



WINTER 2024 LPA NEWSLETTER

President's Welcome | Brenda Plastridge

President's Welcome - On behalf of myself and the Board of Directors we hope that you and your family are well. It is hard to believe that in July of last year the lake was flooded to record levels. Some camp owners are still recovering from damage or missing items that floated away. Right now, we have winter sports taking place on Lake Parker. We have seen skaters and people ice fishing and I expect to see cross country skiers, now that we have a bit of snow. However, it won't be long before summer arrives and we enjoy boating, paddling, fishing, swimming, waterskiing and participating in all sorts of outdoor activities at the lake. Lake Parker Association (LPA) has several ongoing lake protection projects that will enhance our enjoyment of the time spent on, in, and around the lake. The phragmites project has been very successful and will be ongoing. We continue to take water samples and submit to the state for the LaRosa project. There have been several property owners that have had their properties evaluated for the Lake Wise program. Read on for more information.

Questions or Suggestions: Contact any Board Member

President: Brenda Plastridge - President@lakeparker.org

VicePresident: Tim Plastridge – VicePresident@lakeparker.org

Secretary: Charise Baker - Secretary@lakeparker.org

Treasurer: Joyce Croteau - Treasurer@lakeparker.org

Past President – Ken Kasz - KKasz@lakeparker.org

Committee Chairs

Membership: Linda Alderton - Membership@lakeparker.org

Recreation: Tim Plastridge - Recreation@lakeparker.org

Water Quality: Mike Pierce - WaterQuality@lakeparker.org

Boating & Water Safety: Steve Cutler – BoatingWaterSafety@lakeparker.org

Fishing & Wildlife: John Wooten - FishWildlife@lakeparker.org

Board member positions that are open for election this year are: President, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Water Quality Chair, Fishing & Wildlife Chair, Boating & Water Safety Chair, and Recreation Chair (all for two-year terms). If anyone is interested in serving in one of the positions reach out to Tim Plastridge, Ken Kasz or Linda Alderton, members of the Nominating Committee.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 4th Green Up Day, host Art & Sue Greenbaum, Camp #99 at 678 Parker Road
Monday, May 27th, Memorial Day, Playing of Taps on the Lake
LPA annual meeting TBD

Condolences

We extend our sympathy to the families of the following:

Lloyd Klinger – passed away September 13, 2023

Merle Young – passed away January 17, 2024

Annual Meeting Prizes

LPA has and will continue to provide prizes to be given away to attendees at the annual meeting. In recent years, some LPA members have donated new hand-crafted items or other products to be given away as prizes. If you have a new prize item that you wish to donate, please contact Ken Kasz at KKasz@LakeParker.org or another board member.

2024 Membership Form (January - December)

Please remember to pay annual dues. The Board of Directors has voted to continue membership dues at \$25.00 this year. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. The membership form is included with this newsletter. Volunteers are always needed for various working groups. Be sure to review the membership form attached and check items you wish to participate in. Also, you will notice that the line for donations to the phragmites project has been removed and we are leaving a line for Additional Contributions. We anticipate the balance in phragmites fund to be sufficient to cover ongoing expenses for 2024.

Orleans County Plant Sale (order by April 5th)

2024 ANNUAL PLANT SALE



PLACE YOUR ORDER!

NATIVE PLANTS & SHRUBS
BERRIES, FRUIT & NUT TREES,
WILDFLOWER STARTS!

GO TO OUR WEBSITE TO
PLACE YOUR ORDER:

WWW.ORLEANSCOUNTYNRCD.ORG

ORDERS DUE APRIL 5

PICKUP - SATURDAY, MAY 4
9AM-NOON

ORLEANS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
BARTON, VT

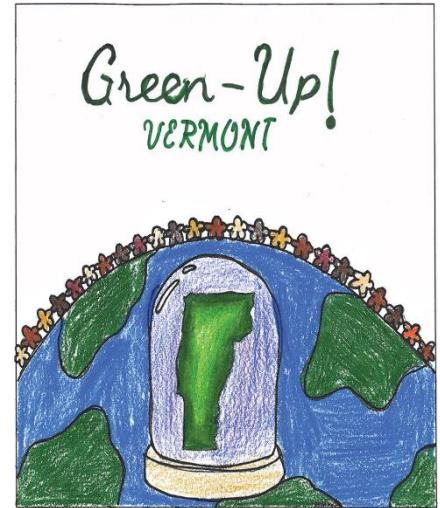
ORLEANS COUNTY
NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Green Up Day in West Glover



Saturday, May 4th, 2024 is Green Up Day in Vermont. The Lake Parker Association will again help with Green Up on and around the lake. Art & Sue Greenbaum, Camp #99, 678 Parker Road, will provide the starting location and the coordination of cleanup efforts. Stop by between 9:00 and 10:30 AM to pick up green bags. Last year several LPA members helped including ten on Saturday morning. Dominic and Matt outdid everyone with their efforts along Bean Hill Road. Thanks to all that helped that Saturday and throughout the week!



Taps Across America

Taps Across America will be held at 3:00 PM on Monday, May 27, 2024, Memorial Day on Lake Parker. We will take a pontoon into the middle of the lake and the local Color Guard from the American Legion will raise the flag and play taps. The National Moment of Remembrance is an annual event that asks Americans, wherever they are at 3:00 p.m. local time on Memorial Day, to pause for a duration of one minute to remember those who have died in military service to the United States. Our plan is to celebrate this every year.

Walking Path

Last summer after the flood the walking path was closed due to bridges being out and the trail being under water. The flood washed out several feet on both banks of one of the larger inlets. The steel bridge fell in (right) and awaits needed equipment to get it out of the water. The bridge is no longer long enough to span the inlet. We are looking at our options to replace the bridge or move it to another area. In the Fall, during a visit to evaluate the trail status it was found that beavers were damming a



large section of the trail making it impassible with long sections and a bridge (left) now under water. This is on property owned by the Town of Glover. In conjunction with the Glovers Trails Committee, a specialist from Vt. Fish and Wildlife was brought in to assess the situation. The report was given to the Town for their action. The Town contracted for Nuisance Removal and reached out to Tim Plastridge to visit the site. At that time, it was noted that there was no current activity or sign of beaver. The contracted person will check back in the Spring for activity. There will be a lot of work to be done this year to clean up the area. Be sure to check the box to be a volunteer on the walking path if you can help. Be looking for email blasts announcing work dates.

Water Quality Updates from Mike Pierce

With winter upon us I would like to take a moment to let everyone know about the projects worked on last summer and fall.

LAROSA PROGRAM:

All water samples took from the tributaries of Lake Parker are now being analyzed by the state. I should have results back before spring and will share our findings at our annual meeting.

PHRAGMITES:

Small patches of phragmites were found on the north and east sides of our lake last fall. I was able to hand massage them once before frost. I will continue this process for the second time in the spring and monitor over the summer. If anyone sees phragmites around the lake, please let me know.

LAKE WISE PROGRAM:

Five properties on our lake were given lake property assessments last summer. Three more are scheduled for the coming summer. If you would like an assessment done on your property, please reach out to Allison Marchione at allison.marchione@vermont.gov.

Fish and Wildlife News from John Wooten

FISH STOCKING: Jud Kratzer, our local State of Vermont Fish and Wildlife contact, reports that Lake Parker is scheduled to have 900 rainbow trout stocked this Spring. Thank you, Jud!

LOONS: At Eric Hanson's suggestion (Eric is the VT loon expert for VT Eco-studies), we expect to deploy the loon nesting raft for another year in the cove by Stevens Brook. Last year, Eric thought about moving the raft to another lake because the loons have not utilized it. However, he now thinks it's worth one more try at Parker! Last Spring, the loons began to nest on the shore in the cove, but the nest was abandoned or damaged before any positive results; thank you Sharon Smith and Jeff Millette for again allowing us to store the raft on your property over the winter.

LEAD COLLECTION DEVICE: In September 2023, we mounted the VT Eco-studies tube container/receptacle for disposal of lead weights and fishing line at the boat launch kiosk. We emptied it in October, finding beer and seltzer cans and other trash, but also some lead weights, fishing line and hooks. The lead weights will be collected by VT Eco-studies and properly discarded. (We are looking at ways to block cans from being placed in this tube).

UPDATE ON THE WAKE SPORTS PETITION and THE ANR DECISION: The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) issued its "final" proposed rule for wake sports on 3 January 2024. The "final" proposed rule includes:

1. 500 feet from shore buffer zone
2. 20 feet minimum depth of water
3. 50 contiguous acres, minimum, meeting both 1. and 2. Above.
4. 200 feet minimum width within the 50 contiguous acres (no "string bean", narrow and long areas)
5. Home lake rule, each wake boat limited to one VT lake per season unless decontaminated at VT approved facility prior to moving to another lake.

Wake Sports Petition and the ANR Decision continued...

The rule as currently written results in a wake sports zone of 88 acres on Lake Parker; wake sports would be allowed on Lake Parker in this area which is at the center portion of the lake.

On 1 February 2024, the Vermont Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR) met to review the ANR proposed rule; witnesses provided testimony at this meeting which carried over to a second LCAR meeting on 8 February; at the third meeting on 15 February, LCAR members voted to approve the ANR rule with ANR's commitment to have the rule in place and effective for the coming boating season. (The LCAR meetings are recorded and can be viewed on YouTube at the VT government website). Most members of LCAR indicated that, given the rule's shortcomings, individual lake petitions and/or possibly more restrictive legislation are likely in the future.

BACKGROUND AND COMMENTARY:

In general, the Responsible Wakes for Vermont Lakes (RWVL) petitioning group is very disappointed that the ANR did not give more consideration to the 759 people who either voiced their opinions at the two public meetings this past August or wrote letters supporting at least 1000 feet from shore buffer zone. Of the 759 comments, 82% were in favor of at least 1000 feet from shore and many requested a total prohibition of wake sports on all inland Vermont lakes and Ponds.

As noted in our previous reports, Lake Parker was well represented at the 2023 public meetings (both as presenters and as audience support members), and via written comments to the ANR.

At the 2023 Annual LPA meeting on 8 July 2023, our membership overwhelmingly voted in favor of supporting:

1. The RWVL petition as submitted to the ANR
2. The 1000 feet from shore buffer zone
3. The filing of an independent petition to prohibit wake sports on Lake Parker if the ANR final rule does not prohibit same.

Later, during the summer of 2023, the LPA and the Shadow Lake Association attended multiple Glover Select Board meetings and obtained the Select Board's letters of support for the RWVL petition (including 1000 feet from shore buffer zone) and, if the final rule from ANR does not prohibit wake sports on Glover lakes and ponds, the Select Board supports going forward with "independent, individual lake" petitions prohibiting same.

As previously stated, the LPA will need to form a committee to prepare an "independent, lake specific" petition if we wish to pursue this potential option.

FROM TOWN WEBSITE (<https://TownofGlover.com>)

The Town of Glover website includes a great deal of helpful information. Local ordinances and town policies, zoning information, permit and license guidance and requirements, recycling center – hours and information and much more. Check it out at TownofGlover.com.

2024 Lake Parker Association Membership

We welcome your input and suggestions, as well as your time, talents, and financial support. Your participation allows LPA to continue its lake preservation and conservation efforts. The \$25 annual membership fee helps fund the costs of mailings, meetings, insurance, website maintenance, required dues, and those projects deemed essential for the protection of Lake Parker.

_____ **Regular Membership** – Membership in the Association is open to all residents of, and landowners in, the area known as the Village of West Glover, and to all property owners whose lands are on, or drain into Lake Parker.

_____ **Associate Membership** - Any other persons who may want to be a part of said association may join as an Associate Member. Associate members shall have no voting rights.

Name(s) included with this membership:

Primary Mailing Address: _____

Home and/or Cell Phone Number(s): _____

Email address(es): Most communications from LPA are e-mailed; please include all pertinent addresses.

(Note: Your personal information will not be shared with any person or entity outside of the LPA Board of Trustees)

2024 Dues:	\$ <u>25.00</u>
Additional contributions	\$ _____
Total Paid	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to "Lake Parker Association, Inc." and mail completed form and payment to:
Lake Parker Association Inc., 48 County Rd Unit 40, West Glover, VT 05875

Lake Parker E-911 Address _____ **Lake Parker Phone#** _____

The Association depends on volunteers to keep the lake healthy and safe for you and your families. Please indicate if you have interest in volunteering in any of the following areas:

_____ **Membership/Outreach** _____ **Boating & Water Safety** _____ **Walking Path Maintenance**
_____ **Recreation Activities** _____ **Lake Protection Projects** _____ **Newsletter or Website**
_____ **Green Up Day (May 4)** _____ **Other** _____

Lake Parker Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(4) organization. Contributions to 501(c)(4) organizations generally are not deductible as a contribution for federal tax purposes.