

# LAKE PARKER ASSOCIATION, INC.

PO Box 40, West Glover, VT 05875

March 2004 Newsletter

We can see signs of spring all around us. The days are getting longer, birds are singing their summer songs, cats are shedding and there are dead skunks on the road. (Only in Vermont would we welcome that sight!) It's almost time to open camp. It won't be too long before we are seeing old friends and planning summer events. As you read through this, we hope it will whet your appetite to get out and support the activities that make life on the lake so pleasant. It is a great way to get to know your neighbors, improve lake water conditions and have fun doing it. Many hands make the jobs easier, faster and friendlier. Just jump in!

**Summer activities: Please mark your calendar & plan on attending.**

EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE
NEC-NALMS Conference	Fri & Sat., June 4th & 5th	2 full days	University of RI, Kingston campus
Madeleine's 2004 Lake Protection Coffee Hour	Saturday, June 26th	10:00 AM	Camp 66
LPA Annual Meeting & Pot Luck Supper	Saturday, July 10th	Supper 5:30 Meeting 7:00	West Glover Church
Walking Path Work Day	Saturday, July 17th	9:00 to noon	Meet at camp 121
Invasive Species workshop	TBA	TBA	TBA
Kid's Camp	August 21st	8AM Sat to 8AM Sun	Camp 52 & boat access



The NE Chapter of North American Lake Management Society is holding its summer conference at the University of RI. Topics of discussion include alternative septic systems; identifying, managing and prevention strategies for invasive weeds; managing geese with non-lethal methods and lots more. If you are interested in attending and would like more information, please e-mail Marilyn Morin, LPA President at [camp121@msn.com](mailto:camp121@msn.com).

Lake Protection Coffee Hour will be held on June 26th at 10 AM at Camp 66. We are most fortunate to have Madeleine & Ron Ducham host this annual event which is a forum for discussion of lake issues and planning projects to protect our beautiful lake. With threats all around us, we need to be ever vigilant. We hired a great team of divers last year to look for invasive species, and as you can see, we think they walk on water, but even with their help, we really could use your help, too. Please join us for coffee, sweets and catch up on all the news.

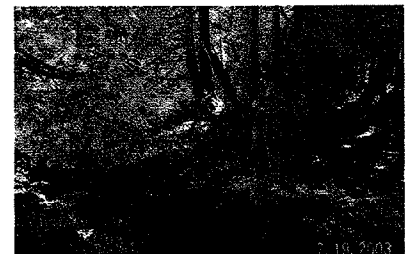
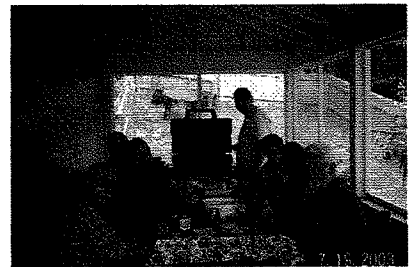


**Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Supper** will be held on Saturday, July 10th in the basement of the West Glover Church. This is a great opportunity to visit with old friends and meet some new ones. Promise you'll bring one neighbor who you know does not generally attend. It's time to discuss common interests in Lake Parker and the Association. Bring a favorite dish to share and join this neighborly get together. Beverages, plates and silverware are provided. We promise to make this a fun event, complete with a game to test your knowledge of the lake and the association, complete with prizes. Don't miss this!

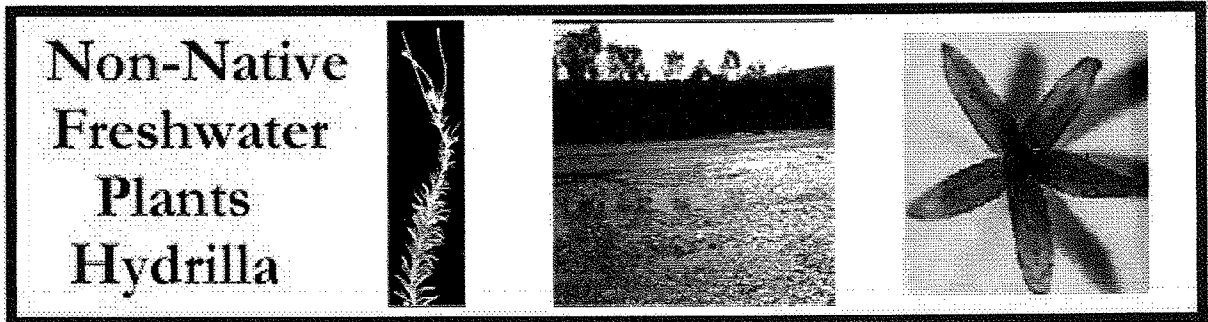


**Walking Path Workday** will be on July 17th, from 9AM to noon. Last year, we had so much help, the work was done in just about 2 hours, barely making a dent in your day! Gas powered weed whackers clear a path in the field, chain saws cut down tree falls that block the way during the winter, create even more "stepping stones" from the downed trees, ribbons get tied along the way to make the trail easier to follow.

The work alone is great exercise, so join your neighbors to keep this trail clear for your walking pleasure. This year, we'd like to put up signs pointing out some of the flora and fauna along the way. If we get really ambitious, we can cut stairs into the steep hill to help navigation for those not quite up to vertical climbing. Any and all suggestions and helpers are welcome. Meet either at camp 121 on the east end of the trail or at the other end, on Monette Place. A barbeque lunch will follow to feed the hungry troops. If you have a chain saw, weed whacker, hatchet or a strong back to move things out of the way, we welcome you to join us. Ability to sing camp songs is optional.



**Lake Maps** are available free to all LPA members. Contact Chuck Holden at camp 99 or Marilyn Morin at camp 121 for your copy. Chuck is "in residence" all season. Marilyn is only at camp on weekends. Not a member? Join to get your map! It was last updated in July 2003.



**Invasive species: It's not just about Milfoil anymore!** There is another new, fast spreading threat to our area lakes. Hydrilla was found in Florida in 1960, thought to have been brought in as an aquarium plant. Florida spent 56 million dollars over a ten year period in an effort to control it, and during that same period, the hydrilla acreage doubled. Clearly, this is not going to be easy to keep out or get out once it hits. In 2001, it was found in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and it is continuing to move north. This is actually a worse threat than Milfoil because it grows in water up to 25 feet deep (that's most of Lake Parker!), produces not only by stem and leaf fragments, but also by tubers (bulb like forms) that stay viable in the lake bottom for up to 4 years. A single tuber can produce up to 6,000 new ones in a short period of time. It can grow in any water body, from high to low nutrient, even in backwaters that contain sea water. It is happy with only 1% sunlight. It chokes out all other weed species, altering water chemistry and oxygen levels, killing wildlife. Sonar, a vegetation killer, has been used only as a maintenance tool, since it will regrow from the tubers, beginning anew after a long winter's nap. Even draining lakes has little affect, since it will patiently wait for water to come back to resprout.

Now that we have struck fear in your hearts, we are planning an educational workshop in conjunction with the State Dept of Conservation and other lake associations in our area since it is a problem we all need to be aware of. As of this writing, final plans have not been made, but we expect this event to take place during the last 2 weeks of July, most likely on a week day, since it includes state employees.

All members of the LPA, friends and neighbors need to pay attention to this and other lake threats. Lake Parker is so shallow, it would be affected and severely damaged rather quickly once we get infected with any of these problems. It is time to learn all about it, what these weeds look like, how to prevent their introduction into our lakes and how to affectively search for them. It is time to think seriously about a boat washing station, active lake monitors and anything else we can do to help. As soon as plans for the workshop are finalized, a poster will be put up on our bulletin board at the Lake Parker Store and postcards will be mailed to you. Please plan to participate if possible.

**Are you handy with tools? Creative? Mechanical?** You could become very popular here if you will help design and build a boat washing station. Get your buddies together, put your thinking caps on and see what you can do to help protect the lake we love so much. Ideas? E-mail Marilyn Morin at [camp121@msn.com](mailto:camp121@msn.com) and let's start a discussion.

**Kid's Camp** will be held this year from 8AM, August 21st to 8AM the next morning. Teri Johnson, Kyle Johnson and Marie Kennison are looking forward to having your children and grandchildren as their campers this year. Maple Manor B&B has offered to take the children on a horse and buggy ride, and there will be an adventurous scavenger hunt with a grand finale of "sweet surprises" in store. While the campers think they are just having fun, they learn about lake stewardship, sort through weeds to learn their names, learn about threats to the lake, all while having a good time. The day ends with traditional campfire stories and s'mores before bedding down in tents and comfy sleeping bags.

There is only room for 12 children, ages 5 to 12, and sign-up is first come, first served. The cost is a mere \$10 contribution for food and supplies. If you would like to sign up for this summer's festive event for your child(ren), please fill out the registration form and mail to Teri Johnson, P O Box 43, West Glover, VT 05875. If you have any questions, e-mail Teri at [Secra12@hotmail.com](mailto:Secra12@hotmail.com) or call 802-525-4133 after April 20th. To check out last year's LPA Kid's Camp experience, go to our web site at [www.lakeparker.org/kidscamp03.htm](http://www.lakeparker.org/kidscamp03.htm). Your kids would love it!



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**LPA Kids' Camp 2004**

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

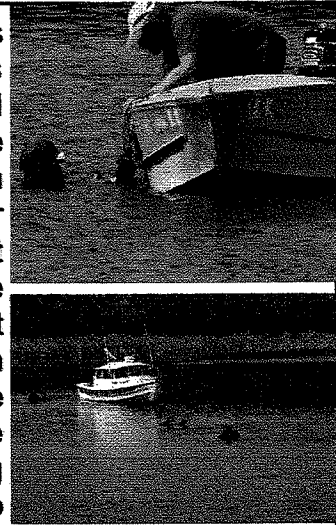
Comments:

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**Your contributions at work.** Hiring divers last summer was an expensive undertaking, but one that the LPA felt was worth doing, to take a "baseline" assessment of the weed population of the lake. Luckily, we found only non-invasive species, a few pair of sunglasses, a lot of beer cans and an oar or two. Our funds were badly depleted, but thanks to our generous members, we have, as of this date, received just over \$3,000 in donations. This is very important because grants that we receive to do much of our work require that we contribute a matching amount, either in real cash or in work hours. Contributions to our lake water quality fund are always welcome. The state now requires that we have documentation of the hours our members spend searching for weeds, using the weed cutting machine and raking. To make it easier to document, we will be providing postcards to you at the beginning of the summer. These will be already addressed and stamped to make it as easy as possible for you to report your work hours. Please keep the card handy, record the hours you work and mail the postcard back to us before you leave camp in the fall. The final report to keep the money we receive in our grants requires this information. Please help us! We will hand out the post cards at the annual meeting, so please plan to attend and join in our protective work.



**Lake Fest** will not be held this year, due to a combination of cost and apparent lack of interest. It has been done with the same program for so many years, it has attracted fewer participants in the past 2 years. We would still like to hold a fun event for the members of our association and our neighbors and we welcome your ideas. A tailgate picnic? Boat, kayak, canoe races with prizes? Talent show? You tell us what would appeal to you. Summer is a time to party, after all. When you fill out your membership form, please give some thought to ideas and ways you can help.

**Glover Ambulance Squad** subscription time is here. The fee is \$20/year for full time residents and \$10/year for summer residents and covers all members of your household. If you need the squad's services, your insurance company will be billed first. If you are a subscriber, you will be forgiven any amount not covered by your insurance. If you are not a subscriber, you will be responsible for all fees. The average cost of transportation is \$400, so a subscription would be a real cost saver for you.

As always, the squad is in need of additional personnel, so if you are able to commit to at least one 12 hour shift per week and have a clean driving record, please volunteer. Please contact Randy Williams, camp 113A if you have an interest or would like to learn other ways you can help. A subscription form is included in this mailing. Please send it to the Glover Ambulance Squad separately, not to the LPA. Thank you for your support.