



REGION ASSOCIATION

Mousam Lake Region Association

60th Anniversary 1956-2016

P.O. BOX 333 SPRINGVALE, ME 04083

WWW.MOUSAMLAKE.ORG

Spring 2016 Newsletter

Maine State Water Level Bill LD-1566 Update

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Business sponsors are needed to help support MLRA activities such as the annual Kids Fishing Derby and the MLRA Annual Meeting. For more information on becoming a sponsor, please e-mail us at: general@mousamlake.org

Water level issues on Maine's great ponds raise major concerns for a long list of stakeholders. These include lake shorefront property owners and lake associations, state agencies, organizations and individuals concerned with maintaining navigable waterways and habitat for fishes, birds and other wildlife in and on surface and coastal waters, anglers, hunters and other recreationists, municipalities dependent upon lakefront property tax revenues to provide needed services, the Departments of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Marine Resources, and Environmental Protection which is charged with maintaining water quality standards and the designated uses of great ponds existing as of 1978 under the anti-degradation clause of the Clean Water Act, as well as all Maine citizens - to whom these waters belong.

LD 1566, An Act Concerning the Establishment of Water Levels, seeks to change Maine's existing water level law by requiring 3rd party mediation before the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) holds the required adjudicatory hearing to settle such water level disputes. LD 1566 also introduces a new and substantial cost for such a hearing of up to \$20,000.

We oppose LD 1566 because the high cost of mediation and newly monetized adjudicatory process effectively cancel the right of citizens to petition the state for redress of environmental harm. The current, entirely satisfactory, law assures the constitutional right of citizens to equal protection under the law because it requires MEDEP Commissioner to hold adjudicatory hearings

when petitioners seek redress of environmental harm, and it should not be altered to lessen those rights. LD 1566 effectively removes those rights by imposing such a high cost barrier as to nullify citizens' ability to exercise them. This will negatively impact the voluntary grassroots lake associations dedicated to protecting lake water quality, wildlife habitat, and the social, economic and recreational benefits of Maine's great ponds.

UPDATE: This bill was brought before the Maine Committee on Environmental and Natural Resources on February 28-29. The results of that hearing was a vote by the Committee "Ought Not To Pass". We feel that this was the correct action to protect all citizen's rights concerning Maine's lake and water quality.

Welcome New Members

If any of your lake neighbors are not MLRA members, please encourage them to join!

Directors	Contact Number	Position
Rich Eagleston	(978) 985-3243	President
Skip Bartosch	(207) 636-2751	Vice President
James (Jamie) Verity	(617) 901-5212	Treasurer
Jane Carmichael	(207) 636-1724	Secretary
Glenn Baxter	(207) 636-1751	Director
Jack Kelley	(207) 636-3252	Director
Elaine Beck	(207) 636-2166	Director
Mark Rousseau	(978) 374-3771	Director
Gary Thibodeaux	(207) 353-0614	Director

Get Your Boat Ready for the Season (From Discoverboating.com)

Spring has sprung and for millions of boaters in the U.S. that means it's time to take their boats out of winter storage and put them in the water. For many boaters, annual preparation and cleaning projects are necessary rites of spring that help prevent problems that could keep them off the water once the season is underway.

Fuel System

Inspect the fuel system for leaks or damage and be sure to pay special attention to fuel hoses, connections and tank surfaces.

Evidence of a damaged fuel hose includes softness, brittleness or cracking. Replace components when necessary and verify all fittings and clamps are properly secured.

Ensure the engine, exhaust and ventilation systems are all functioning properly.

Look before you pump. Don't fill your tank with fuel that contains more than 10% ethanol (E10) as it will damage your engine.

Belts, Cables & Hoses

Check belts, cables and hoses because they can become brittle and may crack during winter storage.

Belts should fit tightly around pulleys to prevent slipping.

A worn belt may leave a black residue near the pulley and will fit loosely.

Cracks or swells on the outer jacket of throttle, shift and steering control cables may be of internal corrosion and immanent failure.

Electric System

Inspect all electrical connections for clean, tight, corrosion free connections. Corroded connections can be dangerous

Remove corroded terminals and use a wire brush to clean them, along with all cable ends.

Charge your battery and have it tested to ensure it can hold a charge.

Electrical systems should be regularly inspected by a qualified technician.

Fluid Levels

Check all fluid levels including engine oil, power steering, power trim reservoirs and coolant.

Be sure to change the engine oil, oil filter and drive lubricants if these tasks were not done prior to winterizing your boat.

Propellers & Hulls

Inspect propellers for dings, pitting, cracks and distortion.

Damaged propellers can cause unwanted vibration and damage to your drive train.

Make sure the propeller is secured properly, and replace bearings when needed.

When inspecting the hull, look for blisters, distortions and cracks. Be sure to clean the hull, deck, and topsides using an environmentally safe cleaning solution.

Also, make sure the drain plug is securely in place before every launch.

Safety Gear

Check your life jackets to ensure they are in good condition and that there are enough on board for all potential passengers.

Ensure that each individual has the correct size life jacket for their body weight.

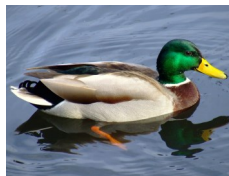
Be sure all onboard fire extinguishers are the correct class for your vessel, and are fully charged and stowed in the proper place.

For any enclosed or semi-enclosed area, ensure you have at least one properly installed and working carbon monoxide detector

Get the new boating year off to a great start. Ensure you'll enjoy another season of carefree boating and make your annual boat preparation more manageable.



How Are Waterborne Illnesses Spread?



They may be spread by swallowing or having contact with contaminated water in lakes,

rivers or the ocean. The water can become contaminated by fecal matter which causes harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses.

This unsanitary condition can be due to several possible causes:

- Improperly disposed of diapers.
- Improper cleaning after using the bathroom
- Vomiting in the water
- "Accidents" in the water
- Wild and domestic animal feces

ces

- Parasites on wild animals

The easiest ways to prevent the spread of these illness are

1. Please clean up all your trash and place in the proper receptacle.
2. Please don't feed the ducks, geese or other wildlife.

ASYCC Update



Watershed through the application of effective erosion control measures, technical assistance, public outreach, education and courtesy boat inspections.

The 2016 Courtesy Boat Inspection and Erosion Control Crew season is gearing up as job announcements are being posted, interviews to begin in mid-March and April. The ECC (Erosion Control Crew) calendar is filling up fast so if you are interested in having the ECC work on

As we are reaching the end of the year, I wanted to let you know that my current term with the ASYCC Board of Directors is up on 12/31/15 and I have elected not to renew at this time. I have some professional and personal demands that will be taking up more time than expected next year and I don't want to be in a position where I am unable to give the ASYCC 100%. I am hopeful that new faces will also bring new, constructive ideas to the Board.

I have attached the most current ASYCC Board and Management contact list here for your reference. Each person on this list also has the complete list of ASYCC deliverables, so I am confident that this transition will be seamless for you and your team.

Please don't hesitate to let me know if there is anything I can assist with down the road. I continue to support the ASYCC fully, hope to jump back in down the road as schedules settle down a bit and hope our paths cross during various events going forward. I also want to thank you for your partnership and support during my time with the ASYCC.

Wishing you a very Happy New Year!

All the best,
Beth

The Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corps is a community based non-profit organization whose goal is to protect the lakes and water quality in the Mousam Lake - Square Pond

your property this summer, contact us soon through email at programdirector@asycc.com or call at 207-693-8080. Board meetings start up in March to plan for another successful ASYCC season. All of this would not be possible without our dedicated volunteer Board members who provide time, knowledge and support.

We'd like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Beth Ann Brown, past-President of the ASYCC, for the years of service she's given to the ASYCC. As Beth pursues new endeavors, we will miss her but want to thank her for her guidance, leadership and professionalism that she's contributed over the years to get the organization to where it is today. We thank her and wish her well.

Vice President, Kent Haake, lives on Mousam Lake begins his 3rd year with the organization. Kent wants to contribute in keeping our watershed as clean as possible and free of invasive plants that have the potential to ruin the recreation in our lakes and ponds and devastate the local economy. Kent also keeps our web page and email up and running. To contact Kent: khaake2011@gmail.com

Treasurer, Joe Borst, lives on Mousam Lake and begins his 3rd year and provides the organization with accounting of the books, budgets, billing and expenditure tracking. Joe is interested in helping to preserve the water quality of the lakes and ponds in the area. To contact Joe: jb04090@maine.rr.com

Secretary, Jane Thomas, has lived on Square Pond since 1953 and is co-owner of Exit Key Realty at the foot of Mousam Lake. Jane begins her 7th year with the organization as secretary documenting decisions and board meeting information. She has always been interested in preserving lake water quality for the future generations. To contact Jane: jlthomas2222@gmail.com

Board member, Dr. Mark Rautenberg, lives on Square Pond in Shapleigh and begins his 3rd year a board member and chairman of the Annual Benefit Golf Tournament. Mark wants to be an active participant in improving and maintaining the health and beauty of the lakes we all cherish. Preventing erosion, polluted runoff and the introduction of invasive species are the keys to protecting these wonderful natural resources. To contact Mark: terri-mark@earthlink.net

Board members, husband and wife team, Scott and Debbie Lansberry join us for their first season. The Lansberrys have summered on Square Pond since 1972. They are joining the ASYCC to assist with the preservation of our lakes so future generations can enjoy clean water free of invasive species. The Lansberrys encourage the involvement of young people as they are an important component to the success of the organizations' efforts. To contact Scott and or Debbie: lansberryscott@sbcglobal.net

Plant Specialist, Marsha Letourneau and Dennis Roberge continue to provide their expert advice in identifying plant specimens that have been collected at the boat launches. Marsha will also provide our courtesy boat inspectors with training and is available to answer questions and provide support to staff. To contact Marsha: mavlmail@artisanart.org

Lastly, the ASYCC has open board member positions available and we encourage anyone who may be interested, to contact any of the Board Members listed above for more information. Help us to continue this important work. Thank you.

Volunteers Needed for MLRA

The **MLRA** needs volunteers **NOW** for the following activities:

Membership Committee- Help promote the MLRA and recruit new members

Invasive Plant Patrol- Help patrol your part of the lake, seeking out

invasive plants

Website Administration- Help keep our website up to date with postings and current events

MLRA Board of Directors- We meet 8 times a year and host the MLRA annual meeting. MLRA Board members commit to about 30 volun-

teer hours annually. There are currently 2 open positions. If you live on Lower Mousam, we are lacking representation in that area.

If you are interested in any of these positions, contact a MLRA Board member or e-mail us at: general@mousamlake.org

MLRA 2016 Schedule of Events

Be sure to include these great MLRA activities when planning your Summer activities at the Lake. There is something for everyone!

Annual Meeting	June 25th, 9AM-Acton Fairgrounds
Light Up the Lake	July 3rd, Sunset
Boat Parade	July 4th, Meet in Carpenter's Cove at 9am. Proceed down Shapleigh side.
Kids' Fishing Derby	July 16, Registration at 8:30am at the Baxter Dock (near the entrance to Ham's Cove)
60th Anniversary Ice Cream Social	Early August. Look in the June Newsletter for more information!
ASYCC Annual Golf Tournament	August 5, Province Lake CC in Parsonsfield. Registration at 8:00am http://www.asycc.com/golf.html

Going Retro— Anniversary Edition!

The idea of the MLRA began to develop in 1955 after a group of camp owners collected funds to fight against Gypsy Moths that year. As there were funds left over which “belonged to the camp owners” it was suggested at a January 18th 1956 meeting that a “so-called improvement association for Mousam Lake & Loon Pond” be established. To help celebrate MLRA’s 60th Anniversary, we hope you enjoy reading some of MLRA’s founding ideas & documents.

MINUTES of meeting held January 18, 1956 at 7:30 P.M. at the Court-room, Sanford Town Hall, Sanford, Maine:

The meeting was opened by John B. Nutter who had called the group together. There were 28 people present. Mr. Nutter stated that after all the bills had been paid in connection with the gypsy moth drive that he had on hand the amount of \$309.46. He pointed out that of this amount he owed \$45.00 for letters, printing and postage, leaving on hand the sum of \$264.46. He stated that this money belonged to the camp owners who had contributed to the gypsy moth fund, and that on distribution of this amount each camp owner who had contributed would perhaps get back about a dollar or so. He stated that he had called this meeting to see what the consensus of opinion would be about setting up a so-called improvement association for Mousam Lake and Loon Pond. He stated that at this point that he felt a motion was in order to elect a chairman and a secretary-treasurer.

On motion duly made and seconded it was voted to elect John B. Nutter as chairman and Robert G. Pelletier as secretary-treasurer.

On motion duly made and seconded it was voted to authorize John B. Nutter to proceed to incorporate the organization and to expend the necessary amount required to set it up.

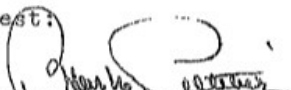
On motion duly made and seconded it was voted to call the organization the Mousam Lake Region Association.

On motion duly made and seconded it was voted that the charge to belong to the Association would be \$5.00 per year.

On motion duly made and seconded it was voted that the annual meeting of the Association be called each year during the month of July.

On motion duly made and seconded it was Voted to adjourn.

Attest:


Secretary-Treasurer.

The petition to establish the Mousam Lake Region Association

PETITION.

State of Maine

YORK, May 17, A. D. 1956

To Leo C. Pelletier Esq., a Justice of the Peace within and for the County of York and State of Maine.

The undersigned represent that they desire to be incorporated under the provisions of Chapter fifty - four 1954 of the Revised Statutes of 1944 and amendments thereto, as a village improvement society

in the town of Shapleigh in said County.

Wherefore we pray that you may issue your warrant directed to Robert G. Pelletier

one of the undersigned, requiring him to call a meeting of the undersigned according to law, for the purpose of organizing such corporation, and we hereby waive notice of the time and place of said meeting and designate the 17th day of May 1956 at 7 o'clock in the evening and the office of Robert G. Pelletier, 50 Winter Street, Sanford, Maine, as the place for said meeting.

John B. Gutter
A. J. Hin court MD.
Edwin M. Ballenger
Robert J. Therman.

F. Everett Nutten
Ralph J. Linsley
Mark P. Kelley

The First Mousam Lake Region Association Annual Meeting Minutes

MOUSAM LAKE
REGION ASSOCIATION

Sanford, Maine

August 10, 1956

Dear Camp Owner:

The annual meeting of the Mousam Lake Region Association was held on Saturday afternoon, July 21, at Meader's Casino. Approximately 130 camp owners were present.

The following were elected as Directors for the ensuing year: John B. Nutter, Dr. A. S. Lincourt, Rene J. Landry, Arthur J. Therrien, Harold Smith, Robert G. Pelletier, and Edwin M. Ballenger. The Directors met this past week and elected the following officers: President, John B. Nutter; Vice-President, Arthur J. Therrien, Clerk, Rene J. Landry; Treasurer, Robert G. Pelletier.

The Directors voted at their first meeting to have two Notice Boards set up for news of the Association. One of these will be at Meader's Casino, the other at the Mousam Lake Dinette. Watch these for announcements.

The President and Directors have appointed the following committees: Riparian Committee (all phases of lake and water situation); Legislative Committee (will act as liason on matters pertaining to Town and State affairs); General Improvement Committee; Social Committee; and Publicity Committee.

The Directors have also decided to hold a dance at Meader's Casino sometime this month. Admission will be by membership card only. It was also voted to hold a children's day. The committees for both of these functions have been named. You may expect to hear more about this shortly.

To make this organization effective it is necessary that every camp owner join the Association. The dues are \$5.00 per year. If you have not already paid, and wish to do so, please send your check to Robert G. Pelletier, Treasurer, Mousam Lake Region Association, 50 Winter Street, Sanford, Maine.

Very truly yours,

JOHN B. NUTTER,
President.

Board of Directors Roll Call Over the Years-1956

President:

John B. Nutter

Vice-President:

Arthur J. Therrien

Clerk:

Rene J. Landry

Treasurer:

Robert G. Pelletier

Members:

**Dr. A. S. Lincourt
Harold Smith
Edwin M. Ballenger**

If you are interested in submitting a historical article, story, or anything of interest for future newsletters, email: gthib@roadrunner.com

Look for the Summer Newsletter in June!

Thank You for establishing the MLRA and creating a legacy of preservation and community for all of us today!

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ASSOCIATION**

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