



SATURDAY POND WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

www.saturdaypond.org

SPRING 2007

NEWSLETTER

Issue # 15

OUR MISSION

We are committed to preserving, enhancing and protecting the advantages of Saturday Pond and its environs.

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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The call of the loons echo across our pond once again - the familiar sounds of summer on Saturday Pond! I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the beginning of summer.

Over the past few months, the Board of Trustees has been working on one of this year's primary goal areas - monitoring pond water conditions. Our most recent planning efforts have included exploring what it would take to conduct a watershed survey. At our April Trustees meeting, the Board met with Kristin Feindel from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Kristin provided an informative overview of why it's important to conduct a watershed survey, what the process entails and how the outcome is used to guide long-term lake protection and enhancement efforts. Essentially, a watershed survey is designed to locate sources of soil erosion and polluted run-off that could potentially damage lake water quality. Please join us for a continental breakfast on **Saturday, September 15th @ 9:00 AM at the East Otisfield Free Baptist Church** to meet Kristin and learn about this voluntary watershed survey process, as we consider conducting our very own Saturday Pond survey sometime in the Spring of 2008. Also, please make sure to check out the 'Kids Section' of this newsletter which can help us all learn about what a watershed is.

We are also looking for creative and artistic people to help us design a Saturday Pond Watershed logo. The contest is open to persons of all ages. Please see page 7 which details our guidelines, the format and contest rules. Just imagine seeing your artwork displayed over and over again - on our web site every day and with every edition of the newsletter being published!

Finally, please join us as we begin to plan for next year's association needs at our Annual Meeting which is scheduled for **Saturday, July 14th from 9:00 - 11:00 AM** at the Pond View beach. Our preliminary agenda includes:

- 1) Review of Minutes of the July 16, 2006 Annual Saturday Pond Watershed Association Meeting
- 2) Treasurer's Report
- 3) Board of Trustees April 28, 2007 Meeting Report
- 4) Other Reports
 - A. Dam Keeper
 - B. Water Testing
 - C. Wildlife Report
- 5) Elections
- 6) Watershed Survey Plans
- 7) Other Business

Sincerely,
Ellen Attaliades, President

Visit us online at: www.saturdaypond.org

Saturday Pond Watershed Otisfield, ME

Moose
Pond

Saturday Pond

Saturday Pond
Watershed



SATURDAY POND WATERSHED ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER (Spring 2007)

Ice-In, Ice-Out

SPWA was first established in 1993. It has been documenting “ice-out” dates on Saturday Pond since 1998. The table on the right provides you with the information we’ve so far gathered.

In January some of us were asking, “Where is the ice?”. It wasn’t until January that the pond finally froze over. In the 1950’s, Al Sirois remembered skating on Saturday Pond at Thanksgiving. Many of us are seeing a definite change. Is it due to global warming? SPWA will start monitoring both the “ice-in” date - i.e. the day the ice covers the pond and “ice-out” - the date the pond becomes free of ice.

YEAR	ICE -OUT DATES
1998	April 8
1999	April 10
2000	March 31
2001	April 28
2002	April 10
2003	April 23
2004	April 19
2005	April 17
2006	March 30
2007	April 24



Frozen Saturday Pond near outlet.(Sirois)

Scott Williams from MVLMP tells us that aside from providing interesting data, research focusing on changes in the duration of ice cover on New England lakes has revealed that over the past century things appear to have been changing! He states that reliably monitoring ice-in and ice-out dates may provide valuable information for the future. For more information about this historical study, visit the following site: <http://me.water.usgs.gov/OFR02-34.pdf>

Phosphorus Testing Results for 2006

On August 14, 2005, Lew Wetzel conducted the following tests -

Phosphorous:

6 parts per billion in the northwest cove
 6 parts per billion in the deepest part (ba sin).

Secchi reading at deepest part = 6.40 meters

<u>Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen Profiles</u>		
DEPTH		
Meters	DegC	ppm
0.0	26.4	8.0
1.0	26.4	7.9
2.0	26.3	7.9
3.0	26.0	7.8
4.0	25.5	7.5
5.0	20.6	5.7
6.0	15.7	2.6
7.0	14.1	1.5
Conditions: Air Temp = 75 F, Time = 1040 hrs, Wind = 02, direction = 2		

A Lakers' Dozen

13 Ways You Can Help the Lake

1. Always check boat, trailer and equipment for plant fragments before launch and after take-out.
2. Respect Shoreland Zone Regulations. Before making any change on your land, check with your town to see what's permitted and what's not in the shoreland: 250' of the lake and 75' of streams.
3. Control storm water run-off from buildings, paths, driveways and road. Check your property on a rainy day and fix run-off sites by planting vegetation or constructing swales to direct water flow away from the lake.
4. Cultivate a wooded buffer. Trees, shrubs and grasses slow the flow and filter soil and pollutants from rainwater before they end up in the lake.
5. Limit lawn size, mow less often, and don't rake duff within 75 feet of shore.
6. Limit fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide use. Long lasting residues in these chemicals can turn lakes green and harm aquatic life.
7. Don't stress the septic system. Inspect the system yearly. Pump the tank regularly. Systems 20 years and older should be inspected by a specialist. Use phosphorus-free cleaners, and detergents. Stagger laundry loads. Minimize water use. Don't put grease or toxics down the drain.
8. Construct docks and floats with lake-friendly materials. Choose cedar, cypress, plastic, or aluminum over wood that's pressure-treated with arsenic.
9. Dogs, humans and boats should never be washed in the lake!
10. Observe headway speed within 200 feet of shore. Boating in shallow water disturbs fish habitat and stirs up sediment.
11. When you replace a boat motor, choose a clean 4-stroke engine.
12. Preserve wildlife habitat on land and underwater. Lake shallows and shorelands are home to many native species and nurseries for young.
13. Support your local lake association and Maine COLA.

"A Lakers Dozen" is available for download at www.mainecola.org

REGISTER YOUR BOAT(S)

All motor boats must show registration by applying a sticker on the boat(s). All must display the Lake and River Protection Sticker ("Preserve Maine Waters").

You can register online or at the Otisfield Town Office.

Online go to:

https://www10.informe.org/webshop_ifw/?storeID=2



Otisfield Town Office:

Monday: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday: CLOSED

Thursday 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

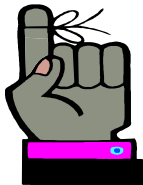
ELECTIONS FOR 2007

The following Board of Trustees positions are up for election:

President

Treasurer

Corresponding Secretary



WELCOME BACK PIXIE

We are very pleased to welcome back Pixie Williams as our water plant surveyor on Saturday Pond. Fred Cummings and Ruth Wilson will be working along side Pixie on her endeavors.

* * * * *

THANK YOU

The preservation of the water quality of Saturday Pond is most important. Therefore water testing must take place regularly.

Carl Anderson and Eric Groves have volunteered to attend the VLMP water testing training on June 9th.

Thank you for volunteering to help the program and help build our pool of trained testers!

You are cordially invited to:

SPWA Annual Meeting

*July 14th, 2007 @ 9:00 – 11:00 AM at the
Pond View Beach*

You are also cordially invited to a:

Watershed Survey Presentation
by Kristin Feindel

from the Department of Environmental Protection

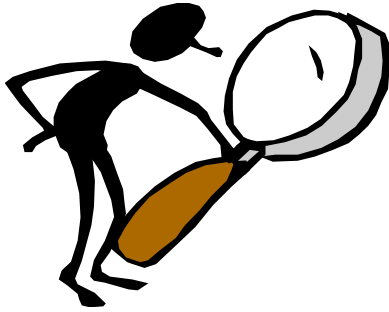
When: September 15th, 2007 @ 9:00 AM

Where: East Otisfield Baptist Church,
Rayville Road, Otisfield

Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there!

SPWA Logo Contest



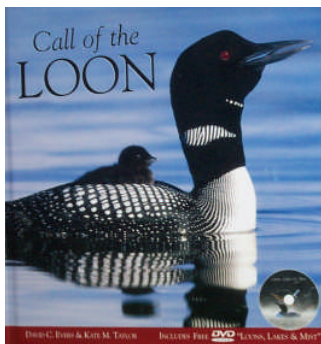
We are announcing a contest to help us design a logo for the Saturday Pond Watershed Association (SPWA). We are looking for creative and artistic people like you!


Objective:

Create a logo for SPWA. The contest is open to all ages. The prizes are a free 1-year membership to the family of the winner and a great loon book with CD.

Guidelines:

1. The logo must be simple and contain the letters SPWA either integrated within the design or as attached text. It can also contain words/pictures associated with our mission statement.
2. It should look great in color or in black and white.
3. The logo should be readily associated with SPWA. People should be able to easily make the connection.





Saturday Pond Watershed Association
<http://www.saturdaypond.org>

Your Name Here

MEMBERSHIP 2008

Member's signature

Formats:

The logos can be submitted as computer-generated images or drawings on paper. The logo should be no larger than 2 inches by 2 inches.

Contest Rules:

1. The selected design becomes the property of SPWA which reserves the right to modify the winning logo. SPWA will attempt to work with the original artist when making any changes.

2. Entries must be emailed to ewilliams@saturdaypond.org or mailed to: Saturday Pond Watershed Association 40 Ridgewood Terrace, Otisfield, ME 04270
3. All entries must be received by September 1st, 2007.
4. The logo that you submit must be your original work.
5. With your logo please include your full name, address, telephone number, and your email address if you have one.

6. The winner will be announced in our fall 2007 Newsletter.

Contact Information:

If you have any questions, please contact ewilliams@saturdaypond.org

KIDS SECTION

Do you know what a watershed is?

Do you know you live in a watershed?

Actually. *we all live in a watershed!*

The following experiment will help better understand what a watershed is.

1. Scrunch up a piece of plain paper, and then smooth it out a little.
2. Take a washable marker and mark all the crease or ridges on the paper.
3. Now use a spray bottle with water to “rain” on the paper.
4. Watch where the water runs -- you’ve just made your own “watershed”, and where the water collects are the rivers, lakes and streams

Now you have just made your own watershed. A watershed is the entire area of land surrounding a body of water, such as a lake, a river, a stream or a bay. Everything including the rocks, soil, animals, plants, trees, people, roads and buildings make up a watershed. Any time it rains or snows, the water travels through the watershed and eventually finds its way into the body of water.

This activity was adapted from: <http://www.greatswamp.org/Pollywog/pollywog.pdf>

MORE INTERESTING SITES FOR YOU TO VISIT:

<http://www.pwd.org/education/kids/kids.php>

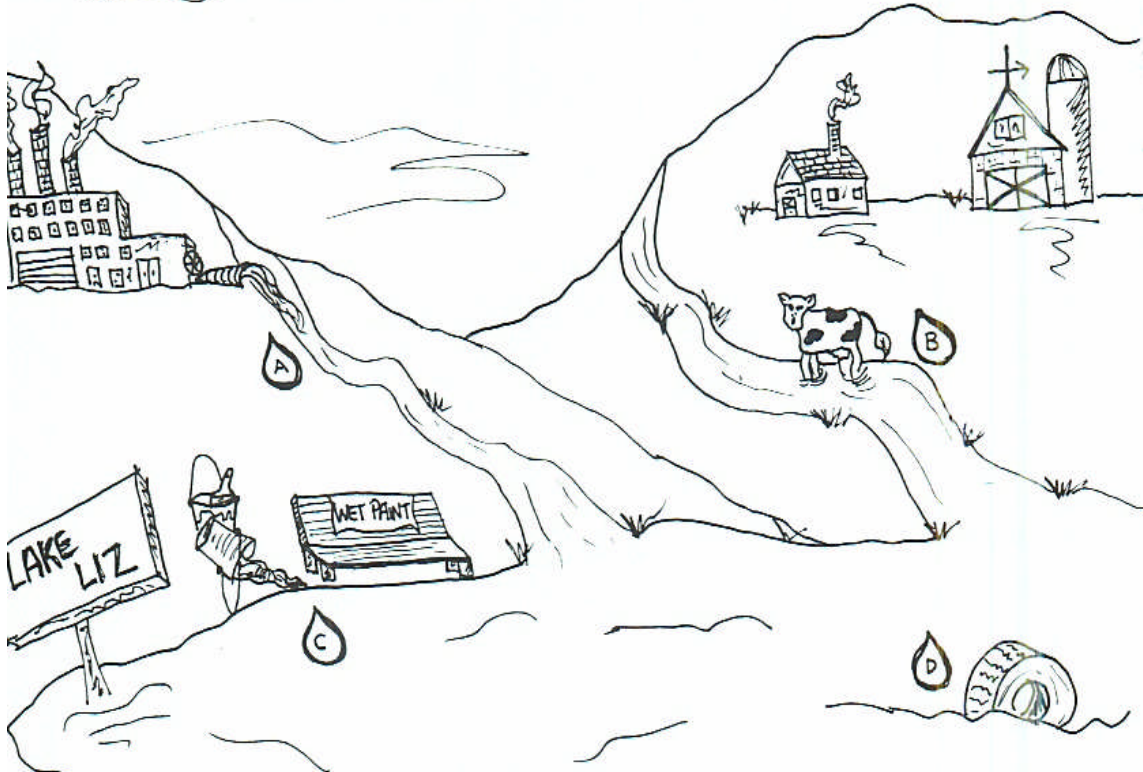
<http://www.projectwet.org/kids/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/kids.html>

<http://www.conserve2o.org/kids.html>

WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is a region of land that surrounds a body of water. All of the precipitation (rain and snow) that falls in this area ends up in the low parts of this region in a stream, river, pond, lake, or ocean.



The pollution in this watershed drains into Lake Liz. Each drop will enter a river and then drain to Lake Liz. Match the pollution found in each drop.



A
B
C
D
E

SOAP
FACTORY WASTE
TIRE
COW POOP
PAINT



JOIN SPWA NOW

Membership / Donation 2008

Name: _____
Address (winter) _____
City/Town _____
State _____ Zip code _____
Email (optional): _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Membership	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation	_____

Address (summer) optional _____
City/Town _____
State _____ Zip code _____

Make your check payable to the **Saturday Pond Watershed Association** and mail to:

J. Sirois
290 Rayville Rd
Otisfield, ME 04270

I am interested in helping with the following:

- Water Testing Program
- Board of Trustees
- Communication/Newsletter
- Others

Suggestions - Comments - Questions:

THANK YOU

Saturday Pond Watershed Association
40 Ridgewood Terrace
Otisfield, Maine 04270