

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



### *MLPOA Officers*

**Phil Simeone, President**

10 Marina Way,  
Rindge, NH 03461  
603-899-6712  
philsimZVM@gmail.com

**Tom Uhlig, Vice President**

75 Paradise Island Road,  
Rindge, NH 03461  
603-899-1359  
tuhlig@aol.com

**Kathy John, Secretary**

Lapham Lane,  
Rindge, NH 03461  
603-899-9606  
nhlakema@hotmail.com

**Bob Childs, Treasurer**

58 LaChance Circle,  
Rindge, NH 03461  
603-899-6146  
Rchilds\_rindge@yahoo.com

**Anne Reed, Communications**

62 Paradise Island Road,  
Rindge, NH 03461  
781-718-2078  
anne@prospect-comm.com



# MLPOA

## Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association

SPRING 2017

## *President's Message*

No matter what the season, living on Monomonac Lake provides us with beauty, tranquility, and the opportunity to enjoy many recreational activities. As residents and property owners it is our responsibility to preserve the natural beauty of the lake and ensure that future generations can enjoy the same quality of life for generations to come. It is the mission of the Monomonac Property Owners Association (MLPOA), along with the Winchendon Springs Lake Association (WSLA) to help in that endeavor. Your MLPOA executive board works year round to insure that residents have as clean, safe, and well maintained lake as possible. Here are some of the issues and activities the board of directors and volunteers are working on for the upcoming season:

- Working with the WSLA to obtain an order of condition for the winter drawdown.
- Lake survey of variable milfoil for upcoming weed treatment.
- John Sarasin Lake Education Program: Rindge and Winchendon 4th and 5th grade class field trip to the lake where they learn from New Hampshire DES limnologists about water testing and quality. June 7, 2017
- Weed treatment: June 8, 2017
- Lake Host Program: Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Water testing and reporting: three to four times over the summer
- Annual Meeting: July 15, 2017

Remember, we all share in the responsibility of preserving our lake's natural beauty and maintaining its resources. You can help by renewing your MLPOA membership, recruiting new members, and being vigilant to any issues that may affect the quality of our lake.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the MLPOA Executive Board Members and volunteers who have helped me for the past two years. Without their efforts, our lake would not provide the quality of lake living we enjoy.

Phil Simeone, President



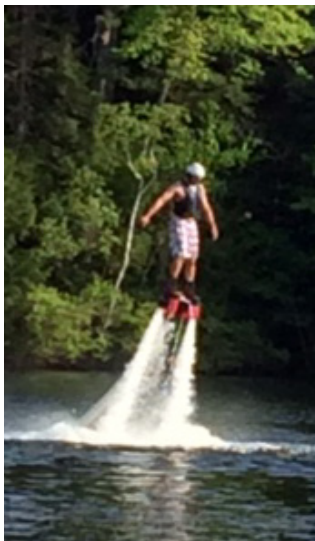
## VLAP - Volunteer Lake Assessment Program

**Have you ever wondered how a state with over 800 public lakes and ponds and eight aquatic biologists can evaluate water quality?** It would be impossible without the help of dedicated state-wide volunteers who offer their time to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES). Monomonac's volunteers are part of a network that works with the DES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP). VLAP is a volunteer-driven lake sampling program that assists DES in evaluating lake water quality, and provides with reports on lake health. This cooperative effort allows biologists and lake associations to make educated decisions regarding the future of New Hampshire's lakes and ponds.

**Why is VLAP Important to Lake Monomonac?** A volunteer-driven water sampling program assists DES in evaluating water quality throughout the state, which helps empowers monitors and lake residents with information about the health of Monomonac. Regular gathering of water quality data from the lake and its tributaries establishes a strong set of baseline chemical and biological data. This monitoring results in early detection of water quality changes, allowing DES to trace potential problems to their source. Our VLAP volunteer monitors are invaluable and they help to determine long-term water quality trends, and they educate lake and watershed residents, business and town on best management practices to keep our lake clean. This program has been, and will continue to be, a key element in protecting Lake Monomonac.

**How Does VLAP Work?** VLAP is a cooperative program between the NH DES and MLPOA. Volunteer monitors are trained by DES to use lake monitoring equipment to collect lake water quality data, to survey the surrounding watershed, and to sample the streams and rivers that are tributaries to the lake. Sampling frequency is flexible, but we choose to sample monthly throughout the summer (June through August). Our lake must be sampled in the presence of a DES biologist at least once per summer. At this time the volunteer monitors have an opportunity to express any watershed concerns.

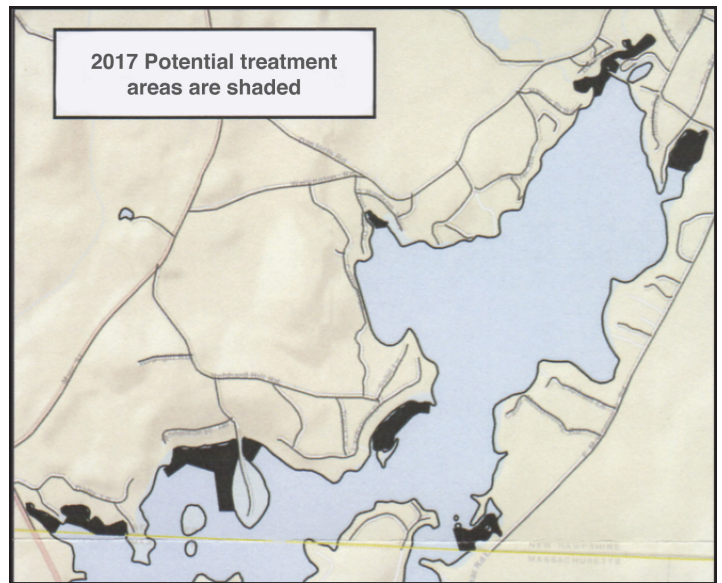
The data gathered are reviewed for quality assurance and imported into the DES Environmental Monitoring Database (EMD). During the off-season, DES biologists interpret the water quality data, perform trend analyses, and compile the results into an annual report for



each lake. Quality data gathered through VLAP also help DES to conduct statewide surface water quality assessments. Assessment results and methodology are published by DES every two years as a requirement of the Federal Clean Water Act.

We receive the report once a year and the information is posted to the website. Frequently DES biologists present at our annual meeting. Volunteer monitors are dedicated, proactive lake stewards who are concerned for the well-being of their lakes.

Lourdes Gray



## Lake Health

### Weed Treatment Alert

Tentative Treatment Areas are cross-hatched (Up to 30 acres within the hatched areas)

SOLitude Lake Management, of Shrewsbury, MA has been contracted by the Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association to chemically treat portions of Monomonac Lake in Rindge for control of non-native milfoil. Portions will be treated with the USEPA/State registered Reward (Diquat) herbicide, EPA Registration Number 100-1091 on Monday, June 8, 2017.

The following temporary water use restrictions apply to all intakes within 1,200 feet of the treatment areas, drawing water for drinking or irrigation purposes, and to all wells and points within 50 feet of the treated areas:

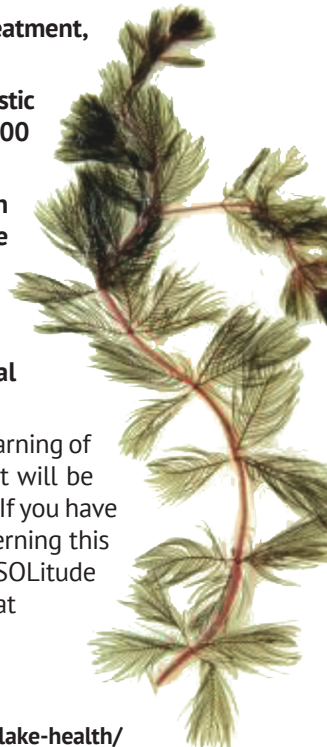
- **No swimming for 24 hours following treatment, within 200 feet of treated areas.**
- **Do not use this water for livestock/domestic animal consumption for 1 day, within 200 feet of treated areas**
- **Do not use this water for drinking, irrigation or for mixing sprays for turf or landscape ornamental plants for 3 days**
- **Do Not Use this water for irrigation to food crops or for mixing sprays for agricultural or production ornamental plants for 5 days**

The shoreline 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 this treatment, contact SOLitude Lake Management at 508-885-0101.



Scan QR code to go to [www.Monomonac.org/lake-health/](http://www.Monomonac.org/lake-health/)





## 2017-18 Lake Drawdown

### Background

As we all know, the MLPOA has worked for many years to help maintain the quality of the lake. Our primary challenge has been to battle the invasive exotic Milfoil plants from overtaking portions of the lake. To date this effort has been very successful in mitigating Milfoil.

Our counterparts on the Massachusetts side of the lake (Winchendon Springs Lake Association - WSLA) have not had the same level of success. They have not had the resources and are now facing a dilemma that will, in time, impact the lake as a whole. They no longer have funds to fight Milfoil. They have made a conscientious effort to get grants and have consulted several limnologists seeking alternatives. The only short term effort that is deemed an option is to lower the lake an additional foot in hopes of killing the Milfoil during the winter frost.

Long time lake residents will remember that the lake was regularly lowered to 3 feet every couple years. The normal level is 2 feet. When the dam was rebuilt in the 90's it was lowered 5+ feet.

### Current Status

The WSLA has put in hundreds of hours of work to get approval from state (MA) and Winchendon officials for this change. They have kept the MLPOA informed of these efforts and we have had representatives at many of the hearings.

The primary concern of the 3 foot drawdown is the potential water problem that may occur for year round residents who have very shallow dug wells. As a result, a contingency plan has been developed to help assist anyone who may be affected. A copy of the complete plan is available from MLPOA, but to summarize it includes - 1. An agreement with a local shallow well contractor to inspect any wells before the drawdown at no charge. 2. A listing of options for shallow well remediation. And 3. A short term emergency plan to provide drinking water. In the unlikely event that several people are affected, the water level can be returned to 2 feet within a week.

The MLPOA views the additional drawdown as a compromise of the potential inconvenience of the drawdown versus the possibility that our work to reduce Milfoil will be lost if the Massachusetts side of the lake is overcome.

The 3 foot drawdown has been approved and will begin October 15, 2017. This will be done slowly and may not be complete until December. The drawback will occur as normal in March/April 2018.

Tom Uhlig



## Monomonac Lake Sailing Association

### Summer Schedule

The MLSA is marking our 65th year on lake Monomonac this summer. You will find us out racing on Saturdays during the summer. We encourage anyone interested in learning to sail or race to join us. In addition to racing we organize lake events open to all.

The 4th of July Boat Parade begins at 1:30 at Commodore Island. This year's theme is your favorite Broadway Play. Dress up your boat and yourselves and come on out. The first place boat gets a \$100 gift certificate to Atlas Fireworks!

Sunday, July 16th will find a floating restaurant at Commodore Island serving pancake and sausage breakfast from 8AM to 10 AM. Bring your guests and your kids for a unique breakfast on the lake.

The Battle of Lake Monomonac is back this year. Different format but just as much fun. Think capture the flag with kayaks and super-soakers. That happens on July 30th, time to be announced.

Opening and Closing parties and skipper's parties are well attended.

Events and times can be found on the bulletin board at the end of the dock on Commodore Island. They are also posted in the Jib Sheet, the club publication.

Consider becoming a social member (\$20), or sailing member (\$40). Applications are available from myself, the Commodore, Susan Kochinskas, the vice commodore, and most of the members you see on the lake.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the lake.

Don Wilson, Commodore – [dkwilsonheronpoint@gmail.com](mailto:dkwilsonheronpoint@gmail.com)

### Eagles on Monomonac

We can congratulate ourselves on doing an excellent job keeping our lake clean and welcoming, as evidenced by our growing eagle population! I have heard rumors of a nesting pair of eagles living near Paradise Island. The family pictured here make their home at Converse Meadows. This family arrived just before Christmas to enjoy a holiday meal of cormorant on the new ice.

In the part of the lake known locally as "the basin", we often spot eagles flying low and scanning the lake of fish. I have been thrilled to have an eagle land in the tree just off my deck to fish the waters below.

One way to irritate an eagle is to take his/her picture while they are busy doing their very important job of finding food! He flew off with a backwards glance letting me know exactly how he felt.

Your dues help us to keep our lake a welcoming place for this majestic bird. Keep your eyes open to the skies and you will almost certainly be able to enjoy the wonderful experience of seeing one of the many creatures we share our lake with.

Kathy John





# MLPOA

Monomonac Lake Property  
Owners Association

Box 693 • Rindge, NH 03461

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## Annual Meeting July 15th

Rindge Recreation Building, Wellington Park

Coffee and snacks at 8:30 am

Meeting at 9:00 am

## Join Us!



### *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  
58 LaChance Dr  
Rindge, NH 03461

#### **Visit us at**

[www.Monomonac.org](http://www.Monomonac.org)

or



**Monomonac Lake Property  
Owners Association**