



LAKESIDE

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF NH LAKES - Volume XXXI, No. 3, Fall 2020

Survey Says! Results from Our First Supporter Survey

There are a million reasons to support New Hampshire's lakes. Without a healthy lake, kayaking isn't much fun. Without a clean place for a dip, summer days are a bit more scorching. But, what about you? Are you driven by calm nights with family on the shore? Are you inspired by a childhood on one of New Hampshire's lakes? Why exactly do you care about clean and healthy lakes?

To learn more about you, NH LAKES launched its first Supporter Survey this past July. We asked you about your history, motivation, and hopes for New

Hampshire's lakes. We wanted to know exactly why lakes draw you in, where your favorite haunts are, and what your concerns look like for the future. Over the course of the past month, we've compiled the completed surveys, and we thought you might want to find out what our supporters had to say.

We received well over 500 responses from all over the state (and the country!), and the responses were just as varied. People listed Winnipesaukee as their favorite lake, followed by Winnisquam, Squam, and Sunapee. We also heard from members whose

focus lay farther afield, like Lincoln's Black Pond or Whitefield's Forest Lake.

Most people couldn't remember their first visits to a New Hampshire lake, having grown up alongside their shores. As one described a childhood memory, "We fell asleep to the sound of the water lapping up on the beach and whip-poor-wills singing in the trees." Around 15% had attended a lakeside summer camp, and a further 5% first encountered New Hampshire's lakes while in college. Another 20% had more recently come to love our lakes through other avenues.

On the lake, people overwhelmingly favor paddling, swimming, and gathering with family and friends. Boating and winter activities were also popular, and hiking, fishing, and water skiing each received around 10% support. Write-in answers ran the entire gamut of lake recreation. People listed stand up paddle boarding, sailing, windsurfing, sunset watching, and countless other activities. Still, it's clear that the trusty canoe, an old-fashioned summer swim, and the social power of the water remain old favorites.

Because of these deep roots and connections, it's no surprise that you want our lakes to stay clean and healthy. Almost everyone, 90%, wants to maintain New Hampshire's lakes for their children and grandchildren to

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You made it. We made it, together. With your incredible support, NH LAKES stood tall through the summer of 2020 and

implemented our clean and healthy lakes programs. And, what a summer it was! Dozens of people I spoke to, people active for years on the lakes of New Hampshire, said this was the busiest summer on the lake they could remember. Our Lake Host courtesy boat inspections ran at an all-time high, marinas reported record boat sales with entire inventories sold out, and the number of fishing licenses sold in New Hampshire was up 40% over last year. New Hampshire Marine Patrol Captain, Tim Dunleavy, told me early in the season that weekend boat traffic on Lake Winnipesaukee was busier than he had ever seen it.

This, of course, is what the beautiful, clean, and healthy lakes of New Hampshire are for—outdoor recreation on, or around, the water for thousands of people throughout the state at any given time. Speaking of which, timing seems to be a critical factor. The word ‘around the pond’ is that weekdays are wide open, with early mornings the best. On weekends it may seem like everyone and ‘their other brother’ are trying to enjoy the lake. That is when we hear the most about less than ideal experiences on the water or at the shoreline, such as when power boats that create large waves operate close to the shoreline or other watercraft. I think everyone wishes there was more consideration on the water for other users. Maybe that starts with all of us. By practicing safe and

considerate boating, we can demonstrate to our fellow boaters how it can work.

Although I didn't get to see a lot of you face to face this past summer, I spoke to or emailed hundreds of you. I did manage to get out on the road to deploy our CD3 waterless watercraft cleaning unit at a different boat ramp each week (CD3 stands for clean, drain, dry, and dispose). For the past two summers, we have demonstrated how this technology can be used to help boaters clean, drain, and dry their boats, trailers, and gear to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Purchased with grant funds from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and generous donations from many of you, the CD3 unit is helping us to up our game in the fight to ‘prevent the spread.’

Thank you again for a great summer and our best wishes to you for a healthy and happy autumn. We hope you are able to enjoy the lake during this (most?) beautiful time of the year. Whether you are at your favorite lake, or have migrated away for the season, please keep in touch as the New Hampshire 2021 Legislative Session is fast approaching. As always, we will rely on your participation to help us move the legislature when it matters for clean and healthy lakes.

On behalf of NH LAKES,

Tom O'Brien, President

Leave a Legacy

Please remember NH LAKES in your will. To do this, simply share this sentence with your attorney or financial planner:

I bequeath \$____ or ____% of my estate to: New Hampshire Lakes Association, Inc., 17 Chenell Drive, Suite One, Concord, NH 03301.

Our tax identification number is 22-2668396. If you have chosen to include NH LAKES in your estate plans, please let us know. Thank you!



NH LAKES operations are funded in part by a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

Silver Lake Resident Wins NH LAKES 2020 John F. Morten Award for Exemplary Lakes Stewardship

Ted Kramer, resident and long-time steward of Silver Lake in Madison, New Hampshire, was recently awarded the 2020 John F. Morten Award for Exemplary Lake Stewardship. On July 18, Stu Lord, NH LAKES Board Chair, along with Tom O'Brien, President of NH LAKES, presented this prestigious award to Ted at the Silver Lake Association of Madison annual meeting.



Ted Kramer (center) was awarded the 2020 John F. Morten Award for Exemplary Lake Stewardship by NH LAKES Board Chair Stu Lord (left) and NH LAKES President Tom O'Brien (right) on July 18.

In September 2002, a special award was created in honor of the late John F. Morten (1914-1989). It was Mr. Morten's lifelong work, giving generously of his time, talents, and financial resources to help protect New Hampshire's lakes and ponds that he loved so much. He was a person who made things happen—an out-of-the box thinker, leader, and activist who was organized, determined, and persistent in the achievement of any task. It is in tribute to his vision, dedication, and commitment that NH LAKES established the John F. Morten Memorial Award for Exemplary Lakes Stewardship.

"Ted's motto is 'engagement is essential and together we can do more!' This is what Ted does every day for the lake community—locally at Silver Lake and statewide for all New Hampshire's lakes," explained Stu Lord. "Ted's values, and commitment, serve as a model of exemplary lake stewardship for all. He unselfishly gives of his time and treasure to

protect New Hampshire's lakes—and encourages others to do the same."

Ted has provided over two decades of exemplary service to New Hampshire's lakes, including his local lake. Between 2000 and 2010, he served in a variety of leadership positions with NH LAKES, including serving as board chair, and, today he continues to serve the organization at the committee level. He's equally involved in his local lake health organization, currently serving as president of the Silver Lake Association, and initiating, coordinating, and participating in routine water quality monitoring and invasive species prevention programs.

Congratulations, and, thank you, Ted!

It's not too early to submit nominations for 2021! Visit nhlakes.org/awards to submit your nomination.

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enjoy. A significant number of our members—70 people and counting!—are now taking the opportunity to leave a gift in their Will for this very reason.

Based on this survey, you rightly view aquatic invasive species as a dire threat to our lakes. Around 13% of our members are already staring down infestations, and another 15% have seen firsthand the damage these species cause. One person wrote, "My mom lives on a pond in Massachusetts. They treated the lake for fanwort maybe 15 years ago. Its ecosystem

never recovered." As a result of these experiences, 70% of members feel we must do everything possible to protect the lake environment.

This survey allowed us a deeper look into your values and concerns. With this valuable information, we can better serve you and your lake communities. It's clear to us that your generations-deep connections drive your concern for New Hampshire's lakes. In turn, this motivates us to do all we can to protect water quality and prevent the infestation of aquatic

invasive species. To everyone who completed the survey, thank you! And, for those who we missed, the survey remains available at tinyurl.com/NHLAKES-Survey until November 30th.



Photo credit: Stephen Brassard



WORKING TO KEEP OUR LAKES CLEAN & HEALTHY ALL SUMMER LONG!

Summer 2020

ADVOCACY MEETINGS

Participated in or led 27 meetings with legislative and municipal leaders and stakeholders with over 290 attendees.

CD3 WATERCRAFT CLEANING STATION

Deployed our mobile, solar-powered, clean, drain, dry, and dispose watercraft cleaning unit at 17 public boat ramps, helping boaters prevent the potential spread of invasive species nearly 600 times!

EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS

Produced 5 educational videos on clean and healthy lake topics which have generated over 6,500 views online!

INFORMATIONAL WEBINARS

Presented 13 live webinars with 824 attendees, generating over 1,900 views online!

LAKE ASSOCIATION AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Despite the pandemic, we were able to present at 10 local meetings with 121 attendees learning how to enhance lake protection efforts.

LAKE HOST INSPECTIONS AT BOAT RAMPS

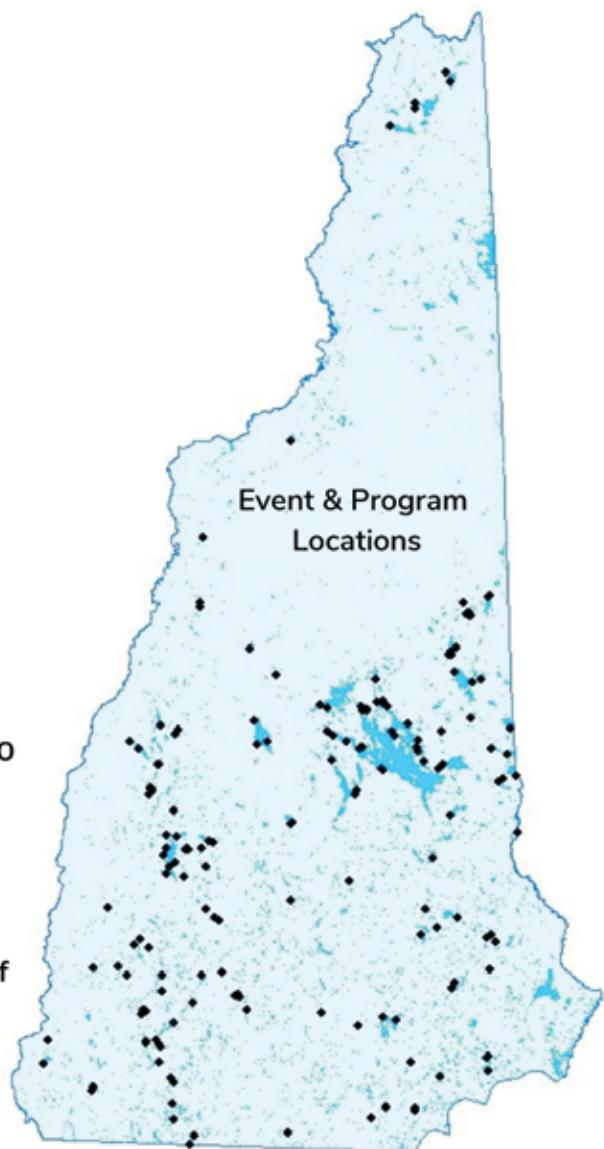
Staffed 100 ramps with 500 Lake Hosts, helping a record-breaking 101,000+ boaters stop the spread of invasive species.

LAKE HOST TRAINING

Led 12 physically-dистanced (online) Lake Host training sessions with nearly 700 attendees!

LAKESMART PROPERTY SITE VISITS

70 property owners on over 40 lakes requested confidential property evaluations for lake-friendly living recommendations.



NH LAKES works statewide for
clean and healthy lakes!

NH LAKES Legislative Advocacy Update

by Tom O'Brien, President & Policy Advocate, NH LAKES

NH LAKES has a new Advocacy Program Coordinator! Michelle Davis started the first week of September and many of you have heard from her, or of her, by now. You will be seeing and hearing much more from Michelle as she takes the reins of our Advocacy Program. With your help and your involvement, she will provide us all with leadership and the presence at the State House needed to ensure our lakes remain clean and healthy. You can read more about Michelle on page 12.

In addition to that exciting news, NH LAKES has spent the last three to four months advocating for clean and healthy lakes in online study commission meetings related to wake (ballast) boats, aquatic invasive species, septic systems, and docks. Meeting online has worked, but clearly, as we are all experiencing, it is not the same thing as meeting in person and exchanging information and opinions firsthand.

The issue we have been working on that affects the most people—perhaps you in some way—is wake (ballast) boats. In my tenure at NH LAKES, there has not been an activity on the lakes of New Hampshire that has evoked as much concern from so many people. We have heard from a small number of people who enjoy wake boarding or surfing who have suggested that boater education can address these concerns. We have heard from countless numbers of people that these watercraft are causing major negative impacts on the integrity of our natural shorelines and

shoreline structures on our lakes, excessive disturbance to lake-bottom sediments in shallow waters, and are resulting in safety issues on the water caused by the four-to-six-foot waves these watercraft are designed to create. NH LAKES has also long been concerned with the threat that ballast water compartments pose to the spread of aquatic invasive species.

The legislative commission to study the effects of wake (ballast) boats finished its work on June 30. The makeup of that commission, its final report, and related documents can be found at tinyurl.com/wake-boat-commission. After this commission's work was done, many people spoke to me about how disheartened they were because this report did not result in any substantive recommendations that would lessen the impacts wake (ballast) boats are having on our lakes. I do understand this concern but want to reassure you that some good work did come out of the commission's work that will help us move forward on this issue.

The membership of the Wake Boat Study Commission was crafted so that at least half its members represented the wake (ballast) boat industry, or who were themselves wake (ballast) boat enthusiasts. We view the fact that we came out of the process with a commission evenly split (7:7) on final legislative recommendations, a victory for our cause of clean and healthy lakes. The commission agreed on few things but the things it didn't concur on are still included in the report under the heading "No Consensus." So, the

report does include information about possible actions we can take to address the concerning impacts that wake (ballast) boats, in many instances, are having on the lakes of New Hampshire.

What is NH LAKES doing to address the known impacts of wake (ballast) boats on our lakes? We are:

- listening to our members and collaborating with our local association partners so we can move forward together.
- gathering data from around the country to learn about wake (ballast) boat problems and solutions in other places.
- researching practical, yet effective, means of decontaminating ballast water compartments to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.
- working with reputable, independent researchers to determine the horizontal distance and water depth that wake (ballast) boat wave energy need to travel before that wave energy is reduced to waves produced by other on-water activities.
- planning effective boater education programs and/or initiating legislation and changes in public policy that will reduce the concerning impacts wake (ballast) boats are having on our lakes.

It's Time to Take the Legislative Advocacy Survey!

Be on the lookout for a notification from NH LAKES in your email inbox to take our annual Legislative Advocacy Survey. This survey helps us set our priorities and strategies and will only be available to current NH LAKES members for whom we have an email address. Please weigh in on our legislative properties so that we can better represent you and our lakes at the State House. If you aren't a member yet, or your membership has lapsed, please join/renew today at tinyurl.com/NHLAKES-Join-Renew. If you have questions, or are a member but don't have an email on file with us, please contact us at members@nhlakes.org.

How Busy Have Our Lakes Been This Summer? Very.

by Krystal Costa Balanoff, Conservation Program Coordinator, NH LAKES

When Holly Martin, the Local Coordinator for the Lake Host Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program on Pleasant Lake in Deerfield/Northwood, looked at their group's running total of courtesy boat inspections conducted this past summer, Holly thought there was a mistake. At over 2,700 inspections in mid-July, and no increase in staffing with paid or volunteer Lake Host Inspectors, we realized it wasn't a mistake. The number of courtesy boat inspections performed by Lake Hosts at this relatively small lake really were way up in 2020!

New Hampshire boasts some of the best boating opportunities in the region (and possibly in the nation), so perhaps it's no surprise that lifelong and first-time boaters, who may have had a little more time on their hands during summer 2020 due to the pandemic, got out to enjoy the lakes more!

What is a courtesy boat inspection? During a courtesy boat inspection, Lake Hosts ask boaters a few questions to find out how much they know about aquatic invasive species, where they last launched their boat, and if they took the time to clean, drain, and dry their boat since the last waterbody. Lake Hosts then ask to show the boater how to check the boat and trailer for any hitchhiking plants or animals. During summer 2019, more than 15,000 boats arrived at a launch, which was protected by a Lake Host, directly after being in a waterbody infested with an aquatic invasive species. Lake Hosts removed 117 suspicious

plants and animals during these courtesy inspections. This is how the Lake Host Program works to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species which can have severe consequences on the health of our lakes and ponds, our enjoyment of these waters, and the local economy.

How busy is busy? My curiosity was killing me, so I reached out to Dee-Ann Decker, the Local Coordinator for the Lake Host Program on Pawtuckaway Lake, to hear her perspective. Dee-Ann practically laughed out loud when I posed the question "has your day-to-day boat traffic increased this summer?" She told me that Lake Hosts at the Fundy Cove launch on Pawtuckaway Lake were conducting 230 to 280 boat inspections a day. Lake Hosts on Pawtuckaway had inspected upwards of 3,000 more boats than they had last season. Lake Hosts will continue greeting boaters and performing courtesy boat inspections through October at Pawtuckaway!

Considering that it can take just one boat with a fragment of an invasive plant, or a few drops of water with a single invasive animal larva, being launched into a waterbody to cause a widespread infestation in a lake, this spike in boating activity is alarming. Thankfully, the Lake Host Program continued to operate at approximately 100 of the most highly-used boat ramps throughout the state to educate boaters about preventing the spread of aquatic invasive plants and animals!



Lake Host Krista Jameson inspecting a boat at the Fundy Cove boat launch on Pawtuckaway Lake.

As of Labor Day, Lake Hosts had captured invasive species trying to hitchhike into or out of the following waterbodies from boats that had not been properly cleaned, drained, and/or dried:

- Canaan Street Lake, Canaan
- Country Pond, Newton
- Crescent Lake, Acworth/Unity
- Great East Lake, Wakefield
- Lake Sunapee, Sunapee
- Lake Winnipesaukee, Moultonborough
- Little Sunapee, New London
- Mascoma Lake, Enfield/Lebanon
- Ossipee Lake, Ossipee
- Robinson Pond, Hudson
- Silver Lake, Chesham/Nelson

For more information on these 'saves' visit nhlakes.org/lake-host.

The One-Stop Shop for Year-Round Lake-Friendly Living Information

While NH LAKES has found that most property owners are not aware of how their actions affect the health of lakes, we have also found that property owners generally want to do the right thing to help keep the lakes they enjoy clean and healthy! But, where can you look to find the information you need to live in a more lake-friendly way? Our LakeSmart Program is working to bring free, voluntary, and non-regulatory assistance to property owners living on the lake, or miles from it, who are looking to adopt lake-friendly living practices.

Knowing where to find reliable and accurate information to help you with LakeSmart lake-friendly living projects on your property and in your home

can be daunting. That's why we've compiled a resource library to help you along the way! Our resource library brings together the science and information from experts, state agencies, and our local partners, all in one place. You will also find information on professionals to work with on your landscaping project, septic maintenance project, and more that you can trust to uphold the highest standard of excellence and follow the latest science in their field.

Visit nhlakes.org/lakesmart or email lakesmart@nhlakes.org for more information and to learn how LakeSmart is helping to ensure future generations inherit a healthy lake.



Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES Conservation Program Assistant (left), and Krystal Costa Balanoff, NH LAKES Conservation Program Coordinator (right), enjoying a LakeSmart visit on Silver Lake in Madison, New Hampshire.

NH LAKES Education Efforts Go Virtual

NH LAKES switched things up this past summer! Instead of being out in the community educating people about the effects of runoff water through our Watershed Warrior program or sharing the in-person learning experience through our annual Lakes Congress, we offered several virtual learning experiences. Throughout June, July, and August, we offered three webinar series, "Working for Clean and Healthy Lakes," "Lake-Friendly Living," and "Ecology and Management of New Hampshire's Lakes."

These webinars were free and allowed participants to learn about topics such as cyanobacteria, lake-friendly landscaping, loon monitoring and recovery, managing recreational safety, and so much more, from the comfort and safety of their own homes! We're extremely thankful to

our partners and the experts who helped us provide these informational sessions to our members and the public during a time when in-person workshops just weren't an option.

And, there's more to come! Because our attendees told us how much they enjoyed and learned from these webinar discussions, and how easy they were to attend, we will be offering at least one webinar each month from now until next spring. If you have an idea for a webinar, please share it with Erin Mastine, Outreach Program Coordinator, at emastine@nhlakes.org.

If you weren't able to attend these webinars or want to share them with a friend or colleague, visit our website at nhlakes.org/article-library to see the slides and watch the recordings.

New Monthly Webinar Series Starting in October!

"Exploring Lakes with NH LAKES" will start on Wed. October 7, with "Lakes in Autumn." Visit nhlakes.org/explore-lakes-webinars to learn more about this new monthly series!



NHDES Releases 2020 Lake Trend Report

by Kirsten Nelson, Aquatic Ecologist, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

Did you hear? The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) released a first-of-its kind lake trend report this past summer! The New Hampshire Lake Trend Report: Status and trends of water quality indicators, published in June 2020, examines and summarizes the change in twelve water quality parameters measured in New Hampshire's lakes over the past ten or more years.

Data included in this report were collected from one-hundred-fifty lakes and ponds for ten or more years from 1991 to 2018. A majority of the data were contributed by the NHDES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program to evaluate waterbody condition. Data were analyzed to examine current conditions, long-term trends, and short-term changes for individual waterbodies as well as by trophic class and region.

Trend analyses revealed that some water quality parameters are experiencing greater changes than others. These changes included the following:

- Alkalinity (buffering capacity) and specific conductance (water's ability to conduct electricity) showed the greatest increases for individual waterbodies, while total phosphorus levels (the limiting nutrient for plant and algal growth in our lakes) were largely unchanged.
- Mesotrophic (moderate biological activity) and oligotrophic (low biological activity) lakes showed an overall decrease in Secchi depth (a measurement of water clarity) and an increase in water temperature at one meter from the surface.
- Chlorophyll-a concentration (a measure of algal abundance)

decreased in approximately 10% of waterbodies.

- Increases were found in the number of days beaches were closed due to elevated bacteria levels and the total number of toxic cyanobacteria advisories issued.
- The timing of ice-out on waterbodies decreased (occurred earlier in the spring).
- The number of waterbodies with an invasive aquatic plant increased.

What is driving these changes in water quality? A recent phenomenon described in the Northeast is 'lake browning,' a process that is currently being studied by scientific communities. Lake browning describes increases in dissolved organic carbon, making lake water appear more tea-colored or dark, and is partially attributed to recovery from acid rain. The reduction of acid-causing atmospheric pollutants has been found to mobilize organic matter from forests to waterbodies. However, lake browning may also be linked to the more severe storms and increased rainfall that the Northeast has experienced in recent decades, with wetter weather and flashier storms potentially flushing more organic matter out of forests. It is likely both acid rain recovery and climate change are playing a role in causing lake browning, and this darker water is thought to be a driver in decreasing Secchi depth, increasing water temperature (darker water heats up faster), and decreasing chlorophyll-a concentration (darker water blocks sunlight from penetrating as deeply into the water column).

The use of de-icing agents, primarily in the form of road salt, is also causing water quality changes. While not a direct measure of salt, specific

conductance is highly influenced by the ability of salt to conduct electricity. Road salt is often the same chemical composition as table salt—a combination of sodium and chloride. In high enough concentrations, chloride can be toxic to aquatic life. Each winter, millions of metric tons of road salt are used annually to improve road and walkway conditions, and this salt usage has been linked to increasing chloride levels throughout the Northeast. The increases in long-term and short-term specific conductance trends signals this water quality parameter is being influenced on a wide scale and is continuing to change.

NHDES will continue to monitor New Hampshire's surface waters and is planning to update this report on a five-year time scale. To read the summary report, visit des.nh.gov, and in the search box in the top right hand corner of the home page, type in "2020 Lake Trend Report."



Annual Father's Day Fishing Trip Exposes Real Threat to New Hampshire's Lakes

by Erin Mastine, Outreach Program Coordinator, NH LAKES

Sometimes we take for granted how clean and beautiful our lakes are here in New Hampshire. And, sometimes the real threat of aquatic invasive species affecting our lakes hits a little too close to home.

My husband and his family have been fishing the Lake Champlain Father's Day fishing derby for over fifteen years. Shortly after he returned to New Hampshire from Vermont this past spring, I shared with him the news of fishhook water flea sightings in Lake Champlain. Sure enough, they all had experienced their fishing gear being covered by these critters! They had to cut their lines several times because they were so thick, they couldn't reel them up.



Multiple spiny waterflea on a fishing line.

The fishhook waterflea threatens lake ecosystems by outcompeting native fish for food—it is an aggressive predator of plankton. Scientists first noted fishhook waterflea (*Cercopagis pengoi*) in Lake Champlain in summer 2018. The species is the 51st known aquatic nonnative, invasive species in Lake Champlain.

The fishhook waterflea is a native of Eurasia. It arrived in the Great Lakes in ballast water of cargo ships traveling from Europe and Asia in the 1980s and then spread to other waterbodies. It likely arrived in Lake Champlain by hitchhiking overland on recreational boats, trailers, fishing lines, and other equipment.

My husband's family, knowing that Lake Champlain is home to many invasive species, always practices Clean, Drain, and Dry before putting their boats and gear back in New Hampshire's lakes. But the news that the fishhook waterflea eggs are resistant to drying was even more worrisome. After further inspection, some of their fishing gear had some dried animal matter on them!



Steve Mastine holds his catch from the Lake Champlain fishing derby.

Additional cleaning was done to protect our lakes here in New Hampshire.

The thought of our lakes being infested with these aquatic invasive animals is too horrible to imagine. If you fish, or your friends or family fish, please let them know how important it is to always Clean, Drain, and Dry their boats, trailers, and gear—including fishing line!

The CD3 Tackles the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species Statewide!

This past summer, Tom O'Brien, NH LAKES President and Policy Advocate, traveled throughout the state bringing the CD3 waterless watercraft cleaning unit to 17 public boat ramps. It can take just one boat with a fragment of an invasive plant, or a boat with a few drops of water trapped in a livewell with a single invasive animal larva, being launched into a waterbody to cause a widespread problem in a lake. If you would like to learn more about the CD3, or request a visit to your local ramp, visit nhlakes.org/ais-best-tech/.



Tom O'Brien, NH LAKES President and Policy Advocate, with the CD3 watercraft cleaning unit at Lake Francis in Pittsburg, New Hampshire.

A Note from Our Treasurer

Dear NH LAKES Members,

I sincerely enjoy volunteering my time as the Treasurer of NH LAKES. In this role, I help guide and oversee the financial management of the organization. Together with my fellow board of directors and the work they do, we ensure that the NH LAKES staff has the resources and guidance they need to do the work our members and donors have asked us to do for clean and healthy lakes.

Every year, we contract with an accounting firm to conduct an audit of our financial statements to ensure we are complying with generally accepted accounting principles. We have completed the audit for our most recent fiscal year (FY20) that ended on March 31, 2020. With this note, I am providing a summary table showing how our recently completed fiscal year compared to the previous fiscal year (FY19 that ended on March 31, 2019). I'd like to highlight just a few things for you.

- FY20 was the second full year of programmatic growth funded by the Campaign for New Hampshire Lakes. This planned growth has expanded the organization's programs and staff, increasing our ability to respond to the growing threats New Hampshire's lakes face.
- Overall, income was down by 5% in FY20 due to a one-time special project funded by outside sources in FY19. Other than that, income from Dues & Contributions and Grants kept pace with FY19.
- The most notable variation in FY20 compared to FY19 was the increase in program services described above.

Keep Your Group in Good Standing!

Nonprofit Reports are due by December 31. Every five years, nonprofit organizations in New Hampshire are required to file a simple report with the New Hampshire Secretary of State and pay a \$25 fee. This year, 2020, is one of those years.

To complete the 2020 Nonprofit Report, you will need the nonprofit's principal address and names and addresses of all the officers and directors or the governing board.

You can file your group's five-year report online by visiting the Secretary of State website at quickstart.sos.nh.gov. Reports and filing fees are due before December 31, 2020. Visit quickstart.sos.nh.gov for more information.

In FY20, NH LAKES piloted the new LakeSmart program and brought on two AmeriCorps members to help deliver that program and present the Watershed Warriors program in communities throughout the state.

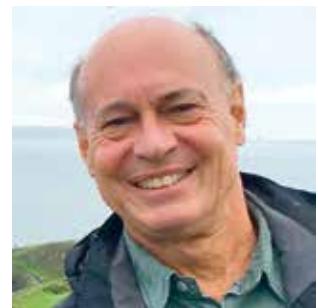
- The other item to note is the \$12,000 increase in Fundraising Expenses. With this investment, NH LAKES has brought on coaches who have provided the board and staff with the tools they need to build an engaged philanthropic community committed to investing in lake conservation in New Hampshire.

If you are interested in learning more about the organization's financials, I encourage you to visit our website at nhlakes.org/annual-reports. If you have questions, please reach out to Martha Lovejoy, our Director of Finance and Development, at mlovejoy@nhlakes.org or 603.226.0299.

Thank you for supporting our mission of clean and healthy lakes!

With appreciation,

Bruce Freeman, Treasurer
NH LAKES Board of Directors



NH LAKES Audited Financial Summary

For fiscal years ending March 31, 2020 and March 31, 2019

	Fiscal Year 2020 USD	Fiscal Year 2019 USD
INCOME		
Dues & Contributions	300,054	297,774
Grants	696,865	698,028
Other - Program	41,178	94,410
Total Income	1,038,097	1,090,212
EXPENSES		
Program Services	936,474	859,578
Management & General	180,878	194,687
Fundraising Expenses	68,206	56,289
Total Expenses	1,185,558	1,110,554

Membership Matters

New Members: June 15, 2020 – September 10, 2020

Individuals

Elizabeth Abbe
Melissa Aho-Rice
Christine and George Bachrach
Steve Bailey
Walter W. Belfield
Sue Berry
John and Michelle Bisack
Dave Blanchette
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Welcome aboard, Michelle!



Michelle Davis

instructor in Pennsylvania, Colorado, and Alaska, and as a Program Coordinator at the Hulbert Outdoor Center in Fairlee, Vermont.

Michelle holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Wilderness Education from the State University of New York at Potsdam and a Master of Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School. While studying at Vermont Law, Michelle volunteered with a local planning commission to support conservation commissions' efforts

We're excited to welcome Michelle Davis as the Advocacy Program Coordinator to NH LAKES! She brings a desire to support NH LAKES' efforts to preserve the waters of New Hampshire through community building and policy-based action. She worked to instill her appreciation and stewardship of the outdoors with others during eight years as an outdoor and environmental education

to protect public resources. In her free time, Michelle enjoys hiking, camping, and swimming with her partner and their two dogs. If she could only eat one food for the rest of her life, it would be cheese!

Welcome, Soren!



Soren Denlinger

help ensure the protection of New Hampshire's lakes and ponds for years to come.

Out of the office, Soren enjoys hiking (on- and off-trail), kayaking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, and camping. On rainy days, he can be found reading, baking, or curling.

Soren joined the NH LAKES team over the summer as the Development Assistant. He graduated from Colby College in 2020 with a B.A. in environmental computation and geoscience. Before joining NH LAKES, he worked at the Blue Hill Heritage Trust and the Colby Forest Ecosystems Lab, helping to preserve natural spaces across northern New England. Currently, he is excited to