

We hope this letter finds you, and your family and friends well. After a trying year, we are beginning to emerge from various COVID-19 restrictions and look forward to hosting family and friends here on the lake. Over the past year WLA volunteers have continued to maintain the dam, monitor water quality, check for invasives, and address other issues as they come up. You can learn more about [June 19 Boating Safety Course](#), the new [loon nesting raft at Paine Brook](#), and more on our website www.watchiclake.org

2021 Annual Meeting – Online July 10 at 10:00 am

Although things are improving regarding COVID-19 in the state of Maine, for the peace of mind for our members, we will again hold our annual meeting online using Zoom. The meeting will be held on Saturday July 10, 2021, at 10:00 am. Registration will begin at 9:45 am. We will provide an update on water quality, the 2020 Watershed Protection Plan and DEP Matching Grant, and give members an opportunity to comment and vote on board positions.

If you have not already, please send us your email so we can send you annual meeting and other updates. Simply email Paul at p3mcnulty@gmail.com. We will also post Zoom information on our website shortly before the meeting.

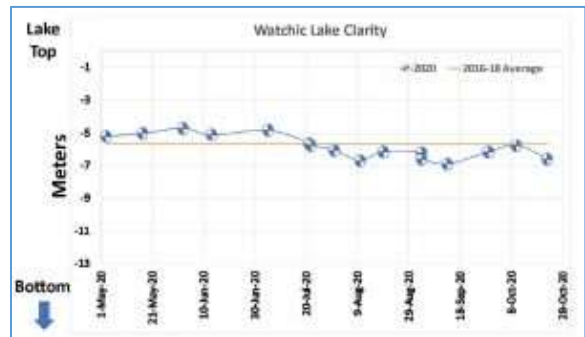
Membership and Donations 2021

Thank you to the many members that have recently joined or renewed. If you have not already, we encourage you to join the association. Your support helps fund water quality testing, dam maintenance, invasive plant mitigation, and securing grants for lake property owners and road associations.

Membership info can be found in the enclosed return envelope or our website under [Membership menu](#) item.

Water Quality

Based on work done by Watchic Lake Water Quality volunteers, the water quality of Watchic Lake remains good and is substantially unchanged from data collected over the previous 4 years (2016-2019). Specifically, water clarity and total phosphorus levels are consistent with previous years and consistent with other Maine lakes like ours. Please visit the [water quality section](#) of our website for details.



Section 319 Grant Approved and Work Begins

In October of 2020, the Maine DEP and the US EPA approved our application for funds to improve Watchic Lake water quality by reducing polluted runoff into the lake. This matching grant (valued at \$124,434) is designed to support two town culvert improvements, three road association improvements, and about six residential property improvements. The DEP is flexible on the exact projects and the exact work at each project. The WLA has begun to reach out to road associations, the town, and property owners to review project ideas and funding.

We want to thank Maine DEP and the EPA and note that funding for the projects, in part, will be provided by the U.S. EPA under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The funding is administered by the Maine DEP in partnership with EPA. The EPA does not endorse any commercial products or services mentioned in the work plan.

Contact Owen Smith at omacsmith58@gmail.com or Paul McNulty at p3mcnulty@gmail.com if you want to learn more about any these or other lake related topics.

Thank you for your support!

Owen

Owen Smith, President Watchic Lake Association