



Watchic Lake Association Annual Meeting

Standish Town Hall

July 9, 2022

Silent Auction

- Family photo session at Watchic Lake by local professional photographer, Stacey Kane.
- A \$500 value package, which includes \$150 credit towards print and products using your photos.
- Major 2022 WLA fund-raiser.
- Great way to capture and remember family gatherings on the lake!
- 100% of bid donated to the WLA.
- Bids accepted until the end of this meeting

Watchic Lake Association

SILENT AUCTION



FAMILY PHOTO SESSION
on Watchic Lake

INCLUDES:

FAMILY PHOTO SESSION W/STACEY KANE AT WATCHIC LAKE LOCATION
(date to be worked out between photographer and winning bidder)

ONLINE PASSWORD PROTECTED GALLERY
FOR VIEWING, SHARING & ORDERING

\$150 PRINT/PRODUCT CREDIT
(\$500 value)

Photographer Website: www.staceykane.com

Thank you! Paul McNulty

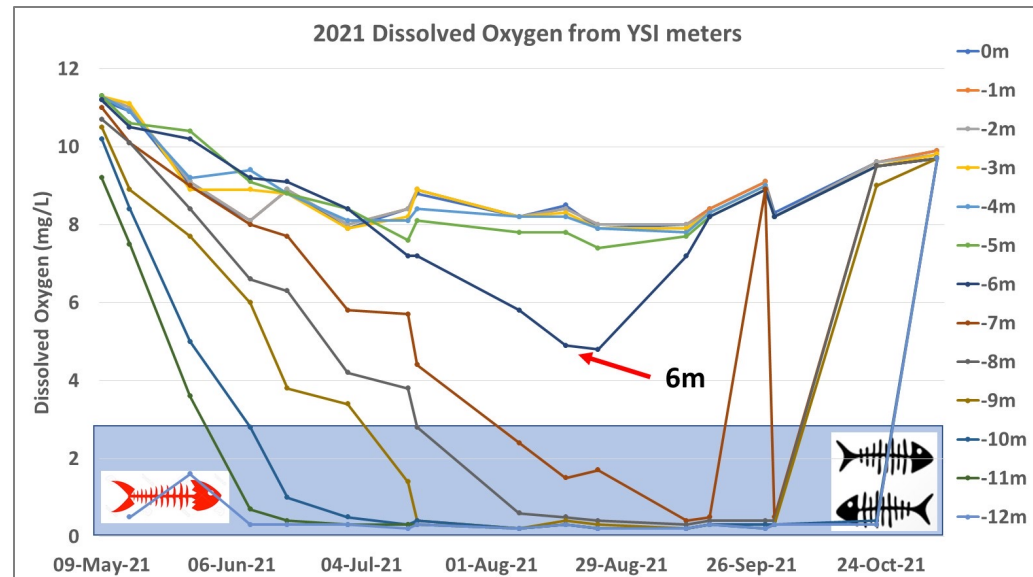
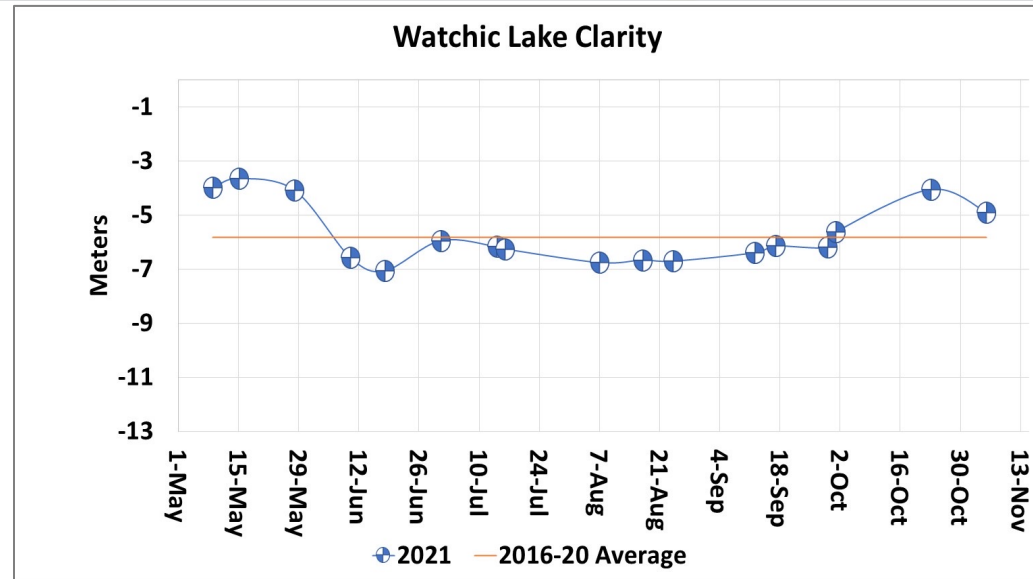
- Thank you for your continued support and welcome to our first in person meeting since 2019!
- Covid-19 offers challenges, but most WLA volunteer work continues.
- Making progress on long-term goals:
 - Well underway with DEP/EPA matching grant projects
 - WLA volunteers continue to manage all advanced water quality testing
- Our biggest challenges remain:
 - **Nutrient rich runoff** and development around the lake increase algal bloom risk
 - **Risk of Invasive plants** as more people rent and use the lake.
 - **Increasing membership** to help educate property owners and support ongoing operational expenses



- Water Quality
- Environmental – Invasives and Loons
- LakeSmart
- Dam Update
- Education
- DEP Watershed Protection Grant
- Membership and Social Events
- Finance
- Voting

Water Quality – Cathy Watson

Water quality remains consistent with historical data. Water clarity is good and supports a robust Loon population. Loss of oxygen at the bottom of the lake is low and limits fish habitats.



Water Quality Long Term Risks

- While **water quality is good today**, Watchic Lake is in a delicate balance with it's environment.
- **Human activities, large and small** within the watershed are increasing the amount and transport of harmful chemicals, pollutants and dangerous foreign materials into the lake and its streams.
 - Large waves increasingly believed to churn up bottom sediment – **please keep wave size down.**
- **Increased rainfall, especially catastrophic events** such as mega-storms put roads, drainages, and septic systems at risk of introducing deadly runoff.
- **Its up to each property owner and road association to do their part:**
 - Check your property for signs of unmitigated runoff, and soil erosion
 - Maintain a vegetated shoreline buffer
 - Don't use lawn chemicals containing nitrogen or phosphate compounds.
 - Maintain your septic system

- For the sixth year the WLA ran an LSM (Lake Stewards of Maine) certified plant inventory event in the summer of 2021.
- **No invasives found.**
- 24 native plants identified over the past three years and submitted to LSM.
- Watchic Lake has not experienced any invasive plants but must remain vigilant.
- **Renters, visitors, seaplanes – please clean ALL watercraft and fishing gear before entering the lake!**



Inventory map.

Thanks to Steve and Kim Lajoie, Don and Martha Drew, Agnes and Rick Wiggin, Monica Mahoney, Paul and Nancy McNulty, David West, Bob Babcock, and Owen Smith for making our 2021 inventory day a success

2022 Plant Inventory – 8/20/22: Paddle the lake to gather and evaluate native and invasive plants. Learn more by contacting Steve Lajoie at steve03229@aol.com

Swimmers Itch – Erica LeBrun

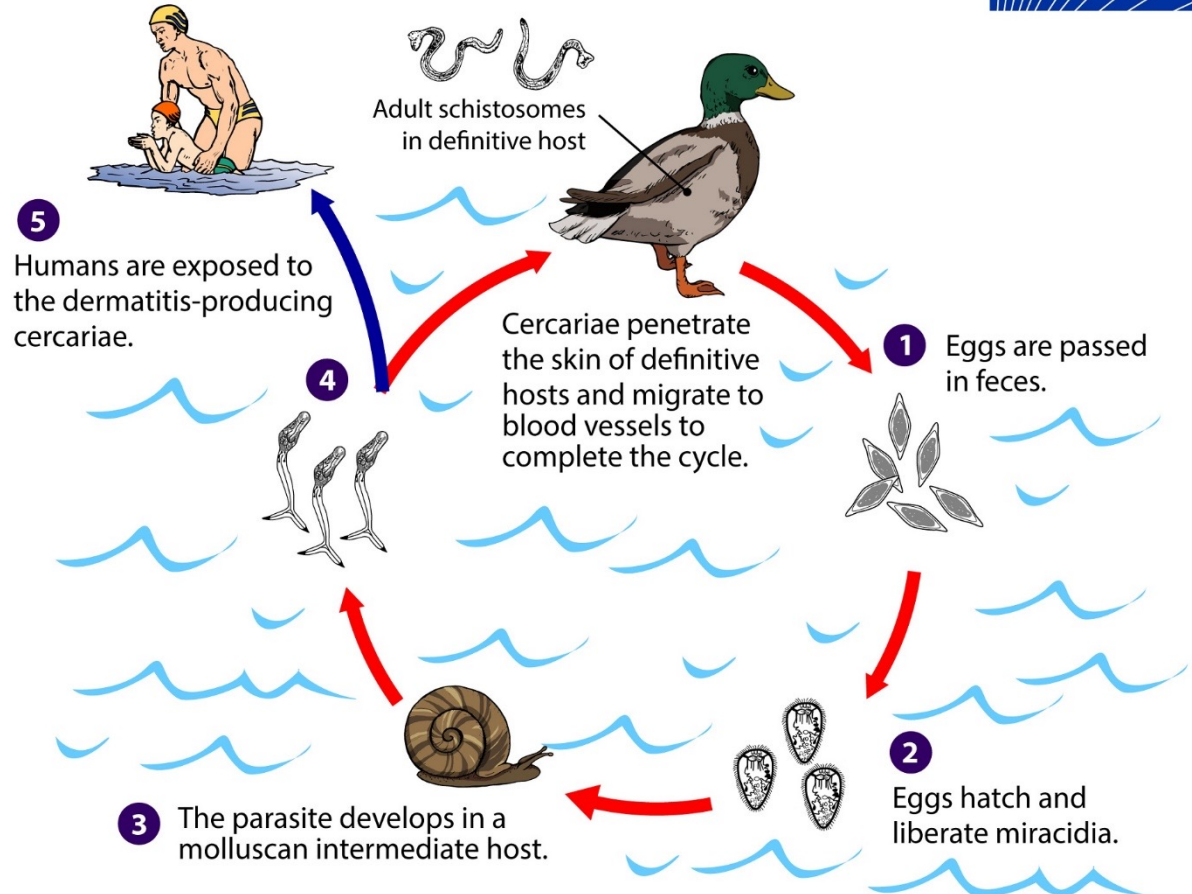
Please don't
feed the
ducks!



Snails collected on Watchic
– One Day, One Property



Cercarial Dermatitis



Loons – Kim Lajoie

- The WLA floating nest was re-installed in May 2022 in Paine Brook.
- One chick has hatched on the west end of the lake – first time since 2017. Two chicks were successful on the east end in 2020.
- The leading cause of loon deaths in Maine remains boat hits – please be vigilant when boating and watch out for diving loons!
- Loon Chick Mortality Rates on the Rise
- Annual Loon Count **July 16, 2022**, 7:00 to 7:30 AM
 - For more on the loons contact Kim Lajoie at kimj03229@aol.com



Watchic Loons July 2022

Section 319 Grant Update

- 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.
- Matching grant is valued at \$124,434
- Agreements have been signed with Watchic Road 3, Watchic Road 15, Hi-Vu Road, Kiwanis Beach, four residential properties, and the Town of Standish.
- DEP permits have been secured for all projects, and in some cases. approval from the Army Core of Engineers has been received.
- Agreements with contractors are in place for the road work.
- Work began last year at Kiwanis Beach and Hi-Vu Road. Work began this year on one residential property.
- Our goal is to complete work by they end of 2022.

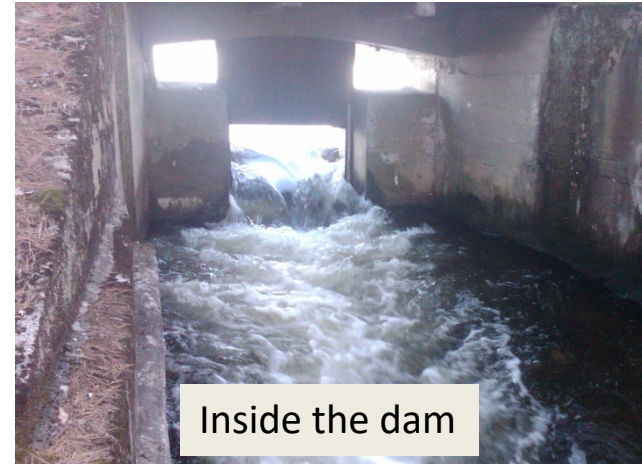
We want to thank Maine DEP and the EPA and note that funding for the projects, in part, will be provided by the U.S. EPA under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The funding is administered by the Maine DEP in partnership with EPA. The EPA does not endorse any commercial products or services mentioned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

- **LakeSmart** - free opportunities to learn how to manage your home and yard to protect the lake.
- One new property in 2021 for LakeSmart and LoonSmart
- DEP grant recipients encouraged to apply... good for you and good for the lake!
- For more information contact Martha Drew at 4650Drew@TWC.com



Dam Update – Owen Smith

- Dam gate installed in 2015 continues to operate well. Inspections are done throughout the year and conditions logged.
- The spring of 2021 was extremely dry. However, July was a very wet month with nearly 9 inches of rain, impacting the water level somewhat.
- **Fall:** the Dam was opened for the winter on 11/2/2021.
- **Spring:** Dam was closed 3/28/2022 one day after Ice Out. Water finally trickling over the top with recent rain. Minor repairs to cement were made.

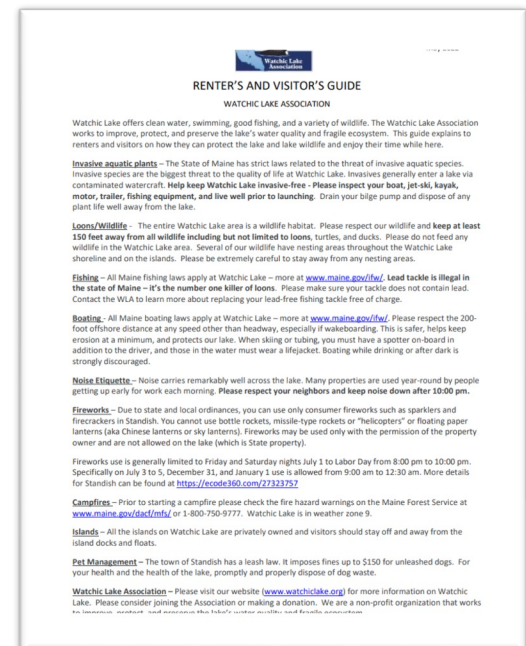


Education – Nancy McNulty

- Education – its in most all we do.
- Website and Newsletters
 - Lake friendly spring clean up
 - New Maine regulations
 - Info for renters
 - Monthly newsletters during the spring/summer season
 - Summaries of stopping invasive and water quality work
- New boat launch sign at Dorothy Drive to help avoid invasives. WLA designed and funded.
- Helpful tips for renters and visitor's brochure
- Plans for upcoming year
 - Continue with and publishing info regarding loons, avoiding invasives, regulatory changes, etc.
 - **Shoreline Vegetation Education and Runoff Remediation August 13. Held at residential locations.**



Dorothy Drive Launch Sign



WATCHIC LAKE PROTECTION PROJECT, PHASE I

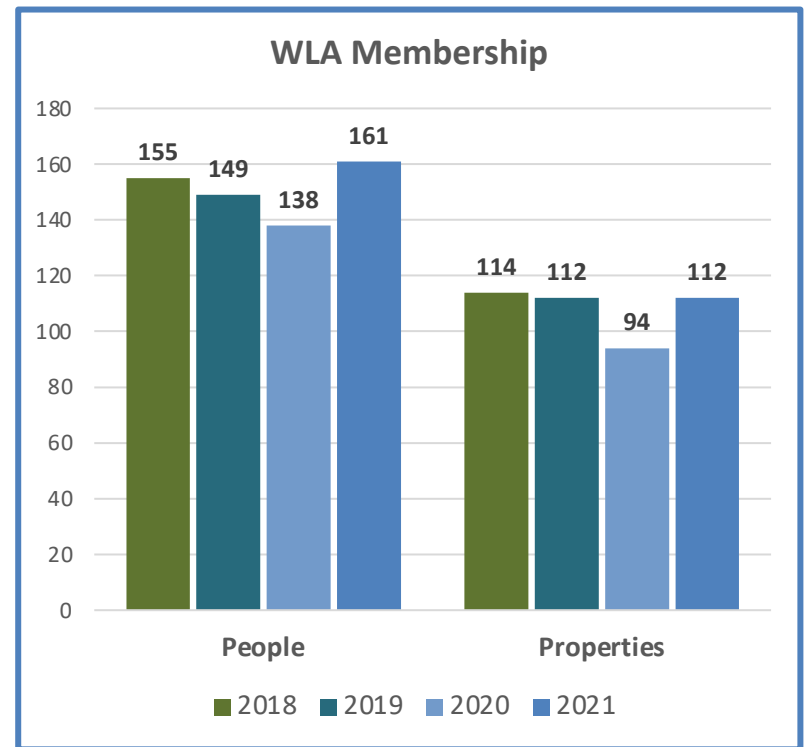
WATCHIC LAKE ASSOCIATION 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

JULY 9, 2022

Funding for the projects in the work plan, in part, was provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The funding is administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection in partnership with EPA. The EPA does not endorse any commercial products or services mentioned in the work plan.

- Record breaking membership in 2021
 - People: 161 -17 % YoY increase
 - Properties: 112 – 19% YoY increase
 - 43% of properties are members, with higher percentage from seasonal owners
- 2022 Members as of 7/8/2022: 97 members and 67 properties.
- For Clynk info contact Martha Drew at 4650Drew@TWC.com

As of December 31, 2021



Watchic Lake Hero Program – Become a Hero!

- “Meet your neighbors”
 - Wednesday July 20, 5:30
 - Outpost Bar and Grill, RT 113
 - 2021 was a great event!
 - Good chance to meet other lake residents and exchange lake-life experiences
 - Updates on the website (www.watchiclake.org)

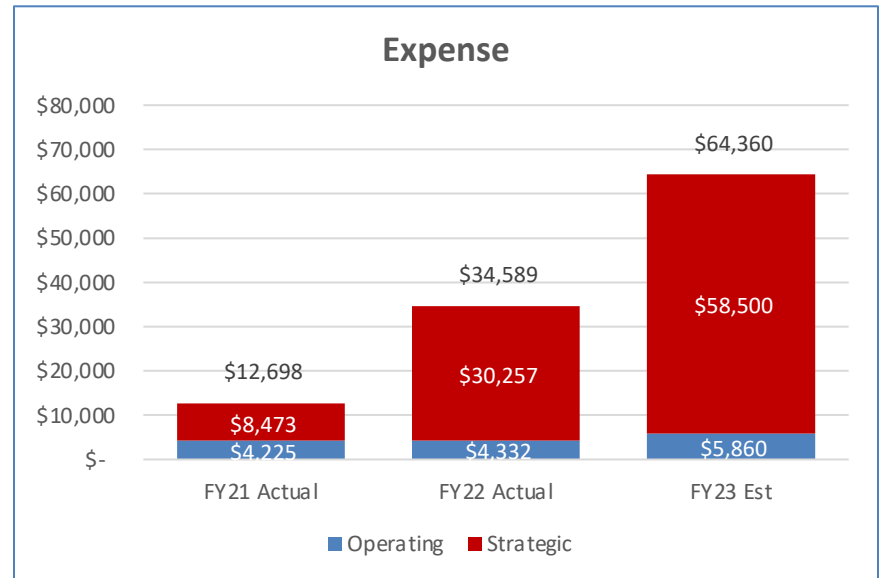
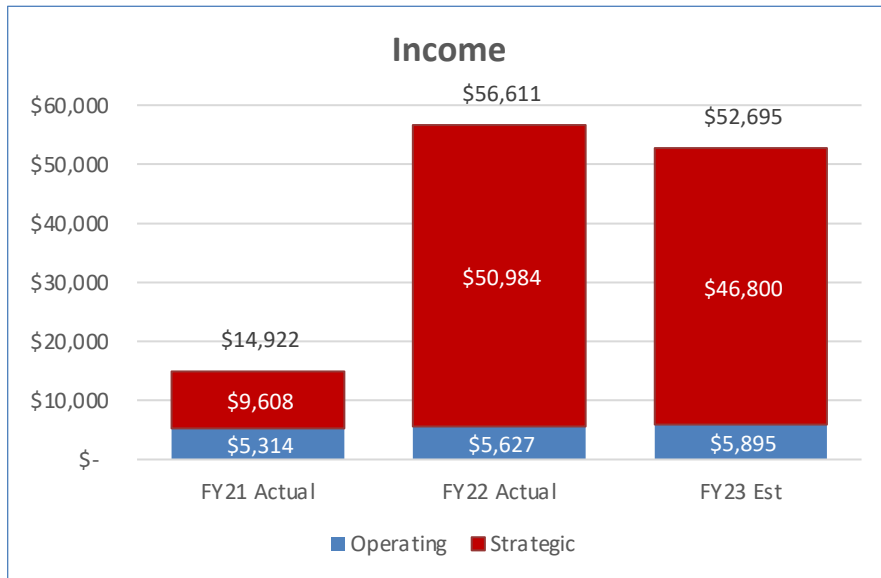


- Ice Cream Boat Returns!
 - Sunday August 21 afternoon
 - Chance to meet WLA volunteers, learn about the lake, and get FREE ice cream!
 - Thank you Hannafords!



Financial Update – Agnes Wiggin

- Splitting operating and strategic income/expense for better control and transparency.
- FY22 (year end 6/30/22) positive net operating income (\$1,295) and overall positive due to strategic donations.
- FY23 estimate breakeven operating income, assuming no major unfunded projects. Volunteers continue water quality testing. Strategic account will show about \$12,000 loss due to WLA matching funds for portions of the DEP Grant.



As of 6/30/22 Operating Savings: \$44,250. Strategic Savings: \$139,597

- **Nominations for the Board:**
 - Rob Brisk 3 years
 - Stacey Kane 3 years (renewal)
 - Paul McNulty 2 years (renewal)
 - Agnes Wiggin 3 years (renewal)
 - Rick Wiggin 3 years
- **Nominations for Officers:**
 - Secretary, Martha Drew 2 years
 - Treasurer, Agnes Wiggin 2 years
- **Volunteers..**
- **Approval of July 10, 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes**
 - Minutes published on website August 2021.

This year we are recognizing two people.

Both grew up in the area and went to Gorham High School.

One of our hero's grandmother owned the house next to the one they live in now. Her father built their house in the 50's.

Our heros were environmentalist before it was fashionable and have always been passionate about water quality and preserving the lake.

This couple has watched and cared for Watchic Lake for over 50 years, which included:

- Being certified/respected Maine lake water quality monitors since 1977;
- Perform Secchi disk and dissolved Oxygen readings every 2 weeks,
- Volunteering for first WLA watershed survey (1990),
- Watching for invasive plants or rogue algae blooms (e.g. metaphyton),
- Protecting and educating about local wildlife (fish, loons, turtles)
- Rescuing boats and capsized sailboats
- Replacing the flag on 'Flag Rock'
- And always helping neighbors in need

Eileen and David Burnell True Stewards of Watchic Lake

Thank You Eileen and David!
You have and continue to support
Watchic Lake and its people.



Closing Remarks – Paul McNulty

- Shorter Term
 - Continue with core work of water quality testing, managing the dam, avoiding invasive plants, and helping the loons.
 - Reenergize membership engagement post-pandemic
 - Complete most DEP grant-funded remediation projects
- Longer Term
 - Learn from DEP grant projects and consider new remediation projects for 2022 and beyond.
 - Increase our pool of strategic funds via Stewardship program
- Board members and volunteers needed and welcomed!

Thank you! Your time today and support of the lake throughout the year

- The winner is...
Agnes Wiggin

Watchic Lake Association

SILENT AUCTION



FAMILY PHOTO SESSION
on Watchic Lake

INCLUDES:

FAMILY PHOTO SESSION W/STACEY KANE AT WATCHIC LAKE LOCATION
(date to be worked out between photographer and winning bidder)

ONLINE PASSWORD PROTECTED GALLERY
FOR VIEWING, SHARING & ORDERING

\$150 PRINT/PRODUCT CREDIT
(\$500 value)

Photographer Website: www.staceykane.com



Thank you!

