



# Saturday Pond Watershed Newsletter

Spring 2017

[www.saturdaypond.org](http://www.saturdaypond.org)

Issue 29

## OUR MISSION

**Preserve – Enhance  
Educate – Protect**



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ellen Attaliades, President  
Steve Markarian, Vice-President  
Bruce LeBlanc, Vice-President  
Susan Haber, Recording Sec.  
Amy O'Shea, Treasurer  
Susan LaFleur, Corresponding Secretary



## Appointments:

Bruce LeBlanc- Clerk  
Eric Williams-Archives, Web-site  
Steve Markarian and Jerry Haber - Water Monitors  
Robin Nureck-Bramsweg - Loon Counter  
Susan Haber-Newsletter

Saturday Pond Watershed Assoc.  
40 Ridgewood Terrace  
Otisfield, Maine 04270  
[www.saturdaypond.org](http://www.saturdaypond.org)

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It finally feels like summer is on its way after what has felt like the rainiest Spring on record, followed by some very hot, summer days. Summer means that the loons are back. It was amazing to see them floating on the pond on the day that ice was out! Their familiar cries can be heard across the lake and we know they have been busy building a nest in the cove at the south west corner where the lake empties into the retention pond in Pond View.

Our Board of Trustees and a number of new association members participated in a productive meeting in May to review our accomplishments over the past year and plan for our work in the year ahead of us. We'd love to have more members join us, so if you're interested in participating in the association, please feel free to contact any trustee listed on our web site or me to indicate your interest and find out how you can participate.

Please join us for our Annual Meeting of the Saturday Pond Watershed Association which is scheduled for Saturday, July 15th at 10:00 AM on the Pond View Beach.

And finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bruce LeBlanc for his many years of dedicated service on the Board of Trustees. Bruce has been an invaluable member of both the Board and the watershed association. His historical perspective of Saturday Pond and the watershed association, his knowledge of community resources and his practical and level-headed approach to issues have made our meetings and the work of the association very productive. Although we're sorry to see Bruce go, we know he's only an "arms-length" away!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish you a happy and healthy summer!

Sincerely,  
Ellen Attaliades, President

## 2016 Annual Meeting



**WATER CLARITY USING A SECCHI DISK - PHOSPHOROUS TESTING - INVASIVE PLANTS - ICE OUT**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Clarity	6.59 m.	6.12 m.	6.14 m.	—	6.21	6.20	4.51-6.35
Phosphorus	10 ppb	9 (12 ) ppb	6 ppb	4 ppb	3 ppb	5 ug/L	6 ug/L
Invasive Plants	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Ice Out	March 25	April 20	March 22	April 8	April 22	April 19	March 18

Note: The State of Maine switched its measurement of phosphorus from ppb to ug/L (micrograms per liter). Phosphorus is the nutrient that best indicates the growth of algae in a lake.

Secchi disk readings are in meters. It is an indirect water quality indicator because water clarity is affected by the presence/absence of algal growth. Data shown for 2016 are highest and lowest readings. Readings conducted on 6/01, 6/12, 6/27, 7/07, 7/16, 7/25, 8/02, 8/10.

Steve Markarian conducted the Phosphorous tests and Secchi disk readings. Susan LaFleur conducted an Invasive Aquatic Plant Survey.

Steve Markarian tested for Phosphorus on June 27 and July 25. Phosphorous has increased over the past four years. Jerry Haber is certified as a Water Quality Monitor and will join Steve Markarian in water quality testing.

Robin Nureck is the "Official" Loon counter on Saturday Pond. Results are filed with Maine Audubon. Two pairs of loons were observed during the July 2016 official count.

Ice-out was called on April 20, 2017.

**Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program**

The Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program protects Maine lakes and ponds through educational workshops and a robust citizen participation program whereby volunteers monitor various water quality indicators, assess watershed health, and screen the lakes and ponds for invasive aquatic vegetation and animals. Become educated and involved by attending one of the following sessions:



**Invasive Plant Paddle, Tuesday, July 18, Bridgton**-Introductory session both on and off water to learn about invasive aquatic plants, issues for the lake, and preliminary identification.

**Invasive Plant Patrol Workshop 101 Tuesday, July 25, Bridgton, Maine Lakes Science Center.**

**Additional workshops are offered on other dates and at other locations.**

For further detail contact VLMP at 207-783-7733. Pre-registration is required.

### **Saturday Pond Watershed Association Annual Meeting**

The SPWA Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 15, 2017 at 10 AM at the Pond View Beach, on West Shore Drive. Rain location at Scott Lenox's garage, 47 West Shore Drive, Pond View. Please provide own seating in case of rain. We encourage everyone to attend. Come, reconnect with your neighbors, and discuss the status of Saturday Pond. If you haven't already joined, please send in your membership dues for SPWA 2017. A form is attached to this Newsletter. We have requested that you provide your e mail address on this form. We will only use your e mail for news blasts, reminders of upcoming meetings, and the Annual Newsletter. We have also provided a separate box to check off if you'd like to donate an annual membership as a holiday gift, a "welcome to the Pond" gift for a new neighbor, or to honor an individual!

Annual dues have increased to \$20.00

### **What do you Get for Your Membership in SPWA?**

The SPWA is committed to protecting the water quality in the Pond. Volunteers test the waters annually for Phosphorus levels (an indicator of nutrients in a water body, which can lead to algal growth), water clarity and turbidity and the presence of invasive aquatic plants. We provide educational programs, typically at the Annual Meeting, an annual Newsletter, and bring up items of interest and concern to Town Boards and Committees.

The purpose of the Association, as expressed in its Mission Statement is: 1. To perform all acts appropriate to a non-profit scientific, literary and educational corporation dedicated to the promotion and development of environmental quality standards; and 2. To preserve, enhance and protect the advantages of Saturday Pond and its environs.

Once again our goal is to provide more outreach and encourage greater participation in the SPWA. Grab a friend or neighbor and tell them about the SPWA, encourage them to join, attend the Annual Meeting, and participate!

### **Boat Registration and Lake and River Protection Sticker**

According to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, all motorized watercraft (including canoes with electric motors and jet skis) must display the "milfoil sticker" on inland waters. The sticker reads "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers-Preserve Maine Waters".

For owners of Maine-registered boats, this sticker is automatically combined with your watercraft registration fee. Owners of non-Maine registered boats must purchase and affix a separate non-resident sticker. The lake and river protection sticker must be purchased annually. They can be purchased at the Visitor Information Center on Route I-95 in Kittery or at other venues around the State. Check with IF&W for exact locations.

### **Miscellaneous**

Did you know that the SPWA has a website? Access it for all news about the Watershed Association and some wonderful historical facts at [www.saturdaypond.org](http://www.saturdaypond.org).

Have you ever noticed an oar, paddle, or boat floating in the lake without its owner nearby? We've decided to start a virtual "lost and found" on the website. From time to time we will identify any found items. Boaters-please put your name and phone number inside your boat so that you can be reconnected with your property if it floats away.

The Annual Saturday Pond 4<sup>th</sup> of July Regatta will be held after the Town of Otisfield parade. All watercraft will gather at Pond View for the start and make a slow loop around the Pond.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Joining the Saturday Pond Watershed Association (SPWA) is an investment in the future good health and beauty of Saturday Pond. **Below is the membership form for 2017-18. Cost: \$20.00**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ or Gift Membership to \_\_\_\_\_ Donation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks made payable to: Saturday Pond Watershed Association or SPWA.  
Mail to Amy O'Shea, 651 New Gloucester Rd., North Yarmouth, ME 04097 Thank you!

I am interested in helping with the following: \_\_\_\_\_ Water Testing Program \_\_\_\_\_ Board of Trustees \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter

\_\_\_\_\_ Other