



PROVINCE LAKE THIS MONTH

A Message from the President

Hi Everyone,

It's that time of year when we all need to slow down, enjoy our family and friends and take time to appreciate all the good things in our lives. I know how easy it is to get caught up in our daily activities and forget to really look around us. I hope this will be reminder to take that time and reflect on what we have to be thankful for.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank the PLA Board members, those who have volunteered their time in supporting our activities, our community partners and the PLA membership for their dedication and support in preserving Province Lake. It really does take an Association to protect our lake!

Just a note: As we develop our Newsletter we are introducing a new section, *Then and Now*. This will be old and new pictures of views of the lake. You will be able to see one of Bailey Road later in the newsletter. I'm sure many long time Province Lakers or those who may have inherited pictures with their properties have them somewhere. Please look around and send them in for future issues. We would all enjoy seeing the changes to Province Lake.

Wishing you a happy holiday season,

Mindy Schuman-Vye
President, Province Lake Association

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Province Lake Watershed Plan Project Update

By Linda Schier, Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance Executive Director

Since the *Province Lake Watershed Management Plan* was published in October 2014 the Province Lake Association, Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance (AWWA), the towns of Wakefield and Effingham, the NH Department of Environmental Services and lake residents and visitors have been busy acting on the recommendations in the Plan to reduce the amount of polluted runoff that reaches the lake. These projects all aim to minimize the amount of nutrients flowing into the lake to slow down the growth of algae and cyanobacteria and restore the water quality. While these projects have been successful we are still seeing cyanobacteria blooms so it is critical that everyone does their part to protect the lake.

Examples of the work that has been, or is still being, done around Province Lake include erosion control landscaping with the AWWA Youth Conservation Corps, replacement of degraded septic systems, correction of chronic road erosion issues that were sending polluted runoff into the lake, monitoring for water quality and cyanobacteria, installation of beach vegetated buffers and clean-ups, lake-friendly practices at Province Lake Golf Course, and a variety of outreach tools to help connect the dots between human activity and lake water quality.

Stay tuned for a more detailed view of all that is happening around Province Lake in a Spring 2018 newsletter. All the partners, including you, must stay actively involved to ensure that Province Lake water quality trends towards healthy for now and generations to come.

Cyanobacteria Blooms

We had a cyanobacteria bloom for several weeks in our lake this fall. This occurred shortly after the bad wind and rain storm of the 29th of October. Cyanobacteria is naturally occurring in all lakes in the world and when conditions are right you get a bloom. The blooms can be harmful to humans, pets and wildlife so while there is still open water it's important to keep your dogs out of it. These blooms happen depending on multiple conditions such as high nutrient load (phosphorus and other), temperature, rainfall, and wind.

PLA and our partners are monitoring this bloom. The Acton Wakefield Watershed Alliance (AWWA) sent samples to Dr. Jim Haney at the UNH Center for Freshwater Biology to be identified and analyzed. Sally Soule of the NH Department of Environmental Safety Watershed Assistance Section and Wendy Garland and John MacLaine of the Maine DEP Bureau of Land and Water Quality have also been notified as they have been involved in the Province Lake Watershed Management Plan.

Keep an eye out for a Spring newsletter which will have additional information about the challenge of a cyanobacteria bloom and what you can do to reduce runoff into the lake and reduce unwanted nutrients from entering the lake.

You can learn more about our Watershed Management Plan at <http://www.provincelake.org>.



*Cyanobacteria Blooms along Rte 153 and Point Road
this fall*

Your PLA at work

- ❖ We are growing! The PLA had a very successful year with the largest membership ever with 153 members. We are looking forward to increasing our membership next year. If you have any neighbors or friends who are not members you can encourage them to join and support the work of the PLA. Thank you all for supporting the PLA!
- ❖ Ice safety- Please be safe out on the ice this winter and follow basic ice-safety guidelines. Visit the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's website at <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/outdoor-recreation/documents/ice-safety.pdf> or call the Public Affairs Division at (603) 271-3211.
- ❖ Holiday Sale of PLA Merchandise
There is still time to order **in stock** PLA logo items. There are limited sizes and colors available though you may find something for someone you know. Here is the link to current inventory [Apparel Inventory](#). The order form can be downloaded from Apparel at <http://www.provincelake.org>.
- ❖ **Breaking News**- Due to recent concerns about the high level of the lake, two of our adventurous board members, Jon Samuelson and Peter Dinger, kayaked $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile down the South River to investigate. They discovered a beaver dam and lodge decreasing the flow of water out of the lake. This is one of the ongoing issues that the board addresses in areas around the lake. Look for more beaver information in future newsletters.
- ❖ 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 <mailto:provincelakemembers@gmail.com>.

Calendar of Events & Items of Interest

January 2018

Sunday, Jan 14; 1-3 pm
Moose Mtn Regional Greenways
Snowshoe Walk at Leary Field & Forest
Hornetown Rd, Farmington
Info at <http://www.mmrinfo.org>

Saturday, Jan 20; 9-11 am
Moose Mtn Regional Greenways
RunAround Snowshoe Race & Kid's Event
Abernaki Ski Area, Wolfeboro
Info at <http://www.mmrinfo.org>

Then and Now



The 1902 view west along Bailey Rd from the 'dam' at Pleasant Point and the same view in 2017. Although the house and barn on the left still exist, what a difference in vegetation in 115 years!

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

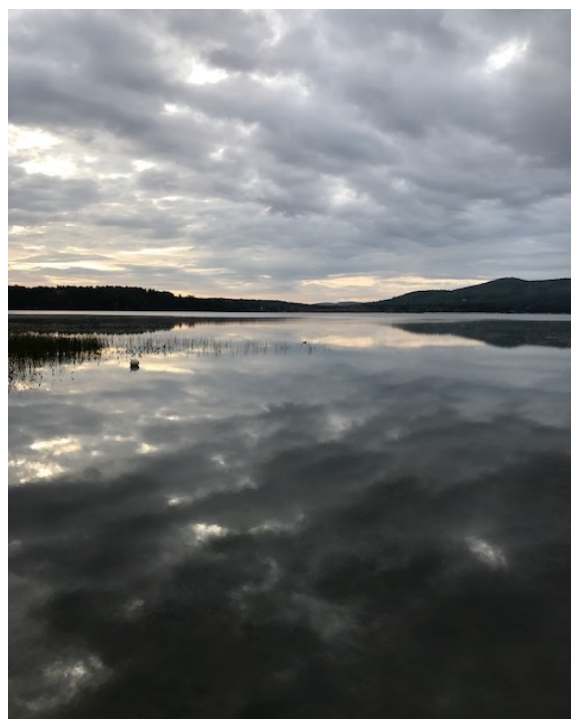
Carl Davis

Peter Dinger

David Lajoie

Jon Samuelson

Tucker Vye



Fall sky 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