



The Kingston Lake Association Newsletter

MAY 2016

SUMMER 2016

Attention Fishermen

On June 1, 2016 the sale and freshwater use of lead sinkers and jigs weighing one ounce or less will be banned in NH. The fishing tackle is the largest known cause of death of loons in NH. Nearly half of all loons have died from lead poisoning in the past 25 years.

Boating Vocabulary

Headway speed means 6 mph or the slowest speed that a boat can be operated and maintain steerage way.

No Wake is exactly what it says, not causing a wake. A wake is a double wave that goes off on either side of the boat. No wake zones are often used to protect aquatic life and the shoreline.

Details about these events are in this issue.

**May 21, 2016
Kingston State
Park Clean up**

**June 11 Shoreline
Clean Up**

**June 28
Membership
Meeting**

**July 31 Bruce
Anderson Regatta
at Camp Lincoln**

Summer of 2016 will be an important time to monitor the growth of aquatic vegetation. Why?

The winter of 2015-2016 was the warmest winter on record in NH. The ice on Kingston Lake did not freeze over until late February, and it opened up in early March. That means the sun shone on the lake throughout the fall and early winter and again into the late winter and spring helping the aquatic vegetation to grow. For these reasons, this summer will be an important time to monitor our lake for the invasive plant species. KLA works closely with the Department of Environmental Science's Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) and the NH Lakes Association's Lake Host Program. VLAP establishes teams of volunteers to conduct lake monitoring and sampling in the months of June, July and August. VLAP issues an annual report on the health of each water body. Water sampling has been going on in Kingston Lake since 1991. Last year's reports are available on the DES website <http://des.nh.gov>. Follow these links: VLAP Annual Reports, 2015. Kingston Lake is listed as Great Pond under the Merrimack Valley Region. There are two reports: one for the South Station near Grape Island and one for the North Station near the narrows. In summary, Kingston Lake is stable and falls into the middle to old age range.

The Kingston Lake Association performs the water sampling for the Kingston Conservation Commission (KCC). The funding for the sampling is provided by tax payers' dollars through the KCC budget. KCC owns the equipment that is used in the sampling. We sample June, July and August. Every other year a biologist from DES joins our sampling team to review and refresh sampling procedures. This year we will host the biologist on June 19th. Bryan Clark and his dad Skip Clark have used their boat for this operation for many years. Samples are taken from two deep water spots on the north and south side of the lake. We also sample from the outlet by the dam and several inlets. The water is tested for chlorophyll, conductivity, total phosphorus, transparency, turbidity and ph. All sampling data from the 2015 report indicates that Kingston Lake is relatively stable. Lake observers have noticed beaver dams in several locations which are choking the flow of water. Kelly Brook area is also very choked with vegetation. These conditions will grow more serious. We will call attention to these areas when the biologist from DES visits the lake.

Are you interested in participating in our lake programs? We have something for everyone.

Lake Hosting

Weed watching

Join us for the Regatta on Sunday, July 31.

KLA has a table on Saturday morning August 6, 2016 at Kingston Days. We use this opportunity to talk to our friends and neighbors about our programs and our mission. Our mission is to protect healthy water quality in Kingston Lake and the greater watershed area.

Protect

Preserve

Participate.

KLA Officers:

**Muriel Ingalls, Pres
Steve White, V Pres
Susan Palmeter, Sec
Ben Bixby, Treas.**

**Board of Directors:
Betty Wright, Bill
Bixby, Betsey Bixby,
Larry Smith, Bryan
Clark, Skip Clark,
Richard Coleman,
Stan Hicks, Sumner
Kalman, Ted
Holcombe, Jim
Edwards, John
Halloran, John
Knudson, and Megan
Loosigian, web
master.**

Lake Host Program

The 2016 Lake Host program will begin on Saturday July 2 at the town and state ramps. The Lake Host Program is sponsored by the NH Lakes Association. This is a courtesy boat inspection to avoid transporting exotic milfoil both to and from the lake. Our volunteers and paid hosts are helpful and friendly. They are the ambassadors of the lake. They will look at your boat and trailer to be sure it is free of weeds. Any suspicious weeds are sent to NH Lakes for verification. It is against the law to transport exotic milfoil. Help us help you to keep our lake clean. We are very grateful to Kathy Francis for her management of the Lake Host Program. If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a paid Lake Host contact us. This will be an important summer to monitor the Lake for weed growth because of the extremely mild winter.

Navigation rules are important to safe operation of boats. Specifically, the following operations are illegal: operating a vessel at greater than headway speed if within 150 feet of: swimmers, other vessels, rafts or floats, permitted swimming areas, docks or mooring fields, the shoreline and overtaking another vessel at a distance or speed that your wake causes danger or damage. Look for other navigation tips in this newsletter.

Lake History by Ben Bixby

Kingston Lake was a relatively small pond until the early 1800's when water was required to power the mills in the area. The local forests provided logs that were sawn into lumber used in the many local shops that produced carriages and barrels. Dams were built to harness the water, and the original pond grew into the small lake it is today.

The very deep hole northwest of Clark's Island is believed to be the remnants of an iron mine that was flooded when the lake expanded.

An ice harvesting operation was active for many years at the north end of the lake where ice was sawn into manageable blocks and conveyed into a building on the shore where it was insulated with sawdust.

When the textile industry moved out of New England, the local economy was devastated. Many of the larger homes in Kingston were opened to tourists who arrived by train at the E. Kingston depot. The lake, of course, became a significant attraction, and in 1933 the state forestry department acquired the Peaslee property at the north end of the lake which was developed into the Kingston State Park.

Over the years, land around the lake was developed for summer homes, and in the more recent years, many converted into year round residents.

Check Out Our Spring and Summer Schedule

Weeds are not all bad. They are a natural part of a water body and they provide food and habitat for fish. However, too many weeds are a nuisance. You can help to stop the spread of weeds by avoiding stormwater run-off, and pump your septic system every two years.

A family or individual membership to KLA is \$40. Our budget includes: dues to NH Lakes, and Loon Preservation Society, \$500 scholarship to a YMCA Camper, support for our activities, and printing and postage for our newsletter. Each year we set money aside in the budget for the "weed fund".

Thank you for your support.

**Kingston Lake Association
Inc. 642-3156**

**PO Box 1018
Kingston, NH
03848**

www.kingstonlake.org We are on Facebook

The Adopt a Park Program is in its sixth season. On Saturday May 21, 2016 volunteers will sweep into the Park with rakes, tarps, trucks and tractors to spruce it up for another summer season. Please join us from 9-1. Lunch provided. Rain date May 22.

Spring Lake Clean-Up is Saturday June 11th from 1:00 - 3:00. KLA boaters will navigate the lake picking up sticks, logs and other winter debris that could be hazardous to boating and swimming.

June 28, 2015 Annual Membership Meeting 7-8:30 at the Kingston Community Library. We will have a social time with refreshments from 7:00 - 7:30. The 45 minute presentation will begin at 7:30 and there will be time for your questions. Our guest speaker this year will be a member of NH's Fish and Game Department. His topic will be fish and wildlife on the lake. You won't want to miss this unique presentation.

The Bruce Anderson Kayak/Canoe Regatta is scheduled for Sunday July 31, 2016. This fun family event, named after its founder, continues to grow. The three mile course is around the perimeter of the lake beginning at Camp Lincoln. Kayaks and PFDs are available at Camp Lincoln. Registration begins at 9:30 and the starting bell is at 10:30. Refreshments are available before and after the race. The registration fee is \$5.00 per person. Prizes are awarded in several categories. Come and join the fun.

What does living on the lake mean to me? By Larry Smith

As I sit here night after night watching the sun set over Kingston Lake, I am constantly reminded of my early days some 75 years ago, when lifestyles were different and the lake played a more subdued role. There were relatively few cottages and most of them were on the Eastern and Southern shores. The average lake level was considerably lower and many locations had 10 to 15 feet of beach. One didn't need to know if daylight was approaching because tens of thousands of chickens from Nichols Poultry Farm on Rockrimmon Road could be heard around the lake. On weekends it was common to see many of the green and white wooden rowboats that were rented at the State Park. Thunderstorms often produced an echo that would travel around the entire lake. In the winter the Modlich Family would harvest ice from the Northeast Cove and store it in large sheds near the shore so as to provide refrigeration for Kingston residents. There were very few motorized boats as most of the lake traffic involved rowboats, sailboats and canoes. These are some of the things that come to mind from years ago, but meanwhile the love for Kingston Lake will go on forever.



Now it's your turn!

We hope you will continue to support us. You can do this in several ways.

- Renew your annual membership of \$40.00. If you have already done this, thank you.
- Help us grow our membership. Tell your friends and neighbors about us or give us their names so we can contact them.
- Participate. Pick an activity or event to participate in so we can grow our active membership.
- Come to our **annual membership meeting on June 28** at 7:00 at the Kingston Community Library.
- Consider joining the Board of Directors.

There are so many organizations and worthy causes that compete for our resources of time, money and energy. We say a great big THANK YOU for choosing to share with Kingston Lake Association.

Please clip and return to KLA. Enclosed is my check for membership renewal/donation.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ email _____

I would like to help with _____ Please contact me.

I think this family/couple/individual would like to join the Association.

Name _____

Address _____

Your feedback is welcome.

