



The Lakes & Streams Committee provides education and leadership in the stewardship of Eastman Lake and its watershed for the enjoyment of the community and future generations

TO: Bob Parker, ECA Council Chair
FROM: John Larrabee, Chair, Lakes and Streams Committee
DATE: December 10, 2013
RE: Report for the January 2014 Council meeting

The Lakes and Streams Committee conducted its last meeting for the year on September 10. Jackie Underhill continues on the committee supervising Water Quality sampling of our Lake and tributaries. Her summary report is available on the Lakes and Streams website. Jackie has stepped down as Chair of the L&S Committee after several years at the helm, helping to steer the many sub-committees toward our mission. Happily, for me especially, she will remain active on the committee. The ECA's environmental and economic engine has benefitted tremendously from her efforts, energy, and volunteering. We are all grateful. Thank you Jackie!!

Events

We had a very successful End-of-the-Year Pot Luck, thanks to all the volunteers coordinated by Sue Coakley.

Jane Tangen, Jackie Underhill, and John Larrabee made a presentation at the September Council meeting on the successful work of the Youth Conservation Corp. Jane will assist the committee next year on both the Communication and Technology sub committees.

Sub-Committee reports:

Weed Watchers (Rhonda Weinstein) Buoy markers were made by volunteers to locate possible aquatic invasive plants for further investigation.

Beetle Disbursement Maynard Wheeler, Sue Coakley, and Jackie Underhill distributed beetles to help control the invasive plant Purple Loosestrife. Positive results were noted from previous year's application. Next year particular attention will be made at Robin Lane, Mill Pond, and the ball field at South Cove. It appears the golf course has more loosestrife this year, which may need attention next year.

Lake Hosts (Ernie Mills) September 15 was the last day of staffing the boat launch. Volunteers are needed for next year, to continue to keep our lake free and clear of invasive plants and animals. Training is provided. The new tent for Lake Hosts was destroyed in a recent wind storm. We are exploring a sturdier, semi-permanent, platform for the future. We would like to start staffing the boat launch earlier in the mornings to be there when most of the fisherman enter the lake.

Water Quality (Jackie Underhill) As previously mentioned, Jackie's annual water quality summary is accessible on the L&S website (<www.eastmannh.org/lakes> click on Water Quality) In general, the

lake, beaches, and tributaries are stable. Higher temperatures and increased storm water runoff contributed to higher algae counts. Slightly lower phosphorus counts is a positive sign. Tamari Brook and Northeast Brook showed slight decreases in water quality due to the extensive road work being done there. E.coli bacteria counts at the beaches were well within state standards.

Sub Committee Membership All those in attendance at the September meeting plan on returning next year.

Lakes and Streams Sub Committee Work Plan/2020 Plan

Sub committees met or exceeded all goals for 2013.

Budget

L&S stayed within the budget this year as a result of a grant from the Foundation, allowing the YCC to do all the work during the summer. L&S has requested additional funds in the budget for 2015 to fund the YCC program.

The Lakes and Streams Committee is an active group of volunteers and will continue to advocate for a healthy lake and lake ecology education..

