



Dear Friends of the TPEPA, Loons, mergansers and mallards, oh my! They are the first to navigate Trickey Pond upon ice out each spring. Soon followed by fishermen, boaters and swimmers, oh my, again! Together they create a unique, albeit temporary, summer community, all striving to harmoniously coexist on a comparatively small Trickey Pond. This disparate mashup of feathered-fowl, gas powered and human powered vessels, eager anglers and splashing backstrokers have at least one thing in common – they all enjoy Trickey Pond’s clean and clear water. Followers and supporters of TPEPA understand that the pond’s current outstanding water quality cannot be taken for granted. As we’ve reported before, environmental stressors in the watershed and the pond’s proximity to aquatic invasive species in surrounding lakes continues to drive our efforts to protect Trickey Pond. After reading this newsletter, we hope that you find renewed inspiration to help us in our mission to protect Trickey Pond. Included in this spring issue are articles about our progress with the Trickey Pond Watershed Project, the latest water monitoring report, the continued challenge presented by aquatic invasive species in Maine, the increasing cost of courtesy boat inspector coverage, a new organization called Maine Boating Impacts Coalition, and more. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable Trickey Pond summer!

TPEPA is interested in your comments or questions. You may reach us through our website at www.trickeypond.org/contact As always, thank you for your support.

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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Type “Trickey Pond Environmental Protection Association”
0.5% of every purchase made
will go towards protecting Trickey Pond

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www.trickeypond.org

Trickey Pond Water Monitoring Report for 2021



Each year in early spring Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) publishes the Water Monitoring Report for Trickey Pond. TPEPA's contribution towards this water testing in 2021 totaled \$1,020. The 21 page report provides data collected over the previous season, explanations of the tests performed, and a handy Water Quality at a Glance chart that shows trends back to 1996 and comparisons to other lakes in the LEA service area. For 2021 this chart shows that while Trickey Pond tested *high* in clarity for 2021, (one of only seven lakes to do so among the 41 lakes and ponds in LEA's service area) its clarity is decreasing (not good). The average phosphorus readings for 2021 were *moderate*, showing a decreasing trend (good). The average chlorophyll-a readings were *low*, but showing an increasing trend (not good). For the complete Trickey Pond Water Monitoring Report for 2021 visit the Lakes Environmental website at www.mainelakes.org.

Click on the My Lakes tab and select Latest Water Testing Reports. For questions about the report, you may contact Maggie Welch, Staff Researcher at LEA at maggie@mainelakes.org. -TPEPA

Day of Planting Planned for September 24th

As part of the Trickey Pond Watershed Protection Project, efforts are being made to encourage the installation of native plants along the shoreline. Native plants offer many benefits including wildlife habitat and food sources, shading, and aesthetics. Native plants within the shoreland zone also help to protect water quality by absorbing and treating stormwater runoff and protecting shorelines from erosion. Through this grant project, we will be offering \$100 matching grant funds to Trickey Pond property owners towards the purchase and installation of native plants around the lake. A special "Day of Planting" has also been scheduled for Saturday, September 24th. Property owners for the sites identified in the shoreland survey will be contacted and given the opportunity to purchase native plants at whole sale cost. Plants will be delivered to Camp Skylemar on September 23rd and be available for pick up on the 24th. TPEPA members are encouraged to volunteer and will be available to assist neighbors who may need some help with installing their plants. To take advantage of this opportunity or to volunteer to help out, please contact Martina at Martina.Witts@gmail.com -TPEPA

Town of Naples Approves \$2,500 for CBI Hours & Watershed Project

For the third year in a row the Town of Naples is supporting the TPEPA and its mission to protect, preserve and enhance the natural environment of Trickey Pond. This year's contribution request was made through the town's budget process that began in January and was approved at Town Meeting in April. \$2,000 was approved as the Town's matching funds towards the EPA 319 Grant that was awarded through Maine DEP for the Trickey Pond Watershed Project and will be paid directly to Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District. An additional \$500 will go towards paying for Courtesy Boat Inspector hours at the public boat launch and will be paid directly to TPEPA. TPEPA would like to express its sincere appreciation to the voters of Naples for their continued support.



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Work Begins on Implementing EPA 319 Grant

By Martina Witts

Members of the Grant Steering Committee gathered at Trickey Pond on two days in early May to assess sites that are eligible for grant funding. Participants included Heather Hunt, Project Manager with Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District (CCSWCD), Christopher Baldwin, District Engineer at CCSWCD, Amanda Pratt, Environmental Specialist III at Maine DEP, Martina Witts, President of TPEPA and Bruce Witts, President of Trickey Pond Camp & Homeowners Association (TPC&HA). One outcome of the site reviews will be a report delivered to TPC&HA which will provide engineering recommendations to maintain the integrity of Trickey Pond Road by addressing culverts, ditches and drainage issues. In addition to the road, three association right-of-ways and two additional property owners were visited to develop a plan and offer solutions on how best to address erosion issues on their properties. A second visit is scheduled for June 10th for another five properties and third visit is planned for early August for additional sites.

Efforts to receive grant monies and utilize Stormwater Compensation Funds began in 2019 after Trickey Pond's placement by Maine DEP on the Non-Point Source (NPS) Priority Watershed List. TPEPA took action and hired FB Environmental to survey the watershed to identify potential environmental threats due to NPS pollution. With a completed study, TPEPA was able to utilize the Storm Water Compensation Funds designated for Trickey Pond, write the Watershed Protection Plan and apply for the 319 grant.

Heather Hunt, from CCSWCD explained "The main goal is to pre-

vent sediment and the phosphorus it contains from entering the lake and impacting water clarity. This can be achieved by covering areas of bare soil to prevent soils from washing into the lake and creating stable shorelines with native plant root systems. Diverting and infiltrating stormwater runoff also helps to prevent soil erosion."

Grant funding is made available in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act and awarded to the Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Additional funding and support for the Trickey Pond Watershed Protection Project is being provided by Portland Water District, Lakes Environmental Association, the Town of Naples, and TPEPA. This is a two-year project that will continue through December 2023. Whether your property or road has been identified for assistance or not, please reach out to TPEPA if you are interested in free technical assistance recommendations and/or are in need of possible matching grant funds to improve your property while also protecting Trickey Pond. -TPEPA

Trickey Pond Watershed Project Time Line

- ◆ **Fall 2019 & Fall 2020:** FB Environmental conducts watershed survey
- ◆ **Fall & Winter 2020:** TPEPA writes Watershed Protection Plan; approved by MDEP
- ◆ **May 2021:** CCSWCD files EPA 319 Grant Application
- ◆ **Spring 2021:** TPEPA addresses four sites using Stormwater Compensation Funds
- ◆ **July 2021:** TPEPA receives notification of grant award for Trickey Pond Watershed Project
- ◆ **January 2022:** Grant project officially approved; agreement is signed
- ◆ **February 2022:** Grant Steering Committee begins planning grant implementation



Are We Doing Enough?

By Martina Witts

In late April I attended the Lakes Environmental Association's (LEA) virtual Aquatic Invasive Species Summit (AIS). The summit offered a full agenda and began with an update on the statewide status of invasive aquatic species, provided by John McPhedran, Biologist, Invasive Aquatic Species Program, Maine DEP. As John shared updates, I quickly scribbled my notes. I learned about parrot feather, a species of milfoil that was found in a small private pond in Liberty, ME last summer. This find



Parrot Feather Milfoil

was the first known occurrence of parrot feather in Maine, a plant native to South America. Nobody is certain how it got there. John's update continued with reports of a new variable leaf milfoil infestation in Alamoosook Lake, a report that the Eurasian milfoil in Cobbossee Lake is more extensive than previously thought, and that other infestations in Androscoggin Lake, Lake Arrowhead and the Belgrade Lakes continue to be a focus of lake associations and Maine DEP

to control and contain. Listening to the challenges faced by so many lakes, I couldn't help but wonder, will Trickey Pond ever be added to some future report of new infestations? And are we doing enough to make sure it isn't?

Since seeing into the future is not a skill I possess, let me focus on the "are we doing enough" question. What we know for sure about Trickey Pond: TPEPA funds about 890 hours of Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI), spread over 17 weeks in a sea-

son, that provides protection by inspecting boats and educating boaters (good); a boat wash station is available and operational from late April to early October at the public ramp so boaters can clean and check their own boats (good); Maine DEP places Trickey Pond in the high risk of infestation category based on its Lake Vulnerability score (not good) (see [TPEPA's Spring 2021 newsletter](#) for more info on Lake Vulnerability scores); there are approximately 12

weeks of boating each season with no CBI coverage and about four hours a day of no CBI coverage even during the heavy boating season (not good).

Realistically, cost and staffing availability make it impossible to provide CBI coverage from sunrise to sunset from ice out to ice in. So how do we, all the boaters on Trickey Pond, address these days and hours without CBI coverage? I'll suggest we take a cue from the TPEPA tag line – **Preservation begins with you.** Since AIS appears in our lakes only because someone transported it there, we must be vigilant to not be that someone who brings it to Trickey Pond. Inspect your boat and gear, tell your friends, renters, visitors to inspect theirs as well. Only if we work *together* can we ensure that we are doing enough.

Maine DEP Reminds You:

Do not transport any aquatic plants on watercraft or equipment (including trailers, anchors, nets, etc.). Fines can be up to \$2,500 for transporting any aquatic plant and up to \$500 for failing to affix the Lake and River Protection Sticker to your motorized craft. If you see or suspect someone is moving live fish, contact the Maine Warden Service immediately at 1-800-ALERT-US or report the offense at MaineOGT.org For more information on invasive aquatic plants, please visit: maine.gov/dep/water/invasives



Watch Your Wakes

Formed in 2021, the Maine Boating Impacts Coalition (MBIC) includes a diverse group of organizations, lake associations, boaters, planners, and volunteers seeking the development and implementation of management measures to reduce adverse impacts of boating on Maine's inland waters. The following article is written by MBIC and published here with their permission.



FRIENDS of the
COBOSSEE
WATERSHED

Wake surfing and wake boarding sports have increased substantially in recent years. While the excitement of these wake sports is undeniable, they do require large wakes (3 feet or more) that can have serious side effects on Maine lakes. These waves can be created inadvertently by boats plowing through the water (low speed boating with the bow of the boat elevated) or on purpose by uniquely designed wakeboats.

The waves generated by these boats are much greater than those of typical boats and have impacts on other lake users, shorefront property, wildlife, the environment, and the spread of invasive species. To help ensure Maine's lakes remain clean and clear for generations to come and where all people can continue to enjoy them, some limitations on large wake creating activities need to be put in place.

A group of concerned citizens, The Maine Boating Impacts Coalition (MBIC) was recently formed to address these boating issues. MBIC is made up of individuals and organizational representatives with knowledge of Maine lakes, boating, wakeboats, lake science, and wildlife. MBIC has developed the following recommendations to help mitigate the adverse effects of large wakes and other side effects of these wake sports:

- **Increase the 200 ft safety zone distance from shore to 500 ft for large wake producing activities**
- **Participate in wake sports only in water depths greater than 20 ft**

MBIC reasons for these recommendations are:

- **Research from multiple studies have shown that the types of waves generated during wake surfing activities need more than 500ft to dissipate to levels similar to those produced by boats on plane to avoid:**
 - ▶ *Shoreline erosion*
 - ▶ *Damage to docks and moored boats*
 - ▶ *Harm to nesting loons and other vulnerable wildlife*
- **Studies have also shown that the propeller jet of water directed to the bottom needs to be in more than 20ft of water to avoid:**
 - ▶ *Stirring up sediment, especially phosphorous that creates algae blooms*
 - ▶ *Destroying bottom plant and animal habitat*
- **A serious problem exists with wake boats that have ballast tanks because they can transport invasive species from an invested lake to a clean lake in those tanks since many tanks cannot be completely drained or inspected. There is no good solution to this problem at this time.**

Comments of support or concern about wake sport activities on Maine lakes or with the MBIC recommendations or a request for more information can be sent to: MBIC.Maine@gmail.com.

Courtesy Boat Inspector Costs Rise 12.5% in 2022

We are all paying more for everything – food, shelter, fuel, and now you can add Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs) to that list. In order to attract and retain CBIs, Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) who hire, train and supervise the CBIs for the Trickey Pond public boat ramp, has concluded that due to an increased minimum wage coupled with a labor shortage in our area they must increase the hourly cost for trained CBIs by \$2 in 2022. This means the TPEPA will be billed 12.5% more this season.

For summer 2022 we are again planning to provide weekend CBI coverage from May 28 – June 12, everyday coverage from June 18 - September 5, and weekends for September 10-18. This 890 total hours of coverage will cost approximately \$16,020 or \$180 per day. TPEPA continues to reach out and seek all available funds to sustain current levels of CBI coverage. For the 12th consecutive year TPEPA has applied for and was awarded a Maine DEP CBI Cost Share Grant. This year we will receive \$2000.

While our donor base is fairly steady, with the change-over in ownership of some properties, we have lost a few long time donors and have not yet been able to replace them with new donors. TPEPA continues to reach out to all property owners in the watershed in an effort to increase the percentage of property owner membership in TPEPA.

We are greatly appreciative of all donors who financially support our mission to keep Trickey Pond free of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). If you are able, please consider increasing your donation going forward to help us meet the rising costs of protecting Trickey Pond and if you have not yet become a donor, now is the perfect time to join us. -TPEPA

Thank You to Our Business Partners

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Preservation Begins with You,
Please Join Us!

Individual Membership	\$50+
Family Membership	\$100+
Lake Steward Membership	\$150+
Patron	\$250+
Benefactor	\$500+

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](http://www.trickeypond.org) with a credit card: www.trickeypond.org
OR mail a check to TPEPA, P.O. Box 417, Naples, Maine 04055