

## Oct 2020: Watchic Lake Assoc Secures Maine DEP and US EPA 319 Grant

Protecting Watchic Lake is a long-term endeavor... a marathon not a sprint. Securing these Maine DEP and US EPA funds will help us remediate runoff issues in and around the lake, and if successful, will set us up for additional grants in the future.

### WLA - History of Action Oriented Stewardship

- Beginning in 2006, developed plans to protect Watchic Lake over the long term, and then executed against those plans.
- Installed a runoff management system along Route 113 to stop toxic cyanobacteria blooms.
- Made major repairs to the dam – designed for 25 years of service.
- Worked with the Hi-Vu and Dorothy Drive road associations to address key sources of runoff into the lake.
- In early 2019 completed its 2020 Watchic Lake Watershed Protection Plan.

### Section 319 DEP/EPA Matching Grant Approved

- After many conversations with the Maine DEP and the US EPA, our grant application was approved in October of 2020.
- This matching grant program provides \$75,000 to help property owners, road associations, and the town to improve Watchic Lake water quality by reducing polluted runoff into the lake. Property owners and the WLA will be expected to provide some level of matching funds and/or work.
- This matching grant will support two town culvert improvements, three road association improvements, and about six residential property improvements. Details can be found [here](#).
- Cost sharing agreements will vary by project type, but run between 20% and 50% of construction costs.
- Start date for grant activities is January 1, 2021. Our goal is to do as many of these projects as we can in 2021.

### Status

- Dolloff road and culvert improvements agree with the town of Standish
- Two road association projects agreed with property owners and DEP. Final plans being completed. Next steps are bids
- One road association project scaled back to focus on a more immediate and easier to address runoff issue
- Eleven residential properties have been evaluated for projects and grant funds. Six are now in the process of more detailed plans. For example, an approved road improvement project costing \$6,000 could be paid for as follows:

### Overarching Goal of this Grant

- Reduce nutrient rich stormwater runoff into the lake to improve water quality and protect wildlife
- Educate property owners about how they can help reduce runoff

*The WLA is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the amount allowed by law.  
Watchic Lake Association, PO Box 319, Standish ME, 04084*

*We want to thank the Maine DEP and US EPA for their advice and support in securing this grant. 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.*