



Lake Hortonia News

Happy New Year!

The lake may seem quiet but your lake association board members have been working hard this fall & winter!

Darrin Fresh Water Institute (DFWI) Lake plant survey report

DFWI Annual aquatic plant survey was completed in September 2017. The report showed the presence of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in 29% of the lake. Please visit lakehortonia.org to read the report.

Board Meetings

Board meetings were held on 10/7 and 11/4. The main focus of the meetings was to establish a treatment plan for 2018. Please visit lakehortonia.org for minutes to the meetings.

Draft Lake Treatment Plan for 2018

The Invasive Species Control (weed) committee drafted a multi-faceted plan to treat for invasive species: Spot treatment with herbicide, Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH), and Bottom barriers. The board also plans to explore whole lake herbicide treatment with the DEC. *Thank you, Dave Weaver, Mike Kelley and Tom Batzinger for your time and effort to draft this plan.*

Meeting with VT DEC

Several members of the board met with the VT DEC on 12/1/17. It was a positive and productive meeting. The agenda:

- Whole lake treatments assessment (VT DEC)
- Darrin Fresh Water Inst. (DFWI) report review
- 2018 Treatment Plan for Lake Hortonia

VT DEC looked at the concentration of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in the lake: 29%. VT DEC will not approve a permit for whole lake herbicide treatment at this concentration. The Department is more likely to support projects that take a combined chemical and non-chemical approach that demonstrates pesticide minimization over time.

Therefore, LHPOA will submit permits to treat the lake for EWM with these approaches: 1. Spot treatments with herbicide, 2. DASH and 3. Use of bottom barriers. *Notice of our intent to apply for Aquatic Nuisance Control permits will be mailed 1/30/18 to all property owners whose land abuts the lake.*

For more information on the DEC meeting; the plan to treat the lake for EWM; and a map of proposed treatments, please visit lakehortonia.org.

Thank you, Kent Pieri, Mark Young, Dave Weaver, Mike Kelley and Tom Batzinger for working with VT DEC for the protection of Lake Hortonia.

What Is DASH and How will we use it?

DASH is Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting. We are seeking a permit to use this method to remove EWM in the area of the boat launch at the Lake Hortonia Country Store which sees high boat traffic. Fragmentation is the main cause for new infestations. Eliminating EWM near this site will significantly reduce the occurrence of new infestations caused by floating fragments.

The board has submitted a grant request to cover the cost of using DASH near the store. The VT DEC permit for DASH also includes a request for property owners to use this method.

Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) Grant Awarded!

Members of the Invasive Species Control committee, with critical assistance from Katie Brinton, made a grant request to LCBP to obtain funding for DASH near the store boat launch. Thanks to their many hours of hard work, on December 20th, LCBP approved our grant request for up to \$15,000! *Thank you, committee members and a special thank you to Katie Brinton.*

Town Contributions

Mark Young is spearheading a committee to draft a plan to approach the towns of Sudbury and Hubbardton selectmen to put a line item in the town budgets to help fund the efforts to control invasive species in Lake Hortonia.

Treasurer's Report

There is currently \$88,000 in LHPOA's bank accounts.

Upcoming 2018 expenses:

- Approximately \$60,000 for Spot treatments with herbicide; expenses for posting signs, shipping water samples and mailing notices.

Possible expenses for 2019:

- Could be a similar amount or more \$\$\$\$ for Spot treatments or whole lake treatment with herbicide
- Expenses for posting signs, shipping water samples and mailing notices

Possible expenses for 2020:

- Could be a similar amount or more \$\$\$\$ for Spot treatments or whole lake treatment with herbicide
- Expenses for posting signs, shipping water samples and mailing notices

There are many costs involved with invasive species control from year to year. LHPOA members' dues are the main source of funding for these expenses.

Please remember to pay your annual dues. Please also consider encouraging neighbors and friends to join LHPOA. ***Working and contributing together we will keep Lake Hortonia a healthy and beautiful place to live and visit.***

2018 Lake Association Dues

2018 dues are \$150 AND tax deductible! Please make checks payable to Lake Hortonia Property Owners Association. Dues can be mailed to: LHPOA, P.O. Box 23, Bomoseen, VT 05732.

Web Site

Lake Hortonia Property Owners Association website: lakehortonia.org is up and running. Please visit and let us know what you think. Your input will help us improve the site.

Officers:

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