



The State of Lake Advocacy in New Hampshire

NH LAKES' Lakes Congress
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Agenda



- NH LAKES core issues
- How NH LAKES advocates
- Overview of New Hampshire Legislature
- 2022 Legislative recap
- Lake Advocates Network
- How and when to advocate
- Questions



What are NH LAKES' core advocacy issues?



Aquatic Invasive
Species Prevention &
Management



Polluted Runoff
Water



Shoreland & Wetland
Protection



How does NH LAKES advocate for clean and healthy lakes?



- Lobbying
- Study commissions/standing committees
- Non-Profit Roundtables
- Municipal support
- Lake Advocates Network
- State Agency Rulemaking



About the New Hampshire Legislature



- 400 State Representatives
- 24 State Senators
- Governor and Executive Council
- “Citizen Legislature”
- 978 bills proposed in 2022



How a Bill Becomes a Law





2022 Legislative Summary





Shoreland and Wetland Protection:

- **HB 1227**, relative to the definition of prime wetland
- **HB 1454**, relative to permits for the siting of new landfills.





On-Water Uses:



- **HB 1220**, prohibiting the docking of houseboats on Perkins Pond in Sunapee
- **HB 1316**, directing the director of the state police to develop requirements for eFoil and electric hydrofoil surfboard watercraft
- **HB 1424**, relative to the speed limit for watercraft on Lake Winnepesaukee
- **HB 1528**, establishing a public boat access donation program for operators of non-motorized boats



HB 1071 relative to wake surfing:



- Would regulate the activity of wake surfing, not the boat
- A much larger, more powerful wave is needed to for wake surfing to ride the boat's wake without a tow rope.

University of Minnesota Wave Action Study and HB1071



- Studied wave energy- maximum height, total energy, and power of waves produced by four common recreational boats.
- Findings:
 - Larger, more energetic waves need to travel a greater distance to decrease in wave height, energy, and power.
 - **At least 500 feet are needed for wakesurfing waves to attenuate to reference boat waves.**



What is next?



- No political appetite for statewide legislation- so get creative!
- We are hoping for more data out that directly addresses wave impacts on shorelines and lake bottoms.
- Share your stories with NH LAKES, your legislators, and contact Marine Patrol with safety concerns.
- Continuing to work with partners nationwide.



Polluted Runoff Water



- **HB 1042**, requiring certain health advisory notices to be provided to renters of vacation or recreational rental units
- **HB 1066**, establishing a commission to investigate and analyze the environmental and human and animal health impacts relating to cyanobacteria blooms in NH waterbodies



HB 1066:



...requiring the commissioner of the department of environmental services to prepare a plan relative to cyanobacterial blooms in NH.



NH LAKES' Lake Advocates Network



Why do we need an advocacy network?



Legislators are persuaded by volume of calls/emails, turnout for legislative hearings, and legislative testimony.



Lake Advocates Network



Education &
Advocacy Training



Written/Verbal
Testimony Support



Municipal Level
Support



Join the Lake Advocates Network and give your favorite lake a voice at the State House!



- Take legislative action and learn how to be an effective advocate
- Represent your lake association, conservation commission, or local group
- Share advocacy opportunities with your community and grow a grassroots network!



You can give your favorite lake a voice whether or not you vote in NH!



Do you **pay taxes** in NH?

Do you **visit** NH and **spend** money here?

Do you **care about** clean and **healthy lakes**?



Ways to Advocate for your favorite lake



- Email or call your Legislators
- Testify at a public hearing
- Sign in for a bill remotely
- Join your local lake or watershed group, conservation commission, zoning or planning board, etc
- Write an OpEd or Letter to the Editor
- Sign up for Advocacy Alerts!



How do I know what's happening in the Legislature?



- New Hampshire General Court Website
 - Remote Sign In
- Contact a Representative or Senator
- House and Senate Calendars
- Bill Searches by bill number or by keyword
- Representatives Voting Records



Questions?
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