



LAKESIDE

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF NH LAKES-WINTER 2022

Your Support Gives Our Lakes a Voice A New Bill Could Change Our Lakes for the Better

Like you, Representative Rosemarie Rung knows our lakes can't take care of themselves. That's why she introduced House Bill 1066 (HB1066) to the New Hampshire Legislature on January 12. This bill would establish a commission to study the impacts of toxic cyanobacteria blooms in New Hampshire's lakes and recommend solutions to this urgent, and increasing, problem.

Rosemarie found it alarming when a toxic cyanobacteria bloom appeared in her formerly pristine lake. Last summer, Lake Kanasatka experienced a toxic cyanobacteria bloom. Residents around the lake were getting sick, dogs were getting sick, and tragically, she believes, one dog died. "I felt like I had to do something," Rosemarie explained. "I wanted to start the study commission to bring the best minds in the state together to think about this problem strategically."

Rosemarie has owned a seasonal home on Lake Kanasatka for seven years. Her in-laws always wanted a place at the lake but never took that step. So, when their estate settled, she decided to do something Pa and Grammy would have loved. "Every waterfront is special, there's something peaceful about lakes, and the sound of water is meditative," Rosemarie shared. "I want to preserve those opportunities for everyone."

"It's scary. People can be swimming in a lake with a cyanobacteria bloom and not know about it or about the risks," said Rosemarie. "We need more widespread alerts and education so the public understands. This bill will provide that."



Representative Rosemarie Rung urges you to reach out to your representatives.

"It's a positive experience to be on the water and it makes me shudder to think that experience could make someone ill. I ran for state office to make a difference for others, to make sure all New Hampshire lakes are safe and enjoyable for future generations."

Not only are our lakes beautiful, they bring in billions of dollars to the state. If we don't protect them, we lose that income. "What are we as a state if we can't protect our valuable natural resources?" Rosemarie commented.

You can give your lake a voice at the State Legislature for this urgent problem.

Representative Rung urges you to speak to your representatives in support of HB1066. "As a state legislator, I appreciate calls from my constituents to keep my finger on the pulse of what's important to people living in the state. Legislators can't know everything about every subject." Our lakes are relying on members of the NH LAKES community, like you, to call their representative today. "It is so important!"

The NH LAKES community is becoming an increasingly influential voice for lake health at the State House. And, HB1066 is just one piece of legislation this session NH LAKES is calling for everyone to lean in on. If the rise in toxic cyanobacteria blooms in our fragile lakes concerns you, you can make a difference! Visit the legislature's website (learn how in the box below) and then send an email or letter of support, and/or speak at a public hearing when the time comes. And, make sure you are signed up to receive the NH LAKES Advocacy Alert to know when it's time to act on HB1066 and other bills in support of clean and healthy lakes. Sign up at nhlakes.org/e-news.

Find the Status of HB1066

Find the status of HB1066 as well as others at tinyurl.com/NHLRS

Then, find out who your legislator is and reach out! tinyurl.com/NHlegislator

Header - Lake Kanasatka (Photo Credit: Kevin Kelly).

Working for clean and healthy lakes



Together, We're Rescuing Our Lakes

Thanks to you, our lakes have a growing network of people throughout the state stepping up to keep them clean and healthy. As 2022 kicks off, this statewide community is the largest it has ever been. Why now? Why, when so much is going on in the world, why are so many people stepping up for our lakes?

Because, more and more people—people like you—are discovering how important the lake is to them and their family. With the pandemic, families have spent more time at the lake, and new families have moved to the lake. At the same time, many are discovering that our lakes can't be taken for granted anymore. Last year, a record number of public health advisories were issued for toxic cyanobacteria in our lakes. People throughout the state—maybe even you and your family—were told to avoid wading or swimming in the water. And, to keep the dog out, too.

Whether you are new to our community, or have been on board for decades, and whether you are a long-time supporter that gave a gift to grow the Healthy Lakes Forever Matching Fund, or you are a new supporter that gave a year-end gift for the first time to get the match—thank you.

I'm optimistic about what we can do together during the coming months to change the concerning trajectory many of our beloved lakes are on. As Margaret J. Wheatley, American writer, teacher, and management consultant wrote, "There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

You have the power to make lake-friendly living the norm in New Hampshire, to make your voice heard at the State House, to spread the word to others, and so much more. Your favorite lake—and all our 1,000 lakes—thank you for being part of this growing and knowledgeable community.

Thank you.

Andrea LaMoreaux
President

You Can be a Lake Keeper and Protect Our Lakes

Lake Keepers are special people, just like you, who keep New Hampshire's lakes clean and healthy by making monthly donations. This February, there is a special Lake Keeper challenge: A \$5,000 Challenge Grant! You can help NH LAKES receive this \$5,000 Challenge Grant if YOU and 49 others sign up to be Lake Keepers by February 28.

And, there are prizes for YOU! All Lake Keepers will be entered into drawings every week throughout February. Prizes include mugs, wine glasses, t-shirts, and a grand prize! NH LAKES also has a special gift for you, just for signing up to be a Lake Keeper today. Visit nhlakes.org/lakekeepers for more information.



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

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!

Team Up with Grappone for Clean & Healthy Lakes

Grappone Automotive Group has been a longtime supporter of NH LAKES. They have set themselves apart as a responsible corporate investor in New Hampshire's environment. So, it's no surprise many NH LAKES supporters also choose Grappone when looking for a new or used vehicle.

Paul Guyre recently purchased a truck from Grappone. "Having a truck has made it easy to carry everything from kayaks and paddle boards to snow blowers. Four-wheel drive enables me to drive on my woodland ski trails to remove downed trees. Also, when a team of 8th graders removed a lot of Japanese knotweed along the brook that

borders my property, with the truck I was able to move it all to a high and dry



Paul Guyre has invested in clean and healthy lakes by supporting Grappone.

place where it is rotting and not spreading," Paul explained. "While other dealers are closer to where I live, Grappone's support for NH LAKES puts them at the top of my list."

And, not only has Paul invested in clean and healthy by supporting Grappone, he has also donated two of his old vehicles to NH LAKES, and you can too! Find out how by visiting nhlakes.careasy.org or calling 855.500.RIDE(7433).

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Our Lakes Need Your Support at the State House

Through our 29+ year history of advocating for New Hampshire's 1,000 lakes—including your favorite lake(s)—NH LAKES has helped to initiate, enhance, and refine state laws and public policies for clean and healthy lakes. This has only been possible with YOUR guidance, support, and action.

Nearly 1,000 bills have been proposed for the 2022 New Hampshire Legislative Session. To learn about some of the many bills NH LAKES is tracking this session visit nhlakes.org/nh-legislature-2022. And, to stay up to date throughout the session, be sure you are signed up for NH LAKES Advocacy Alert at nhlakes.org/e-news.



Your support can help stop dangerous cyanobacteria blooms like this one which was observed on Lake Kanasatka this past fall. (Photo Credit: Kevin Kelly)

You Are Changing Our Lakes for the Better – 5 Great Things Your Support Helped Make Happen in 2021

Thanks to your investment in New Hampshire's lakes:

- There are more boots on the ground. The NH LAKES Conservation Team has grown—we now have two Conservation Assistants!
- Lake-friendly living is becoming the norm in New Hampshire—93 LakeSmart site visits were conducted and 30 property owners achieved LakeSmart Award status.
- New Hampshire's lakes continue to have a frontline of defense against the spread of aquatic invasive species. During our 20th year of the program, Lake Hosts provided 90,000+ courtesy boat inspections at 101 boat ramps on 78 lakes.
- The public was invited to tune into sixteen different webinars from the comfort of their home through the "Explore Lakes with NH LAKES" webinar series. Sessions on how to keep the lake house in the family, boating safety, enjoying lakes while protecting wildlife, and more, are all archived and available for viewing on our website at nhlakes.org/explore-lakes-webinars.
- Our lakes have a louder voice at the State House—Michelle Davis, NH LAKES Policy and Advocacy Manager, is now full-time. She's not loud, but she's here to amplify your voice. Let her know you need a megaphone by sharing your concerns with her—just email mdavis@nhlakes.org or call 603.226.0299.

Your LakeSmart Projects are Saving Our Lakes From Toxic Cyanobacteria

Anne and Jim were barely settled into their newly acquired lakefront dream home two summers ago when they got the news—a toxic cyanobacteria bloom was occurring and the lake water was not safe to touch. “We originally bought a home on Lake Kanasatka because the water quality was pristine, but then it got progressively worse,” Anne told us. “For the past two years we haven’t been able to use the lake from August into the fall months.”



Anne and Jim O'Connor replaced their septic system to protect the lake.

Anne and Jim reached out to NH LAKES through the LakeSmart Lake-Friendly Living program to learn what they could do to help keep their lake healthy and safe for their grandchildren. Following a visit to their home, NH LAKES encouraged Anne and Jim to seek out a septic inspection from a licensed septic professional. The septic inspection revealed the system was in “complete failure” and a second abandoned tank was discovered in the process—still full of untreated waste that could

pollute the lake! Anne and Jim got to work and upgraded to a new state-of-the-art system, but they didn’t stop there. They upgraded walkways, installed erosion control measures along the road, stabilized the driveway, and planted a rain garden—all to keep runoff water out of the lake.

Anne and Jim’s story is extreme. Most LakeSmart participants are finding it much easier to live lake-friendly. But today, Anne and Jim have the comfort of knowing no polluted water is seeping from their property into the lake

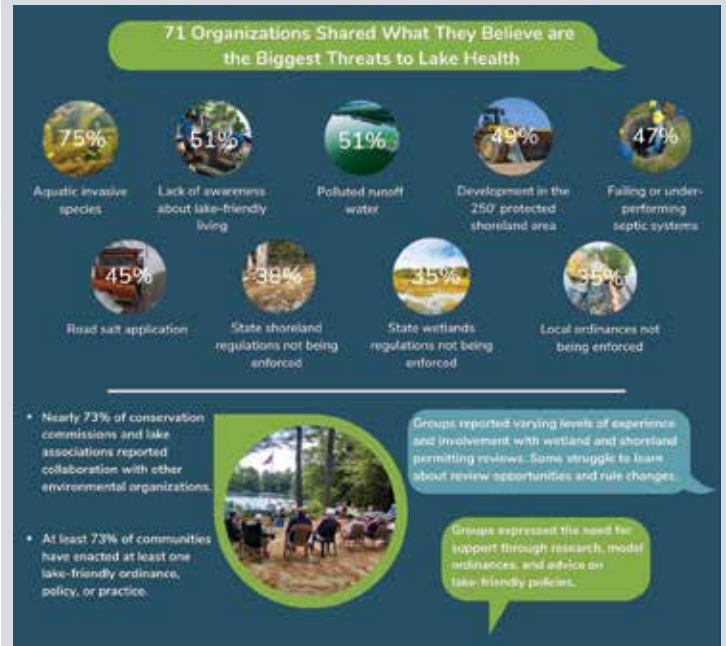
More and more people like Anne and Jim—and you—are listening to their lake. They—and you—know these toxic blooms are pleas for help from the lake. You can get started on your LakeSmart journey to keep our lakes clean and healthy today by taking the LakeSmart Survey at start.nhlakes.org. The survey is FREE and only takes a few minutes and you’ll instantly receive a tailored list of suggestions on what you can do to live more lake-friendly.

Together We’re Keeping Winni Blue

“We had a successful summer partnering with the Lake Winnepesaukee Association (LWA) through their Keep Winni Blue initiative,” commented Andrea LaMoreaux, NH LAKES President, looking back at 2021. “I’m so grateful to be working with LWA to keep our lakes clean and healthy. The challenges our lakes face requires we all work together and we’ll continue to join forces going forward.”

LWA’s exceptional Keep Winni Blue Crew offers LakeSmart visits on Lake Winnepesaukee, Wakondah Pond, Lake Kanasatka, Lees Pond, Garland Pond, and Berry Pond. Learn how you can “Keep Winni Blue” at winnepesaukee.org/take-action.

Your Conservation Commission and Lake Association Are Speaking... and We’re Taking Action!



This past fall, NH LAKES and the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions partnered on our annual Municipal Lake Issues Survey. We invited your conservation commission and the lake association at your favorite lake to tell us which lake management and conservation issues are most important to your community. And, we asked how NH LAKES can help.

We received over 70 responses from conservation commissions, lake associations, and other community groups! We look forward to working with them to help keep the lakes in your community clean and healthy.

See what we learned about threats to lake health and how communities are addressing them above.



NH LAKES and LWA visited six properties together this past summer.