



PARTRIDGE LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

A Lake Preservation Group

Summer 2008

Engineers' Report: Major Work and Funding Needed to Reduce Lake Phosphorous Levels

After more than 20 years collecting water quality data, Dayton Goudie's findings led in 2001 to a NH DES Lake Diagnostic Study of Partridge Lake, identifying a serious phosphorous-loading problem. The DES study, in turn, led to a recently-released engineers' Watershed Based Plan. The plan's major finding: It's going to cost time, money, and effort to turn things around.

To remove Partridge Lake from the State's impaired water body list, current water quality trends must be reversed and cyanobacteria blooms eliminated. Sources of phosphorous loading, both external and internal, must be ad-

ressed, according to the engineers' study.

Internal loading involves the heavy layer of phosphorous that already exists in the deepest portions of the lake; external loading involves what is added from all sources in the watershed, primarily inlets, road run-off, septic inputs, and shoreline erosion. Before internal loading problems can be addressed—a major and costly intervention—every effort must be made to reduce external loading by 25-30%, a goal set by DES. Otherwise, the problem will only return.

"The PLPOA is now, finally, in a position to begin the heavy lifting needed to remedy Par-



tridge Lake's 'impairment,'" says Goudie. "We have been handed the proverbial hot potato. The ball is in our court. It's crunch time. ----- You get the point."

The board of directors, along with a 12-member Water Quality Committee, are developing a course of action, based on the engineers' study, that will be workable, achievable and affordable.

Continued on page 3.

Letter from the President

Welcome back, summer!



After a long hard winter, those of us who live here year-round are glad to see Summer 2008 finally arrive, and to welcome back our friends who return from near and far each summer.

This newsletter contains information about new actions by the lake association. We hope you will read and save it, and we are counting on a large attendance at both the business meeting July 26 and the picnic July 5. Important issues will be discussed and acted upon that deal with roads, run-offs, fundraising, and other matters of concern to us all. Take a look at the article on page 3 outlining the workshops being offered this year.

We look forward to your return; we look forward to seeing you; we look forward to hearing new ideas for preserving the quality of life here at Partridge Lake.

Have a great summer!

Millie Nelson

PLPOA will be Designated a Non-Profit Association Seeks Ways of Obtaining Grant Funding

Partridge Lake Property Owners Association, currently designated a non-profit by the State of New Hampshire, has applied for a 501c3 federal non-profit designation by the Internal Revenue Service. Federal approval will allow individuals or organizations giving to the association to treat the gift as a charitable donation for tax purposes.

**\$170,000
may be
needed!**

At the August meeting of the Board of Directors, the board approved a resolution to pursue gaining approval and will notify residents, members and other interested parties once the federal approval is received.

Board member Dave Ernsberger has taken the lead on getting the application and approvals completed. "I'm confident the IRS approval of our non-profit designation will greatly benefit the PLPOA's important fundraising efforts."

The Lake Quality Improvement Plan, developed by the NH DES and the engineering firm of Gomez and Sullivan, calls for substantial investments to address

the water quality issues outlined in the report. Reductions in phosphorus loads in Partridge Lake will call for new treatment measures for storm water runoff, septic system improvements to address ground water runoff issues, and additional preventative measures by residents.

The Gomez and Sullivan Plan suggests that a potential investment of over \$170,000 may be required to address storm water runoff issues. Most funding sources will come from federal, state and local agencies; applications for funding from other private environmental funds will be sought. These external funding sources may require some "co-funding" from the association—either in donations or volunteers' investment of time and resources.

Approval of PLPOA as a 501c3 non-profit will be a helpful tax incentive to groups or individuals to provide the much needed funds and will help the association solicit outside grants. A grant writer may need to be hired.



What's New?

Q. Are there new Shoreland Protection laws I should know about?

A. Yes. New requirements by the DES Shoreland Protection Act are more restrictive than in the past. A permit is required prior to any construction, excavation, or filling within 250' of the lake. The waterfront buffer is now 50' wide. Go to the SPA Web site and use it as a reference: www.des.nh.gov/cspsa.

Q. Any advice about what I can do in my own front/back yard?

A. Stay natural! Go natural!

Q. What types of fertilizer can I use on my garden and lawn?

A. For recommendations, see your "User's Guide." Test your soil and, between 50' and 250' of the lake, use the minimum of slow-release fertilizer and/or compost and composted manure.

Q. How do I maintain a 50' waterfront buffer?

A. Natural cover, including stumps, leaf litter and stones, must remain except for a 6'-footpath to the water. No pesticides. No fertilizer except limestone within 25'. Before you cut any brush, tree or sapling, check the DES "grid and point" system: www.des.nh.gov/cspsa. Sand? Ask first.

Q. My driveway needs work. What can I do?

A. It depends on how much impervious surface you have within 250' of the lake.

Q. What should I plant to restore the natural look?

A. Last summer's "Partridge Lake User's Guide" included a brochure from the NRCS, "Landscaping With Native Plants." If there is interest by members of the association, a workshop will be held on planting choices and techniques. A group purchase of plants might be arranged. Another Web site: <http://www.des.nh.gov/WMB/VRAP/documents/Native-ShorelandRiparianBufferPlantings-NH.pdf>.

Q. How do I sign up for the natural planting workshop?

A. See the check list on page 3 of this newsletter. Mail it in, along with your dues.

Annual Picnic will Become a "Moveable Feast".

The annual picnic—for decades the most popular PLPOA event of the summer—has happened because the same small group of hard-working volunteers have made it happen. For years, Tony Colicchio did everything from ordering the food to flipping the burgers.

In recent years, John Aja and David Ernsberger have been the "captains" of the picnic. The Eames and Parker camps have been the locale for years.

In the interest of fairness, the PLPOA board has voted to begin a reorganization process that moves the picnic around the lake and puts more responsibilities on new faces.

The lake has been divided into four quadrants; each year one quadrant will be responsible for making it happen (with help from the traditional "experts," if necessary). This year's picnic will be organized by Group 1 (Fekay camp to Howe camp) and will be held July 5, 11:30 am to 2:00 pm, at the camp of

Amy and Bob Trahan. A volunteer "captain" from that quadrant is needed, and he or she should contact Dave Ernsberger for help and information at (603) 444-7269 or dernsberger@pop.net.

As always, the association supplies burgers, hot dogs, chicken, soft drinks, and beer, but the highlight is the pot-luck dishes brought by those attending. As in prior years, the picnic is free to members and their live-in children; others are charged \$3.

Mark Your Calendar!

**July 5, at 11:30 am to 2:00 pm, at the camp of Amy and Bob Trahan.
Skip breakfast! Bring your appetite!**

Lake Picnic Groupings

Group Number	Camp Grouping	# of Camps in Group	Year to Host Picnic
1	Fekay camp to Howes camp	15	2008
2	Loiacono camp to Warden camps	17	2009
3	Red Sails camp to Eames camps	22	2010
4	Parker camps to Covey camps	23	2011



*The Loons
Are Back!*

*Please be courteous
to our feathered friends.*



PARTRIDGE LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Annual Picnic — July 2007



▲
Lavinia Savage (at age 91)
one of the great and wonderful
matriarchs of Partridge Lake!



▲
A cheerful gathering of lake residents at the Nelson camp for
the Annual PLPOA meeting held on Sunday, July 29, 2007.



Who traveled the furthest to attend
the picnic? Dick and Torin Warren ▲
from Voss, Norway!



▲
Bruce and Maxine Hadlock (L) welcome new residents
Richard and Jayne Johns (R) (who bought McNamara camp)
to the lake, their first PLPOA picnic.



▲
An absolutely fabulous job on the PLPOA "User's Guide"!
Thanks to Florence Fogelin (FL) and Jeanne Burdette (FR)
and all who contributed to this excellent publication.



▲
Millie Nelson (R) new PLPOA president, with some of her family.



Ben Hubley (R) with family and friends.



No one gets by PLPOA treasurer Judy Warden (R)!
Dave Ernsberger, PLPOA Secretary (L);
Phyllis & Angus Neaves (center).



Thanks to John MacIver (R) for
his service as PLPOA president —
You kept us out of war, there
were no famines, droughts...



Rochelle and Quinton Eastman with their
mother Tonya, and grandmother Pat.



Glen Hadwen gives an
exciting demonstration
on how to properly
fold a tent.



How about a senior citizen discount!
The PLPOA annual picnic is enjoyed by so many, both young and old.



Gavin and Noah Fogg (Dayton Goudie's grandsons)
enjoying a day at the lake.

Summer Workshops Will Be Offered

Three workshops will be offered this summer on issues of concern to PLPOA members and neighbors in the watershed. The PLPOA board identified three subjects of potential interest, pending a survey of possible participants. Those interested should fill out the coupon on this page and mail it in—with your dues payment, please. The three topics, with tentative dates, will be:

Shoreline Planting: selection and availability (Late June)

A presentation, with handouts, of suggested plantings that will naturalize our shoreline, recommended methods of maintaining them, and other ways of preventing erosion. A possible group order of plants will be considered.

Septic systems (July 19)

A review of the septic survey; a discussion of phosphorus prevention approaches and techniques that camp owners could implement; and a presentation by a reputable septic company/ design engineer on the types of septic systems that could be installed and the maintenance recommendations for current installed systems.

Fire safety tips from the Littleton Fire Department (August 9)

The Littleton Fire Department will demonstrate fire extinguisher operation and give instructions on handling fires before they get out of hand.

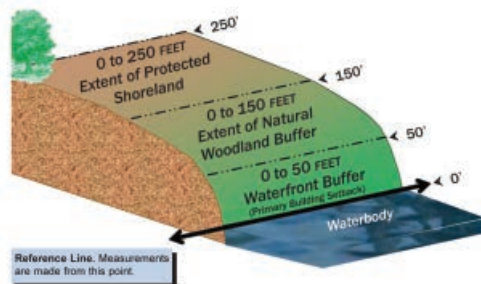
Engineers' Report - continued from page 1.

The plan provides anticipated phosphorous load reductions for each recommended Best Management Practice (BMP), with a price tag for each. It suggests an implementation schedule with milestones to measure progress.

Watershed actions that would lead to a 25-30% reduction include:

- Implementing tributary, road and shoreline best management practices (BMPs) to reduce sediment/nutrient loads from storm water runoff.
- Replace old and failing septic systems.
- Upgrading individual septic systems. Group pumping. Cluster systems.
- Educating watershed residents on practices they can implement to reduce storm water and septic-based phosphorous contributions to Partridge Lake: shoreline planting, beach erosion, impervious surfaces, etc.
- A town zoning watershed overlay and land conservation measures to prevent increased phosphorous loads associated with development or redevelopment.

Internal loading (from deep lake sediments) is a significant (greater than all external sources combined) source of phosphorous to the Lake. In-lake alum treatment options should be investigated, with technical support from DES, once the external inputs are reasonably controlled.



Graphic courtesy of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services.

As with any endeavor of this magnitude, the heavy lifting can not be sustained by just a few. PLPOA directors are counting on the strong commitment of members, other lake and local residents, and the Town of Littleton. They urge members to consider how they can best exert time, personal efforts and financial capacity to see this important work through to completion.

Presently the association has 18 copies of the Plan. For a better understanding of the project, contact any director and ask to borrow a copy for a short time. Further project discussions and actions will take place at this summer's director's meetings and at the annual meeting. **Shouldn't you be there!**

"IT'S CRUNCH TIME"
Attendance needed at the ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, July 26th, 4:00 pm
Location to be determined.

2007 Septic Survey Results

Quote from Engineers Report

"The results of the septic survey support the idea that phosphorous in groundwater is the primary problem affecting external loading to Partridge Lake. The septic/groundwater phosphorous loading interaction is more a result of septic system position, shallow groundwater table, and limiting soils as opposed to neglect of system maintenance or low pumping frequency".

Treasurer's Report

PLPOA Treasurer Judy Warden reports:

Balance on hand: May 1, 2008	\$3038.04
Income from dues:	
60 out of 78 camps paid	\$900.00
Major expenditures:	
Picnic for 75 people	\$284.85
Stamps & Mailings	\$239.07
Water Testing	\$200.00
NH Lakes Association	\$350.00

PLPOA dues for 2008 are \$25, now tax-deductible. Please fill out and return this panel with your payment.

Checks should be sent to:

PLPOA
c/o Judy Warden
 466 Longfellow Drive,
 Bethlehem, NH 03574

Changes to contact information for lake or watershed residents.

Please let us know about any change in camp ownership, phone numbers, home addresses or email addresses. Mail with your dues payment or email Dave Ernsberger at dernsberger@pop.net.

Summer Workshops

I am interested in the following workshops.

- Shoreline Planting
- Septic Systems
- Fire Safety Tips



Spotlight on Volunteers

Board of Directors

Millie Nelson	<i>President</i>
Cathy Parker	<i>Vice President</i>
Judy Warden	<i>Treasurer</i>
Dave Ernsberger	<i>Secretary</i>

Jeanne Burdette
Jill Corey
Florence Fogelin
Glen Hadwen
Randall Loicono
Mark Meau
David Merrill
Tim Vaughan

The following Partridge Lake residents generously donated their services and time to help throughout the year.

2007 Annual Picnic Volunteers

Dave Ernsberger
John Aja
Millie Nelson and Pete Gauthier

2007 DES Diagnostic Study Volunteers

John Aja and Dawnna Clifford
Bill and Marcia Ellingwood
Earl and Edna Ellingwood
Scott Farquharson
Dayton Goudie
Hal Herrick
Steve Hight
Gerard and Nancy Landry
Stan Parker
Ed and Judy Warden

Actions of the Board

At its final meeting in August 2007, the PLPOA Board of Directors took up several important issues.

Among the major actions:

1. Scheduled the annual picnic, business meeting, and board meetings.
2. Adopted a new plan to rotate responsibilities for the popular annual picnic.
(See article on page 2).
3. Authorized Dave Ernsberger to apply for federal IRS tax-exempt status for PLPOA. See accompanying article on page 1.
4. Raised dues to \$25, the first raise in 10 years, based on anticipated needs for communications, hiring a grant writer, and anticipated costs of lake re-mediation.
5. Discussed holding possible workshops on issues of concern to members.



Partridge Lake Annual Picnic 2007.

Tent Rental Availability

The PLPOA tent is available to members who make a donation of \$150 as a charitable gift to the Partridge Lake Property Owners Association to be used for lake quality improvement projects.

*Collect and Save
this issue and future issues
of our newsletter in your
PLPOA Users Guide
Pocket folder!*

PARTRIDGE LAKE
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
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