



Dexter Lakes Association

DLA ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

JULY 2008

ANNUAL MEETING

JULY 9TH

7:00 PM

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL

DEXTER, ME

President's Message

Native Indians believed that the land and water did not belong to them. They saw themselves as stewards of the land. Having gratitude of those who took care of the land and water before them, they in turn, cared for these precious resources for those who were to come after them.

We would like to believe this is a good model for the purpose of our lake association. With increased development around the lake it is vital to have a lake community effort to follow this example.

One suggestion that would provide a way for more lake owners to be involved in this effort regards the invasive plant situation. The threat of Eurasian milfoil has been one of the main topics of recent water conferences in Maine.

The number of Maine Lakes that have some sort of invasive plants is increasing and has been slowly moving north in the state.

In order to protect Lake Wassookeag and Puff-

ers Pond, there is a need to have more trained invasive plant inspectors to monitor our lakes. At the present time there are only two.

Here is the wishful thinking part: In order to be trained as an inspector, it is necessary to attend a one day, six hour course in Dexter. The course

not only teaches how to identify invasive plants but is interesting regarding lake plants and ecology as well.

If we had a dozen or more people from our lake take this course and become certified it would require each person to be responsible for a small area of the lake. You would have all

summer to check this area only once or twice. This also would provide an opportunity to observe algae blooms that might develop.

Please contact Ed or Sandy Graham at 924-7820 so that a program can be arranged for sometime in July. Materials would be provided.

Please plan on attending our annual meeting, taking care of our lakes is a community effort,



BOARD MEMBERS

President
Edward Graham
924-7820

Vice President
Beth Lagasse
341-1656

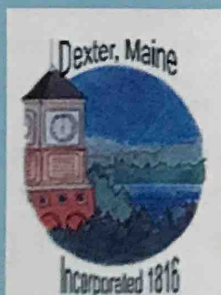
Treasurer, Peg Kaufman
924-6610

Secretary, Steve Wintle
924-0003

Director, Rich Pfirman
924-3370

Director, Vern Crane
924-5412

Director, Neil Crane
924-7582



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT THE DLA LINK ON WWW.DEXTERMAINE.COM LINK UNDER CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Front Runner — July 23rd

Front Runner Training

Wednesday, July 23rd

9:00 AM—2:00 PM

Dexter Town Council Chambers

Main Street Dexter

One of the biggest sources of lake pollution is poorly maintained camp roads that lead directly toward the lake. The April heavy spring rain caused a significant amount of erosion that ended up in our lakes.

There is an opportunity on July 23rd to learn about road maintenance techniques and be introduced to a do-it-yourself road maintenance tool called Front Runner.

The day will consist of a

short morning classroom session that will teach how to operate this machine, followed by a hands on demonstration. The \$15.00 registration fee includes educational materials, coffee, snacks and lunch.

The Front Runner grader/rake is an attachment that fits onto the front of a pickup trucks that have a snow plow mount. (see picture to the right).

The front runner will be available for low cost of \$50.00 for a week.



Photo by: Judy Craig

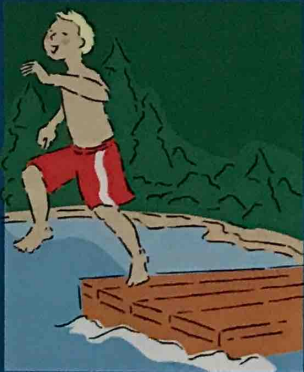
Are you Lake Smart?

Become one of your growing number of neighbors to receive a Lake Smart evaluation. To date, some 50 of your fellow shorefront owners have taken part in this Free Program. A Lake Smart Evaluation involves a Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District employee, evaluating your property according to predetermined criteria and offering suggestions for storm water control improvement.

If your property receives a high enough score, you will receive a Lake Smart Certification and Sign.

For those home owners who do not own shorefront property, but are still interesting in how to best improve your property feel free to take advantage of this storm water/wise program.

If interested in Lake Smart Evaluation please contract Sandy Graham at 924-7820 or Peg Kaufman at 924-6610.



New Shoreland Zoning Regulations

The state is attempting to make shoreland zoning requirements more uniform throughout the state.

For a fee of \$6.50, the new regulations will be available at the town office after the town council completes it's

review of the state's plans and determines what modifications will be made to adapt the plan for Dexter Lakes. The state plan will be available on line. www.state.me.us/doc/lurc

Puffers Pond

Last summer there were a number of issues that were of concern to Puffers Pond residents. A group met to discuss water levels on the pond. Several members met with representatives of the Department of Transportation to discuss the condition of the pond outlet (culvert) as well as how road construction for the school might involve the culvert.

The following is a report from Puffers resident Beth Lagasse about last summers events.

Water Levels , boat motor size, invasive plants, water quality, do I have your attention?

Issue Number One: The Water Level

The Department of Transportation approached the Dexter Lakes Association to check with the lake residents on where they thought the ideal water level should be, the thoughts at this time was the culvert at the end of the pond was going to be replaced. Come to find out the DOT had no plans for any work at this time. At this stage a letter was sent to an engineer for the DOT stating the Puffer Pond residents concerns for any future work at the site.

Issue Number Two: Boat Motor Size

A public hearing was set for November 8, 2007 concerning limiting horsepower of motors

used to propel watercraft on Puffers Pond. After considering all testimony and material available to him, Commissioner Roland Martin decided not to impose a horsepower limitation at this time.

Issue Number Three: Evasive Plants

Our pond was checked last fall by two local invasive plant patrolers and the news is good. No invasive plants were found.

Puffers Pond residents have decided to hold a meeting for lake residents this summer to continue discussion on these issues which will provide a good opportunity to make sure boat owners understand boating laws and neighbors concerns.

Reconstructed Dam

It appears that the first real test of the new dam came on May 9th, when Dexter was inundated with 4 1/2 inches of rain. The dam withstood the deluge very well and was able , with the addition of the new spillways, to maintain water levels between the perimeters set by the professional engineer (which is between a high of 340' above sea level and the low of 332.5'). During the May storm, water levels reached 333.4.

A dedication ceremony was held to celebrated the completion of the new dam.

With the completion of the Dam and the professional designed management plan in place, it should be possible for Lake Wassooskeag water levels to be more consistent.

Dexter Lakes Day

July 12th,

Location : Town Beach area

Time: 10:00 – 2:00

Activities for children, booths with lake information

Plant exchange for lake buffers and/or opportunity to purchase plants for buffers

Live music during day

Participants will receive 10% discount on certain food items at Lake Shore Lunch



Photo by: Bob Crawford

If you have not paid your dues, please send your \$10.00 to :

Peg Kaufman

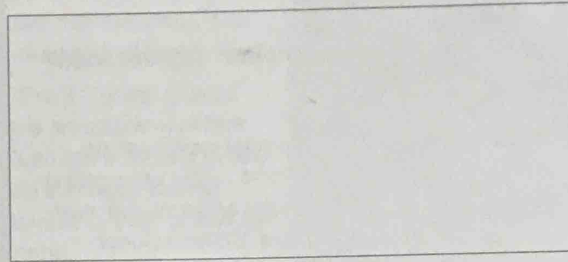
8 Ireland Lane

Dexter, ME

Dexter Lakes Association

Mailing Address

Dexter Lakes Association
c/o Peggy Kaufman Treasurer
8 Ireland Lane
Dexter, ME 04930



If you would like future newsletters emailed to you, please contact us at
esgraham695@wmconnect.com

This is What It's All About

My Tribute to Camp/Lake Wassookeag

A brilliant white-hot sun stretches a diamond-like reflection across the water.

It shimmers and sparkles in the lazy summer afternoon, an afternoon as endless as the lake itself.

And you realize, this is what it's all about. Water gently rocks an aging, but ever constant float.

Pulling yourself carefully up the ladder over and over, only to tumble back into the water as quickly as you came out.

Breathless and full of life, all at the same time.

You say to yourself, "Three more jumps." Three becomes five, five becomes seven, seven-ten.

A hammering heart, exploding lungs and sheer exhaustion decide 12 is enough

Yet you are afraid to get out, afraid to break this beautiful connection.

Life in the lake, and all around it, consumes you and fills you to capacity.

Finally, you swim to shore as if you are racing AND you are !

Racing the sun, racing the waves that slap lightly against the rock, racing against time and all that forces you back into reality.

Physically you remove yourself, but emotionally you are in it forever like the memories inside you.

Memories of loved ones who are no longer with us. They are not here in body, but always here in spirit.

All that you want to say, all that you want to pour out of your heart and soul, but can't.

Simplicity, Love, Family, Friends, God.

This is what it's all about.