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## A Message from the President

We officially had ice out on April 1<sup>st</sup> and summer has arrived. The loons are here and the eagles and other wildlife are active. Folks are already on the lake and opening their homes in anticipation of the summer ahead.

We are planning for our usual activities related to keeping Province Lake healthy such as the NH Lake Host program, water sampling, Weed Watchers, and Rt 153 beach cleanups. We always welcome volunteers for any of these activities so feel free to contact us with your interest by emailing us at [members@provincelake.org](mailto:members@provincelake.org)

We appreciate the continuing support for the NH Lake Host program from NH Lakes, the Towns of Effingham and Wakefield, and Towle Farm CC which allows us to inspect boats and keep invasive species out of Province Lake. Our new lake host manager, Lee Ann Cammett, is working with our inspectors as they prepare for the busy summer months.

Katie Jones will return this summer as our Water Quality Coordinator and will work with the UNH Lay Lakes Monitoring Program and NH DES in sampling our water quality and monitoring for cyanobacteria blooms. We thank the 'captains' who have volunteered their time and boats to do the survey cruises. We have received our 2021 Water Quality report which is on our website. Overall, the quality has not degraded and is stable compared to 2019 (there were no data collected in 2020 due to the pandemic).

Our partner, the Acton, Wakefield Watersheds Alliance (AWWA), continues to support us by offering homeowner programs that help mitigate erosion and nutrient runoff that can lead to water quality degradation and cyanobacteria blooms. They also have a wonderful series of informative Water Talks you can view at <https://awwatersheds.org/>

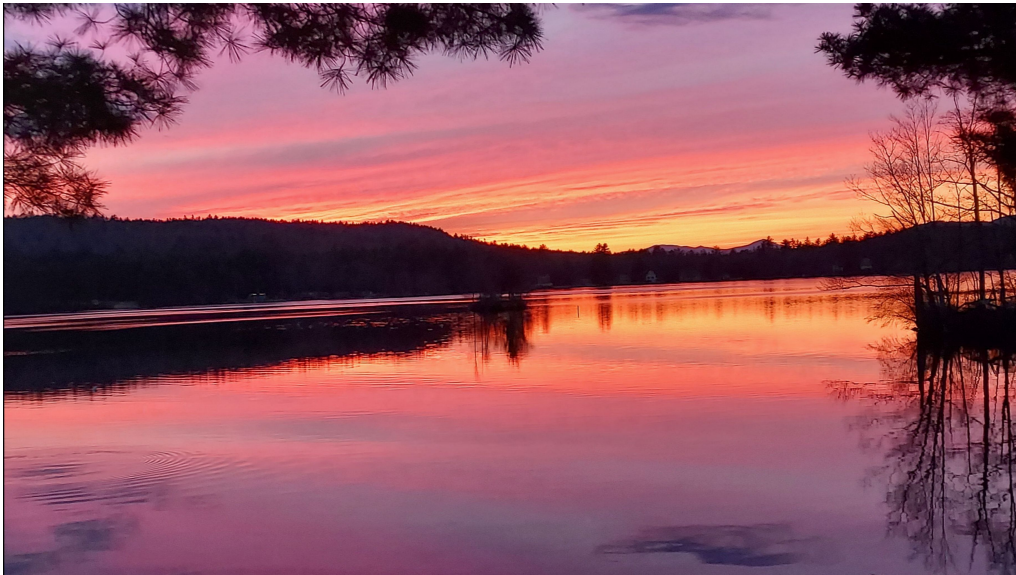
Our Province Lake Logo store is fully stocked and there is a great selection of items that you can personalize with our logo. Imagine keeping warm in your Province Lake sweatshirt on a cool morning while drinking coffee from your Province Lake mug. The options to advertise your love of our lake are endless. You can find the details on our website [provincelake.org apparel](http://provincelake.org/apparel).

You may have already received our annual Spring membership drive information. We

once again invite you to be a PLA member in 2022. Your membership makes all the difference and information can be found at [provincelake.org](http://provincelake.org).

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday morning, July 23, 2022. It will be held at Edge Lake Farm once again and we will update you when the details are finalized.

Enjoy being at the lake!  
Lorie for the PLA



Sunset from Sunset Road taken on May 6, 2022.

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## Your PLA at Work

**Save the Date:**

**Annual Meeting: Saturday, July 23 at Edge Lake Farm, hopefully we might be able to meet face to face.**

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### **Your Dues at Work**

PROVINCE LAKE benefits from the Association and its members, like all of you reading this report. Our mission is “to protect, preserve and improve the quality of both Province Lake and the wildlife and habitat associated with the lake.”

The association is made up of 140 families who value our lake and support it financially with dues and contributions (*Contributions is how we categorize money given in excess of our \$25 dues*). While the PLA board has voted to keep the annual dues low, to prevent it from being a barrier to anyone joining the Association, we are fortunate that more than **2/3rds** of you voluntarily contribute annually at a higher rate.

In 2021, we received \$13650 from our members in dues and contributions. This represented **70%** of our income, with the remaining amount coming to us from the town budgets of Effingham & Wakefield, and a small amount from corporate grants. (*The Effingham & Wakefield money is specifically earmarked to offset some of our Lake Host boat inspection payroll expenses.*)

**With your dues** and contributions, the Association was able to:

- pay for Lake Host inspectors at the Towle Farm boat ramp,
- make contributions to Partner Organizations (AWWA, Loon Preservation Committee, NH Lakes, Green Mountain Conservation Group, UNH Lay Lakes Monitoring), who support us with their activities,
- pay for water quality laboratory analysis and reporting by UNH,
- pay for a licensed beaver control officer to maintain the exit flow out of the lake into the South River,
- pay for Association and Directors liability insurance
- ... and cover other administrative and minor expenses.

As a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, our financial records are open and available to members upon request.

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### **AWWA: What's up in the Watershed?**

*Jon Balanoff, Executive Director*

With our sights set on the long-term health of Province Lake, and all the lakes in our watershed, the name of the game at the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance for the last 10 or so years has been watershed planning. In that time, we have been fairly active on Province Lake and in the community. Whether we're fixing erosion with our Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) crew, or teaching residents young and old about lake ecology and water quality, our primary focus has been on the vision we share with all of you: to keep the water clean and healthy for future generation to enjoy as we do.

We have learned a lot about what can harm the lake; how soil erosion, salt, and old, undersized septic systems can be small contributions that add up to big problems. We have also learned what we can do about it, and that to keep the lake healthy, we need to think long-term.

Almost 10 years ago, The Province Lake Association and AWWA collaborated to conduct a watershed survey to identify erosion issues. This was compiled with other water quality data from Province into the Province Lake Watershed Management Plan (copies of this extensive plan are available on our website!) These results have spurred a decade of successful projects to keep pollution out of the lake. Since 2012, Grants and fundraising allowed AWWA to create 48 lake-friendly landscape designs for Province residents, 28 of which were installed at minimal cost by our YCC, and so far, we have been able to cost-share the replacement of 9 outdated septic systems on the lakefront. We estimate that these projects have reduced the amount of erosion getting into the lake by *100 tons per year*.

In 2021, AWWA received a grant award to fund more YCC projects on Province Lake and **four more septic system replacements**. We also identified an erosion control project along Bonnyman Road with particularly bad erosion (originally found through the watershed survey) that we received funding to repair through this grant. This project will use is a natural shoreline stabilization method known as "live-staking" which is designed to rapidly revegetate an



eroded shoreline. This project will be completed in fall 2022 and AWWA will monitor its success the following Spring. Province Lake has rallied in the last ten years and made many great strides toward protecting the lake. Water quality monitors, weed watchers, the YCC, the Lake Host program, the Province Lake Association, and many more. All of these efforts come together to preserve the natural beauty of our lake and our watershed. Water Quality is a complex issue, and it takes an entire community to work it out and have a meaningful impact.

Important Announcement: Under our current grant, **there is only funding for three (3) more septic system replacements on Province Lake!** If you have been on the fence about replacing the old septic system at your camp, now is the time! Please **call us to apply for this \$4,600 grant.**

As you enjoy the lake this summer, please remember that we are all responsible for keeping it healthy, and must be stewards of this resource. A lake is an ecosystem and, much like a person, can be healthy or sick, and age gracefully or rapidly, depending on how it is treated and the level of stress it endures. Take good care of your lake.

(p) 603-473-2500

(e) [info@awwatersheds.org](mailto:info@awwatersheds.org)

(w) [Awwatersheds.org](http://Awwatersheds.org)

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The PLA board has decided that this is going to be our last official PLA Newsletter and that we can better disseminate information about specific topics more effectively and in a more timely manner by using email blasts and social media.

For those of you who have looked forward to these quarterly publications, we apologize and hope you can also enjoy our new format.

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Circa 1930? Corner of Bonnyman & Rt 153, looking North



PLA Facebook Page



PLA Website

### Links to our partner websites,



[Acton Wakefield Watershed Alliance \(AWWA\)](#)



[Moose Mountain Regional Greenway](#)



[NH Lakes Lay Monitoring Program](#)



[NH Lakes](#)



[Green Mountain Conservation Group](#)

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### 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 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. 100% of PLA membership fees and donations go into projects and related work focused on Province Lake water quality.

### Our mailing address is:

Province Lake Association, PO Box 24, Effingham, NH 03882  
Phone (207) 200-3234

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

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