

Winchendon Springs Lake Association - Summer 2015

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Members,

Let's start off the year on the right foot and not talk about winter as I am personally very happy it's now behind us!!! I want to first start off by saying thank you to all the people on the lake association board for getting all the wonderful things done last year.

It's time to get the stuff done to make this Summer Great! We have lots to do and only a short window to get it done this summer. Some of the plans this summer will again be the cook out, summer meeting, tag sale, and maybe a Pot Luck Dinner.

As you open your homes for the summer and start inviting guests to the lake check those smoke detectors and change the batteries.

Our website – www.WSLA.com and Facebook page -- is all new and ready for use! Please use the new site to pay your dues, check out upcoming activities on the Lake, post pictures, post items for sale, check out the deals we have negotiated with local stores/vendors (available only to dues paying lake association members), and more.

In addition as you go around the lake please make yourself aware of the rules and the buoys as they are there for the protection of all.

Let's have a great safe summer!!!! Thank You
Michael Venoit
Venoit@sbcglobal.net

FIREWORKS: PRETTY BUT DAMAGING TO OUR LAKE

We all enjoy fireworks displays over the lake as we celebrate the Fourth of July. But, please be aware of the impacts. Hazardous elements are used in fireworks for noise, as propellants, and to make display colors. Debris and burning metals fall back and can contaminate aquatic ecosystems and poison wildlife, eventually working their way up the food chain. The debris litter includes plastic parts that can be ingested by waterfowl and fish.



WSLA Annual Meeting

This year we will be holding the **Annual Meeting on June 27. Breakfast 8:30-9:00. Meeting 9:00-10:30.** The location this year will be the Glen Café located at 63 Glenallen Street in Winchendon. Guests will include representatives from our Board of Selectmen.

Your Membership Dues at Work

Your membership dues maintain and improve the quality of our lake and surrounding area.

The vast majority of your dues pay for the health and welfare of our lake: weed control and safety measures like the no wake buoys.

In the past, we also provided the covered bench on the corner of Lakeview Drive and Beachview Drive for our walkers and our students while waiting for the bus.

Other association expenses include the www.WSLA.us website, newsletter and annual meeting.

Dues Paying Time is Here

Dues are just \$50.00 per family a year and we urge all property owners to join. The milfoil in our lake is increasing and we need to step-up our vigilance which will require increased spending. Please consider an additional contribution. Any amount over \$50.00 is tax deductible. Please do your part.

Payment options:

- Checks payable to WSLA INC, PO Box 411, Winchendon, MA 01475.
- Paypal through our website www.wsla.us

Include YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS PLEASE



WSLA Website

www.wsla.us

It is a fabulous source of information and we hope a website you bookmark. We'd like to make it a lively site including lake happenings, items for sale, services offered/wanted, and a place to share great photos.

Like us on your Facebook page.

Get To Know Your Neighbor Picnic

Have you ever wondered who that person is who waves to you when you are in the boat? Or the person you see walking down the road or remodeling their house?

Well, now you can meet and get to know them! The Winchendon Springs Lake Association is holding its annual "Get To Know Your Neighbor Picnic" on Saturday, **July 25th** from Noon until 4:00 P.M. at Phil White's beach off of Beachview Drive.

WSLA will be providing the hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. We ask that those attending please provide an appetizer, side dish or dessert.

If we get enough people that bring their pedal boats and/or canoes, we plan on having races for the adults and kids. The winners will receive a beautiful ribbon.



Please reserve that date and contact Larry Sordoni at 978-297-2360 or Phil White at 978-297-1054 by July 20th to let them know how many will be coming and the dish that you will be bringing.

100 CLUB

This year the **payout is \$100 a week for 10 weeks**. For just \$20 a ticket, participants have 10 chances to win \$100.00. Just 100 tickets are sold so the odds of winning are great.

Drawings will begin July 22 using the two middle numbers of Wednesday night 's Daily Number. Ticket options: include an additional \$20 for ticket in your dues, contact any board member, purchase at the annual meeting.



Please Join Us for a Fun time! Fourth of July Boat Parade

Please join us for a fun spin around the lake . For the second year the annual boat parade will be a joint event with MLPOA (Monomonac Lake Property Owner's Association).

We'll start at 1:30 on the East side of MLSA (Monomonac Lake Sailing Association) Commodore Island.

Feel free to decorate your boats and/or wear costumes. A unique celebration opportunity that brings a smile to everyone.



Lake Tag Sale

We will be holding a lake wide yard sale in early August. Watch our website for further information.

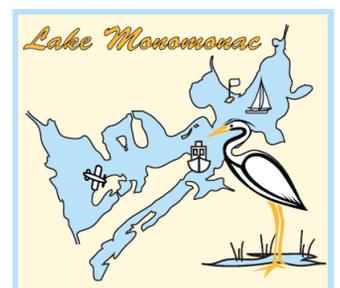
Boating Certification Reminder

Lake Monomonac is partly in MA and partly in NH. Be aware that **New Hampshire will not accept any card or certificate** issued by a Massachusetts online course provider. If you plan to boat in New Hampshire, you should be certified by New Hampshire. For more information see: <http://www.boat-ed.com/newhampshire/>

Back by Popular Demand! T-Shirts, Sweatshirts & Hats

Celebrate the lake and fun times in the summer.

A lake map with heron (below) will be one design. Items will be available at the annual meeting or from contacts listed in the newsletter.



Lake Monomonac Water Quality

One vital program for Lake Monomonac is New Hampshire's Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) which monitors the quality of our Lake Water.

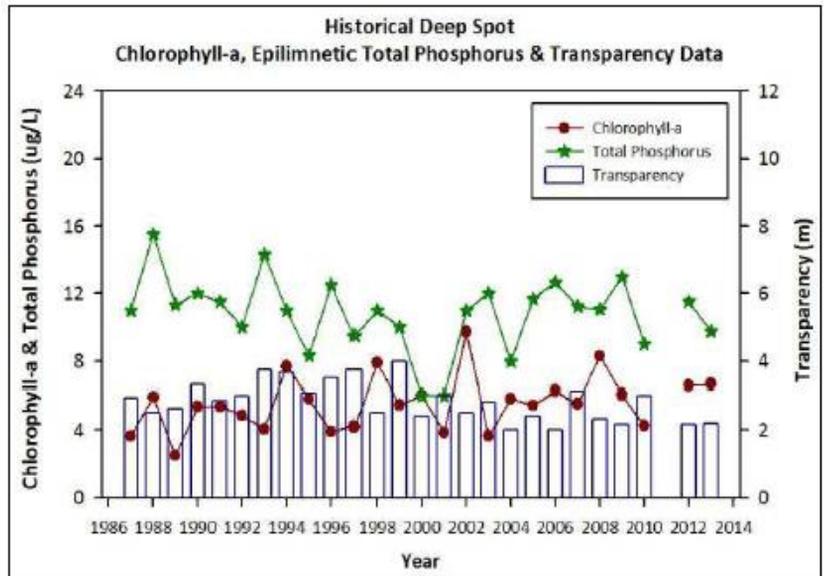
OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The detailed report from 2014 can be found through the WSLA web site. A two-page summary report is available. A sample of the level of information is provided in the chart shown here.

A number of parameters are tested each year and compared to recommended levels and state averages. Historical trends are also reviewed to assess if quality is improving or declining. Overall the lake is healthy.

Recently a possible toxin-producing cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) has been seen. Avoid contact. Recent info is posted on the WSLA web site:

www.wsla.us



However, there are a few areas that are mildly concerning and require attention to ensure the lake stays healthy. If you are interested – please volunteer. We need your help.

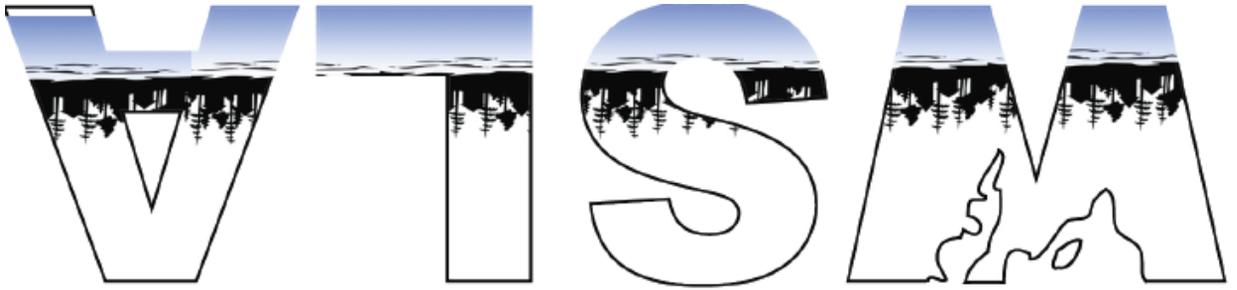
What should we do to help maintain water quality?

1. Communicate and Educate – Talk to your family, neighbors, and guests. Tell them how important all of these things are.
2. Don't use phosphorus fertilizers - use organic fertilizers or none at all. Because our lake is very acidic it is actually good to use lime.
3. Update failing or failed septic systems - Several new technologies exist that are ideal for small lots close to the water. A great resource can be found at <http://www.thecleansolution.com/>
4. Use indoor bathrooms – schedule water activities before meals so people are less likely to have to use the lake as a restroom, especially small children. Do not bathe yourself or your pets in the lake water with soap and shampoo.
5. Do not feed the ducks – they do not need it, and their waste is bad for the water.
6. Landscaping – Plant native plantings on or near the shore to prevent run off into the lake.
7. Choose biodegradable dish and laundry detergents that do not contain phosphates.
8. In the winter use non-salt based de-icers .
9. Eliminate fuel leaks from aging motors and fueling equipment. Do not store any fuel, cleaning supplies, batteries, etc... near the water.
10. Choose non-toxic building supplies for Docks and Rafts. Pressure Treated Lumber, Railroad Ties, Telephone Poles etc. are bad and against the law to put into the water. Use cedar, aluminum, plastic and other approved composite materials.

Lake Association Contacts

For T-shirts, Hats, Sweatshirts or 100 Club tickets please contact:

- Michael Venoit, 203-623-6994, Venoit@sbcglobal.net
- Renee Tambling, 978-422-6066, wsla.treasurer@gmail.com
- Mary Ellen Lewandowski, 978-297-2141, mellewandowski@comcast.net



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED