



**If you have not paid your dues  
please consider paying TODAY.**



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*Spring 2015*




# MLPOA

**Monomonac Lake Property  
Owners Association**

## *President's Message*

Whether we are new-timers or old-timers living on Lake Monomonac, we all find beauty, wonder, and enjoyment throughout the seasons. The bright colors of fall, the stark cold solitude of winter, the greening hope of spring, and the bustle of summer all contribute to our unique and gentle way of life. Preserving the natural beauty of our lake and ensuring that future generations will enjoy the same quality of life is the overarching mission of MLPOA. Your membership, associated dues, and participation are essential for continuing the work of maintaining the quality of our lake.

Your Board of Directors continue working hard this year to make a positive difference:

**Visit [monomonac.org](http://monomonac.org) or  Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association,**  
for important information and engaged conversation

**MLPOA Newsletter** May 2015

**Annual Meeting** July 18, 2015, Wellington Park

**Water Quality Testing and Reporting** throughout the summer months

**Exotic Milfoil Weed Treatment** for up to 30 acres in early June 2015

**John Sarasin Lake Education Program** on June 3rd, 2015 for grade five students from Rindge and Winchendon

**Lake Host Program** during June and July that educates boaters and reduces milfoil contamination

This year MLPOA celebrates its 45th year of service! We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and learning about on-going efforts to preserve our lake for generations to come. Please share this newsletter with folks who may not yet be members and encourage their participation in Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association.

Thank you,

Burt Goodrich, President

*P.S. This year's annual meeting  
will be held on Saturday, July  
18th at 8:30 a.m. for coffee  
and 9:00 a.m. for the meeting.  
Join us at the Recreation  
building at Wellington Park.  
See you there!*



## *John Sarasin Lake Education Day*

Every year in June, an intrepid group of boaters gathers at Rindge Acres Beach to embark upon a great adventure. This wonderful group of MLPOA members has the pleasure of taking 200 fifth graders, from both Winchendon and Rindge, out onto Lake Monomonic to learn about lake ecology.

This year will be the 22nd time for this event. John Sarasin Lake Education Day builds a bridge with the local community as well as respect for the fragility of the lake. Children learn how important clean fresh water is to our world.

The Limnologists from New Hampshire State arrive early in the morning and load onto the boats with the



drivers and children. Promptly at 9 am the first excursion takes off in a long line of pontoon boats and then separates to different areas on the lake. The Limnologists try to ensure that each child plays a role in testing the waters.

The boaters have endured all manner of weather over the years, but every one of them looks forward to coming back the following year. The children are well behaved, and excited to take part in this activity.

So if you look out your window or step out onto your deck on June 3rd this year you may see an army of boaters and children helping to protect our lake.

by Kathy John

## *Millers River and Lake Monomonic*

The Millers River is a recreation and historic river which originates in southwest New Hampshire and meanders through the picturesque towns of north central Massachusetts joining with the Connecticut River downstream from the town of Millers Falls Massachusetts. Although a majority of the river flows through central Massachusetts, much of the watershed is contained in southwest New Hampshire. Lake Monomonic, as part of the Upper Millers River watershed, is a primary contributor to the river.



### *2015 MLPOA Lake Host Program*

MLPOA will once again be participating in the Lake Host Program with the help of a grant by the NH Lakes Association in the amount of \$1300. As part of the grant we match the funds that we receive with volunteer time.

The Lake Host Program is one of the nation's premier aquatic nuisance species education and prevention programs. Lake Hosts are young people trained to greet visitors both entering and leaving the boat launch area to protect us from further invasion of invasive species. Their duties include asking questions and filling out a boaters survey, distributing brochures, conducting courtesy boat and trailer inspections, and reminding boaters to clean, drain, and dry their watercraft. Be sure to say hello to our hosts when you see them at the North of The Border Boat Ramp.

Remember your membership supports programs like these that are so important to keeping our lake healthy and safe for all to enjoy. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or want further information please let us know.

by Phil Simeone

Through the efforts of the Millers River Watershed Council there has been a comprehensive study of the river through Massachusetts, but very little study of the watershed has been done in New Hampshire. The Upper Millers River watershed Council feels it's important to the health of the Millers River in Massachusetts to also have water quality and environmental data from the New Hampshire watershed. In order to obtain that data a meeting was held with representatives from NH conservation commissions, lake associations, the Franklin Pierce University Environmental Science Department, and representatives of the Upper Millers River Watershed Council.

A cooperative plan is being developed to monitor some of the streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands that contribute to the Millers River. Lake Monomonic is one of the lakes being considered for the placement of sensors at the inlet and outlet streams to collect crucial data, such as water temperature and flow rates. This data will be shared with all and hopefully provide MLPOA with additional information on the health of our lake.

It is a further goal of this group that by developing this collaborative plan it will increase local understanding of, and ability to address, environmental risks which threaten the integrity of aquatic resources in the Upper Millers River Watershed in NH such as climate change, water quality, invasive species and habitat for fish and wildlife.

By visiting the Millers River Watershed Council website at [www.millerswatershed.org](http://www.millerswatershed.org) additional information can be found about the organization and the natural, recreational, and historic points of interest along the Millers River.

by Phil Simeone



## Variable Milfoil

Variable milfoil is creating a serious economic and recreational nuisance in New Hampshire lakes. Variable milfoil was first introduced in New Hampshire lakes in the late 1960s by way of discarded aquarium plants into lakes and other waterbodies. It then spread from lake to lake by boats, motors, trailers, fishing gear, and by natural forces. Variable milfoil can live out of the water for hours and then rejuvenate once it is introduced to water again.

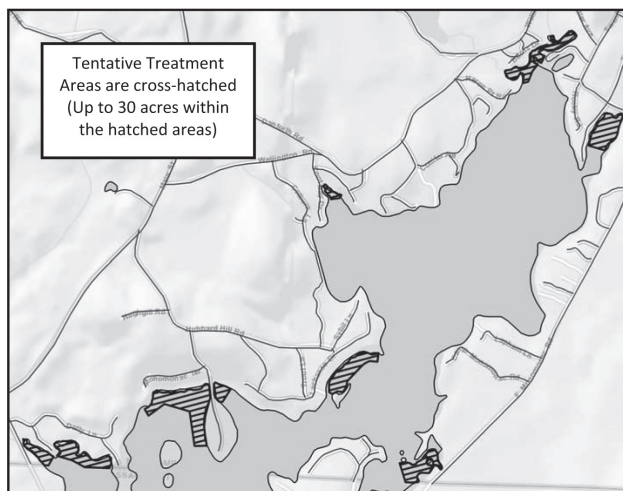
Because variable milfoil has no natural predators, it can grow at explosive rates, rapidly inhabiting shoreline areas. Small fragments of variable milfoil carried by water currents and waves created by boat traffic float in the water and form roots, allowing the plant to take hold in shallow waters and colonize another area of the lake. One small fragment of variable milfoil can potentially multiply into 250 million new plants within a year's time. It can grow one inch per day to reach 18 feet in length, creating a matlike canopy near the water's surface. At this time, Monomonic Lake has approximately 30 acres that have been colonized by variable milfoil. The number of colonized areas can grow exponentially if left untreated.

Left untreated, variable milfoil will clog lakes, causing boating and swimming hazards and crowd out native species of aquatic plants, necessary for the food and shelter of fish and fowl. In extreme cases, milfoil has been implicated in the drowning of swimmers who became entangled in the long vine-like plants.

Less obvious is the increased nutrient loading caused by decaying organic matter, reduced dissolved oxygen levels, and increased levels of phosphorus and nitrogen which contribute to the rapid aging (eutrophication) of the lake and loss of property values. Studies indicate that shoreline property values may decline as much as 20% to 40% when variable milfoil is present in the waterbody.

These results present important implications for prevention and control strategies. Once introduced and fully established, variable milfoil is virtually impossible to eradicate. The use of herbicides is the best method available for treating the ongoing infestation at Monomonic Lake but it is very expensive. This year we are treating 30 acres at the cost of \$11,490. NH-DES will contribute with a grant for 25% (\$2,873). Our final cost will be \$8,617 which comes from MLPOA member dues paid by lake property owners like yourself. Please help us protect the property and the recreational values of our homes by paying your membership dues.

by Lourdes Gray



## Exotic Milfoil Weed Treatment

Treating for exotic milfoil is an on-going challenge. Without the vigilance of MLPOA and our annual treatment process, exotic milfoil would take over our lake. Our treatment plan for this year is a return to the herbicide "Diquat" which has been applied in previous years. Aquatic Control Technology and NHDES have both recommended a return to Diquat due to less than anticipated results from the last 3 years of treatment with 2,4-D and fear of our milfoil developing immunity to 2,4-D. Water temperature, chemistry and low level currents were the cause of poor results in some treatment areas.

We are planning to treat all 30 acres of milfoil in Lake Monomonic in early June in accordance with a Permit issued by the NH Division of Pesticide Control.

### The following temporary water use restrictions will be imposed on the day of treatment:

- No swimming for 24 hours following treatment, within 200 feet of treated areas.
- Do Not Use this water for drinking, irrigation or for mixing sprays for agriculture or ornamental plants until further notice. Some irrigation restrictions may be relaxed, as per the pesticide label, at the discretion of the applicator.
- These restrictions apply to all intakes within 1,200 feet of treatment area, and to all wells within 50 feet of the treatment area.

Contact Aquatic Control Technology, 11 John Road, Sutton, MA 01590-2509, 508-865-1000, [info@aquaticcontroltech.com](mailto:info@aquaticcontroltech.com) for information on the release dates of these restrictions or for additional information on the irrigation restrictions.

The shoreline of the lake will be posted with signs warning of the temporary water use restrictions that will be imposed, immediately prior to treatment. If you have any questions concerning treatment, contact Aquatic Control Technology at 508-865-1000 or go to [www.aquaticcontroltech.com](http://www.aquaticcontroltech.com).

I am also pleased to report that MLPOA applied for and received a State of New Hampshire grant to assist our weed treatment. This grant is for 25% of the cost of treatment and is not to exceed \$2,873. The estimated cost to treat 30 acres is \$11,490. We are fortunate to receive a grant this size for the third year in a row. Obviously New Hampshire is supporting our desire to eradicate the milfoil but we need your support to make it happen. Please send your membership dues.

by Bob Childs



## *Annual Dues collected each Spring*

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Lake Supporter | \$50  |
| Lake Warden    | \$100 |
| Lake Protector | \$250 |
| Lake Champion  | \$500 |

*Join us today and support YOUR Lake!*

## *Please Renew Your Membership Now*

Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association exists by and for all those families who use and enjoy this beautiful natural treasure. Your membership and participation is essential for the good work that is accomplished. Because of your support, MLPOA is able to provide:

- Exotic Milfoil Weed Treatment
- MLPOA Newsletter and Mailings
- MLPOA Annual Meeting
- Water Quality Testing and Reporting
- John Sarasin Lake Education Day, 5th Grade Students, Rindge and Winchendon
- Lake Host Program to reduce the risk of milfoil contamination

Please continue your membership in MLPOA and encourage others to join. These Programs keep a clean and clear Lake and are funded by your membership. These programs benefit us all. We need to rely on your continuing membership and your help in getting your neighbors to join if you want these programs to continue. Enclosed is an envelope for your dues. Please join and help keep Monomonac the natural treasure that we all enjoy.

**Send your dues to:**  
MLPOA  
C/O Bob Childs  
50 LaChance Dr  
Rindge, NH 03461

**Visit us at**  
[monomonac.org](http://monomonac.org)  
or



**Monomonac Lake Property  
Owners Association**

Join Us!

Meeting at 9:00 am

Coffee and snacks at 8:30 am

Annual Meeting July 18th  
Rindge Recreation Building,  
Wellington Park

Box 693 • Rindge, NH 03461

**MLPOA**  
Monomonac Lake Property  
Owners Association



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