake, carrying nutrients with them. If no lawn, or no mowing, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

57. The recreation areas in the yard are 'designated.' \*

'Designated' recreation areas include fire pits, picnic or outdoor dining areas, children's play areas, and more. These areas concentrate foot traffic to a specific area, minimizing the amount of foot traffic, and resulting soil compaction, throughout the rest of the property. Compacted soil does not soak up runoff water.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

58. Natural areas have been left wherever possible to form a 'duff' layer. \*

Thick areas of 'duff'—pine needles and leaves—minimize the impact of raindrops on the soil and slow down runoff water, helping it soak it into the ground in areas not needed for socializing, recreation, play, or boat storage.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

### **Lake-Friendly Footpaths.**

Directing foot traffic to pathways helps to minimize soil compaction, keeping other areas of the property in a natural condition to help soak up runoff water.

Lake-friendly footpaths are:

1. Adequate and limited; there are identified paths to direct foot traffic to play and social areas and the water access (if applicable). There are not more paths than needed and paths are not wider than needed.
2. Curved; paths meander to their destination versus taking the straightest path. The soft bends created by curved footpaths help to slow down and divert runoff water so it can be absorbed into the ground. (Straight footpaths do the opposite, and act as highways that channel runoff water and cause the soil to be washed away.)
3. Cushioned; paths are covered with ground cover, mulch, crushed rock, or spaced pavers. Stable footpath surfaces help minimize soil being washed away by runoff water. If there are exposed tree roots present in the footpaths on your property this is strong evidence of soil compaction and erosion and indicates that footpaths are not cushioned.



59. Footpaths on the property are lake-friendly. \*

If there are NO designated footpaths on your property to direct foot traffic to recreational areas and to the water's edge choose "False."



*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

60. Fertilizer or compost is not used on the lawn. \*

Typically, soils in New Hampshire provide adequate nutrients. For growing new lawn and new plants, soil tests in some cases may indicate additional fertilizer is needed. Fertilizer washed into the lake speeds up plant and algae growth and may cause harmful algal blooms.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

61. Herbicides and pesticides are not used on the lawn or in gardens. \*

Herbicides, pesticides, and even fertilizers can be harmful to fish, frogs, turtles, mussels, water birds, and other wildlife. If fertilizers are used in gardens, take care to check the weather and apply at a time when the fertilizer won't be washed away from a rainstorm.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

62. OPTIONAL COMMENTS & QUESTIONS:

Please feel free to share any comments or questions you have on this section.

---

---

---

---

---

Shoreline  
and  
Water  
Access

If your property is along the water, the land right next to the lake is one of the most important areas to implement lake-friendly living practices to keep runoff water and pollutants out of the lake.





63. Is this property a waterfront property (does it contain shoreline access that you maintain)? \*

Please select 'Yes' if your property has shoreline or water access OR if your property is directly across the road from the water access.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No      *Skip to section 18 (Visual Evaluation)*

Shoreline and Water Access

**SHORELINE STABILITY**

64. There are trees and shrubs growing along the majority of the shoreline. \*

This vegetated strip is typically referred to as a 'vegetated buffer.' This buffer should be densely populated with trees and shrubs to minimize the impact of rain hitting the ground. It soaks up runoff water, holds soil in place, provides wildlife habitat, and can, if sufficiently wide and tall, deter geese from visiting a property.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

65. The shoreline is 'stable.' \*

'Stable' means that the shoreline is not being undercut or eroded in any area by runoff water from the landscape or by wave action from the lake. If you have a dock, walk out to the end of it and look back at the shoreline. If the bank is slumping, or is undercut, or tree roots are exposed, the shoreline is not stable.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

## PRACTICES

66. There are no culverts or pipes coming from my property that drain into the lake. \*

Culverts, sump pumps, and other water transmissions drain into a planted area, rain garden, or area of vegetation to be cleaned before reaching the lake. There is no evidence of anything being discharged directly into the lake.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

67. Household and yard waste is not allowed to wash into the lake. \*

Materials like grass clippings, leaves, ashes, and household compost contain nutrients that can impact the health of the lake and lead to lake plant and algae overgrowth and toxic algae (cyanobacteria) blooms.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

68. Ducks and geese are not fed. \*

A single goose can create up to three pounds of waste per day and waste contains significant amounts of phosphorus—the nutrient that speeds plant and algae growth and harmful algal blooms. If you struggle with geese hanging around on your property please select "False."

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

69. People, pets, and watercraft are not bathed/cleaned in the lake. \*

Soaps and detergents, even biodegradable soap, may contain substances harmful to lake health.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

70. The lake bottom is left natural and not 'cleaned up.' \*

Not 'cleaned up' means that aquatic plants are not uprooted and removed, rocks are not removed, the lake bottom is not raked, and you are not personally putting chemicals or other materials into the water to control plant and animal growth. Raking the lake bottom to remove leaves and plants disturbs the sediment and releases phosphorus into the water. These actions speed plant and toxic algae (cyanobacteria) growth and disturb habitat area for aquatic organisms. Aquatic plants oxygenate and shade the water. Any invasive plants removed from the water are removed in accordance with a NH Department of Environmental Services approved management plan.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

71. Boat storage areas are 'defined and minimal.' \*

'Defined and minimal' means that boats are stored off the ground in a way that allows rain and runoff water to soak into the ground and vegetation to grow underneath, and minimizes soil compaction. If no boats are stored on land indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

72. Boats are not washed in or near the lake with any soap or detergent product. \*

Even nutrient-free biodegradable soap may contain substances harmful to lake health. Instead, wash your boat frequently with a sponge and plain water, or visit a boat-friendly carwash, to prevent build-up. If no boats are washed, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

73. Boats are fueled slowly and carefully to prevent spills and fuel lines are inspected regularly and replaced when needed. \*

Gas and oil are toxic to aquatic plants and animals—and people, too! If no boats requiring gasoline are fueled or stored on your property, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

74. Oily bilge water is 'contained.' \*

'Contained' means that oily bilge water is not discharged into or near the water and biodegradable bilge cleaners are not used. Bilge cleaners do not necessarily remove oil and they contain other chemicals harmful to the aquatic environment. If no boats requiring oil are stored on the property or in the nearshore area, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

75. Your motorboat(s) is/are equipped with fuel efficient, low-emission engine(s). \*

If you do not own or use a motorboat on the water, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

76. If your boat is equipped with toilet facilities or a portable toilet is brought on board, waste is not discharged into the lake. \*

Boat sewage pump out/dump stations are provided at several locations on Lake Winnepesaukee and one on Lake Sunapee and Lake Winnisquam. If boat is not equipped with built in or portable toilets, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

77. I take precautions to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species when I boat. \*

Boats that are launched off of the property, or brought to a local launching site, have been properly cleaned, drained, and dried before launching to prevent the spread of invasive species. This includes motor, sail, and paddleboats of friends, guests, and renters. Invasive plants (like milfoil) and invasive animals (like zebra mussels and the Asian clam) make swimming and boating dangerous and unpleasant, they crowd out beneficial native species, they lower shoreline property values, and, once firmly established, are expensive to manage and nearly impossible to get rid of. If no boats of any kind are launched off of the property or at local access sites by you, your family, friends, guests, and renters, when they stay at your property or visit, indicate 'True.'



Mark only one oval.

☐ True

☐ False

78. I take precautions to prevent shoreline erosion or disturbance to the lake bottom when I boat. \*

When boating on the lake, headway speed (approx. 6 mph) is not exceeded within 150 feet from shore and no-wake areas are observed. Boating activity is managed to prevent wakes from traveling to the shoreline and disturbance to the lake bottom. Large waves/wakes created by boat activity can cause shorelines to be worn away. Shoreline erosion adds sediment into the lake, filling in the lake bottom, making the lake shallower, and covering up habitat areas for animals. Shoreline erosion and disturbance to the lake bottom also contributes nutrients to the water which speed plant and algae growth and harmful algal blooms. If you do not boat, indicate 'True.'

Mark only one oval.

☐ True

☐ False

79. I do not personally launch fireworks over the lake. \*

If I burn flares, I collect the ashes in a container underneath so that they don't drop into the lake, and the ashes are disposed away from the lake. There are growing concerns about the potential for fireworks to pollute lakes and groundwater. Fireworks are comprised of chemicals used to create colors, noise and propulsion into the sky. Once launched, the chemicals can potentially be deposited directly into a waterbody or washed in from the shore after a rainstorm. Debris left behind after fireworks explosions can be coated with these same harmful chemicals, and the debris itself is trash that is not good for the lake or the animals that live in the lake. If you do not launch fireworks over the lake or light flares along the lake, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

80. Exterior lighting near the water is 'minimized.' \*

'Minimized' outdoor lighting means that outdoor lights are not left on unnecessarily and that they do not shine directly out over the lake. Artificial lights interfere with natural cycles of nocturnal birds, pollinators, and even small creatures living in the lake! Turning outdoor lights off when not in use or putting them on motion sensors and positioning them so that they shine downward is an easy way to minimize outdoor lighting.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

## SHORELINE STRUCTURES

81. Identify the structures along the shoreline and if you think they were constructed with a state permit or did not need a state permit (select one response for each structure). \*

Structures built before 1969 are grandfathered and do not require permits. All other permanent structures should be approved by state permits. NH LAKES cannot recognize properties with illegal structures as LakeSmart. We trust you to be honest with us. We will not share this information with anyone outside of the LakeSmart Program.

*Mark only one oval per row.*

	This structure was approved by a state permit	This structure was built before 1969 and is grandfathered	I don't know. It may or may not be permitted or grandfathered.	This structure does not exist on my property
Docks (permanent)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boat/jet-ski/personal watercraft lift(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Retaining walls	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Breakwaters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boat house	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

82. All bubblers, agitators, or circulators set up in the water during winter to protect docks and other structures from ice damage are operated with thermostats and/or timers to minimize the area of open water. \*

De-icing units that run all the time during winter can harm lake health by producing excessively large open water areas allowing bottom sediment to be stirred up by wind and letting in sunlight, stimulating plant and algal growth, including toxic algal growth. If no de-icing units are used, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ True
- ☐ False



83. Docks and floating platforms are not constructed of pressure-treated wood. \*

Chemicals used to pressure treat lumber may be toxic to people and wildlife. If you are building a permitted shoreline structure, or maintaining an existing one, consider using naturally rot-resistant woods like redwood, cedar, and cypress. If no docks or floating platforms, indicate 'True.'

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ True

☐ False

## Shoreline and Water Access

84. Is there a sandy beach on your property? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No      *Skip to section 18 (Visual Evaluation)*

## Shoreline and Water Access

### BEACHES

Sand washed into the lake fills-in the lake bottom, making the lake shallower and covering up habitat areas for animals. Sand may also contribute nutrients to the water which speed plant and algae growth and toxic algal (cyanobacteria) blooms. We will ask you questions about whether or not your man-made beach was constructed or maintained with a state permit or is grandfathered and didn't need a state permit. We trust you to be honest—we will not share any information with anyone outside of the LakeSmart Program.

85. If the beach was designed after 1969, was a permit received for beach construction? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ I don't know

☐ Not applicable – the beach is naturally occurring

86. Do you follow state requirements for adding sand to the beach? (i.e. get a permit) \*

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services states: "Replenishment of beach sand may be allowed once every six years, if needed. In general, it may not exceed more than 10 cubic yards. Permit applications for beach sand replenishment should incorporate methods for diversion of surface runoff around the beach area."

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes/Not applicable - sand is not added

☐ No

87. Does your property have a manufactured 'perched beach'? \*

Perched beaches help to prevent the erosion of sand into the water, decrease the rate of lake aging, and require less maintenance than other manufactured beaches. Perched beaches have little or no slope and are located entirely out of the water. Sand is not added to any steep or sloping areas along the shoreline (i.e. the beach is flat) and sand is not being washed into the lake. Narrow access steps to the water are typically incorporated into the design. For more information on perched beaches read the NHDES fact sheet: <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/wet/documents/wb-18.pdf>

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

88. OPTIONAL COMMENTS & QUESTIONS:

Please feel free to share any comments or questions you have on this section.

---

---

---

---

---

Visual  
Evaluation

Visual evaluation is also necessary for a property to be eligible for a LakeSmart Award.

You can request a confidential site visit from the LakeSmart team to walk your property with you and perform a visual evaluation.

Or, you have the option to submit photos of your property if you do not wish to receive an in-person site visit.

Next  
steps!

LakeSmart Evaluators from NH LAKES or the local participating group are available to meet with you, walk your property, answer your questions about lake-friendly living and complete the visual evaluation.

A typical LakeSmart visit lasts one hour and puts you on the fast track to becoming LakeSmart. It also means that you don't have to submit photos with your self-evaluation - the LakeSmart Evaluator will take the necessary photos and perform a visual evaluation.

Property owners who opt out of the site visit from the LakeSmart team are asked to submit photos for visual evaluation.

89. Follow-up Request \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Please send a NH LAKES Evaluator to do a site visit. *Skip to question 94*
- ☐ Please send a NH LAKES Evaluator or Local Lake/Watershed Association Evaluator to do a site visit. *Skip to question 94*
- ☐ I opt out of an in-person site visit and will submit photos of my property for review by a NH LAKES Evaluator.

90. Do we have permission to share your contact information, self-assessment, and/or site visit results with a local group?

There may be a local lake, road, or watershed association in your area that can provide local expertise. NH LAKES will never share your information with a regulatory organization like municipal/governmental board or agency.

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

91. If (or when) you receive a LakeSmart commendation or Award - Does NH LAKES (and/or the local participating group) have permission to congratulate you by name on the web and/or in newsletters? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

92. May NH LAKES use photos of your property for teaching purposes and/or to publicize the program? \*

Photos will be posted anonymously. We will blur out any identifying information in a photo such as license plate or bow numbers.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

## PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

**\*\*If you requested a site visit from a Lake Host Evaluator at the beginning of this survey you DO NOT need to submit photos\*\***

If you opted out of a site visit, you will need to submit high-quality photos of your property in order to be considered for the LakeSmart Award. You have two options to submit photos:

1. Insert photos into the LakeSmart Photo Submission Form found at [nhlakes.org/lakesmart](http://nhlakes.org/lakesmart). (This is the preferred method.)
2. Email photos as separate jpg files, attached to ONE email, to [lakesmart@nhlakes.org](mailto:lakesmart@nhlakes.org). (Be sure to title each photo with the area of the property and title the subject line of the email with your last name and lake name.)

93. How do you intend to submit your photos to NH LAKES? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ I requested a follow-up visit and do not need to submit photos.
- ☐ I opted out of a LakeSmart site visit and will email photos, attached to one email, to [lakesmart@nhlakes.org](mailto:lakesmart@nhlakes.org) using the photo submission form found at [nhlakes.org/lakesmart](http://nhlakes.org/lakesmart).

Thank you  
for  
participating  
in the  
LakeSmart  
Program!

We truly appreciate your effort to make lake-friendly living the norm in your community. What happens on your property affects your lake, and by taking this first step towards being lake-friendly you are ensuring clean and healthy lakes for generations to come – WE THANK YOU!

All properties are unique! Your self-assessment will be manually reviewed by the LakeSmart team and may reach out to you for some clarification.

If you have requested a site visit, someone from the LakeSmart team will review your self-assessment within one week and get back to you to schedule a site visit.

If you have elected not to have a site visit from the LakeSmart team, photos of your property are required before your property can be considered for 'LakeSmart' status.

IMPORTANT! Once you hit the submit button, NH LAKES and the local group (if you provided permission to share this information with the local lake/watershed group) will be able to review your self-assessment.

94. Do you want to sign-up to E-news to receive lake-friendly tips, articles, and information on local happenings from NH LAKES and/or your local group? \*

*Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Yes - please sign me up for NH LAKES E-news!
- ☐ Yes - please sign me up for my local group(s) E-news!
- ☐ Yes - please sign me up for both NH LAKES and my local group(s) E-news!
- ☐ No thank you, I do not want to sign up for E-news.

**Please don't forget to hit SUBMIT!**

You will receive a confirmation email.

