

# Agenda

Welcome and Agenda Overview

Quick Boyne/Pleasant Mountain Update

Report on Lake Health

• Lake Section Captain Initiative

CBI Activities and Boat Wash Stations

Lake Smart Program Reminder

Protecting the Moose Pond Watershed

No Wake Zones and Wake Wise Program

Member Communication and Newsletter Sponsors

Membership Health

Financial Health and Approved Budget

Board Nominations and Elections

Question and Answer Session

Chip Wendler

Pleasant Mountain's Ralph Lewis

LEA's Mary Jewett

Zach Clayton

Chip Wendler for Bill Monroe

Bill Dexter

Loon Echo Land Trust's Matt Markot

Scott Frame

Mark Patterson/Josh Harrington

Ruth Neagle

Laurie Vance

Chip Wendler

ΑII



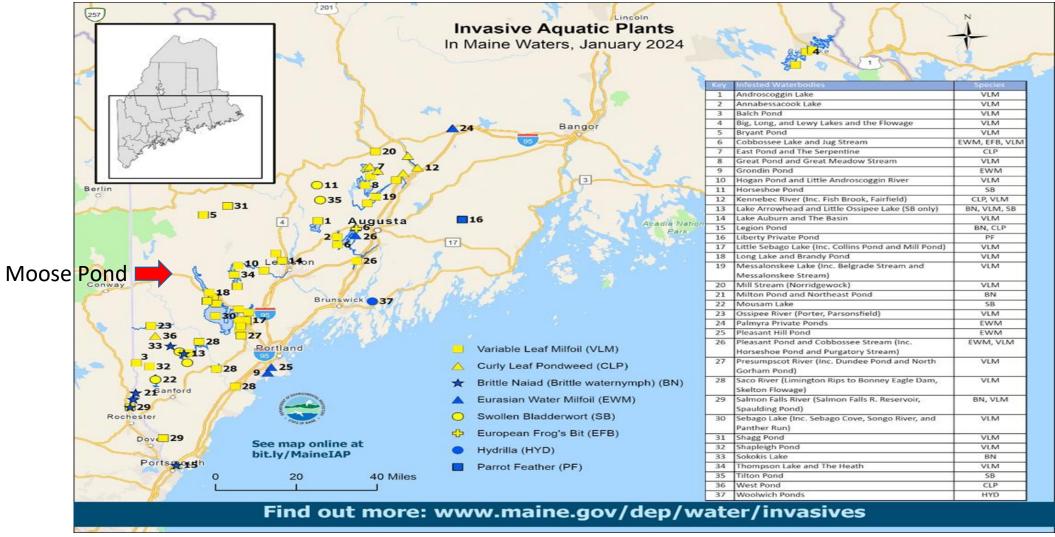
### **Board Nominations and Elections**

Board Member	Remaining Term (Years)	<b>Expiration Year</b>		
<ul> <li>Zach Clayton</li> </ul>	1	2026		
• Bill Dexter*	0	2025		
<ul> <li>Paul Dwyer*</li> </ul>	0	2025		
<ul> <li>Shawn Hagerty</li> </ul>	2	2027		
<ul> <li>Josh Harrington</li> </ul>	1	2026		
Scott Frame	1	2026		
Bill Monroe*	0	2025		
Bill Muir	0	Retiring		
<ul> <li>Anne Munstedt (Clerk)</li> </ul>	2	2027		
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* Will come again if asked				

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# **Thank You for Your Support!**



We are surrounded by "hot spots!" Prevention is <u>much cheaper</u> than remediation.



#### We Want to Avoid This Scenario!

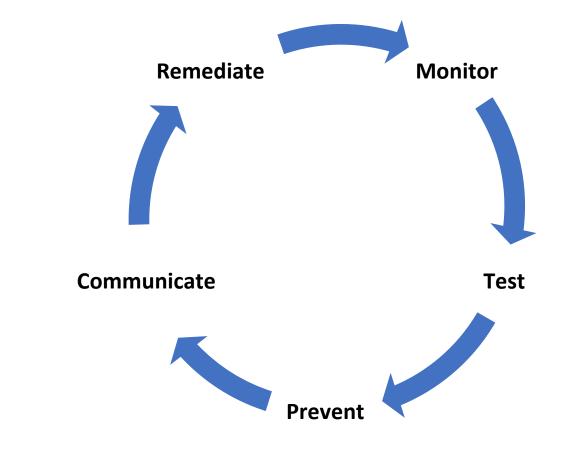


On July 7, 2022 Members of the MPA Board traveled with several LEA team members to visit Milfoil Infested Lake Arrowhead – only 36 miles from the shores of Moose Pond

- You cannot fish or swim near the shore line
- Property prices have fallen sharply
- They spend \$100,000 a year just to carve pathways through the milfoil from their docks to the open water



# The Virtuous Cycle of Protecting the Pond



#### YOUR DONATION DOLLARS HARD AT WORK!



# Thank You Boyne and Pleasant Mountain

- Boyne/Pleasant Mountain have generously decided to continue the support that MPA enjoyed during the Chet Homer/Shawnee Peak Years in terms of providing us with:
  - the space to hold our annual meeting
  - an annual donation
- \$25,000+ from the Chair Lift
   Auction Added to Our Emergency
   Reserve Fund
- Thank You Boyne and Ralph Lewis Pleasant Mountain's GM





# **Thank You Boyne and Pleasant Mountain**





# **Monitoring and Testing**

- LEA's Annual Invasive Plant Survey in Key "Hot Spots"
- MPA's Lake Section Captain Initiative = Shoreline Monitoring Program
  - End July Survey of Nearly the Entire Lake Shore
  - End September Survey of Nearly the Entire Lake Shore

- LEA's Summer Water Quality Testing
- LEA's Winter Water Quality Testing

Annual Loon Count



#### **Thank You LEA!**

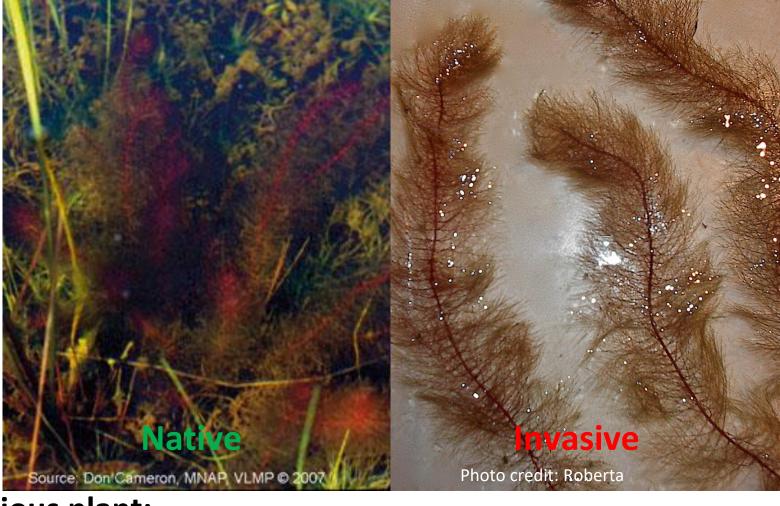
- LEA is an invaluable partner in the process of protecting your lake
- Your donations to MPA help to underwrite the costs associated with the CBI program, water testing and invasive survey work
- MPA strongly encourages you to support both organizations
- Thank you to the LEA team at for your support and partnership





# **Lake Health: Invasive Plants**

- Yes, Milfoil, but we are also facing threats from Brittle Naiad, Curly Leaf Pondweed, European Frogbit, Swollen Bladderwort & Hydrilla
- Native species can look similar to invasives
- If you see something suspicious, say something
- Results of LEA's annual spot check of Moose Pond



#### If you find a suspicious plant:

Take note of the time, date and specific location where you found it

Email a photo to: Submit sample photos to LEA through the Suspicious Plant form online. Address: <a href="https://mainelakes.org/invasives/plant-submission/">https://mainelakes.org/invasives/plant-submission/</a>

Harvest a sample (in Ziploc bag with lake water and keep refrigerated) and, if requested by LEA, bring sample to 230 Main Street, Bridgton (207-647-8580)



## Lake Health: Water Quality Monitoring

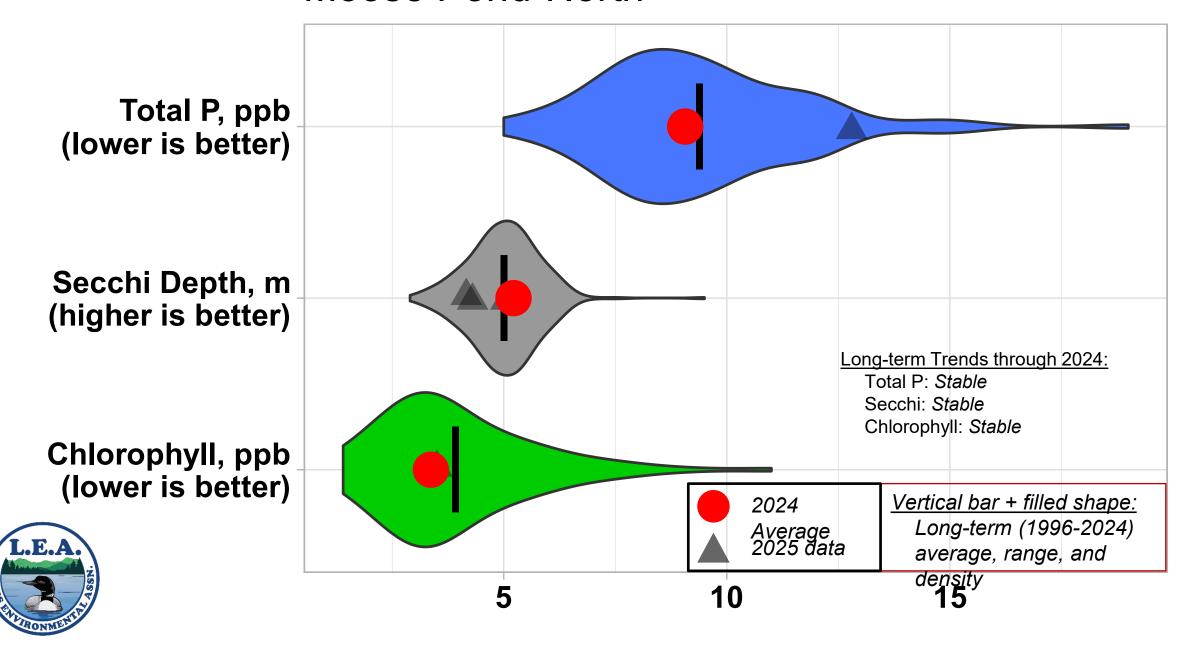
#### <u>In general:</u>

- For 2024, average phosphorus, water clarity (Secchi depth), and chlorophyll were lower than or very close to longterm average conditions.
- Long-term trends through 2024 were stable (no change) except for a slight decrease in clarity and increase in phosphorus in the south basin (<u>something to watch</u>) and decreasing chlorophyll in the main basin (which is good news).
- Available data for 2025 through early June: typical of early season conditions. So far, rainier than normal this year.

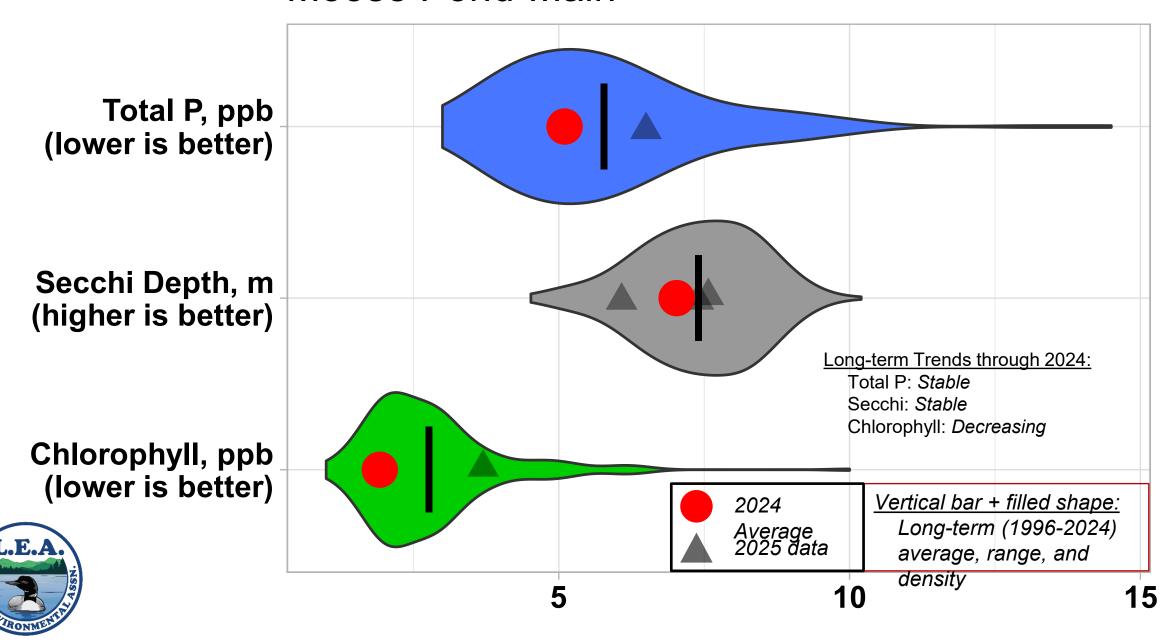




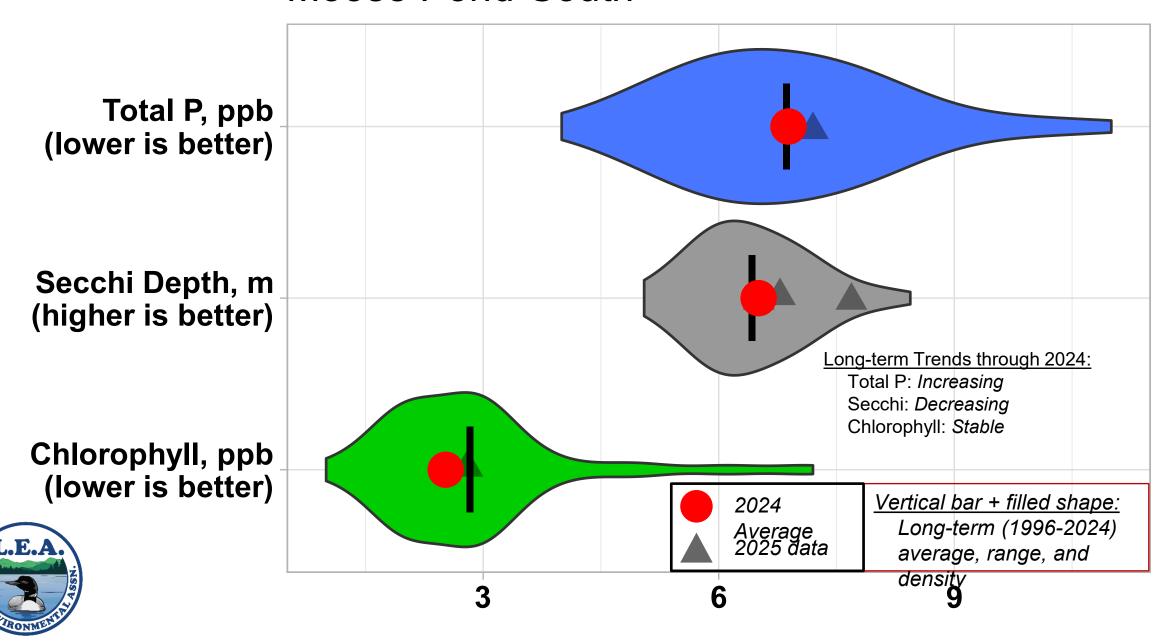
#### Moose Pond-North



#### Moose Pond-Main



#### Moose Pond-South



#### Lake Health: Winter and Algae Monitoring

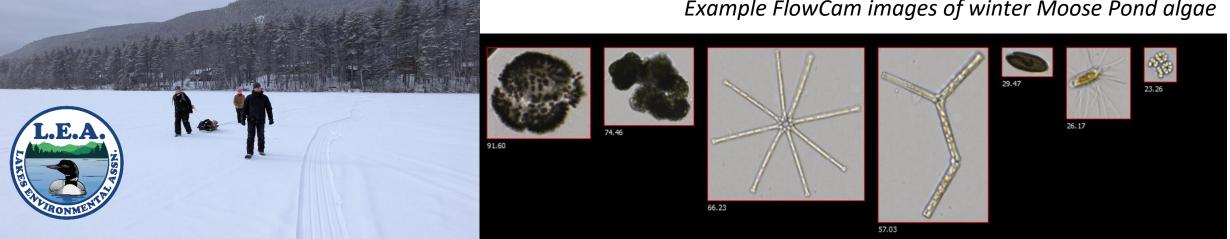
#### Winter:

- Fifth winter field season; two visits to main basin (Jan & March 2025).
- Typical temperature stratification; no bottom hypoxia.
- Secchi, phosphorus, and chlorophyll-a values were all within summer long-term ranges and near or below long-term averages.
- See: mainelakes.org/testing-reports/

#### Algae:

- Monthly samples collected and analyzed July - September 2024 in all three basins.
- Generally low densities of algae and cyanobacteria.
- Some potentially nuisance genera identified, but none at densities to cause concern.

Example FlowCam images of winter Moose Pond algae





#### The Loon Restoration Project on Moose Pond

#### <u>Updates</u>

- Artificial raft is still unused and is in a new location still within the south basin
- This year there are 2 territorial pairs in the south basin and 1 in the narrows
- This year, all known nests are in high traffic areas. 1 nest was located in an area exposed to boat wake

#### **Challenges**

- Monitoring efforts are limited to the south basin
- High water levels continue to be problematic for territorial pairs
- Boat wake and human intrusion also pose problems for known territorial pairs

#### **Next Steps**

- Continue to monitor known pairs
- Please share any loon nest locations that you know about
- Please consider monitoring loons on Moose Pond!



# MPA's Lake Section Captain Initiative

- Our key objective is to provide more thorough coverage of the lake above and beyond LEA's annual survey of potential hot spots (boat launch ramps, the north and south narrows and the neighborhood-related marinas)
- First full year of coverage in 2023 Many plants reported to LEA for closer inspection. In 2024 no invasive plants (or animals) were found
- Lake Section Captain's duties include:
  - Paddling "their" assigned section of the lake in July and September
  - Looking for suspicious plants along the shoreline
  - If suspicious plants (or animals) are identified
    - Take a picture and submit it to LEA at Submit sample photos to LEA through the Suspicious Plant form online. Address: <a href="https://mainelakes.org/invasives/plant-submission/">https://mainelakes.org/invasives/plant-submission/</a>
    - Note the time, date and location where the plant was harvested
    - Harvest a sample in a plastic bag filled with lake water and keep refridgerated
    - As requested by LEA (after the review the picture you have sent in) bring the sample in to I
    - Report your successful survey to Zach Clayton (the Captain of the Captains)

# **New for 2025 = Aquascopes**



- Carried by the Lake
   Section Captains in their
   "battle bags"
- Will allow for better viewing and identification of potential invasive plants



### MPA Lake Section Captains – Please Thank Them!

		Person Who Agreed to			Late July '25 Survey
Section	Location	Be a Section Captain	7/24 Done?	9/24 Done?	Completed?
1	North Basin Western Shore, Causeway to North End of Knights Hill	Richard Niedel	Yes	Yes	
2	Middle Basin Western Shore, Pencil Point to the 302 Causeway	Paul Dwyer	Yes	Yes	
3	Middle Basin Western Shore, Pencil Point to Wyo Point	Laurie Vance	Yes	Yes	
4	Middle Basin Western Shore, Wyo Point to Shawn's House	Ruth Neagle	Yes	Yes	
5	South Basin Western Shore, Big Island to Middle Basin Your House	Shawn Hagerty	Yes	Yes	
6	South Basin Western Shore, Snow Mobile Cut Thru to Big Island	Anne Munsteadt	Yes	Yes	
7	South Basin Western Shore, South Narrows to The Snow Mobile Cut Thru	Stephanie Scearce	Yes	Yes	
8	South Basin Western Shore, Dam to South Narrows	Chip Wendler	Yes	Yes	
9	South Basin Eastern Shore, South Narrows to the Dam	Mark Patterson	Yes	Yes	
10	South Basin Eastern Shore, Cygnet Rd to South Narrows	Wyonegonic	Yes	Yes	
11	South Basin, No Wake North of Narrows Bridge to Cynet Rd	Josh Harrington	Yes	Yes	
12	Middle Basin Eastern Shore, Party Cove to No Wake North of Narrows	Scott Frame	Yes	Yes	
13	Middle Basin Eastern Shore Green Roofed Winona Yurt to Party Cove	Bill Dexter	Yes	Yes	
14	Middle Basin Eastern Shore, 302 Ramp to Gren Roofed Winona Yurt	Zach Clayton	Yes	Yes	
<b>1</b> 5	North Basin Eastern Shore, 302 Causeway to North End of Cedar Drive	Bill Monroe	Yes	Yes	
16	Route 302 Causeway North and South Sides	Bill Dromeshauser	Yes	Yes	
17	North Basin Eastern Shore, North End of Cedar Drive to "Sweden Marina"	Randi Petter	Yes	Yes	



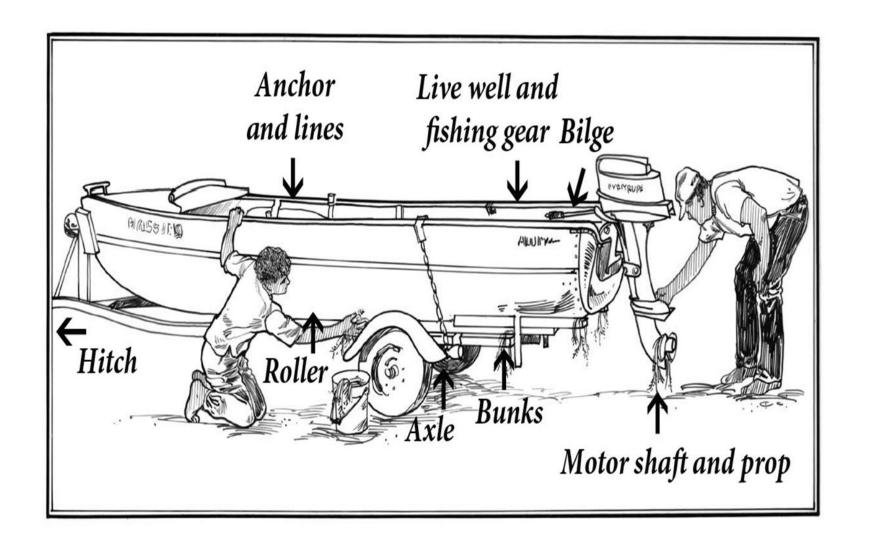
#### **Prevention**

- LEA's Courtesy Boat Inspector Program
- Two Boat Washing Stations
- MPA's WakeWise Campaign
- The LakeSmart Program
- Loon Echo's Land Preservation Efforts
- Bridgton's Mountain Road Culvert Revitalization Project



# **Courtesy Boat Inspector (CBI) Activities**

The CBIs are our first line of defense





# **Boat Inspections on Moose Pond**

- MPA partners with LEA to provide Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs) at the Route 302 and Denmark boat launch ramps
- In 2024, 1,935 inspections were performed and 45 fragments were found no invasives!
- We are always trying to build a back-up list of volunteer CBIs to fill gaps in the 2025 schedule, please add your name to our volunteer sign-up sheet if you are interested in helping out



#### **CBI Activities: 2025 Projected Hours and Days**

Total projected CBI Hours = 1,300

**Rt. 302 ramp (890 hours/89 Days)** May 24-26, June-weekends; July 1st – August 31st; September thru Oct.12th weekends plus the 1st (Labor Day ) all are 7AM to 5PM

**Denmark Ramp (410 hours/41 days)** May 24-26; June-weekends; July - Friday, Saturday and Sunday; August every Friday, Saturday and Sunday: plus September 1nd, all from 7AM to 5PM

Added hours in October compared to previous years



## **CBI Activities: Cost and Impact**

#### **Paid CBIs:**

- Total of 1,302 paid CBI hours per schedule
- Cost to cover the CBIs \$19/hr. X 1,302 = \$24,738
- CBIs are provided and managed by LEA and paid for by MPA Member Donations



#### **CBI Activities: DEP Cost Share Grant**

- MPA applied for \$5,000 DEP cost share grant and was awarded \$5,000 (\$170 more than 2024)
- DEP grant program funded 100% through milfoil sticker sales



#### **Boat Wash Stations**

- MPA is Responsible for Two Boat Wash Stations
  - One in West Bridgton at the Fire House on Rt. 302
  - The other in Denmark across from the Denmark Beach on Moose Pond
- Collins Plumbing and Heating (Bridgton)
   donates time and materials to open, close and
   maintain both wash stations.
- Please thank Collins Plumbing if you happen to use them!
- Bridgton Fire Chief also helped to facilitate the opening of the Route 302 wash station





#### LakeSmart: What we do

- Voluntary Program
- Free property inspection
- Suggestions to make your property lake friendly
- Education and NOT enforcement
- Matching funds available to help underwrite the cost of remediation
- LakeSmart Award Signs for qualifying Lake-Friendly properties







## LakeSmart: How we do it

- Prevent RUN-OFF!
  - Erosion control mix
  - Drip lines
  - Rain gardens
  - Divert storm water
  - Vegetation







# LakeSmart: The difference it will make to Moose Pond Over Time

Prevent this...



...to prevent this!



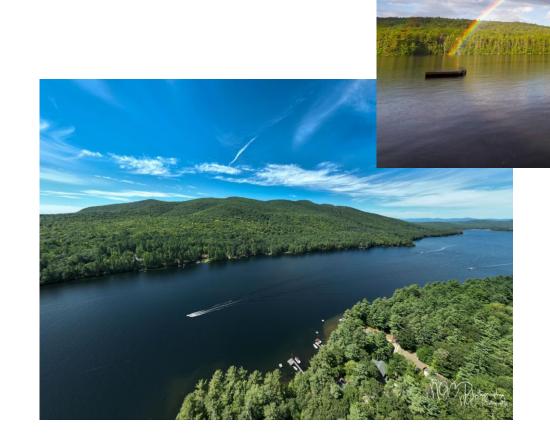


# LakeSmart: The difference it will make

to Moose Pond Over Time

So we all can enjoy this...

Pics thanks to Nancy Murphy Campbell!!





# LakeSmart: How you can help

- Employ Best Management Practices to...
   Prevent Run-Off!!
- All BMPs:
  - Stabilize soil
  - Infiltrate storm water
  - Divert storm water
  - Extract nutrients

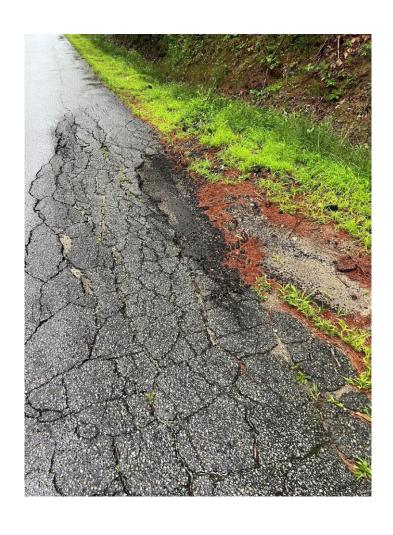
How to move toward best practices?

 Contact Bill Dexter (207-232-0726, dexathome@gmail.com) to set up a free, no hassle, property evaluation





## **Mountain Road Culvert Remediation Project**



- LEA's Colin Holme has reviewed the plan and thinks the proposed fixes are a "gigantic improvement" vs. the current situation
- Six crossings are proposed for replacement and/or upgrading
- The project is currently out to bid
- It will be expensive to execute
- LEA is trying to cultivate foundation support to make sure the proposed fixes will be fully implemented



#### Loon Echo Land Trust



- Land conservation and outdoor recreation access in the Lake Region
- Accept donations of and fundraise to purchase land and conservation easements
- Placing making, e.g. Peabody-Fitch Woods, Pondicherry Park
- Community supported non-profit since 1987
- 9,300 acres conserved Pleasant Mountain, Bald Pate, Hacker's Hill
- Staff of 6, office on Depot St. in Bridgton



#### Pleasant Mountain Preserve

- Over 2,000 acres protected on Pleasant Mountain,
   ~75% within the Moose Pond watershed
- 10-mile trail system
- Efforts began in 2002, over \$2 million raised, supported by many Moose Pond landowners
- Since then, over \$200k invested in trails and parking to control erosion, reduce impact on neighbors, and accommodate the public
- An additional \$100k will be invested in 2026-27





# Forest Conservation and Water Quality



- Healthy forests protect water quality
- Support for conservation protects lake and stream health for Moose Pond and beyond (downstream)
- Degraded watersheds are more expensive to repair
- Investments in watershed forest conservation pay off: property values, ecosystem function, community well-being.



# Building a conservation community



- Conservation is about ecosystems and people & communities.
- Values behaviors outcomes
- Public access to conserved lands builds a culture of care for environment.
- Get involved: donate, spread the word, volunteer and show up.
- Stay connected: Lelt.org,
   @loonecholandtrust





# No Wake Zones <u>and</u> Wake Wise Reminder



- Wakes matter!
- Please be mindful of the impact that your wake has on shoreline erosion, other boaters and wildlife nesting grounds
- If you live in a neighborhood with a common dock area, we would like you to get permission from your neighborhood/road association to post a Wake Wise sign near the marina's common entry point
- Wake Wise Bumper Stickers Please take one (or more) and post them with pride
- Please help us teach others to be Wake Wise



#### **Member Communication**

- Historic member communication:
  - Annual solicitation letters to the 900+ residents that live in and around the lake
  - Thank you/tax letters to our generous donors
  - This annual meeting
  - Meetings with neighborhood and road associations
  - Our annual fall/winter newsletter Moose Pond Matters
  - The Moose Pond Association Facebook site
  - The Moose Pond For Sale or Rent Facebook Site
  - The MPA Web Site
  - Word of mouth



#### **Moose Pond Matters – Please Thank Our Sponsors**





For all your Real Estate needs in the Lakes Region, Lakeside to Trailside, call Mick Early.

> 207.205.0345 Mick@MaineLakes.com







Thoughts for additional sponsors for 2025 please contact John Harrington at 207-256-9766



# **Membership Health Report**

- We received +/- 290 donor transactions in 2024 versus +/- 270 in 2023 and +/- 260 in 2022. Things are moving in the right direction but...
- +/- 290 members is still less than 1/3 of the 900 properties around the lake
- Please promote MPA membership with your neighbors and mention the importance of the MPA's efforts at your neighborhood association meetings (we'd be happy to make a brief presentation at those meetings if helpful)
- Broader membership would allow us to:
  - Pay for more CBI hours
  - Co-fund larger projects that will help prevent unhelpful run-off from entering the lake
  - Increase the size of the emergency response fund that we have established to combat an unexpected milfoil (or other invasive plant) infestation

# **Financial Health Report**

- In 2024 we received donations of \$46.3K versus \$46.7 in 2023 and so down slightly even though the number of transactions was higher
- Nancy Campbell's Scenes of Moose Pond calendar sales netted \$1,400 for the MPA in 2024 (vs. \$1,000 in 2023) and selling the calendar is a nice way to make more people aware of the MPA's pond protection activities
- Our largest expenditures are:
  - The CBI program (+/- \$22.5K)
  - Payments to LEA for surveys, monitoring and general support (+/- \$8K)
    - We use LEA resources beyond surveys and monitoring and encourage everyone to donate to them directly, as well as MPA, and take advantage of their programs. They are a key resource for us.
  - Membership communication including the website, newsletter and mailings (+/- \$8K)
- We have a cash reserve of +/- \$135K which we are maintaining for two reasons:
  - If we have a milfoil and/or another invasive plant infestation in Moose Pond, we want to take quick action to remediate it
  - We offer matching funds (\$1 for \$1 up to \$1000) to lakeside homeowners who under the direction of LEA/LakeSmart – would like to take action to prevent troublesome run-off from exiting their land into the lake but can't afford to pay for it all themselves



# **Approved Budget for 2025**

				2025			<b>D</b>	4 6 Dr1	
		2025			Percent of Budget				
INCOME	В	UDGET		2024 BUDGET FIGURES	202	ference vs. 24 BUDGET FIGURES	2025	2024	2023
MEMBERSHIPS	\$	46,500	\$	45,000	\$	1,500	78.2%	79.6%	78.1%
Donations in Kind	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
MPM Add Revenue	\$	2,000	\$	-	\$	2,000	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Hat/Shirt Sales/Amazon	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Calendars	\$	6,000	\$	6,500	\$	(500)	10.1%	11.5%	12.8%
CBI Grant From DEP	\$	5,000	\$	5,000	\$	-	8.4%	8.8%	9.1%
TOTAL Receipts	\$	59,500	\$	56,500	\$	3,000	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
EXPENSES	В	UDGET		2024 BUDGET FIGURES	202	ference vs. 24 BUDGET FIGURES	2025	2024	2023
COURTESY BOAT INSPECTORS	\$	24,000	\$	22,000	\$	2,000	40.3%	38.9%	43.8%
LEA Moose Pond Survey & monitoring	\$	6,000	\$	6,000	\$	-	10.1%	10.6%	10.7%
LEA Support	\$	3,000	\$	2,500	\$	500	5.0%	4.4%	3.8%
Wash Stations/Ramp Maintenance	\$	500	\$	500	\$	-	0.8%	0.9%	0.6%
Bloomerang	\$	2,300	\$	2,000	\$	300	3.9%	3.5%	3.0%
Website Services/MPA Newsletter	\$	2,750	\$	2,750	\$	-	4.6%	4.9%	5.7%
Calendar cost & profit share	\$	4,500	\$	5,500	\$	(1,000)	7.6%	9.7%	6.7%
Brochure/Signs/Mailings	\$	3,250	\$	1,750	\$	1,500	5.5%	3.1%	2.9%
	\$	3,200	\$	3,500	\$	(300)	5.4%	6.2%	3.8%
Paypal/Bloom, Tax, Legal Fees, Match	Ψ	-,							
Paypal/Bloom, Tax, Legal Fees, Match Emergency Reserve Fund	\$	10,000	\$	10,000	\$	-	16.8%	17.7%	19.0%





## **Leveraging Your Caring and Generosity**

- We are using the extra donations we receive in several important ways including:
  - Increasing the number of CBI days and hours at the Route 302 Boat Launch
  - Paying for increased LEA monitoring and testing
  - Making more matching funds available to lakefront Moose Pond property owners who might need them to execute lake-friendly remediation projects as suggested by LakeSmart and/or LEA
  - Building up an Emergency Reserve Fund so that the MPA can pay for the rapid remediation of an invasive plant infestation site if (when!) we discover one

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