



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Members and Friends,

I am very frustrated. The Tacoma Lakes have approximately 500 lakefront property owners, yet as of today, only around 220 of them have joined as members to support our Association. That is a decrease from the past several years. Our 2022 membership is only \$15, increasing to \$25 in 2023. We have stepped up in 2022, and added an additional day of boat inspections at the Woodbury boat launch. These inspectors are not volunteers and are paid for their efforts. Boat inspections are nationally recognized as the first line of defense against milfoil, and other invasive species. On nearby Cobbossee, thousands of dollars have been spent trying to eradicate milfoil, and European Frog Bit, another invasive plant. This battle is far from over for that lake. Keeping these species out of our lakes is the most economically feasible way to attack the problem. Once it gains a foothold, the costs rapidly escalate. It is in EVERY lakefront property's best interest to help keep these plants out of our lakes. Ask a property owner on a lake with an infestation about the effects of that infestation on their lake lives. Decreased property values, the inability to swim, or, in severe, cases even boats. We

are fortunate to have not experienced an infestation to this point. Our all volunteer plant patrol team puts in countless hours every year, inspecting our lakes. They all have spent hours of their time being trained in the identification of the plants. Their commitment to our lakes is nothing short of amazing.

We at TLA are grateful to all who support us and donate monies above and beyond the annual membership fee. If renewing your membership for 2022 has just slipped your mind, please do so. A membership form is included in this newsletter, and is available at tacomalakes.org. Online you can join using PayPal, or by printing the form and mailing it to us.

Our goal has been to have 300 active members supporting our efforts, help us get there! We are working on new ideas and are always looking for members to join the Board of Directors.

If at ANY time you have questions, or concerns, reach out to me anytime. If I am unavailable I will return your call or email. I can be reached at 268-2070.

Thank you,
Jim Adams, President

TREASURER'S REPORT

TLA uses a year end date of December 31 for financial reporting purposes. As of September 30, 2022, memberships have decreased by 11 members as compared to this date in 2021. Donations to Tacoma Lakes Association from members increased by \$528.00 through that same period. Membership as of September 30, 2022 stood at 215 members.

We have again received support from the Town of Litchfield, and Town of Monmouth. We thank them for their continued support. We also thank our members and those individuals and businesses in the community that continue to support our fundraising efforts.

Currently, all bills are paid and there are no outstanding invoices. I am happy to answer any questions that the membership may have regarding TLA finances. You may contact me by email at curtislindamoodcpa@yahoo.com.

Thank you, Curtis Lindamood, Treasurer

THE GREAT WOODBURY POND DAM LEAK OF 2021 IS OVER

Lovers of the Tacoma Lakes concerned about the state of the Woodbury Pond Dam will be happy to learn that repairs to the dam have been completed and that there was no additional lowering of the water level or disruption to boaters and other water enthusiasts. The current state-recommended 7-foot water level at the Woodbury Pond Dam was maintained up to and through the construction period in August of this year. With completion of the repairs, the Woodbury Pond Dam Committee will approve a return to water levels adjusted in October for the Winter period, and in May for the Summer period. According to Dam Tender Terry Averill, "the water at the dam is over seven feet now – with no leaks!"

Chesterfield Associates Inc. of Westport Island, Maine completed the work over a three-week period from mid-August to early-September. While final billing has yet to be provided, the Litchfield Town Select Committee had approved a \$115,000 bid to repair the Woodbury Pond Dam to secure the dam this summer, and Litchfield voters then also approved an additional

\$60,000 in contingency funding to support the project.

Chesterfield engineers emplaced a wall of interlocked sheet pile panes in the middle of the leaking eastern earthen berm. Their efforts finally addressed leaks in the dam first identified by Woodbury Pond Dam Tender Terry Averill in April of 2021 and should result in many decades of continued dam integrity. If left unchecked, the dam's issues would have significantly lowered the water level in some of the five Tacoma Lakes, caused the road across the dam to become impassable, led to lower property values for property owners on the five lakes supported by the dam and negatively impacted animal and plant life, according to state and local officials.

The Woodbury Pond Dam Committee is also exploring other repairs to the dam to address Dam Tender Terry Averill's recommendations to replace a steel plate on the spillway and to repair grouting the cracks in the concrete.





TACOMA LAKES PLANT PATROL

Our super IPP - patrol team was at it again this year. We have a couple of members who will be retiring next year or took a break this year. However, we are very fortunate to have some new (and younger) folks who have shown an interest.

We held one training day and then went out weekly to cover the north end of Woodbury Pond. There is some native milfoil in a cove on the northwest side, but nothing invasive has been detected.

The southwest end of Sand Pond also has some native milfoil that we have been watching for several years. Just to be sure, we took 9 samples to Lake Stewards of Maine and were reassured by our longtime mentor and friend, Roberta Hill. We will be losing Roberta after this year, and we are pleased to report that the Tacoma Lakes Association made a donation of \$250.00 in her name. The donation will be doubled by a 50/50 match.

Next year we will be looking to have more surveyors on weekend days to accommodate new members not yet retired. Information on identifying invasive plants and on water quality can be found at lakestewardsofmaine.org.

The plant shown on the left is native. The plant shown on the right is invasive Eurasian water milfoil.

Thanks to Kristen and Rick St. Peter who generously let us use their dock and canoe for launching this summer. Thanks as well to those who reached out to us when they observed species of concern; it is never a waste of our time when someone asks us to take a look. We ended up having some interesting conversations and met some lovely people.

Remember - one person noticing one new plant and calling attention to it could save our lakes!



Jorry I didn't receive the

newslatte this year due & post office

Only delivering & A.O. Bot. Jacon (my son

and member) brought his newslatte when

At came for wardton so & made a copy.

I always injury the meetings

and was sorry & miss it this year!

Hore spent time on this lake for

eenenty years and consider it a real

breasure!

Thamks for all you do!

Marilyn (Hamage) Lyon



TLA IS GOING CLYNK!

Are you looking for an easier way to donate your refundable bottles to the TLA? We are adding a new option, in addition to dropping your returnables at the Litchfield Transfer Station. You can now get **free** Clynk bags that are pre-labeled with the TLA label. Simply fill the bag at home and drop it at a Clynk location in any Hannaford grocery store. (Gowell's Shop'nSave does not have a Clynk drop.) Pre labeled bags are available for you to pick up at the Litchfield Senior Center anytime that they are open.

- 1. Put your bottles and cans in the green recyclable CLYNK bag with the TLA label be careful not to overstuff. Make sure bottles are not broken, cans are not crushed, and product labels with barcodes are intact. Also, leave the caps on!
- 2. Make sure to tie the green bags securely to prevent item loss double knot, please! A loosely tied, overstuffed bag will likely allow containers to escape.
- 3. Make sure to scan each green bag when you get to your nearest Hannaford CLYNK drop-off location. This helps ensure all your bottles and cans can be properly tracked by the system.
- 4. Drop the bags off while shopping and go about your day. No waiting or bottle scanning needed.

Your bottle donations help pay for attendants to check for milfoil and other invasive plants as boats enter our Woodbury boat launch. Thanks to you, TLA is currently paying to have the inspectors work 4 days a week. We appreciate your continued generosity.





ENVIRONMENTAL

Fact Sheet



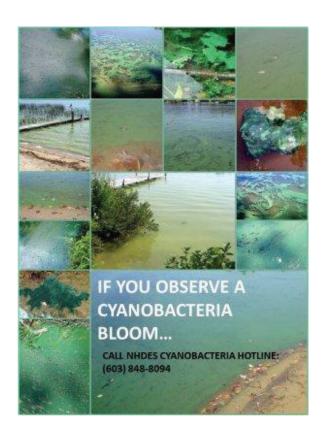
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WD-WMB-10 2019

Cyanobacteria in New Hampshire Waters

What are Cyanobacteria?

Cyanobacteria (formerly known as blue-green algae) are photosynthetic bacteria that utilize the suns energy but also behave as bacteria. Cyanobacteria are some of the earliest inhabitants of our waters; naturally occur in most of our lakes, though often in relatively low numbers in New Hampshire. Many species of cyanobacteria grow in colonies to form surface water "blooms." Blooms are usually bluegreen in color and consist of thousands of individual cells. Research indicates that cyanobacteria abundance increases as lake nutrients increase, however each taxa have their own unique requirements for growth.



Cyanobacteria Blooms

Although most often seen when floating near the surface during the swim season, many cyanobacteria spend most of their life cycle suspended throughout the water column, regulating their buoyancy to suit their needs. Cyanobacteria can also overwinter, surviving on the lake bottom during the winter months. Increased water temperature and light in the spring promote the upward movement of cyanobacteria through the water column toward the surface where blooms or scums are often formed. The surface blooms become caught in the surface tension and are subject to dispersal or accumulation based on weather, wind and lake morphometry. These scums are observed in summer in New Hampshire, when lakes are visited the most. Though cyanobacteria blooms are sometimes reported in the fall, or even as late as when ice cover occurs.



Why are Cyanobacteria a Concern?

While cyanobacteria blooms are considered unsightly and aesthetically displeasing, there are more serious concerns associated with high concentrations of cyanobacteria. Many taxa of cyanobacteria produce toxins ("cyanotoxins") and have been reported to adversely affect livestock, domestic animals and humans globally. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), toxic cyanobacteria are found worldwide in both inland and coastal waters. The WHO has documented acute impacts to humans from cyanobacteria from the US and around the world as far back as 1890. While most human health impacts have resulted from ingestion or injection, cases of illnesses have also been attributed to swimming in cyanobacteria infested waters.

The possible effects of cyanobacteria on the "health" of New Hampshire lakes and their natural inhabitants, such as fish and other aquatic life, are under study at this time. The Center for Freshwater Biology (CFB) at the University of New Hampshire is currently examining the potential impacts of these toxins upon the lake food web and from aerosols. The potential human health hazards via exposure through drinking water and/or during recreational water activities are a concern. Exposure to toxic cyanobacteria scums may cause various symptoms, including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, mild fever, skin rashes, eye and nose irritations, numbness and general malaise. Some studies suggest cyanobacteria may be linked to serious illness.

Do Cyanobacteria Occur in New Hampshire Waters?

The first reports of toxic cyanobacteria in New Hampshire occurred in the 1960s and 1970s. Cyanobacteria have been found in a majority of lakes in New Hampshire, but most often cyanobacteria numbers present in our lakes are near the minimum level of detection. The most common cyanobacteria found in New Hampshire are *Dolichospermum* (*Anabaena*), *Microcystis*, *Aphanizomenon*, *Woronichinia*, and *Oscillatoria* (*Planktothrix*). Though there are also unique blooms such as *Gloeotrichia* and *Nostoc*. There are several different cyanobacteria taxa found in NH waters.

If you Observe a Cyanobacteria Bloom or Scum, please call NHDES at (603) 848-8094.

NHDES will sample the scum and determine if it contains cyanobacteria. If concentrations are elevated, a lake warning will be issued. NHDES will continue to monitor the water and will notify the appropriate parties regarding the results of initial and subsequent testing. Public notification occurs through press releases and the NHDES website. When monitoring indicates that cyanobacteria are no longer present at levels that could harm humans or animals, the lake warning will be removed. If anyone comes in contact with a cyanobacteria bloom or scum (including pets), they should rinse off with fresh water as soon as possible.

- Do not wade or swim in the water, especially near surface blooms.
- ✓ Do not drink the water; avoid drawing lake water.
- Do not let pets or livestock into or near the water; dogs are especially vulnerable to toxic cyanobacteria.
- Call NHDES to report a cyanobacteria bloom sighting.

Where to Find Current Cyanobacteria Advisories and Warnings



Please visit https://www.des.nh.gov/ and click "Beach Advisory" under the ALERTS banner on the left sidebar to access the currently posted advisories and lake warnings for elevated bacteria and cyanobacteria blooms. These advisories and warnings will be spatially displayed on an interactive map as well as listed with text descriptions below the map.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 MEMBERS!

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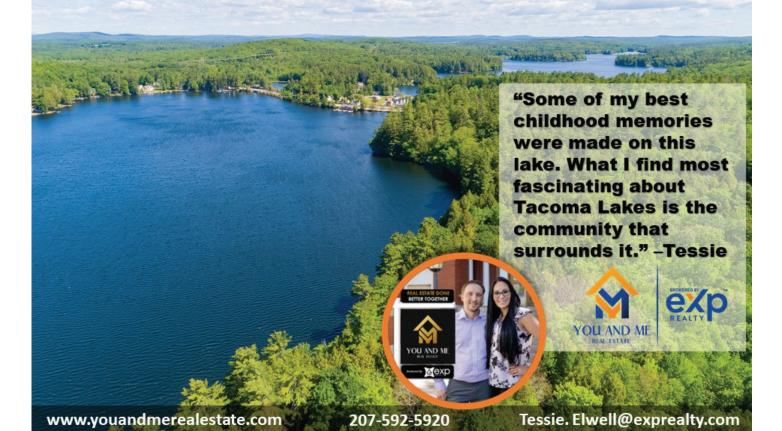
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MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$15.00

Thank you for your membership in the Tacoma Lakes Association. Your dues are essential to support our many activities. Together we can all help to preserve the health of these beautiful lakes we love.

(Please print legibly so we can make sure we receive the information correctly. Thanks!)

LAST NAME:						
FIRST NAME(S):						
MAILING ADDRESS: (Your Year Round Ma	niling Address):					
MAILING ADDRESS (CITY:			_ STATE:	ZIP:	
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E-MAIL ADDRESS 1: _						
E-MAIL ADDRESS 2: _						
If you own property o	n the Tacoma L	akes, please	complete the fo	ollowing:		
On which pond is your j	property located?	(please circle	e):			
Jimmy	Buker	Sand	Woodbury	Little Purg	gatory	
Physical street address of	of your Tacoma L	akes property	y :			
Town (please circle):	Monmouth	Litch	nfield			
	e IRS Code Sec				k. TLA is a fully charitable s (monetary or otherwise) may be	
DUES:	DONATION:		,	TOTAL ENCLOSED:		