



The Annual Report from Washington Lakes Watershed Association

Newsletter # 25

Washington, Maine

July 2012

Ice-Out to be tracked by MVLMP

The Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program will begin recording ice-out times next spring which, when paired with water quality readings, may shed light on the relationship between ice cover, water quality, and climate changes. We'll give MVLMP our date to add to their state-wide database.

Water Quality Testing

Our periodic water quality tests will be performed sometime this month and we'll get the numbers onto our website as soon as possible. Results are written up after the end of the sample collections period and sent to us later in the fall. Contact us at wlwassn@gmail.com to have the report sent to you.

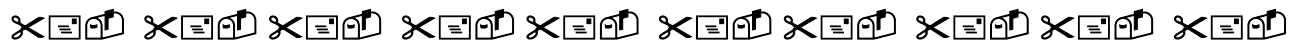
Annual Meeting Thursday, August 16 7 p.m. Evening Star Grange Hall

BRINGING ALEWIVES HOME

Our guest, David Wilkins, President of the Muscongus Pond Association, will speak about *alewives* and their benefits to local wildlife, pond health, improvements to the watershed, and the far reaching effects of these amazing fish. David will also explain the many problems facing this species and what we can do locally to boost alewife numbers. Wilkins is a trustee of the Lloyd S. Davis Anadromous Fish Trust, an advocacy group based in Waldoboro and focusing on the Medomak River watershed.

Business meeting [following our speaker] will include:

- REFRESHMENTS 
- SELECTION OF OFFICERS 
- LOON COUNT 
- MAINE COLA 
- INVASIVES UPDATE 



Washington Lakes Association Membership Form

Name(s) _____ Individual - \$15

Address _____ Family - \$25

Town, State, Zip _____ Sustainer- \$100

Phone/Cell _____ Other - \$ _____

E-Mail [We do not share it.] _____ Water Testing \$ _____

Please complete this form and return it with your membership donation. This is our only way to keep your records current. Checks payable to Washington Lakes Watershed Association – Mail to: WLWA Treasurer POBox373 Washington, ME 04574

EASY COME – BUT NOT EASY GO

Hydrilla has been found again in nearby Davis Stream and Damariscotta Lake. Removal efforts have helped limit but not eliminate the infestation. If you can help search and remove, contact Damariscotta Lake Watershed Assn. (DLWA) at (207) 549-3836.

WLWA has a strong concern to keep the aquatic invaders out of our lakes. Not only do these demon plants affect everything we love about our lakes, it takes a huge amount of labor, time and money to try to eliminate it once it gets a hold – if, indeed, it *can* be eradicated. It takes very little – a 2-inch snip of one of these aggressive plants can start a raging invasion. Please check everything before you put it in our waters: boats, paddles, fishing gear and, well, everything for any hitch-hiking plant (or creature). We have to be the ones who take care – there’s nobody else.

ALEWIFE ACCESS ON AGENDA

With the subjects of sea-run fish restorations, dam removals, fishway constructions and related stories almost daily in area news outlets, WLWA’s annual meeting topic, alewives, is presented to inform and educate our community about local prospects for alewife access to Washington Pond. In 2009 WLWA’s board voted to endorse the work of the Alewife Enhancement Project of the Lloyd Davis Trust which is working to re-open historical routes to spawning grounds for alewives. Everyone is encouraged to come and learn about this project.

BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS WILKINS’ TALK
BOARD nominees: Roger Cady, Leann Diehl, David Allen, George Stone, Charlotte Henderson, Sharon Turner, Davis Taylor, Frank Braun, Maddy Kelly, Sue Frank, Linda Luce.
Nominations may also be made from the membership.
REPORTS UPDATES REFRESHMENTS

Washington Lakes Assn.
PO Box 373
Washington, ME 04574

Brochure: Board member Roger Cady’s fine inform-ative brochure will be available at our annual meeting and various sites around town. It includes community information as well as WLWA information . We hope you will pick one up and keep it as a reference.

Maine COLA Conference

The Maine Congress of Lake Associations conference was held at Colby College on June 23. The theme “The Real Value of Our Lakes” was developed by guest speakers and informative break-out sessions. Kathleen Bell, UM Economics Professor, described the complex links between different interests that are dependent on Maine lake ecosystems. Patricia Aho, Maine DEP Commissioner, underscored the import-ance of boater self-inspection and explained the work of the agency’s many divisions. These and numerous other experts presented an outstanding program emphasizing the importance of Maine’s clean lakes. COLA puts out a terrific newsletter, legislative updates and more. If you’d like to know more or subscribe to COLA, contact them at www.MaineCOLA.org.

Washington Lakes Watershed Association has twenty-one years of lake protection and community education to its credit. Over the years WLWA offered speakers on a variety of lake-related topics, offered free boat rides, underwritten programs for local school students, distributed lake information packets, made improvements at public access on Washington Pond and much more. We invite everyone with an interest in our activities to join us – as members, as board or committee members, or to simply attend meetings. For WLWA concerns email wlwassn@gmail.com, call 207-542-0915 or www.washingtonlakeswatershed.org.

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