

Dear Friends of the TPEPA,
Ice out on Trickey Pond was April 2nd this spring. And right on cue, the loons were back within 24 hours! Much like folks who count the days until they open up their camps and return to Trickey, or those who yearn for the first paddle around the lake, the loons know a good thing when they see it and they too can't wait for "the season" to begin.

2021 marks the 15th anniversary of the TPEPA. On August 14, 2006 the TPEPA was accepted as a legal entity by the state of Maine and given a charter. Our founders Larry Anton, Dick Meyer, and Joe Pedulla signed the articles of incorporation that summer and we are most grateful that Larry and Dick are still on the board and that Joe continues to be a consistent supporter. Thank you gentlemen for your work and dedication.

A few other notable milestones to share:

- ◆ In March TPEPA was awarded a Maine DEP CBI grant for the 11th consecutive year. Again, this year we received the maximum amount available, \$2000.
- ◆ The Town of Naples, through their annual budget process contributed \$500 to support the work of the TPEPA.
- ◆ A project that began in 2019 with the watershed survey, culminated in the Trickey Pond Watershed Based Protection Plan which was approved by Maine DEP and the EPA in March. You can read more about the WBPP and our next steps with this initiative on page five.

Also included in this newsletter is an article about resources available to shoreland property owners, an explanation of Trickey Pond's "vulnerability score", an update on a new nature trail at the public launch, and another installment of Meet the Members.

Thank you to all of our members. Your contributions make the work of the TPEPA possible. Best wishes for a fun and safe summer on Trickey Pond.

Warm regards,

Martina

Martina Witts, President

Please Support TRICKEY POND

The primary purpose of the TPEPA is to raise money to take care of Trickey's pristine waters. Your donations fund boat inspector hours at the public ramp to keep milfoil and other invasive species out of Trickey Pond. Thank you for your support!

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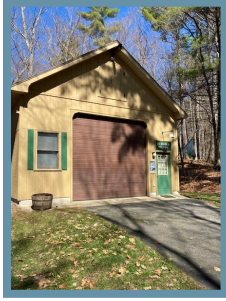
@trickeypond



"Visit"

Our Website

www.trickeypond.org



Meet Our Members

Thank you to Bud and Carole McLellan for sharing their discovery of Trickey Pond with our readers. They are among the very earliest of TPEPA supporters and we find their enthusiasm and love of Trickey Pond to be infectious and heartwarming. If you're inspired to share your own Trickey Pond story in our next issue, please send it to Martina.Witts@gmail.com

Trickey Pond Discovered

A Day to Be Remembered By Bud McLellan

Early on a Saturday morning in late September of 1964, Carole and I, along with our four children, Barry, Bonnie, Brenda, and Christy the youngest at age five, left our home in Boxford, MA heading north with the trailer to recover Barry's boat at Moose Pond. Carole had packed a picnic lunch for all of us and we planned to take a leisurely ride to Maine and back. Instead of taking the Maine Turnpike to old exit 8 and then 302 as we usually did, we left the turnpike at Kennebunk, picked up 35 to 11 and then 114. When we came over the hill after the bridge over Sebago Inlet we came upon two large signs offering shore lots for sale at Sebago Harbor Shores and Trickey Pond, a pond we had never heard about. It was time to take a break and the kids were getting restless, so we pulled into what is now Trickey Pond Road and decided to do some exploring. We never got to Sebago Harbor Shores. It only took one look at Trickey Pond to realize that this was one special place.

Our first visit to the shore was at what is now the boat ramp right-of-way. This was also pretty much where the road ended at that time. The kids couldn't wait to go wading in the crystal clear water. One of the first things that we noticed was how clear the sparking granite rocks were on the bottom. The kids soon found out that the rocks would hurt their feet if they stood on them, as their surfaces were so clean. We couldn't get over the beautiful pale green of the water. Although there was still considerable boating activity on Sebago, Brandy and Long Lake at that time of year, it was absolutely quiet on Trickey. As we looked out over the water we couldn't believe that we

had found such a pristine treasure right in the middle of the busy lakes region of Maine. As we stood there on the shore while the kids played in the water, Carole and I had no idea how this discovery would alter our lives forever. We had discovered Trickey Pond!

What do we do next? Hey, wait a minute, our good friend Helen Lawrence lives in the village. She owns Lighthouse Realty. Helen was full of enthusiasm and information about Trickey Pond. She pointed out that Trickey Pond was a spring fed lake with a limited watershed, that it had no inlet, that it was almost 100' higher than Sebago Lake in elevation, yet only 1/4 of a mile away at its nearest point, and that the only water connection was through the outlet at its north end through several miles of The Muddy River Swamp. She also pointed out that Trickey Pond was a premium trout and salmon lake and was stocked annually by the state. We also learned about Camp Skylemar and Camp Wenonah, the Girl's Camp which is now part of Skylemar, as well as the Bosworth Family Campground. Essentially, these were the only places on the lake except for the few cabins that were being built in the subdivision now known as Werdna Woods.

Helen had walked the property several times and suggested that the best lots had yet to be developed, namely the shore lots at the end of the road. The listing price for these 100' lots was \$1,800 or \$3,500 for two. Not very much money in today's economy, but enough for a substantial down payment on a new home at that time.

Overwhelmed with anticipation, we continued on to Moose Pond,

recovered Barry's boat and returned to Boxford, all the while knowing that somehow we would return to Trickey Pond. We did, and that's another story!



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New Nature Trail and Parking Coming to Trickey Pond

By Martina Witts

Earlier this year, the Naples Recreation Committee presented a proposal to the Town's Selectboard that outlined a plan for a hiking path and additional parking at the public boat launch property. The land surrounding the launch is owned by the Town of Naples. Specifically, the plan called for four parking spaces, a hiking path, a picnic area and a small kiosk to provide environmental education and information. The Recreation Committee is amenable to the TPEPA having some signage or information about our organization posted at the kiosk as well. The Selectboard, recognizing the efforts of the TPEPA in protecting Trickey Pond and its watershed, suggested the Recreation Committee reach out to us so that we could ask questions and offer input on the project.

TPEPA Board members were concerned about the size of the parking spaces,

proximity to the boat wash station, potential storm water runoff from the parking area, potential impact the trail would have on the vegetative buffer, potential campfires/grilling and trash.

The Recreation Committee is working with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) to install the trail and parking spots so care is being taken to ensure runoff is diverted away from the lake and that the trail does not have a negative impact on the ecosystem. DACF will finalize the exact location of the trail this spring to take into account any vernal streams or runoff.

The parking spaces were installed in late March (see photo) and do not obstruct access to the boat wash station and also are properly sized to allow for vehicles only, no additional boat trailers can

be accommodated in the new parking spots.

Campfires and grilling will be prohibited and the trail and picnic area will be a "carry-out" use only. Board members did ask the Recreation Committee to help ensure that the area is kept clean and free of trash.



Protecting Trickey Pond – You're Not Alone

Shoreland property owners and those who want to ensure they do no harm to the exceptional natural environment of Trickey Pond and the broader lakes region have many resources at their disposal.

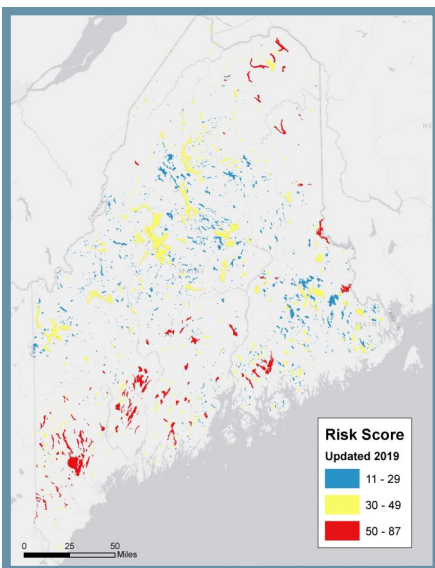
- ◆ If you're planning a construction project in the shoreland zone, a good place to start is with the **Town of Naples Shoreland Zoning Ordinance** which can be found on the Town's web site www.townofnaples.org. The ordinance provides guidance on building setbacks, building expansion limitations, erosion and sedimentation control and permitting. The Code Enforcement Officer of Naples is available to assist and can be reached at naplesceo@townofnaples.org.
- ◆ The **Lakes Environmental Association (LEA)** has many resources on their website. Their *Homeowners Guide* is particularly useful. In an easy to use, quick to reference format, it offers *Top Five Ways to Protect Your Property and Maine's Lakes*, a *Plant Guide for Shorefront Property*, and *A Word About Wakes* an article that explains the damage large wakes can have on lake health and wildlife and guidelines on how to mitigate the risks. To read this publication and others on preserving our lakes go to www.mainelakes.org and click on the Lake Health tab.
- ◆ **Maine Lakes** is another organization that offers assistance and provides resources to land owners in the shoreland zone. On their website www.lakes.me, click on the Resources tab and go to the Lake Library. There you will find articles on planting and maintaining vegetative buffers, the importance of maintaining a septic system in the shoreland zone and a handbook for shoreland owners. Maine Lakes is also the originator of the *Lake Smart* program, an "education and reward program that helps lakefront homeowners manage landscapes in ways that protect water quality." As part of Trickey Pond's Watershed Based Protection Plan (see article on page ?) increasing participation among Trickey Pond shore owners in *Lake Smart* is an important metric in measuring our success in protecting the water quality of the pond. Shore front property owners on Trickey Pond who would like to learn more or participate in *Lake Smart* may contact Martina Witts at Martina.Witts@gmail.com. Participating in *Lake Smart* is entirely voluntary, so you are free to take some of the recommended actions or not—it's completely up to you.

As the TPEPA tag line states, "Preservation Starts with You", but thankfully, you're not alone in your efforts to protect Trickey Pond.

How Vulnerable is Trickey Pond?

Given all of the effort and resources directed at keeping invasive aquatic plants out of Trickey Pond, have you ever wondered, what exactly *are* the chances that invasives could infest the lake? Well, you might be interested to know there is actually a statistical tool that rates a lakes vulnerability to invasive aquatic infestation. In 2004 the Maine DEP and the Maine Natural Areas Program (within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry) developed the first iteration of the Lake Vulnerability Analysis to measure a lakes vulnerability to invasive aquatic plants. In 2017 the vulnerability analysis was updated with more current data.

DEP analyzed 2,664 data from Maine lakes of 10 acres or larger. Each lake was then assigned a vulnerability score using nine parameters grouped into the following three categories: volume of use, proximity to infested waters and potential for colonization.



The chart below shows how Trickey Pond scored in the three main categories as well as the subcategories.

Type of Factor	Factor	Score (1-5)	Weight	Points
Volume of Use	Proximity to Interstate	5	1	5
	Proximity to State Hwy	5	1	5
	Population within 30km	4	2	8
	Boat Access	5	4	20
Proximity to Infestation	Distance to Infested Waterbody	5	2	10
	Connectivity to Infested Lake	3	5	15
Potential for Colonization	% Littoral Habitat	3	1	3
	Lake Surface Area	4	1	4
	Shoreline Complexity	2	1	2
Total				72

Ultimately, Trickey’s vulnerability score came to 72 out of a possible 90; this places Trickey firmly in the high risk category. DEP explains, “Using the total risk scores, Lakes were grouped as low, medium or high risk of infestation. DEP used a histogram and best professional judgment to determine group breaks. Lakes with scores below 30 are at low risk of infestation. Lakes with scores 31-49 are considered moderate risk, and lakes scoring 50-87 are high risk.”

The TPEPA in partnership with Lakes Environmental Association, strives to provide a consistent courtesy boat inspector presence at the public launch during the heavy use season from June to early September. But there are still many hours of the boating season where boaters themselves are the only line of defense against aquatic invasive species making their way into the lake. With a high vulnerability score, it’s clear our efforts are merited and moreover, each boater’s actions are a significant factor in protecting the lake. To learn more, visit: <https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/invasives/vulnerability.html#:~:text=Summary%20of%20Vulnerability%20Scores&text=DEP%20used%20a%20histogram%20and,50%2D87%20are%20high%20risk>.

Trickey Pond 2020 Water Quality Report Summary

By Richard Meyer

Each year TPEPA contracts with the LEA (Lakes Environmental Association, Bridgton) to monitor the water quality of Trickey Pond. LEA has done this for 50 years without cost, and it is only more recently when more sophisticated and extensive testing became available that we have been purchasing the enhanced testing. TP is still one of the most clean and clear lakes in Maine, or elsewhere, but the long-term trends in our water quality are toward poorer quality. Consequently, the value of each measured item for the current year plus the long-term trend are essential to understanding the cause(s) of the declining quality. TPEPA's recognition of the declining trend led to the Watershed Survey (the Survey), and the Survey led to the Watershed Protection Plan (the Plan). Since phosphorous is the single most detrimental nutrient that washes into lakes and ponds, the Survey looked for non-point sources of phosphorous, and the Plan has specific location and recommended remedial action to stem that flow into TP.

The 2020 results of the water quality monitoring are as follows:

- ◆ Clarity: rated high at 9.17 meters; but the long-term average (LTA) = 10.06 meters; trend = decreasing clarity (bad)
- ◆ Phosphorous: rated low at 3.88 ppb; LTA = 5.27 ppb; trend decreasing (good)
- ◆ Bottom phosphorous: appears recycling is not a problem
- ◆ Chl-a: rated low at 1.90 ppb; LTA = 1.79, trend = increasing (bad)
- ◆ Color: 9.25 SPU; less than 10 = low color (good); color affects clarity

The temperature monitoring string hanging from the buoy half way across the pond in front of Camp Skylemar has 9 temperature sensors spaced 2 meters apart starting at 1 meter below the surface and extending to 17 meters, just off the bottom, in the deepest part of TP. LEA installs it each year soon after ice out; it was May 7, 2020. At that time the temperature of the

water was uniform top to bottom. From that time on the water column warms unequally with the bottom staying cold and gradually warming to the surface before cooling off again. The sensors monitor and record the water temperature change throughout the spring, summer and fall. LEA removes the string after the top to bottom temperature has again equalized; the temperature equalized on Oct. 30, 2020, and the buoy was removed November 4. The sensors record the temperature at each sensor level in the pond every 15 minutes, providing over 15,000 data points. These sensors provide a detailed record of temperature fluctuations and provide insight into water quality and the extent and impact of climate change. The water temperature when the sensors were installed on May 7 was about 50°F top to bottom. The bottom temperature only rose to about 55°F all season long until the sensors were removed, whereas the surface temperature (1 meter down) went from the same 50° to 83.22°F.

Trickey Pond Watershed-based Protection Plan Approved by EPA and DEP

After receiving the completed watershed study report in the fall of 2020, members of the TPEPA Board took on the next task, writing a watershed-based protection plan (WBPP). The WBPP is a required element for a lake association to apply for the EPA 319 grant funds.

With guidance from Amanda Pratt, an Environmental Specialist with the Watershed Management Unit at Maine DEP, the TPEPA board wrote and submitted its plan in late February. We are pleased to report that on March 15, 2021 we received notification that our plan was accepted by the EPA and Maine DEP. You can read the approved WBPP on the TPEPA web site at www.trickeypond.org and click on the Downloads tab.

To apply for EPA grant funds, the TPEPA has partnered with Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District. They will be writing the grant and serve as the grantee to help manage any funds the TPEPA receives. Grant applications are due May 21st and applicants are notified in early July. The DEP reports they anticipate to award 10-15 grants in 2021 for a total of \$1.2 million. Grants will range in size from \$50,000 - \$150,000. If the TPEPA is awarded a grant, funds will be available in 2022; then the TPEPA in partnership with property owners, will begin to implement the recommended best management practices (BMPs) outlined in the watershed study and WBPP.

Report Highlights:

- ◆ Trickey Pond had not yet stratified when sensors were deployed on May 7.
- ◆ While surface waters were warm from late June through mid-August, the peak temperature of 83.22 °F occurred on August 1.
- ◆ As surface waters cooled, water temperature between 1—9 meters equilibrated and mixed.
- ◆ After a warm spell in late September, waters between 1—11 meters briefly re-stratified.
- ◆ Full mixing occurred on October 30.



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Already a member? Give your friend or neighbor a gift membership!
Includes one t-shirt and a membership letter mailed to the recipient.

To become a member of TPEPA, please visit our web site at TrickeyPond.org

Please make a tax-deductible donation this year! Our hope is that every homeowner, friend, family member and renter will help protect Trickey Pond.

You can donate on the website with a credit card: www.trickeypond.org
OR mail a check to TPEPA, P.O. Box 417, Naples, Maine 04055