



NEWSLETTER

The Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, Inc. • P.O.Box 421, Waterbury, VT 05676

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NUMBER 7

Why Do You Own Land on a Lake?

What Can You Do To Protect those Values?

You know by now that such practices as maintaining a woody buffer containing shrubs and scattered trees along your waterfront are essential for good lake health.

Do you know that landowners on lakes that have significant stretches of undeveloped shoreline report better water quality, fewer problems resulting from septic systems, fewer conflicts between motor boats and canoes and kayaks? They experience greater quiet and a greater sense of beauty.

At the Lake Seminar, sponsored by FOVLAP and VTDEC June 8, 2007, the Vermont River Conservancy (VRC) (don't be fooled by the name) will present an introduction to the basic tools that will empower you and your association to conserve some of the last stretches of undeveloped lakeshore on your lake.

The presentation will demystify the steps for permanent shoreline conservation. It will not create the impression that the process is easy but it will lay out the basic steps. The VRC will offer to be a resource if you decide to take control of the tremendous influence that undeveloped shorelines play on your lake's future.



URGENT – BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED!

FOVLAP invites you to help us manage and protect Vermont's lakes! Join our active board as we coordinate, educate and inform lake associations throughout the state. We have three Board of Directors positions opening up this July and invite you to consider getting involved at a state-wide level.

Nominations will be presented at the annual FOVLAP meeting on Monday, July 23rd, at the Elks Building in Montpelier. Nominations can also be made from the floor at that time.

We hope that you have found the work of FOVLAP to be of help to you, both as you work through your local lake associations, and in keeping you current on state-wide water quality problems at our annual seminar and business meeting. That is the one and only objective of the Federation – and it can only be as effective as the dedication of interested volunteers.

The Board usually meets 2-3 times between annual meetings, to set goals, develop long term strategy, and plan agendas for the seminar and annual meeting. We try to select a point as central as possible to make it convenient to attend. It isn't work – it is both serious and fun! You'll be sitting down with folks from around the state with surprisingly common problems – and you'll talk about solutions!

So.....please think over what you can do to help – and let us put *your name* in nomination in July! Need more info before you decide? Here are some numbers to call – and any one of us will welcome a conversation with you.

Jackie Sprague, FOVLAP President 802-633-4994

John Washburn, FOVLAP Board Member 802-748-7890

Susan Warren, VTDEC 802-271-3794

Please let us hear from you!

Hydrilla – The Vermont Perspective

An invasive weed, known as hydrilla poses a serious threat to Vermont lakes. The good news for Vermont is that this rapidly growing, difficult-to-control plant has never been found growing wild in the state. The bad news is that hydrilla lurks not far from our doorstep, and only constant vigilance can prevent a potentially devastating introduction. Hydrilla was first discovered in New England in 1989 in a couple of small ponds in the Stonington, CT area. Aggressive control measures including dredging and herbicide treatments were applied, but hydrilla re-appeared in the larger of these two ponds in 2001, and was also confirmed in a third pond in Connecticut, and in a pond in Barnstable, MA (on Cape Cod). In 2002, a dense hydrilla infestation was discovered in Pickerel Pond, in southern Maine. In response, boating on the pond was severely restricted, an outlet screen was installed to prevent plant fragments from escaping downstream, and herbicides were applied (the first and only pond to receive herbicide treatment in Maine). These rigorous measures have succeeded in containing and dramatically reducing the hydrilla population, but continued monitoring and possibly additional treatments will be required before the pond can be definitively declared hydrilla-free.

In addition to facing threats from other New England states, Vermont is always vulnerable to invasive species introductions from New York and the mid-west, via Lake Champlain and the Lake Champlain Barge Canal. Although hydrilla has not appeared in New York, it has infested some ponds in eastern Pennsylvania and if the Great Lakes become infested, would pose an even more serious threat to New York and Vermont. The risk of hydrilla introduction is further aggravated by its popularity as an aquarium and ornamental pond plant.

The State of Vermont has listed hydrilla as a Class A Noxious Weed. That means it is illegal to possess, transport, import, sell, cultivate and/or distribute hydrilla in Vermont, and violations are subject to a \$1000 fine. The Vermont DEC and Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets conduct outreach to aquarium and ornamental plant suppliers to provide education about illegal invasive species and to ensure compliance with regulations. We distribute educational materials such as Watch Cards and Fact Sheets about invasive species, including hydrilla, throughout the state. We also provide information about invasive species at our web site, www.vtwaterquality.org. Through the Grant-in-Aid program, Vermont DEC helps to fund local efforts such as boat ramp greeter

programs, aimed at preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species, including hydrilla.

What can you do?

- o Always adhere to good boat hygiene practices:
- o **Inspect** boat, trailer, motor and other equipment for attached plant or animal material.
- o **Remove** all plant and animal material.
- o **Discard** removed material in a trash receptacle or on high, dry ground where there is no danger of them washing into any water body.
- o **Drain** all water from boat, boat engine, and other equipment.
- o **Rinse** all boat and trailer parts with tap water (preferably hot, high pressure).
- o Learn to identify hydrilla and report any suspected sighting immediately to the Vermont DEC (802-241-3777).

Join the VIPs! Vermont Invasive Patrollers receive training on how to identify invasive species and conduct surveys, and make a commitment to monitor their local waters regularly for new infestations. For more information on invasive species and the VIPs, contact Leslie Matthews, leslie.matthews@state.vt.us, 802-241-3798.

FOVLAP contacts:

Jackie Sprague, President, 802-482-2885 or jackie@sprague.org

Dick Simpson, Vice-President, 802-525-3723 (summer)

Reginald Lamb, Treasurer, rdlamb@prodigy.net

Joanna Wright, Secretary, 802-482-2937 (summer)

Susan Warren, VTDEC Liason, 802-241-3794, susan.warren@state.vt.us

Or visit our website: www.vtlakes.org

Don't Miss the 2007 Vermont Lake Seminar!

Friday June 8th, 8:30-3:30, Elks Club, Montpelier

The agenda features:

- Lake associations discussing the successes and challenges of **invasive species** prevention and milfoil control programs.
- A special session devoted to **shoreland conservation**: how to conserve undeveloped shore on your lake for beauty, water quality and wildlife habitat.
- An opportunity to get trained as part of the new **VIP** program: Vermont Invasive Patrollers. Join the Lakes and Ponds staff for an indoor session on identifying plants, both native and invasive, and then a **FIELD TRIP** that same afternoon to a nearby lake to see the plants in the wild and learn plant survey techniques.
- **Help for Lake Associations!** Discuss and problem solve about common organizational problems that lake associations (and many others as well!) are challenged by, such as fundraising, building membership, keeping volunteers motivated, and building awareness for your cause.

PLUS, plenty of time to meet and discuss your issues and concerns with other lake association people and the Lakes and Ponds Section staff.

The cost is only \$15, including lunch. This year the Federation is pleased to again offer one free registration per lake to access area monitors hired for the summer. Registration forms will be sent out soon, or contact Reginald Lamb at rdlamb@prodigy.net.

FEDERATION OF VERMONT LAKES AND PONDS, INC Annual Meeting Announcement

Monday, July 23, 2007

Montpelier Elks Club, 8:30 – 3:30

Please join the many lake and pond lovers to network with others and learn what is happening around the state. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other and leave with an increased knowledge of lakes and pond issues and successes.

The agenda will include an update of lake-related issues in the legislature, status of aquatic nuisance programs, recent changes to septic system regulations, and a discussion of increasing FOVLAP membership. We will also elect new board members as well as vote on the proposed bylaw change below. And everyone's favorite part, the lake reports where you can hear the issues and concerns of other lake associations across the state!

BYLAW Addition: There has not been specific wording regarding the term limits of the officers. The following proposal will be discussed and voted upon at the annual meeting on July 23, 2007.

Terms for officers will rotate on the odd and even number year. President and Treasurer will be up for election after serving two (2) consecutive 2-year terms in even years. The Vice-president and Clerk will be up for election after serving two (2) consecutive 2-year terms in odd numbered years. Officers may continue as a director if elected and return as an officer after a one year absence.

Please see www.vtlakes.org for a copy of the current bylaws. Article XI explains the amendment procedures. Please feel free to contact me at Jackie@sprague.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Jackie Sprague
President, FOVLAP



2007 Membership Dues

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN OUR FEDERATION AND HELP PRESERVE VERMONT'S LAKES AND PONDS.

() \$25.00 Association Member

() \$15.00 Individual Member

Name: _____

Address: _____

Association: _____

Contact Phone No.: _____ email: _____

() We would like to show our support with the following additional donation \$ _____.

The Federation is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible in accordance with I.R.S. regulations.

*Checks payable to the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds
and mailed to our P.O. Box 421, Waterbury, VT 05676.*

Please send us your updated list of Association Officers and email contact.



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P.O. Box 421
Waterbury, VT 05676

OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION

Jackie Sprague, President (Lake Harvey)
Dick Simpson, Vice-President (Willoughby Lake)
Reginald Lamb, Treasurer (Woodbury Lake)
Jo Wright, Secretary (Lake Iroquois)

DIRECTORS OF THE FEDERATION

Cliff Aikens (Silver Lake)
Andy Dales (Caspian Lake)
Phil Pope (Lake St. Catherine)
Patricia Rockwell (Shadow Lake)
Jeannine Jenkins (Lake Paran)
John Washburn (Lake Parker)
Bill Fisk (Cedar Lake)
Dave Wood (Salem Lake)

VIPs – Vermont Invasive Patrollers – Training Sessions

Become a Certified VIP! Participate in one of the training sessions listed below, or host a session yourself. For more information, to pre-register for a session, or to inquire about hosting a session at your lake or pond, contact Leslie Matthews, leslie.matthews@state.vt.us, 802-241-3798.

| Date/Time | Waterbody | Town |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| June 8, 1:30pm – 5:00pm* | North Montpelier Pond | Montpelier |
| June 19, 1:00pm – 4:30pm | Dewey's Mill Pond | North Hartland |
| July 17, 11:30am – 3:00pm | Indian Brook Reservoir | Essex |

**This session is being held in conjunction with the 2007 Vermont Lake Seminar*

