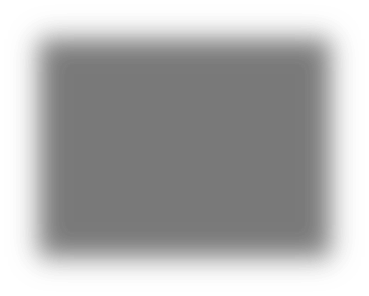


**Don’t Feed the Weeds**

Together we can keep our lakes beautiful

**Did you know?**

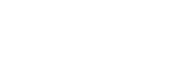
* Nutrients in a lake promote algae blooms and weed growth.
* Run-off from 1 acre of lawn can carry as much sediment and nutrients into a lake as 170 acres of forest.
* Even a thin shoreline buffer can make a big difference!



# Top 3 Benefits Of installing a vegetative buffer using native Adirondack vegetation

1. Reduces shoreline erosion
2. Creates filtration of run-off
3. Prevents overpopulation of water fowl like geese

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contact the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District to schedule an appointment for a FREE vegetation buffer consultation! | (518) 548-3991  hcswcd@frontiernet.net  www.hcswcd.com |

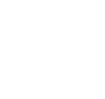


Maintain your septic system. Testing kits are available

**Other Ways to Help!**

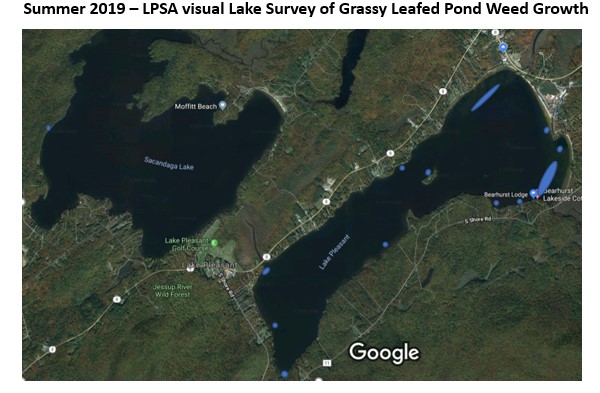


Limit the use of fertilizers and pesticides and use phosphorus free fertilizer

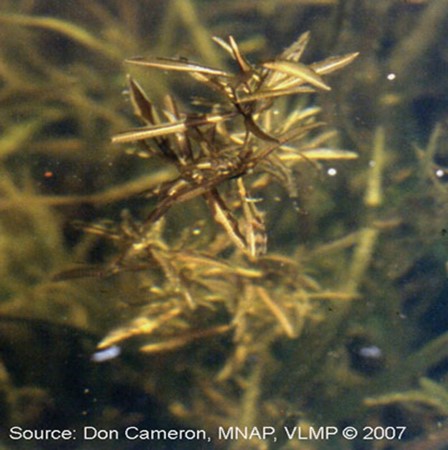


Clean up pet waste to reduce polluted runoff

**More Information**

* LPSA members and many around the lake have taken notice of the **recent weed expansion**…more so in Lake Pleasant
* Grassy Leafed Pond Weed **(GLP)** is the most notable **recent growth** - it grows in ~4-10 ft of water depth and comes to surface in mid to late summer. Many patches around the lake…easiest to see on calm days.
* **We have been able to keep non-native invasive weeds** (e.g. milfoil) out of our lakes

so far. LPSA has been working hard with boat inspections, lake monitoring and education. LPSA is also building a fund for emergency remediation.

* LPSA has engaged with Hamilton County Soil and Water, APA and NYS DEC experts who have recommended community actions to minimize nutrient additions to the lake. **Plants like nutrients** and warm water. We can’t control the water temperature but we can limit nutrient additions. Agencies do not support nor recommend any broad scale weed removal of native plants.
* You are allowed to do **localized hand weed pulling** of less than 1000 square feet in front of your own property. See APA regulation [HERE](https://apa.ny.gov/Documents/Flyers/HandHarvestingAquaticPlants.pdf).
* **Our Lakes are still quite clean and safe**…LPSA has been actively monitoring our lakes. Nutrient limitation is our best defense against rapid expansion and reducing risks of hurting our property values.
* During a Lake Tour with the APA expert he commented that aerial photography of Lake Pleasant has shown **significant shore line erosion** over the past decades resulting in significant quantities (“dump trucks”) of nutrient rich soil entering the lake
* According to a study; run-off from **1 acre of lawn** can carry as much sediment (and nutrients) into a lake as **170 acres of forest**.
* Shore line **woody stalked buffers** of about 6 feet in depth are shown to significantly reduce nutrient additions (by an order of magnitude)
* e.g. wild blueberry and wild azaleas (pinksters)
* Geese deterrent as well
* Hamilton County Soil and Water provides **free** individual site consultations to give you ideas for your shore line. More Detailed plans can be purchased.
* Older and ineffective **septic systems** are another major source for nutrient additions. You can test this yourself with a simple dye test, which you flush down your toilet. Testing kits are available at the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District office.