



The Annual Report from Washington Lakes Association, Inc.

NEWSLETTER #23

WASHINGTON, MAINE

JUNE 2010

Last August's hydrilla discovery in neighboring Damariscotta Lake makes it impossible to think this aggressive, nearly indestructible invasive can't find us. **To learn what we're up against** the Me. Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants will offer an **Introductory Invasive Plant Patrol Workshop** at two nearby sites. One is at the Damariscotta Lake Watershed Assn. at 38 Lake Farm Circle on Thursday, July 15 from 2:30-8:30 p.m. Another is at the Liberty Town Office from 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided during the break. The training session is open to the public and FREE. For more information contact MVLMP at (207) 783-7733, e-mail vlmp@mainevlmp.org.



Pressed for time? Attend a 2-hour invasive plant patrol class on June 21, July 10, July 25 or August 5 contact Julia Davis at DLWA at 549-3836 or Julia@dlwa.org

COLA Conference: 10,000 years The Penobscot Nation's "Sustainability for 10,000 Years" is a feature of the **Maine Congress of Lakes Associations Conference** at Colby College in Waterville on June 26. It's a day-long event where Lakes Associations' members can get together, learn at many workshops, acquire skills and resource materials and eat a yummy lunch from the Colby Cafeteria. **Other speakers are David Hart of the George Mitchell Research Center and Colby chemistry Professor D. Whitney King.** There is a \$35 registration fee which WLA will pay if a member wants to attend this outstanding learning opportunity. Car pooling is offered. FMI: Charlotte at 845-2661.

Maine COLA
Congratulations on 40 years as
Your Voice for Maine Lakes
www.mainecola.org

WLA 2010 Annual Meeting Thursday, July 15 at 7 p.m.

Washington Lakes Association will meet on Thursday, July 15 at 7 p.m. at the new Mount Olivet Masonic Hall, 48 Liberty Road – just north of the village on Route 220. Desserts and beverages will be served.



Medomak Stream in Spring

Speakers for the meeting are Rebecca Jacobs and Laura Soumi-Lecker of the Knox-Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District. They'll be giving us news about innovative new programs we can learn from. We'll have a chance to ask questions and chat with them following their talk. There will be a short business meeting.

Washington Lakes Association
Post Office Box 373
Washington, Maine 04574

«First_Name» «Last_Name»
«Postal_Address»
«Town_State_and_Zip»

Alewife Enhancement Project

Alewives are among the ten anadromous (migrate from ocean to fresh water) fish species native to Maine. They are a focus of efforts by organizations like DEP, Depts. of Marine Resources and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, NOAA, and locally by the Medomak River Alewife Enhancement Project (AEP) of the Lloyd Davis Anadromous Fish Trust. Historians and scientists tell us that prior to Europeans settling this region, there probably was an alewife migration in every stream in the Gulf of Maine. Early on alewives were an important part of the economy providing food for people, bait for fishermen, forage for fish and birds and carriers of large amounts of nutrients from the ocean into rivers and lakes and transporting phosphorus out to sea. Commercial harvesting was a good business. Alewife runs have dwindled greatly over the years. Currently, there is a broad-based effort to restore the natural systems which allow these fish to perform their valuable functions in the ecosystem. WLA's board last year voted to endorse the work of the Alewife Enhancement Project. The AEP is in the process of conducting a multi-year study to assess the population of alewives currently utilizing the Medomak River ecosystem for spawning and is now doing its annual fish count. FMI: www.midcoast.com/~mvl/alewives.html or contact WLA.

Prescott School's Chewonki Presentation Gets an "A"

WLA is proud to underwrite a program of their choosing each year for students at Prescott School (K-6) here in Washington. This year's program was about the wildlife that lives in riparian zones - those places which are along the water's edge - and in vernal pools.



Brutus, a Blandings Turtle which is rare in Maine, was among many creatures discussed with the educators from Chewonki.

Students in all grade levels provided youthful insights and asked astute questions during these interactive nature sessions arranged by 4th Grade teacher Len Lewis. WLA members are welcome to sit in at these programs and watch these great kids in action.

WLA Programs

Thursday, July 15 Annual Mtg.

Thursday, July 22

Scott Williams, Lakes Monitoring Prog

Also: Loons - being scheduled
Water - being scheduled

Programs Promote Mission

WLA's mission is to conserve, protect and sustain the water quality, wildlife habitat, and shore land integrity of our ponds and streams. Our primary way of doing this is through sharing information with our members and the community. WLA has scheduled several events for this summer. They are entertaining and informative. We urge you to attend any or all of them. And please come to **Annual Meeting on July 15.**

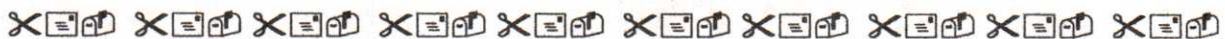
A note from a member -

Charter member Herb Griffin called to tell us of this experience. Friends of his live on a Maine pond that has milfoil. Last year volunteers worked to pull out all the dreadful weed and pile it up on the shore to dry and be burned. Come spring, some of the weed "came alive" when dropped in the water - an example of how tough and mean this stuff is. (This batch has been burned now.) MORAL:

Since eradication is next to impossible, prevention is crucial.

Maps of Watersheds

Kristin Feindel at Watershed Assessment and Planning of Maine DEP has provided us with maps of the watersheds in Washington. These maps are 8½ by 11". If you'd like a copy, contact: washingtonlakesassociation@gmail.com or pick one up at Annual Meeting.



Washington Lakes Association Membership Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Town, State, Zip _____

Phone/Cell _____

E-Mail [We do not share it.] _____

Individual - \$10

Family - \$15

Other - _____

Sustainer - \$100

Business - \$25

Donation to Support WATER QUALITY Testing

\$ _____

Please complete this form and return it with your membership donation. This is our only way to keep our records current. Make checks payable to Washington Lakes Association and mail to: WLA-Treasurer P.O. Box 373 Washington, ME 04574