



**LAKE PLEASANT-SACANDAGA
ASSOCIATION**



Volume 24-Issue 1

**NEWSLETTER
SPRING/SUMMER 2022**



Email: LPSA.ADK@gmail.com

Website: www.lpsa-ny.org

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
by Tom Rippere**

When you were a child, you may have heard from your grandmother “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”. This axiom is especially true today in our fight against invasive species. After an invasive plant or animal gets established in a new environment, it is very difficult to eradicate it. That is why PREVENTION is so important in our fight against invasive species. Our first line of defense is our Lake Stewards, who monitor our boat ramps to inspect boats before they are launched into our lakes, to look for invasive animals or plant fragments. There are still some unfilled Lake Steward job positions for this summer. Please help us find candidates to fill these important jobs. Information is provided in an article in this newsletter, and in a News article on our website (www.LPSA-NY.org).

In our last newsletter, I explained that an important step toward Prevention is Awareness, and the best way to achieve Awareness is through Education. In the past few months, LPSA has sent our members several emails to raise awareness about invasive plants & animals, and other threats to the health of our lakes and forests. If you missed any of these articles, or you would like to have them sent to you again, please let me know (TomLPSA@yahoo.com). Recent articles have covered these topics: Eurasian Milfoil, Spiny Waterflea, Emerald Ash Borer, LPSA Partners in Ecology, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Water Chestnut, and Road Salt. Watch for more of these articles in future months.

If you would like to receive our messages at more than one email address, we can accommodate that. If you would like to add another email to your member profile, you

can send that information to our Administrative Secretary, Belinda Germain, at LPSA.ADK@gmail.com.

We are continually working to encourage new members to join LPSA, so that more people receive our message about the importance of keeping our lakes clean and healthy. This summer, we will be mailing information about LPSA to every postal customer in Speculator and Lake Pleasant, to tell them about our organization, and to encourage them to become members. If you receive this mail and you are already a member, we ask you to please share this literature with relatives, friends, or neighbors, to tell them about LPSA and all the good work we do on behalf of the environment. With each new member we add, we increase the awareness of the threats to the health of our lakes.



Boathouse on Sacandaga Lake

In our semi-annual newsletter, we collect a variety of news articles to keep our members informed about LPSA programs and activities. Also, our newsletters often contain other articles with news from around the Adirondacks and New York State that would be relevant to our readers. We were honored last month when the New York Federation of Lake Associations recognized the LPSA newsletter as the first-place winner in their annual newsletter competition. Our newsletter is our primary tool for communicating with our members, so it is very gratifying to receive this award. I hope that you find the articles in each newsletter to be interesting and informative. As always, Thank You for your continuing support of LPSA.

Editor: Tom Rippere

Design & Production by Belinda Germain

LPSA MEMBERSHIP by Rich Armstrong

Important – Tell Your Neighbors and Friends!

Thank you for being one of the 375 members or businesses that show your support for the preservation of our lakes. Your financial support and your awareness are critical and allow us to do our part in being good stewards of these amazing lakes that we love through programs such as:

Boat Launch Monitors...just think that **1 more member funds 1 more hour of coverage** keeping our lakes from Invasives that are less than 20 miles away

Water Quality Monitoring...with 34 years of data we are able to see changes and potentially get in front of new challenges

Lake Shore Monitoring Program...volunteers that monitor for invasive plants and other changes affecting our lakes

Community and School Education Programs to ensure everyone has the knowledge to do their part... Remember **DON'T FEED THE WEEDS!**

Policy Awareness... for example we are closely monitoring the Village of Speculator's Septic Law potential changes that are expected to be debated later this year.

We are truly all in this together from lake front owners who control their nutrients with buffers and septic testing to local business leaders and residents who raise awareness along with volunteers who donate their time and skills. **Please talk to your neighbors and friends about Joining the LPSA** or join me in thanking them for already being members. To join or renew your membership simply visit www.LPSA-NY.org and click on Membership.



NOW HIRING SUMMER LAKE STEWARDS By Tom Rippere

The Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI), at Paul Smith's College, uses funding from New York State to hire Lake Stewards at boat ramps and boat wash decontamination stations in the Speculator-Lake Pleasant area, and throughout the Adirondacks. These stewards inspect boats and trailers before they are launched into our lakes, to ensure they are not carrying any invasive plant fragments or animals that might be introduced into our lakes.

LPSA and the Town of Lake Pleasant provide additional funding to hire part-time Lake Stewards to monitor the boat ramps on days of the week when the AWI employees are off-duty. This year, AWI is having trouble finding enough employees to staff all the locations in the Adirondacks, including some locations in our area. Please help us find candidates to fill these important jobs. Candidates can contact Sue O'Reilly, AWI Stewardship Program Operations Manager, at SOReilly1@paulsmiths.edu



NEW INVASIVE SPECIES SIGNS FUNDED BY CAMP-OF-THE-WOODS by Tom Rippere

A generous donation from CAMP-of-the-WOODS will be used this summer to pay for new signs at boat ramps to remind people of the threat of invasive species. Both Lake Pleasant and Sacandaga Lake have already been infested with the invasive spiny waterflea. This tiny animal, about one-half inch long, disrupts the food chain for native fish and is a nuisance for fishermen, as it gets caught on their equipment.

Usually, we warn boaters to wash their boats and equipment before launching into our lakes. In this case, we want to remind boaters and fisher-

men to also Clean-Drain-Dry their equipment after it comes out of our lakes, to prevent transporting this critter to other lakes.

LPSA Director Kim Lewis has worked with Brian Greene at The Nature Conservancy (APIPP) to develop signs to be placed at local boat ramps to convey this important message. CAMP-of-the-WOODS has made a significant donation of \$850 to cover the entire cost of these signs. Thank You to CAMP-of-the-WOODS for being our Partner in Ecology.



SUMMER LUNCHEONS—SAVE THE DATES!

LPSA has two luncheon events scheduled for this summer: Sunday, June 26, and Sunday, August 28. Our guest speaker at the June event will be Brian Greene, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator at Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP). Our August event will include our Annual Meeting.

We hope that you will join us at these events to learn more about our programs, and to meet some of your fellow LPSA members. Please note that our luncheons are open to everyone, not just LPSA members. Consider inviting some of your friends and neighbors to attend also, so they can learn more about LPSA. Details will be provided in the future.



CONTACT US

Additional information about LPSA is available on our website LPSA-NY.org

Please send all membership payment checks, luncheon reservations and other similar correspondence to LPSA, P.O. Box 383, Wells, NY 12190-0383. You can contact us at LPSA.ADK@gmail.com

To contact Tom Rippere, LPSA President, you can send email to TomLPSA@yahoo.com if you have any questions or concerns.

Like and Follow us on Face Book @LPSA2016. You can see pictures of various seasons, add your own pictures, or read about upcoming events and projects in the LAKE PLEASANT / SACANDAGA area.



NEW LAW REQUIRES MOTOR BOAT INSPECTION & DECONTAMINATION
Reprinted from Hamilton County Express, December 15, 2021
(Edited for length)

In December, Gov. Kathy Hochul signed into law a bill requiring motorized boats to be inspected for invasive plants and other harmful organisms prior to launch in Adirondack waters. This bill will provide new safeguards for the Adirondack Park's precious lakes and rivers. The Legislature also approved important new education and outreach funding. The new law makes permanent the New York State Aquatic Invasive Species Transport Act, which required boaters to take precautions like cleaning, draining, and drying their watercraft before launching in New York waters. That law had originally been temporary and was set to expire in 2019. It was extended twice by the Legislature so advocates could win support for this permanent measure.

The new Adirondack Park inspection requirement will take effect in May of 2022, as the boating season begins.

In the Adirondacks, the new law establishes protocols for ensuring compliance either through a tamperproof tag issued by inspectors at the state's network of inspection stations around the park, or via a state-designed self-

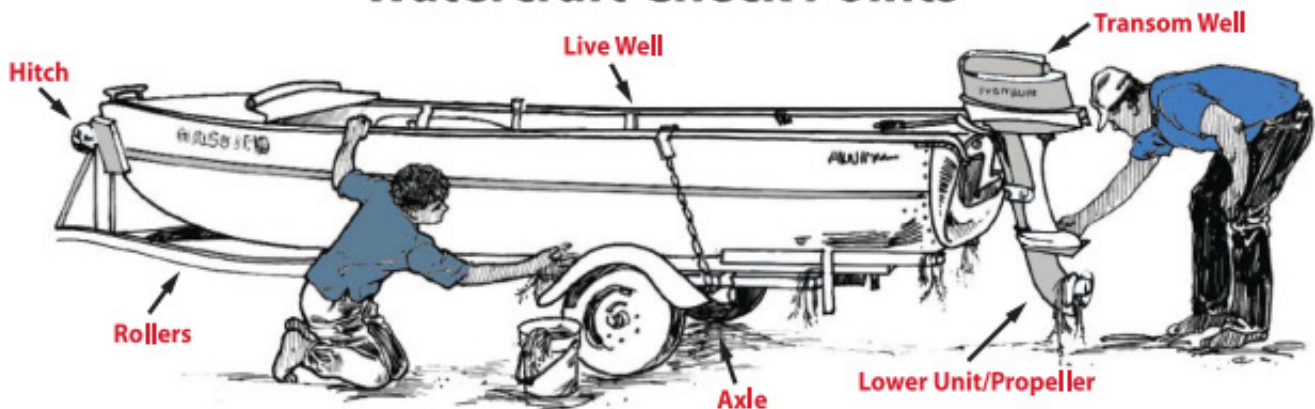
certification. Regardless of the method, boaters must now verify that watercraft has been inspected and/or decontaminated to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Invasive aquatic plants and animals are among the leading causes of biodiversity loss in freshwater ecosystems. Non-native organisms also negatively impact recreational opportunities for swimming, fishing, and boating, which reduce property values, local tax rolls, and tourism dollars. Once an invasive species establishes itself in new waters, it is very difficult to manage and eradicate. Some communities have spent millions of dollars combating invasive species.

"This law doesn't impose new penalties or create burdensome requirements for boaters," said Willie Janeway, executive director of the Adirondack Council. "It establishes a user-friendly system to verify compliance with the clean, drain, dry requirements already established in law. It supports the existing boat wash and inspection stations to which the public has grown accustomed across the region."



Watercraft Check Points



[CORRESPONDENCE TO BOARD MEMBERS](#)

[ALL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS, CHECKS & LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS:](#)

Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association
PO Box 164
Speculator NY 12164-0164

Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association
PO Box 383
WELLS NY 12190-0383

LPSA WEBSITE & ON-LINE PAYMENTS

Check out our website at LPSA-NY.org. The website contains much information about our Association and our projects & programs. There is also a library of information on Aquatic Invasive Species and Terrestrial Invasive Species, plus links to DEC and APA websites which contain a wealth of information. If you would prefer the convenience of making payments to LPSA on-line, instead of mailing a check, you can now use the "PayPal buttons" on our website to pay for luncheons, annual membership renewals, and donations to the LPSF general fund or the LPSF Kathy Huber Memorial Fund. With the PayPal buttons, you can make payments to LPSA and LPSF using a credit card or your PayPal account. You do not need to have a PayPal account to use the credit card payment option.



Griffin Gorge in Wells

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Library Hours:

Because of concerns about COVID-19, we suggest you call your library to see if the hours have changed or if you can make an appointment or just request items for pick up only.

Lake Pleasant Public Library: 518-548-4411

Virginia Hosley Free Library in Wells: 518-924-2220

Piseco Library: 518-548-7555

MEET YOUR AQUATIC NEIGHBOR by Peter Tobiessen

Usually in this space, I write about invasive species or harmful algal blooms. But in the spirit of a brand-new season on our lakes, I choose to be more positive and will introduce you to one of the more important creatures in our lakes, the water flea (Daphnia). Unlike its more troublesome cousin, the spiny water flea, Daphnia is one of the lake's "good guys" (although they all are female). It is large enough to see with your naked eye (1-2 mm long, or the thickness of 1-2 dimes), and it has two large appendages up front for locomotion. When the Daphnia pulls them down, it jerks forward like



a rowboat when you pull on the oars. This jerky motion reminded early observers of the jumping of a flea, hence its common name "water flea."

It is a filter feeder, filtering out bacteria, algae and microscopic animals from the lake water. Fish love to eat them, especially young ones, so they are a valuable link in our food webs. Their population size varies during the ice-free season, but typical densities are 1-10 Daphnia in each quart of water in a healthy lake. If you swim in our lakes, you swim among them and no doubt you may have swallowed a few. Not to worry, though, they are quite rich in protein.



LOVE OUR FORESTS by Tom Rippere

The focus of our organization is to protect our lakes, but we love our forests, too. The Adirondack State Park, with 6 million acres, encompasses the largest U.S. wilderness area east of the Mississippi River. We are fortunate to have a great variety of hiking trails in the Adirondacks. If you explore the woods, please "recreate responsibly". New York State Department of Conservation (DEC) provides a wealth of information on their website: www.dec.ny.gov Check their website for current information on hiking trails, campsites, wildlife, invasive species, and "Leave No Trace"™ principles:

- 1 – Plan Ahead and Prepare
- 2 – Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- 3 – Dispose of Waste Properly
- 4 – Leave What You Find
- 5 – Minimize Campfire Impacts
- 6 – Respect Wildlife
- 7 – Be Considerate of Others



We value your input! Please contact any member of the Board of Directors with suggestions to help make our organization and this newsletter better.

Think Globally; Act Locally

"Although conservation requires a long-term commitment and a large-scale vision, the work itself is local." – Scott Russell Sanders

REFLECTIONS ON WATER: BETTER PROTECTING LAKE WATERS

By Blake Neuman, Adirondack Council Clean Water Advocate

Reprinted from Adirondack Council
newsletter January 31, 2022

In mid-January, conservation practitioners, scientists, and industry representatives convened at the virtual annual meeting of the [Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society](#) to hear updates from peers around the Northeast and beyond. I was representing the Adirondack Council in my role as Clean Water Advocate, looking to bring some more insight and knowledge to protecting the Raquette Lake watershed and the waters of the Adirondacks.



Photo: Henderson Lake, by Justin Levine,
Adirondack Council

Focus on Prevention

As one of the presenters at the conference aptly put it, “watershed management can protect lakes, but is not sufficient to rehabilitate a lake.” His point was that the most effective management strategy is to find ways to be proactive and head a crisis off at the pass. In the context of his lecture, the best strategy for dealing with internal phosphorous loading was to do everything you can to keep that phosphorous out of the lake in the first place; in other words, it is a good strategy to focus on prevention. This is one focus of the Council’s work, in a nutshell - prevention is at the core of most of our clean water priorities.

The Council’s efforts to secure passage of the recent [aquatic invasive species transport law](#), which requires recreational boaters to complete a boat inspection before launching into Adirondack waterbodies, illustrates this type of prevention-focused approach to invasive species management. By limiting the introduction of additional aquatic invasive species to a system, it is much more cost-effective to manage those that may have already become established. The Council’s advocacy for improvements to clean water infrastructure, including municipal wastewater treatment and septic system replacement funding, are other examples of ways we are ensuring that pressures from nutrient loading (a major contributor to algal growth) do not tip the scale from prevention to management – or perhaps worse, to restoration.

As the Council expands its clean water work further, a significant issue we are reckoning with across the Park (as well as the US) is the gap of engagement of young to middle-aged participants in shoreline associations, which are dominated by an aging populace. While the older members are passionate and knowledgeable about the protection of the waters on which they live and recreate, if we cannot address this significant gap,



Photo: Raquette Lake, by Blake Neuman,

we risk losing much of the accumulated knowledge of long-time members of these associations.



Support Area Businesses:

The businesses below are those business members who have chosen to display their logo or business card with info. If you are interested, please contact us - email: LPSA.ADK@gmail.com

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bearhurstcottages@gmail.com

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Website: www.speculatorlawyers.com

Katie Smith, Esq

Email: katie@speculatorlawyers.com

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518-548-3355

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Route 30, Speculator NY 12164
Ph 518-548-7361

Your business information could appear in
our newsletter. Member businesses are in-
cluded here for free. They are also listed on
our website at www.lpsa-ny.org.
Business memberships are \$30.

Contact us at LPSA.ADK@gmail.com for
more information

Oxbow Lake Motel

2105 State Route 8
Lake Pleasant NY 12108
518-548-8603



IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO JOIN, PLEASE GIVE THEM THIS APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERS ONLY

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Hamilton County Location Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone # _____

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP: Make checks payable to: LPSA
Mail checks to: LPSA c/o Belinda Germain, Administrator, PO Box 383, Wells, NY 12190-0383

GIFTING MEMBERSHIPS

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Sunset over Lake Pleasant

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