

To our Friends and Supporters On and Around the Lake,

It's hard to believe that summer is over and Thanksgiving is just around the corner!

Membership – Did You Do Your Part?

While up from earlier years, 2016 membership is flat with 2015. As of October 31st, 107 of the 256 lake properties were members, meaning that 55% of properties have not contributed to efforts to keep the lake, the loons, and the fish healthy, nor did they contribute to the repair of the dam and other remediation projects. Fortunately, donations by the Town of Standish, DEP, and other contributors helped support this year's activities.



If you have not already joined, isn't it time to contribute to the health our lake? It's not too late to mail your \$35 membership fee to the Watchic Lake Association, PO Box 319, Standish ME, 04084.

Recap of Major WLA 2016 Activities

Early in 2016 the WLA presented the "[Watchic Lake Risk Assessment Report](#)" completed by a third party environmental firm called FB Environmental. Much of our work this year was to address items raised in this report.

Water Quality Monitoring: Starting in the spring we began to gather additional water quality data including dissolved oxygen, temperature, Secchi disk transparency, total phosphorus, total nitrogen, total organic carbon, chlorophyll-a, alkalinity, pH, and color. We also similarly sampled the Page and Paine Brooks areas. Three dissolved oxygen loggers attached to the buoy help automate data gathering. More information can be found here "[Watchic Lake Water Quality](#)". Photo right: volunteers deploying the buoy and loggers.



Invasive Plant Screening and Reporting: In July, a group of 10 WLA board members and volunteers surveyed Watchic Lake for invasive plant species – none were found. As a member of the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, we are asked to submit an inventory of the native plants found in the lake. More information can be found here "[Watchic Lake Invasive Plant Screening](#)". Photo left: volunteers evaluating samples.

Runoff Remediation at Major Risk Sites: Working closely with road associations and Maine DEP, the WLA made significant progress in remediating runoff at Hi-Vu Drive, the Dorothy Drive boat launch, and Watchic Rd 19. This should reduce sediment coming into the lake by over a ton per year. Photo right: Hi-Vu Drive *before*. Photo far right: Hi-Vu Drive *after* with improved culverts, drainage, and surface. Thank you to all involved in making this and the ongoing maintenance happen!



Loon Monitoring: Thanks to the efforts of Kim and Steve Lajoie, plus Cathy Watson and Wendi Rodriguez, Watchic Lake participated in the 2016 Loon Count, which is sponsored by the Loon Project at Maine Audubon. Consistent with earlier years, there are two pairs of loons on the lake, who as of September are bringing up three healthy chicks. Keeping the lake healthy is the only way to bring back the loons every year! More at [Watchic Lake Loons](#). Photo right: July 2016 loon parent and chick.



LakeSmart Gold Award: With eight new LakeSmart properties on our lake in 2016, we have met Maine Lakes Society targets for their prestigious Gold Award. With over 15% of properties with LakeSmart awards, Watchic Lake is the first lake in Southern Maine to have achieved this award. Thank you to all the property owners who have invested time, effort, and money to create a property that reduces runoff and otherwise protects the lake. You can learn more about here about [LakeSmart on Watchic Lake](#).

2016 WLA Annual Meeting

Nearly 60 people joined us at our July Annual Meeting. The meeting began with a silent auction and raffle, followed by a lasagna dinner prepared by the Congregational Church. We recognized eight new LakeSmart award recipients, and provided a status report on all WLA activities. Three new board members were voted on to the board, and three officers were voted into new positions. Photo right: 2016 meeting.



Our key topic was the 2016 "[Watchic Lake Risk Assessment Report](#)", prepared and presented by Forrest Bell of FB Environmental. **The key message is that to protect the lake we need to reduce runoff!** Whether it be by participating in LakeSmart or simply maintaining your property, we can all do our part to keep nutrient rich runoff water out the lake.

Again, thank you to all our [silent auction](#) contributors, members and sponsors for your support!

Do You Rent Your Camp? A Special Message on Your Responsibilities and Opportunities

If you rent your camp, you have the pleasure of exposing people from all over the country to the beauty that Watchic Lake has to offer.

- **Your Responsibility:** please educate your visitors/renters about how to best maintain the health of the lake. Your WLA membership helps us keep the lake healthy, which helps you rent your camp! Photo right: educational sign available from the WLA.
- **Your Opportunity:** As you know, Watchic Lake has lots to offer your visitors and renters. Encourage them to check out www.WatchicLake.org to learn about the lake. And become [WLA Business Sponsor](#) to list your rental property right on the WLA website. Contact me at pmcnulty@verizon.net if you would like more information.

Protect Watchic Lake

Watchic Lake is blessed with clear water, no invasive plants, and thriving loons.

As visitors, please help us keep the lake healthy.

- 1 **STOP INVASIVES.** Clear ALL plant and animal matter from your boat, kayak, paddles, anchor, fishing gear, etc. BEFORE entering the water.
- 2 **HELP THE LOONS.** Do not approach the loons or their nests. Do not use lead fishing gear. Lead sinkers and jigs cause 30% of loon deaths.
- 3 **DON'T FOUL THE LAKE.** Do not dispose of trash or plant matter in the lake. Do not allow oil or gasoline into the lake. Don't bathe in the lake.

Thank you!



More information or to donate visit www.watchiclake.org

Thank you again to all our members, supporters, the Town of Standish, and our business sponsors. Without your support, we could not make nearly as much progress in maintaining and improving Watchic Lake!

Paul

Paul McNulty, President

2016/2017 Members and Supporters (as of 10/31/2016)

- Andrew & Margaret Acampora
- Judith Ambrose
- Edward Asali
- Richard Aube
- Terry fay Babcock
- Fred Baker
- Paul Baptiste
- Sheila Bard
- Susan Barker
- Daryl Barta
- Jay Barta
- Deborah lee Benedetti
- John Blake
- Scott Blake
- David & Elaine Bradbury
- Steven Bradbury
- Victoria Brega
- George & Kathryn Brown
- Jay Buckley
- Fred Burkhardt
- Eileen Burnell
- Shawn Burnell
- Julie Butler
- Matthew Campbell
- Al Cardente
- Patricia & Stephen Center
- Beverly Cloutier
- Erin Cloutier-Martuza
- Stephanie Cloutier-Martuza
- Carol Costa
- Linda & Shaun Curran
- Wendy Davis
- Richard & Sharon Dolloff
- Sheila Dorval
- Benjamin Douglas
- Claire Drew
- David Drew
- Donal & Martha Drew
- Nancy Emerson
- Leslie English
- Louise Ford
- Mary Ford
- Nancy Ford
- Gerard Fournier
- Brenda & John Gerardo
- Janet Girard
- Gordon Glidden
- Elaine Goodrich
- Rick Green
- John & Patty Guenther
- Wendy Harlan
- Howard & Judith Harris
- Margaret Hayes
- Carl Henrikson
- Robert Higgins
- Jim Hoag
- Jennean Hunter
- Robert Joslyn
- Michelle Juliano
- Joseph Keeley
- Colleen Kelley
- Imad Khalidi
- Kim & Steve Lajoie
- Maryanne Leonard
- Patricia Lines
- Richard Luthe
- Mike Lynch
- Carl Marean
- Donald & Linda Marean
- Sandy Marino
- William Marsh
- Linda & Carl Martenson
- Wayne & Geraldine McCaul
- Paul & Nancy McNulty
- Rebecca Mead
- Patricia Meserve
- Peter Mills
- Lewis & Victoria Milton
- Kaitlyn Mooers
- Kelli Moore
- Gerard Morin
- Richard Morrill
- Lisa Morse
- Pamela & George Mosley
- Gerald Murray
- Lorna Murray
- Matt Narel
- Deborah Nugent
- Debra Oddy
- Theodore Osier
- Sheila Ouellette
- John Pace
- Stephen Parker
- Steven Paul
- Nancy Peterson
- Ardean Pike
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- Dale Rines
- Steven Rines
- Marjorie Roewer
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- Nicholas Roy
- Regina Rutter
- David Sanborn
- Keith Sanborn
- Marlene Sargent
- Helen Sawyer
- Eric Shute
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- Owen & Leigh Paige-Smith
- Nancy & Michael Smyth
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