



the Water Column

Vol. 8, No. 1

Provided free of charge to our monitors and affiliates

Summer 2003

ANNOUNCING: THE 2003 MAINE VLMP ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, AUBURN MAINE

Please Join Us!

- ★ Registration is free for volunteer lake monitors
- ★ Meet and mingle with volunteers from all over Maine
- ★ Attend interesting and informative presentations about Maine lakes
- ★ Interact with VLMP & DEP staff
- ★ Enjoy a delicious free lunch
- ★ Win a new Old Town Kayak (no entry fee required)
- ★ Participate in the Silent Auction (to benefit the VLMP)
- ★ Get Re-certification credit following the meeting
- ★ Tour the New Home of the VLMP on the Shoreline of Lake Auburn



Win a New Kayak!



VLMP's new home!



Donated auction items by Patagonia!



Get re-certified!



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Stasia Savasuk
Volunteer Coordinator

Roberta Hill
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Visit us on line at:

www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org

Contact Us:

PO Box 445
Turner, ME 04282
207-225-2070
vlmp@megalink.net

Editorial Staff

Stasia Savasuk, Editor & Layout
Scott Williams, Editorial Comm.
Roberta Hill, Editorial Comm.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2003 VLMP ANNUAL MEETING

Volunteer lake monitors from around the State of Maine will gather at Central Maine Technical College in Auburn on Saturday, June 28 for the VLMP Annual Meeting. The event brings together individuals with a wide range of interest and experience in Maine lakes. Volunteers who have just become part of the lake monitoring community in 2003 will have an opportunity to mingle with the VLMP's most seasoned monitors, some of whom have been continuously active for two or more decades. Maine leads the nation in terms of long-term volunteer commitment to monitoring lakes and ponds.

The Annual Meeting is also an informal opportunity to meet the VLMP staff and Board of Directors, Maine DEP technical advisors, lake educators and researchers, representatives of lake associations, and others who share a common interest in the welfare of Maine's lakes and ponds.

The event is one way of thanking volunteer lake monitors for their efforts throughout the year. The meeting, refreshments, and lunch are a small token of appreciation to those who are able to attend. This year the VLMP will be giving away a new Old Town kayak and several other door prizes throughout the meeting. A silent auction will also be held, at which attendees may bid on items that have been donated to the VLMP for fundraising.

If you are due for re-certification in 2003, come to the Annual Meeting, join us for lunch, then meet with VLMP and Maine DEP staff at nearby Lake Auburn to fulfill your certification requirements.

Four technical presentations of interest to volunteer monitors will be made during the morning session:

•Glen Hodgkins, a researcher at the U.S. Geological Survey, will discuss research that he has conducted involving the use of historical lake ice-out dates as indicators of climate change in New England. Ice-out records have been recorded by individuals and communities throughout Maine and New England for more than 150 years. This source of historical data from our lakes and ponds may be linked to other environmental changes that nobody suspected as they dutifully recorded this annual lake event.

•You may know that Quality Control is important when it comes to collecting credible lake data. After all, you have to keep going to those pesky re-certification QC workshops. But do you know *why* QC is so important? Malcolm Burson (Maine DEP) will inspire you to always be thinking about this very important aspect of being a volunteer lake monitor.

• Roberta Hill from the VLMP's Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants will speak about the recent discovery of *Hydrilla verticillata* in a small lake in Southern Maine. The revelation has taken everyone by surprise, and the implications of the discovery for Maine lakes are ominous. Learn about Hydrilla, how to recognize it, and most importantly, how to prevent it and other invasive aquatic plants from finding their way to *your* lake. A number of invasive plant specimens will be on display at the meeting.

• Steve Kahl, Director of the George Mitchell Center at the University of Maine will tell us about "Maine Lakes in Time and Space." You may be surprised to learn that all Maine lakes and ponds were *not* created equal. In fact, many more factors influence the shape, depth, water quality, biogeochemistry and longevity of lakes than you may realize. Steve will give us a guided tour of some of the most unique lakes in the state.

In addition to all of this, individual volunteer monitors will be recognized for their long-term commitment to Maine lakes, including the "Volunteer of the Year." For those interested, there will also be tours of the new VLMP headquarters on the shores of Lake Auburn.

Please join us on June 28th for the VLMP Annual Meeting. We really look forward to seeing you. Please remember that pre-registration is required, and is particularly important if you plan to join us for lunch (no charge).

QA/QC WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

This is a list of the remaining workshops for the 2003 summer season

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
May 31	Androscoggin	Bear Pond, Turner
May 31	Cumberland	Panther Pond, Raymond
June 7	Piscataquis	Sebec Lake, Greeley
June 7	Aroostook (2 pm)	Madawaska Lake, T16 R4
June 8	Aroostook (2 pm)	Nickerson Lake, New Limerick
June 8	Knox (2 pm)	Alford Lake, Hope
June 14	Penobscot	Pushaw Lake, Old Town
June 14	Waldo	Sheepscot Pond, Palermo
June 28	Annual Meeting (1 pm)	Lake Auburn, Auburn

Please Note: All workshops begin at 9 A.M. unless otherwise indicated. Pre-registration is required. Please contact either the VLMP or your Regional Coordinator for exact meeting location.

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW MAINE LAKES?

This feature of The Water Column is an opportunity for volunteer monitors to demonstrate their knowledge of Maine lakes and ponds – and to win a prize! The winner of the question in the previous newsletter received a gift certificate to L.L. Bean. Only volunteer lake monitors are eligible. If you think you know the answer to this question, please contact the VLMP office via phone or email. The winner will be drawn from all of the correct answers.

Question: What is the name of the process through which pollutants from developed or disturbed areas in lake watersheds are transported to the water body in stormwater runoff?

Answer:

- A. PDQ pollution
- B. Point Source Dilution
- C. Nonpoint Source Pollution
- D. The China Lake Syndrome



Congratulations to Eileen Burnell, winner of the Winter 02-03 'So You Think You Know Maine Lakes' contest!

www.iGive.com

Help support the MVLMP by shopping at the iGive.com shopping mall, which is host to thousands of brandname stores such as LL Bean, Barnes&Noble.com, and the Gap. Every time you shop at iGive.com, a percentage of your purchase can be donated to your favorite cause. So, next time you're getting ready to make an on-line purchase, consider doing so through www.iGive.com.

THE WOODBURY BRACKETT ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

New Home for the VLMP



We are pleased to announce that the VLMP will soon be moving to a beautiful location on the shoreline of Lake Auburn. The property is owned by the Auburn Water District. They received the buildings and several acres of landscaped grounds in a bequest from the former owners, with the provision that the property be used for non-profit efforts to protect the environment. The property slopes gently toward Lake Auburn, which is the public drinking water supply for the Cities of Auburn and Lewiston.

We are deeply honored and grateful that the Auburn Water District has offered the VLMP this extraordinary opportunity to make the Brackett Environmental Center our home. The buildings and land have been well cared for, and lend themselves to the design and application of lake-friendly conservation practices. Indeed, it is our vision that the Brackett Center will serve as an outstanding example of the use of water quality conservation practices in lake watersheds.

Tours of the Brackett Center will take place following the VLMP Annual Meeting.



Fellow Monitors,

What do you think of the VLMP's new home! We held our first board meeting at the Brackett Environmental Center recently and it is really a pleasing space to be in—a charming old house surrounded by fields and flowers and a view of Lake Auburn. After the meeting we had a team building "retreat" . . . we cleaned the house from cellar to attic!

As president of the VLMP, I am eager to see the staff working out of this house—they work their guts out for Maine lakes and they deserve this! Moving to and setting up this new home will require a significant cash outlay by the VLMP which is not in the budget. So, as much as I hate to do it—you already do so *much* for the program—I am appealing to you, my fellow monitors, to send in what you can to fund this new home for our program. Last spring, I went to a fund raising workshop and learned that the #1 reason people give is because "they were asked." I also learned that the people who donate money when you ask them, believe in your cause, and will be people just like yourself. Well . . . that's *you*!

There are over 500 of us and we can really do some good here. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 by September 1, 2003. If you can help, please send your contribution to the VLMP office and note that it is for the "Brackett Center".

And by the way . . . have a *great* summer and go swimming as soon as you can! I jumped into Boyd Pond today (May 15th)! What a rush! You have, as always, my deep respect for your commitment. Hope to see you all at the annual meeting.

Walk softly on the Earth,
Peter Fischer, President, VLMP

LAKESIDE NOTES

BY: SCOTT WILLIAMS



Over the years it has been my good fortune to meet many of the volunteer lake monitors in this program. Some of those meetings have taken place at training sessions for new recruits, at re-certification workshops, at our Annual Meeting, or at some other lake-based event. With nearly every introduction I have been struck by the wealth of knowledge, history, ideas and general information that each volunteer brings to the program.

Volunteer lake monitors get involved with the VLMP for a number of reasons. Many have been riparian dwellers for years alongside the water body that they monitor. During that time they have developed a profound appreciation and respect for their lake or pond's beauty, complexity and fragility. Some of our monitors are local historians who have witnessed and documented cultural transitions in their watershed communities. Many know their lake or pond as a center of peace and tranquility, where they and their families have escaped from the routines and pressures of daily life for years.

Several years ago, one of our volunteer monitors submitted an article to The Water Column, in which he indicated that his "spirit soared" when he observed his Secchi disk slowly descending into the depths of the pond that he monitored. Those sentiments struck a resonant chord for many, and from your comments, we know that many of you have had similar experiences.

We all know the ritual: When the ice finally melts in the spring we drag out the monitoring gear, clean and check it, make sure that the boat and motor are safe and functional, fill out the data forms, put on our PFD's and expertly navigate our way to the "deep hole," where, after anchoring the boat in place, our Secchi disks are lowered into the water. Peering down into the water column, we are ever hopeful that the disk will go deeper, deeper, perhaps even the deepest ever. We strain our eyes to the point of hallucination. Is it still there, or did I lose it? This

process is repeated over and over, because we know that in so doing we are helping to unlock the mysteries of not only the one lake that we monitor, but lakes and ponds throughout Maine and beyond. It takes a lot of data to answer even the most basic questions about lakes. And this ritual that we re-enact over and over is, my friends, dedication! It is our common bond, and we would very much like to hear *your* version of this story, or something about yourself, and why you have taken on this commitment.

Please consider sharing your experiences. There is an interested audience that would appreciate hearing from you, even if you have only been active for a short time. Send a photo with your story – of yourself, your lake, or whatever you think will compliment the story. We will publish your article in The Water Column, and all of us will be richer for it.



NPS and the
Big Plant Mess
By: Dick Bredeau
Volunteer Monitor on Adams &
Knickerbocker Pond

*Whats this I hear, Hydrilla in Limerick,
from what I understand it's getting quite thick,
the appearence can littorally make you sick,
Somebody better do something, and do it quick.*

*When I first opened my eyes I saw NPS,
now we have got this great plant mess.
It doesnt look so good I must confess,
Its time to put our thinkers to the test.*

*How will we protect our pristine lakes,
Were only human, we make mistakes.
So spread the word, and do it in haste,
were running out of time to waste.*

*Well now my story is almost through,
Im not a poet this much is true.
I hope we are doing all we can do,
to keep our lakes from turning
to gross green goo!!!!*

INVASIVE COST SHARE GRANTS AVAILABLE!

Invasive Cost Share Grants are now available. These DEP grants to towns or non-profits are available and applications are now being accepted. The maximum grant is \$2,000 and projects with a local match will get preference. Match can be in volunteer time or funds. Up to 50% of the grant can be used for hand removal of plants if DEP guidelines are followed. Application forms are extremely simple and can be obtained from Lakes Environmental Association at 207-647-8580 or lakes@megalink.net.

TRAINING SESSIONS FOR COURTESY BOAT INSPECTORS

The Lakes Environmental Association is offering free training again this year for groups and individuals interested in establishing Courtesy Invasive Plant Inspection programs at their local boat ramps. Participants are trained to greet boaters at the ramps, hand out educational materials and answer questions about the threat of invasive plants, offer courtesy inspections of boats, trailers and other gear, and to collect important data by asking boaters to answer several quick questions. Each training session lasts about 1 1/2 to 2 hours. Below is a list of the remaining training dates, times and locations that have been finalized. If you wish to attend a session, please contact LEA at 647-8580 or by email at lakes@megalink.net.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COUNTY
Friday June 20	1:00PM	Milfoil Summit Lakes Region High School, Naples	Cumberland
Saturday June 21	TBA	COLA Meeting, University of Maine Orono	Hancock
Saturday June 21	11:00AM	TBA, Bryant Pond	Oxford

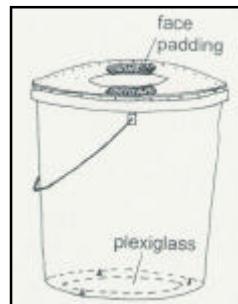
LITTORALLY SPEAKING

BY: ROBERTA HILL

When you look very closely, down below the water's surface, you will see the graceful and wonderfully varied world of the submersed plants. The plants here include the translucent leaved pondweeds, the tiny bright green waterweeds, the delicate naiads and the free floating, bug-eating bladderworts. These plants are all well adapted to the buoyancy of life underwater and many lack the stiff cell structure needed for life at or above the surface. The leaves here are finely divided or long, supple and ribbon-like—stands of plants forming strange underwater meadows of bottlebrushes and cellophane noodles. This world under the surface is also where many of the 11 plants on Maine's watch list choose to reside, including the two plants already present in Maine, variable leaf milfoil and hydrilla.

The best time to view the submersed aquatic plant community is when the air is very still and the sunlight is not directly overhead. Early morning and late afternoon usually provide the best viewing conditions. Under these conditions, with a pair of polarized sunglasses, you can see through the surface of the lake as if it were polished glass, each plant fully revealed in exquisite detail. However, if the wind picks up and begins to ruffle the surface, you will need a piece of equipment—a simple viewing scope—to continue your exploration. The 4 1/2" viewing scope used by VLMP water quality monitors generally will *not* provide a wide enough field of view for plant survey work. Below is a diagram of an inexpensive, build-it-yourself "wide-angle" viewing scope.

If you would like the complete construction directions for the "Stangel Scope," please send your request and your mailing address to Roberta Hill at mciap@megalink.net.



*The Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program
is pleased to announce the*

MAINE CENTER FOR INVASIVE AQUATIC PLANTS

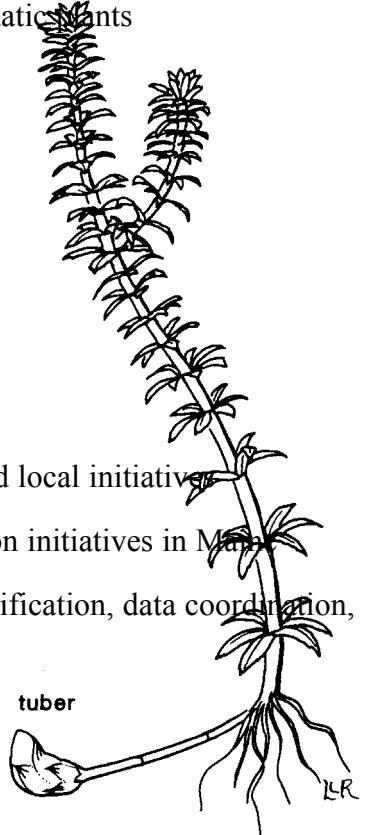
Dedicated to the preservation of Maine's aquatic ecosystems through the prevention
of the spread of invasive aquatic plants

OUR GOALS ...

- To foster widespread awareness and understanding of the threat of invasive aquatic plants
- To generate a greater appreciation for Maine's native plant communities
- To provide a nexus for the sharing of information
- To be a catalyst for individual and collaborative action
- To promote networking and partnerships on all levels

OUR VISION ...

- A clearinghouse for technical information and current research findings
- An interactive online forum for the sharing of resources, ideas, experiences, and local initiatives
- Funding to further the growth of statewide, municipal and grass-roots prevention initiatives in Maine
- Support for citizen based monitoring through training, technical assistance, certification, data coordination, etc.
- "Spreading the Word" though all viable means
- An on-line "virtual herbarium"
- Tracking and mapping current invasive plant infestations



We welcome you to join us in this important and promising endeavor!

**The Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants operates under the auspices of the
Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program.**

*For more information about the Center, please contact us at
207) 225-2070 or mciap@megalink.net.*



2003 INVASIVE PLANT PATROL WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

*The workshops are presented by the
Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program's new
Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants*

NOTE: Advanced registration is required. Please contact the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program to register and for schedule updates. (207-225-2070 or vlmp@megalink.net)

The Basic Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) workshop has been expanded* and updated for the 2003 season to provide:

- An overview and update of the invasive plant issue in Maine and beyond
- An expanded hands-on plant identification segment with new material on hydrilla
- The fundamentals of conducting an invasive plant screening survey

* The expanded 4.5-hour workshops will include a BYO meal break.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COUNTY
Saturday May 10	9:00AM – 1:30PM	Sebago Lake Ecology Center, Standish	Cumberland
Friday June 20	TBA Abbreviated workshop	Milfoil Summit Lake Region High School, Naples	Cumberland
Saturday June 21	TBA Abbreviated workshop	COLA Annual Meeting University of Maine, Orono	Penobscot
Wednesday July 9	9:00AM – 1:30PM	Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust Conference Room, Oquossoc	Franklin
Saturday July 12	9:00AM – 1:30PM	Liberty Town Office, Liberty	Waldo
Wednesday July 16	5:30PM – 10:00PM	Waterboro Town Hall, Waterboro	York
Saturday July 19	9:00AM – 1:30PM	St. Athanasius/St. John's Church Hall, Rumford	Northern Oxford
Sunday July 20	11:30AM – 4:00PM	Alamoosook Lodge, Orland	Hancock
Monday July 21	5:00PM – 9:30PM	Vassalboro Town Office, Vassalboro	Kennebec
Saturday July 26	9:00AM – 1:30PM	Friends Meeting House, Damariscotta	Lincoln
Tuesday July 29	4:30PM – 9:00PM	Riverside Park Recreation Building, Presque Isle	Aroostook
Wednesday July 30	10:00AM – 2:30PM	Birch Pond Campground, Pleasant Lake, Island Falls	Aroostook
Saturday August 2	10:00AM – 2:30PM	Bearntown on Parker Pond, Mt. Vernon	Kennebec

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COUNTY
Wednesday August 6	9:00AM – 1:30PM	Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust Conference Room, Oquossoc	Franklin
Saturday August 9	10:00AM – 2:30PM	E. Madison Fire Station, East Madison	Somerset
Saturday August 23	9:00AM – 1:30PM	Norway Town Office, Norway	Southern Oxford
Saturday Sept. 6	9:00AM – 1:30PM	VLMP Headquarters, Turner	Androscoggin

In addition, two advanced courses are being offered in 2003 . . .

1. Advanced plant identification and the organization of lake wide screening surveys
2. Screening survey field methods (bring a small boat and a friend!)

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COUNTY	WORKSHOP TYPE
Tuesday, August 5	9:00AM – 12:00PM	TBA, Lincolnville Area	Waldo	IPP advanced Plant ID & Organizing Lakewide Surveys
Saturday August 9	7:30AM – 11:30AM	TBA, Belgrade Lakes Region	Kennebec	IPP Advanced Training – Screening Survey Field Methods

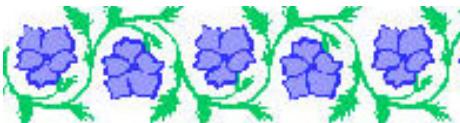
We will also be offering an IPP course with a special extension for SCUBA divers and non-divers on hand-removal methods for variable milfoil.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COUNTY
Thursday June 19	8:00AM – 4:00PM	Grange Hall/Lake Messalonskee, Oakland	Kennebec

Sponsors for the workshops include: Alamoosook Lake Association, Alamoosook Lodge, Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance Milfoil Committee, Bearnstow, China Regional Lake Alliance & Member Lake Associations, Citizens Association of Liberty Lake, Coleman Pond Association, Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery/USFWS, Craig Pond Association, Damariscotta Lake Watershed Association, Great Moose Lake Association, Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust, Island Falls Association, Lakes Association of Norway, Lake Wesserunsett Association, Maine Congress of Lake Associations, Megunticook Lake Association, Pitcher Pond Association, Portland Water District, Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust, Silver Pond Association, Snow Pond/Messalonskee Lake Association, Three Mile Pond Association, Waterboro Pond Association, Worthley Pond Association.

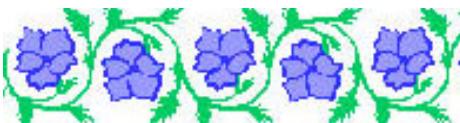


The Invasive Plant Patrol workshops are made possible by support from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and boater participation in the Maine Lake and River Protection Sticker program.



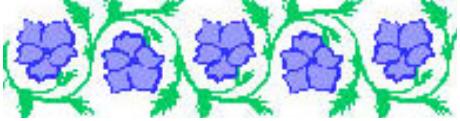
PASSINGS

The Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and the Snow Pond/Messalonskee Lake Association are sad to announce that Rick Christionson passed away unexpectedly in February of this year. Rick was from Oakland and joined the VLMP in 2001. He monitored three stations on Messalonskee with Gilliam Johnston, Joe Feeley and Ned Hammond. We shall Miss Rick.



PASSINGS

The VLMP lost a true “soldier in the field” this winter with the passing of David McLeod. David was the long time monitor of the South Basin of Pemaquid Pond. For years he would bring his pontoon boat up the lake to provide the platform for Lincoln and Sagadahoc counties training and recertification workshops. We will miss his easy manner and his quiet dedication to public service. A heart warming transition has taken place – David’s sister and husband will take over his monitoring duties.



VLMP WISH LIST

- Small Office Safe
- Filing Cabinets
- Small Microwave
- Lawn Mower & Garden Tools
- Hand Truck (Dolly)
- Volunteers to assist with yard and garden care at our new residence in Auburn
- Volunteer Receptionist

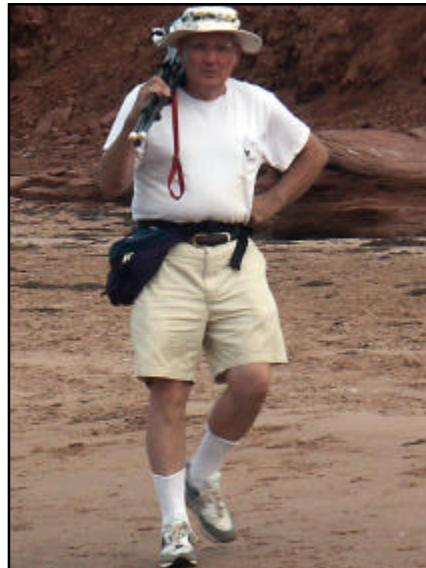
WATER QUALITY SUMMARY SURVEY

If you havn’t done so already, please take the time to complete the water quality summary survey that was sent out by the DEP in early May. These purpose of these reports is to present the data in a summary format that can be easily understood and useful to a borad range of users. Since you, the volunteer monitors, are the primary users of these reports, the DEP would like to know how well these summary reports are working for you. If you did not receive a survey, please contact the VLMP office, and one will be sent out to you immediately.

THANK-YOU!

Thank you very much to the Auburn Water District for the recent donation of a boat and trailer to the VLMP fleet!

Also, special thanks to Tom Lawrence, of Lawrence Enterprises for supplying the VLMP with Secchi disks, scopes and other monitoring equipment!



STAR VOLUNTEER



David Hodsdon has been the water quality monitor for Clary Lake in Lincoln County since 1975! That makes this his 28th year with the VLMP. Not only is he one of our longest standing volunteers, but he's also the Data Coordinator for Penobscot County... not to mention a fantasic photographer!

LAKE LINGO

Riparian Buffer Zones



The riparian buffer on this shoreline property has been carefully protected.

Riparian buffer zones, while not situated *within* a body of water, are a vitally important component of aquatic ecosystems. They are the transition area between the water and the adjacent land. Riparian areas can be wet for part of the year because they are often situated in flood plains with poorly drained soils, and because of their proximity to the shoreline. Riparian buffers are largely terrestrial in character, but some transition plant species may occur in them. Riparian buffer zones exist naturally along the shorelines and banks of lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and wetlands.

Although not part of the aquatic system per se, riparian buffers have a major influence on lakes and ponds, and the streams that flow into them. Another term that is used somewhat synonymously, and more commonly, to describe this area is “buffer zone,” a term that implies one of the important functional aspects that these vegetated areas play in protecting water quality.

Buffer zones in their natural state are typically composed of a broad assemblage of vegetation, including ground cover species, low and medium height shrubs, and trees. Another extremely important component of the buffer zone is the decomposing layer of organic matter on the forest floor, commonly referred to as the “duff.” Buffer vegetation plays a critical role in protecting water quality, because it acts as a filter barrier between the water body and

areas that have been developed or disturbed in the watershed.

Stormwater runoff from developed areas often contains an assortment of pollutants. Soil particles and the nutrient phosphorus are generally the most threatening of these to lakes and ponds. Buffer zone vegetation effectively traps soil particles as runoff is slowed-down by the plants, duff, and the irregularities of the forest floor. Some pollutants that are dissolved in the runoff are adsorbed to soils beneath the duff as the water filters into the ground. Through a complex interaction of microbes and physical and chemical changes, phosphorus and some other pollutants are eventually cycled through the natural buffer vegetation. Riparian buffers also provide important habitat for amphibians, nesting waterfowl and other birds, and they provide access corridors to the water for many other animals.

Lakeshore development can dramatically impair the beneficial functions of riparian buffers. The construction of camp roads, seasonal and year round dwellings, and other structures, along with the replacement of natural buffer vegetation and the absorbent duff with manicured, fertilized lawns causes buffers to “short circuit.” Contaminated runoff can then flow directly into streams, lakes and ponds, degrading water quality over time.

The next time you are taking a Secchi disk reading, take a moment to view the shoreline of the lake from your monitoring station. Wherever you can clearly see buildings, lawns and large cleared areas along the shoreline, the riparian buffer has been seriously impaired. Unless measures are, or have been taken to mitigate runoff from these areas, the lake may experience a decline in Secchi transparency over time.

For more information on measures that you can take to protect, enhance, and even re-create a riparian buffer to protect water quality, contact the VLMP, or the Maine DEP Nonpoint Source Center at 207-287-3901.

Life Long Volunteer Lake Monitors

31 YEARS

Tom Hannula
Sebasticook Lake, Newport

30 YEARS

Joe Emerson
Narrows Pond (Upper), Winthrop

29 YEARS

Ed Mayer
Long Pond, Belgrade

Robert Susbury
Howard Pond, Hanover

28 YEARS

David Hodsdon
Clary Lake, Jefferson

27 YEARS

Ralph Johnston
Highland (Duck) Lake, Falmouth

Charlie Turner
Panther Pond, Raymond

26 YEARS

David & Eileen Burnell
Watchic Pond, Standish

John Dudley
Pocamoonshe Lake, Alexander

Charles McClead
Phillips (Lucerne) Lake, Dedham

Richard Offinger
Cathance Lake, No 14 Plt

Frank Perkins
Square Pond, Acton
Wiley Pond, Boothbay

25 Years

Thomas Dionis
Balch & Stump Ponds, New Field

Ken Holt
Bear Pond, Hartford

Dr. Larry Mobraaten
Spruce Mountain Lake, Beddington

20 YEARS

John Laskey
Tripp Pond, Poland

Margaret Morrill
Clearwater Pond, Industry

Donald Robertson
Long Lake, Bridgton

John Wilson
Hobbs Pond, Hope

15 YEARS

Dirk Brunner
Clark Cove Pond, South Bristol

Bill Draper
Alligator Lake, T34 MD

Dana Hallowell
Madawaska Lake, T16 R04 WELS

Walton Heiss
Keys Pond, Sweden

Stanley Pratt
Spectacle Pond, Vassalboro

John Schooley
Watson Pond, Rome

Nancy Willard
Bryant Pond, Woodstock

10 YEARS

James Cook
Pitcher Pond, Northport

Kerry Sack
Pushaw Lake, Old Town

Ralph Jewett
Alamoosook Lake, Orland

Lee Sochasky
St. Croix Internation Waterways Comm.

Mark Mattson
Thomas Pond, Casco

Trevor White
Passamaquoddy Tribal Government

5 YEARS

Steve Ames, Wilson Pond, Wayne
Bob Bechtold, Graham Lake, Mariaville
Robert Boulette, Sabattus Pond, Greene
Scott Cianchette, Hermon Pond, Hermon
Jeff Cole, Pleasant (Mud) Pond, Gardiner
Bob Croce, Spencer Pond, E. Middlesex Canal GR
Veronica Dumont, Ward Pond, Sidney
Bob Francis, Parker Pond, Casco
Pat & Kathleen Gauvreau, Mousam Lake, Acton
Reginald Huff, Collins Pond, Windham
Patty Hutchings, Echo Lake, Presque Isle
Steve Kahl, Hopkins Pond, Mariaville
Tana McNutt, Drews (Meduxnekeag) Lake, Linneus
Bob Mercier, Peabody Pond, Sebago
Richard & Mertice Moore, Sanborn Pond, Brooks
Richard & Mertice Moore, Dutton Pond, Knox
Richard & Mertice Moore, Sandy (Freedom) Pond, Freedom
Jeffrey & Bob Nixon, Norcross Pond, Chesterville
John Pucciarelli, Togus Pond, Augusta
Jack Quirk, Thomas Pond, Casco
Don Rung, Keoka Lake, Waterford
Matt Scott, Pleasant River Lake, Beddington
Dr. Eberhard Thiele, Black Lake, Fort Kent
Jackie Tranchemontagne, Sand Pond, Sanford
Ann Wattles, Porter Lake, Strong
Ralph White, Silver Lake, Bucksport

QUALITY COUNTS!

Total Phosphorus Sampling for Volunteer Monitors

The Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and the DEP have arranged for volunteer monitors to mail samples for total phosphorus analysis to the Environmental Chemistry Lab (ECL) at the University of Maine, Orono. This ‘system’ has been established to accommodate volunteers who have expressed interest in obtaining additional total phosphorus data and are willing to pay \$24 for each analysis.

The steps to follow are:

Make arrangements through VLMP to be trained & certified to collect Total Phosphorus surface grab samples.

Call Tiffany Wilson or Kate Mahaffey at the Environmental Chemistry Lab (207-581-3288) to request a “Total P Kit”.

ECL will send out a box containing a brown glass bottle, a chain of custody form (for sample name, billing address, sample date, etc.) and appropriate packing materials.

The volunteer fills the bottle(s) at their convenience using the following procedures:

Pre-trip Preparations. Before going out on the lake, label the sample bottle (using ink or pencil) with the lake name, lake identification number or Midas number, date, ‘SG’ to indicate that it is a surface grab, and last name. Phosphorus containers are very easily contaminated so the sampler must take precautions to keep the sample bottle clean by keeping it in a plastic bag in a clean cooler for the trip.

Pre-sampling Preparations/considerations. The phosphorus sample should be collected from the transparency monitoring station. Sampler must wash his/her hands, rubbing skin briskly, to six inches above the wrists using only lake water just before obtaining the sample to dislodge dust and dirt on the skin likely to contaminate the sample. Plan to collect the sample on the opposite side of the boat from which hands were washed. Remove the cover. Do not touch the inner surfaces or mouth of the jar or the cover. When filling the bottle, use a smooth movement away from the boat. Avoid obtaining a sample where there is a visible oil sheen or debris floating on the water’s surface.

Sample Collection & Handling. Invert the sample bottle and submerge to a depth of about six inches; angle the mouth of the bottle toward the surface of the water while pushing the bottle through the water away from the boat scooping it full of water such that it is full just before it is removed from the lake. Place the cap on firmly such that no water leaks out. The caps can be brittle so avoid overtightening which can crack the cap. Put the sample in a cooler on ice; refrigerate immediately. Avoid holding the sample for more than a week. The sample must be analyzed at the lab within 28 days of collection.

Enclose the completed paperwork and sample in the box the bottle arrived in and mail the sample back to the lab Monday-Thursday using U.S. Postal Service or UPS. [Please don’t mail them on Friday or Saturday, as there are no weekend mail deliveries at the lab.] Address: ECL, 5764 Sawyer Research Center, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469.

The lab will analyze the sample then mail the results with a bill. The bill will have payment information on the bottom (checks will have to be made out to Accounts Receivable at University of Maine, rather than the Environmental Chemistry Lab).

Record the result received from the lab on the bottom or back of the field sheet, or, attach a photocopy of the results to your Field Form before submitting to your Regional Coordinator.

To get the most information for your money, use the following table to target sample collections according to the number of samples you are willing to pay for.

<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Month</u>
1	Mid-August
2	Mid-July & Mid August
3	Mid-June, Mid-July & Mid-August
4	Mid-May, Mid-June, Mid-July & Mid-August
5	Mid-May, Mid-June, Mid-July, Mid-August & Mid-September
10	Every other week May – September



2003



VLMP Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 28th 8:30 - 1:00

Auburn Land Lab, Auburn Maine

A collaborative conference sponsored by:
Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP),
The Maine Department of Environmental Protection and
The US Environmental Protection Agency.

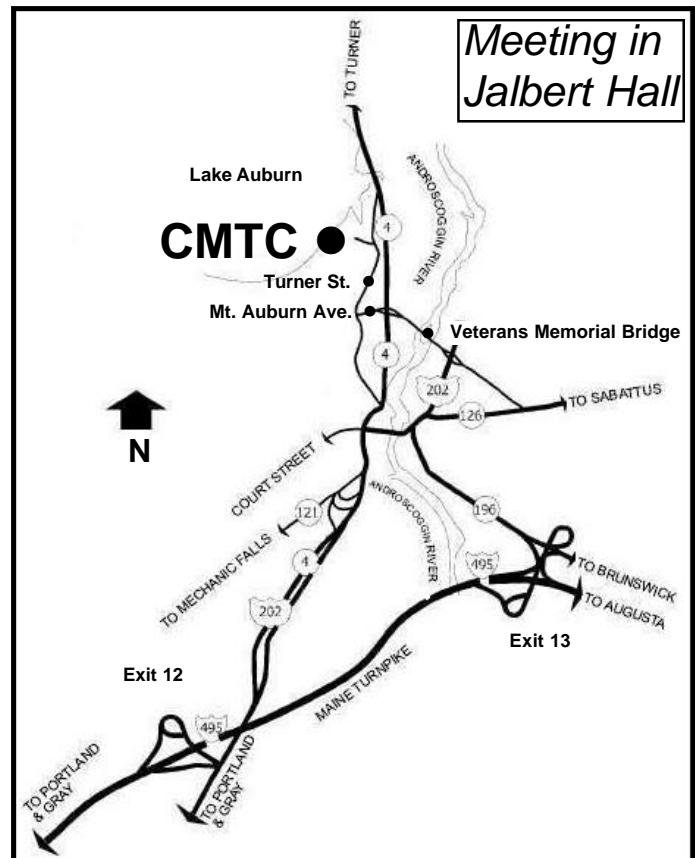
Directions to Central Maine Technical College (Jalbert Hall) from I-495

From Exit 13 Lewiston

Go toward Lewiston on Lisbon Street (Rt. 196) 1.2 miles to the 4th light and take a right on East Avenue, go about 1.4 miles and take a left at the 4th light on Russell Street, after the 2nd light you will cross the Veterans Memorial Bridge into Auburn. Get off at the Auburn Mall exit. At the next intersection bear right and you will be on Turner Street. CMTC is about 1.3 mile on your left.

From Exit 12 Auburn

From Exit 12, turn left onto Route 4. Go north for about 6 miles which will take you to Center Street. Take a left just before the Auburn Mall onto Mt. Auburn Avenue. At the next set of lights, bear right onto Turner Street. CMTC is 1.3 miles on your left.



Registration Form

Pre-registration is requested so that we can ensure meals and materials for all. To register, please call 207-225-2070 or send registrations to:
VLMP- P.O. Box 445, Turner, ME 04282. Deadline for registration is June 20th, 2003. There is no charge for volunteer lake monitors, regional and data entry coordinators, VLMP Board Members, plant patrol workshop attendees and annual meeting guest speakers.

The cost for all others is \$10.00 each.

Name(s): _____ Number Attending: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$_____

Address: _____ Street: _____ Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____



MAINE VOLUNTEER LAKE
MONITORING PROGRAM
PO BOX 445
TURNER, ME 04282

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Highlights

The 2003 VLMP Annual Meeting

Introduction of the Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants