



PROVINCE LAKE THIS MONTH

A Message from the President

Hi Everyone,

It's nice to know that Spring is "officially" here though as this newsletter is getting ready to be sent Province Lake is still iced over. We will keep you posted when ice out occurs!

A mission of the Province Lake Association is to educate our members, community and visitors in ways to protect, preserve and improve Province Lake. To expand these opportunities this summer we are introducing an exploratory water program for the next generation of lake stewards, our children and grandchildren. It looks to be a fun, hands-on educational experience to learn about lake ecology. Details of this August 11th activity will be forthcoming.

We would like to extend our condolences to Province Lake Golf who experienced a catastrophic fire and loss of their historic building during a nor'easter in March. Always a supporter of the PLA, Province Lake Golf is getting ready for the upcoming golf season and plans are in the works for them to come back stronger than ever. We wish them all the best!

As with many lakes in our region, the mystery about cyanobacteria blooms in Province Lake continues. In an effort to have a better understanding the Board has engaged a consultant to perform additional water and sediment sampling. This information is important in understanding cyanobacteria blooms in our lake and what actions may be possible to mitigate them. Additional information will be sent as we move forward on the project.

You will be receiving Province Lake Association membership information shortly. One of the functions of a lake association is to welcome new lake residents and share information about the lake. One way to keep our lake association vibrant and strong is to encourage participation. As you meet your new lake neighbors encourage them to join the PLA. Let us know so we can welcome them!

Best,

Mindy Schuman-Vye

President, Province Lake Association

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Membership

Lorie Dunne, PLA Membership Chair

Spring is here and once again it's your opportunity to support the PLA with your annual membership contribution. We had the largest membership ever in 2017 with 154 members and hope that even more people join in 2018.

Your membership supports many programs that help to protect our lake. In conjunction with our valued partners including the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance, NH Lakes and the NH Department of Environmental Services we provide programs such as:

Weed watch inspections

Regular water quality monitoring

Lake Host Program inspections of boats at the Towle Farm boat ramp

Erosion reduction

Fundraisers and educational information

Rte 153 beach cleanup

Annual Province Lake Association meeting

These projects and programs have a cost and we need your financial support. Through thoughtful monitoring of our water quality, our aim is to strive for low nutrient pollution, high water clarity and no invasive species so you can enjoy the lake for many years into the future.

There are several membership levels and ways to join. You will receive our membership mailing through the USPS. Just fill out the return envelope including your check and mail it back to the PLA. If you prefer to pay via PayPal, please go to the PLA website <http://www.provincelake.org> click the About link, Membership Form. There you will find the Donate button to pay online and a membership form. PLA membership follows the calendar year and runs January to January of a calendar year. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. We welcome Matching Gifts from your employer. We also encourage you to also consider volunteering in such activities as becoming a Board Member, Lake Host, Fundraising, Weed Watching, Water Testing, or Educational Events. PLEASE JOIN THE PLA TODAY!



Ice and sediment
rafting along the Bailey
Rd shoreline

You Can Help Province Lake

Amy Arsenault, Program Manager, Action Wakefield Watersheds Alliance

It's been 5 years since Province Lake's Watershed Survey, and AWWA would like to reconnect and take another look at potential water quality threats to your lake. A lake watershed is the area of land surrounding a lake that slopes towards the waterbody. When stormwater and snow melt travels across



land, we call it runoff. Runoff happens when we build roads, houses, lawns and driveways. These impermeable surfaces do not absorb runoff. Stormwater runoff picks up pollutants such as soil, sand, fertilizers, pesticides, manure, and petroleum products. **Even common soil is a pollutant.** It contains phosphorus, a nutrient that acts as plant food, causing aquatic plants to grow excessively. Runoff can also contain harmful bacteria, viruses and toxic materials picked up from the land.

It's important to be aware that activities and land use around the lake directly impacts water quality. Not only do we want a healthy lake to recreate in,

but studies have shown that a decrease in water quality has a direct impact on property value. The purpose of the Watershed Survey back in 2013 was to locate erosion sites on private property, roads and other developed areas that may be having an impact on Province Lake's water quality. We've addressed many erosion and pollution issues that were identified in the survey, but there's more work to be done.

To date, AWWA has conducted 60 technical assistance visits with private landowners. Of those 60 visits, 29 turned into Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) projects around Province Lake. There are over 200 properties on Province Lake, but we've only connected with a portion of the landowners. The good news is that there's still so much more that can be done to keep Province Lake healthy!

Signs of erosion on your property:

- Gullies or channels through your yard
- Pine needle movement
- Exposed tree roots
- Bare soil

You should also be concerned if your road or driveway:

- Crosses an intermittent or perennial stream
- Is located on a steep slope
- Is close to the lake
- Has eroding ditches

If you have a project for AWWA consideration, please contact them directly at <https://awwatersheds.org/> ; info@AWwatersheds.org and 603-473-2500.



Province Lake Watershed Management Plan

Lorie Dunne, PLA

Province Lake has a Watershed Management Plan as referred to above by Amy in how 'You can help Province Lake'. This plan is a comprehensive approach to understanding our lake and the challenges we face in keeping it as natural and healthy as possible. The plan was developed in 2014 and it continues to guide the PLA and others in selecting and completing numerous projects around the lake. The conclusion is that watershed residents, landowners, business owners, and recreationalists alike should have a vested interest in improving the long-term water quality of Province Lake so that everyone can have access to clean water that is free of toxic cyanobacteria blooms. The objective of the Province Lake Watershed Management Plan is to reduce the probability of nuisance algae blooms in Province Lake by reducing the in-lake total phosphorus concentration 3.5 ppb TP (a 25% reduction from the median, summer in-lake concentration, over the next 10 years). Reducing TP in Province Lake from 14.3 to 10.8 ppb will have costs based on which tasks in the action plan are executed. Implementation of this plan over time has, and will require the dedication of state and municipal employees, watershed groups, and volunteers to ensure that the actions identified in this plan are carried out. This work remains critical in keeping Province Lake healthy. To learn more about the plan and activities, you can review it on our website at <http://provincelake.org/watershed-management-plan/>

Spring Cleaning and a Healthy Lake

Spring is arriving and with it spring cleaning. After a snowy and cold winter, it's a welcome opportunity to get out and do some clean up and prep for the summer that awaits us. We would ask you to consider a few things to help protect our lake as you clean up around your property.

Please sweep up any areas that have leftover winter sand and remove it to areas away from the lake. If you have leaves, garden cuttings and other plant debris, please do not deposit it into the lake. Remove it from lakeshore areas and consider composting or mulching it. Sand and leaf/plant litter introduced to the lake waters can cause serious issues to water quality, fish and aquatic life, and can facilitate harmful algal, bacteria and invasive plant growth.

Also identify areas that have experienced erosion and address them to prevent further soil erosion into the lake. If the problem is serious, contact AWWA as discussed in the accompanying article.

More information can also be found at <https://nhlakes.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/enjoy-mud-season-and-protect-our-lakes.pdf>. This article by Andrea LaMoreaux of NH Lakes was recently published in Shorelines, the monthly eNewsletter of NH LAKES. To receive the NH Lakes eNewsletter in your mailbox, signup at www.nhlakes.org.

"Happy Spring Cleaning!"

Your PLA at work

- ❖ We would like to acknowledge Tucker Vye for his informative Dam article in our March Issue.
- ❖ We have engaged DK Water Resource Consulting to conduct additional water and sediment sampling for analyses. This work will allow us to update our Watershed Plan and Model to better understand the internal nutrient loading of the lake. This is important in understanding cyanobacteria blooms and what actions may be possible to mitigate them.
- ❖ We are adding a new vessel to our fleet to help protect the lake. Peter Dinger is making a glass bottom boat that we will use for our weed watching cruises. Below is the before photo and stay tuned for further updates!



- ❖ We have compiled WELCOME PACKS for new owners around the lake. Please let us know of any new owners near you, or that you are aware of, so we can reach out to them. We are happy to provide Welcome Packs as well to anyone who leases their property and would like to have a copy available for their renters. Please email us to request a pack at <mailto:provincelakemembers@gmail.com>
- ❖ We have added an [Important Info](#) link to our website dedicated to supplying helpful information to the residents and visitors of Province Lake.
- ❖ If you have a topic you would like to see addressed or if you would prefer to opt out of receiving the Newsletter please let us know. You can always contact us at provincelakemembers@gmail.com.

Calendar of events and items of interest

April 2018

Northeast Natural History Conference-
Apr 13-15, Burlington Vt

May 2018

Green Mtn Conservation Group Folk Music Concert – May 12, Eaton, NH
Dandelion Festival- May 19, Remick Museum & Farm, Tamworth, NH
NH Lakes Conference- May 31 & June 1 Meredith, NH

June 2018

Towle Farm Yard Sale- TBA

July 2018

Annual PLA Meeting - July 21,
Location TBA
AWWA Water Day – July 28, Turntable Park, Sanbornville, NH

Aug 2018

PLA Water Activity Event- Aug 11
141 Bonnyman Rd, Effingham, NH

About the PLA

Membership in the PLA is open to anyone who has a love and concern for Province Lake. The PLA has an active membership of 153 members and we encourage all to become members by completing a brief membership form and paying annual dues. Click here to [join](#) and to see membership information.

Links to our partner websites:

Action Wakefield Watershed Alliance (AWWA) <https://awwatersheds.org/>

Moose Mountain Regional Greenways <http://www.mmrg.info/>

NH Lakes Lay Monitoring Program <http://www.cfb.unh.edu/programs/LLMP/nhlmp.htm>

NH Lakes <http://www.nhlakes.org>

Province Lake Association, PO Box 24, Effingham, NH 03882

Phone (207) 200-3234

www.provincelake.org and follow us on Facebook at [Province Lake Association](#)

The PLA Board

Mindy Schuman-Vye (President)

Lorie Dunne (Vice President)

Thom Townsend (Treasurer)

Donna Luce (Secretary)

Directors:

Barbara Burns

Donna Davis

Carl Davis

Peter Dinger

David Lajoie

Jon Samuelson

Tucker Vye



Misty melty morning at Province Lake

PLA is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and as such all donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Our EIN is 23-7337832