



REGION ASSOCIATION

Mousam Lake Region Association

P.O. BOX 333 SPRINGVALE, ME 04083
WWW.MOUSAMLAKE.ORG

Winter 2017/Spring 2018 Newsletter

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Starting in 2018, the MLRA newsletter will switch to a semi-annual printing schedule with mailings in the spring and fall.

You can check out our website and our Facebook page for updates, postings by members, and other information regarding the MLRA.

Support the MLRA when you shop at Amazon.com! Use this [Amazon Smile](https://smile.amazon.com/) link to select MLRA as your charity to support, 0.5% of each eligible purchase will be donated to the MLRA when you use smile.amazon.com. If you receive your newsletter via US Mail, the link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2510524>

A Letter from the MLRA President

Greetings MLRA Members,

As we head into the 2018 season its worth highlighting several MLRA undertakings that have occurred over the last year. Major accomplishments include collaborating with ASYCC to complete a comprehensive watershed survey and report for the Mousam Lake watershed, working with a local dive club to remove several hundred pounds of trash from the bottom of the lake, and bringing the MLRA membership database into the 21st century.

Building off these efforts, the MLRA Board of Directors is expecting a busy and productive 2018. In addition to coordinating the usual summer activities such as the MLRA annual meeting, boat parade, and

kids fishing derby, several other efforts are in planning or underway. We are working with ASYCC to address erosion issues identified in the watershed survey. We have partnered with the ME VLMP to conduct a comprehensive aquatic plant survey of Lower Mousam and Mousam Lake this summer. Planning is underway to clean more trash and debris from the lake bottom around the Acton Trading Post using a volunteer dive club. We are discussing options with the State of Maine to make the beach area at the foot of the lake safer for swimmers and boaters.

Our website (<http://mousam-lake.mylaketown.com/>) and

social media pages (<https://www.facebook.com/MousamLakeRegionAssociation/>) provide timely updates on Association activities. I encourage our members to visit these sites for additional information on MLRA events and accomplishments.

All this great work would not be possible without the support from our membership. Thank you! MLRA is always looking for volunteers to help support Association activities. If you want to make a difference consider volunteering!

Enjoy your spring, and I hope to see you at the 2018 MLRA Annual Meeting on June 30th .

Mark

Welcome New Members

- Gary & Ann Brown-1st St, Shapleigh
- William & Jennifer Gramzow-Shapleigh Corner Rd, Acton
- Jeff & Jennifer McLeod-Avenue A, Acton
- Michael & Ann Roche-Fairlane Dr, Acton
- Peter Regan-32nd St, Shapleigh
- Bruce & Holli Haines-16th St Loop, Shapleigh
- Daniel Chabot-7th St, Acton
- Brad & Mary Parcher-30th St, Shapleigh
- Dave & Sara Lundquist-Meador Ln, Shapleigh
- Bradford Waterworth-7th St, Acton
- Nancy & Michael Keane-Totte Rd, Shapleigh
- Melvin & Linda Leger-Tanzella Dr, Acton
- Gordon Waterman-10th St, Acton
- Bob Sirois-30th St, Shapleigh
- John DiPietropolo-Shapleigh
- Kathy & Don Labrecque-7th St, Acton
- Ann LeGere-30th St, Shapleigh
- Kevin & Kin Lapierre-Hollen Way, Shapleigh
- Nicole Sampson & Peter Tonge-Point Rd, Shapleigh

Directors	Contact Number	Position
Mark Rousseau	(978) 835-2277	President
Skip Bartosch	(207) 636-2751	Vice President
James (Jamie) Verity	(617) 901-5212	Treasurer
Gary Thibodeaux	(207) 841-1575	Secretary
Rich Eagleston	(978) 985-3243	Director
Glenn Baxter	(617) 285-3111	Director
Jack Kelley	(207) 636-3252	Director
David Landry	(207) 692-3361	Director
James Gilbert	(978) 284-3621	Director
VACANT	VOLUNTEERS	NEEDED!
VACANT	VOLUNTEERS	NEEDED!

Maine Fishing Laws (Condensed)



Here are some of the Maine fishing laws that apply to Mousam Lake and other lakes, ponds and rivers around the area. This is not a complete list but highlights some of the typical laws that you may have questions on.

Fly Fishing: No more than 3 unbaited artificial flies individually attached to a line may be used. (Title 12, §12654-A).

Note: It is unlawful to troll a fly in waters restricted to fly fishing only (Title 12, §12658).

Free Family Fishing Days: Will take place on February 17-18, 2018 and June 2-3, 2018. On these days, any person (except those whose license has been suspended or revoked) may fish without a license. All other laws and regulations apply on these days (Title 12, §12503).

Illegal Fishing: Except as otherwise provided, it is unlawful to fish other than with a single baited hook and line, artificial flies or artificial lures and spinners.

Exception: This does not apply to hook and line smelt fishing (Title 12, §12654). All other rules and regulations governing the taking of smelt apply. Use of gaff is unlawful (Title 12, §12656).

Illegal Use of Antifreeze: Adding substances containing ethylene glycol or other antifreeze agents to waters of this State is illegal (Title 38, §413).

Illegal Use of Implements:

A. Except as otherwise provided, it is unlawful to possess any grapnel, trawl, weir, seine, gill net, trap, set line or drop net on or adjacent to any of the inland waters of this State.

Importation of Fish: It is unlawful to import any live freshwater fish or eggs into this State without written permission from the Commissioner (Title 12, §12509 & Title 12, §12556).

Lead Sinkers: It is unlawful to sell, offer for sale, or use a lead sinker that weighs 1 ounce or less or measures 2.5 inches or less.

Line Restrictions: Unless otherwise provided by rule, the number of lines an angler may fish at any one time is limited to two lines while open water fishing (Title 12, §12652) and five lines while ice fishing (Title 12, §12659-A). At no time may an angler fish with more than five lines.

Litter: It is unlawful to dispose of litter (including abandoned ice fishing shacks) anywhere in this State, except in areas or receptacles designed for that purpose. Convicted violators face fines up to \$500 for the first offense and up to \$2,000 for subsequent offenses (Title 17, §2264-A).

Marking Fish: It is unlawful to tag, fin clip, or otherwise mark any fish to be released alive into the inland waters of the State without the written consent of the Commissioner (Title 12, §12601).

Night Fishing: Except as otherwise provided by rule, all waters open to fishing are open to fishing 24 hours a day. All lines must be under the immediate supervision of the person who set them (Open Water

Fishing - Title 12, §12652, Ice Fishing - Title 12, §12659-A). Exception: All lines set through the ice at night for cusk must be checked at least once every hour by the person who set them (Title 12, §12659-A-4).

Removal of Bag Limits on

Bass: In waters where the bag limit on bass has been removed by special rule, the season on bass and the method of fishing for them is the same as for trout and landlocked salmon (Title 12, §12601).

Removal of Heads and Tails:

It is unlawful to alter the length of landlocked salmon, trout, togue, lake whitefish, and bass unless the fish are being prepared for immediate cooking. It is unlawful to possess or transport fish dressed in such a manner that the species of fish cannot be identified; unless the fish are being prepared for immediate cooking (smoking does not constitute cooking) (Title 12, §12601).

Sale of Certain Fish Prohibited:

It is unlawful to buy or sell, directly or indirectly, trout, togue, landlocked salmon, bass, white perch, or pickerel (except fish which have been lawfully produced by commercial producers and skins of fish which have been preserved by taxidermy) (Title 12, §12609-A).

Salmon Eggs As Bait: Commercially prepared eggs from species that do not naturally occur in this State may be used for bait (Title 12, §12553).

Season Dates: All dates are inclusive.

Smelting: Unless closed by rule



as indicated within the Special Regulations Section a person holding a valid Maine fishing license may take smelts for recreational purposes only from the inland waters or portions of inland waters that naturally free of ice with a dip net in the usual and ordinary way from noon to 2:00 a.m. in accordance with bag limits established by rule. Bag limits established by rule under this paragraph are for a 24-hour period, beginning at noon on a given day and ending at 11:59 a.m. the following day. A person may not take smelts with a dip net unless it meets the requirements listed under the dip net definition (Title 12, §12456). A dip net when used to take smelts in a tributary or within 100 feet of the mouth of a tributary must contain a rigid circular frame that is not more than 24 inches in diameter as measured at any point on the hoop and manually operated by a single person (Title 12, §10001-12-A). **Note:** An unlimited number of baited hooks may be used on your line while fishing for smelts.

Snagging: It is unlawful to fish for any fish, except suckers, by snagging (Title 12, §12651 & Title 12, §12602).

Special Bag Limit: Whenever any waters have a special bag limit, no person shall possess more than one day's bag limit taken from those waters.

Species Identification: It is unlawful to possess or transport fish dressed in such a manner that the species of the fish cannot be identified unless the fish are being

prepared for immediate cooking. (Smoking does not constitute cooking.) (Title 12, §12601)

Suckers: Persons licensed, or otherwise entitled to fish, may take suckers for their own use between April 1st and June 30th from all rivers, streams and brooks open to fishing by use of a hand spear, bow and arrow or by snagging.

Note: If suckers are taken by bow and arrow, the arrow must have a barbed or pronged point and must be attached to the bow with a line (Title 12, §12506-7).

Supervision of Lines: All lines must be under the immediate supervision of the person who set them.

Exception: All lines set through the ice at night for cusk must be checked at least once every hour by the person who set them (Open Water Fishing - Title 12, - §12652, Ice Fishing - Title 12, §12659-A, Cusk Fishing - Title 12, §12659-A).

Ten-Acre Ponds: All ponds of 10 acres or less, whether the pond is natural or artificial, formed on rivers, streams and brooks are governed by the same fishing laws that apply to the river, stream, or brook where the pond is situated (Title 12, §12451).

Note: This does not apply to private ponds.

Exception: If a lake or pond is in the alphabetical waterbody list of the Special Fishing Laws section then lake and pond general and special laws apply.

Use of Explosive, Poisonous or Stupefying Substance: It is unlawful to take or destroy any fish by use of an explosive, poisonous or stupefying substance (Title 12, §12653).

Use of Fish (live or dead) as Bait: It is unlawful to import any live

baitfish or smelts into Maine.

Special laws applicable to Mousam Lake

S-2: Closed to the taking of smelts, except by hook and line.

S-3: Direct tributaries closed to the taking of smelts.

For October 1-December 31:

S-7: All trout, landlocked salmon, and togue caught must be released alive at once.

ALO: Artificial lures only.

Special laws applicable to Goose Pond:

S-4: Use or possession of live fish as bait is prohibited. (The use of dead fish, salmon eggs, or worms is permitted.)

S-17: Daily bag limit on brook trout (includes splake and Arctic charr): 2 fish; minimum length limit: 10 inches, only 1 may exceed 12 inches.

October 1-December 31: Closed to all fishing.

For more information on Maine's fishing laws, please visit the Maine IFW website at <http://www.maine.gov/ifw/index.html>



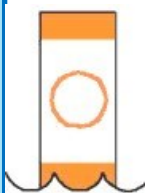
Boater Safety Tips

Boater Safety is a huge concern on Mousam Lake due to the narrow width in many parts of the lake. Please review these tips and regulations to make your boating season an enjoyable and safe one!

Navigation and markers- The “Rules of the Road” is one of the most misunderstood parts of boating for most weekend boaters. It is important to know basic navigation laws and the type of navigation markers you might see out in waterways.

- When meeting another vessel head-on, keep to the right (starboard). A non-motorized vessel always has the right of way.
- When crossing paths, the vessel to the right (starboard) has the right of way. If one of the vessels is non-motorized, they have the right of way no matter what side they are on.
- When overtaking another vessel, the one that is being passed has the right of way.
- Within 200 feet of shore is designated as “No Wake”

Markers:



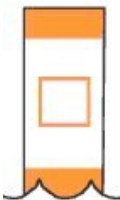
- Controlled area—Used for speed limits and no-wake zones



- Danger—Warns of navigational hazards such as rocks, dams or stumps



- Exclusion Zone—All vessels keep out. Usually used for swim areas and dams



- Information—directions or location of food, fuel, etc



- Obstruction—do not pass between marker and nearest shore. If two markers present, do not pass between



- Diver below—divers in the water nearby

Life Jackets and Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)-

There are 5 types of life jackets and PFDs, depending on activity:
 Wearable Type I—Offshore life jacket
 Wearable Type II—Near Shore vests. These are the orange vests that most of us have on our boats.
 Wearable Type III—Flotation Aids. These are most commonly used for watersports and PWCs
 Throwable Type IV—Throw cushions and life rings
 Wearable type V—Special Use devices such as for kayaking, water skiing, etc.

ALL watercraft MUST have at least one wearable PFD for each passenger. In addition, all boats 16 feet and longer must have one type IV throwable PFD. This applies to most of our boats on the lake.

Children 10 and under must wear a life jacket at all times unless the boat is docked or anchored.

Navigation Lighting

When a vessel is underway:

- Powered vessels less than 40 feet long must have red and green side lights and a white stern light
- Unpowered vessels less than 23 feet long should have a lantern or flashlight shining a white light at a minimum.

When not underway, all vessels are required to display a white light. If manually propelled (canoe or kayak) a white light should be ready to be displayed

Fire Extinguishers

It is always a good idea to carry a fire extinguisher onboard any motorboat or PWC. Maine law states that if a vessel has a permanently installed fuel tank, a USCG approved Type B fire extinguisher



Boater Safety Tips (cont.)



ing laws and rules

- Paddleboards must have a life jacket for each person on board, a sound-producing device such as a whistle, a white flashlight or headlamp when used between sunset and sunrise, and a visual distress signal when used between sunset and sunrise.

must be onboard

rise.

Personal Watercraft (PWCs)

The following rules apply specifically to PWC:

- Everyone riding a PWC must wear a non-inflatable life jacket at all times
- PWCs may not be operated between sunset and sunrise
- No one under the age of 16 may operate a PWC
- Operators 16 and 17 years of age must complete a safety course and have proof on the PWC or be accompanied by a person 18 or older

Paddleboards

The use of paddleboards is growing in popularity in Maine. When using a paddleboard, certain rules apply.

- Paddleboard users must comply with all recreational boat-

Skiing and Tubing

Vessels towing a skier, tube or other device have additional laws

- All persons being towed behind a recreational vessel on any device must wear a non-inflatable life jacket
- It is illegal to tow a person on any device one half hour after sunset or one half hour before sunrise. If towing with a PWC, it may tow between sunrise and sunset only
- Every vessel towing a person on any device must have a responsible person other than the driver at least 12 years old on board to observe the persons being towed continuously
- It is illegal to operate a vessel towing any device within 200 feet of shore

- A vessel towing a person must not exceed the total capacity for the vessel (i.e. a PWC rated for 3 passengers can carry a driver, a spotter and one person being towed)

To see the complete list of tips and regulations, visit the Maine IFW website to download the booklet at https://www.boat-ed.com/assets/pdf/handbook/me_handbook_entire.pdf



Volunteers Needed for the MLRA!

We are looking for volunteers to help the MLRA! Existing openings are as follows:

- MLRA Board Members. We currently have two vacancies.
- MLRA Newsletter Editor. Responsible for assembling,

publishing and mailing newsletter.

- Contributors for the Newsletter, Facebook page and Website (as often as one would like to write and submit articles/blurbs)
- Plant Patrollers and coordina-

tors (Summer positions, a few hours every other week or so)

If you would like more information on any of these positions, please email us at: general@mousamlake.org

ASYCC Welcomes New CBI Director

Hello All;

My name is Dave Burns and I will be assuming the role of CBI Director for the 2018 season. Also Doug Ridley will be assuming the ECC Director role for this year as well, We are very excited as well as looking forward to this year. Betty Smith will continue to serve the organization as an advisor to the BOD and Kent Haake was voted in as the new President of the Organization we hope that you will join us in wish-

ing them the best in their new roles.

The 2018 ASYCC Courtesy Boat Inspection team will work from late April until Columbus Day weekend, conducting inspections at the boat launches on Mousam Lake and Square Pond. We are currently seeking inspectors of all ages (from High School to retired).

All applications are due by March 31, 2018 and can be found at www.asycc.com/jobs.html <<http://www.asycc.com/jobs.html>>

Applications can be emailed to Dave Burns at cbileader@asycc.com <<mailto:cbileader@asycc.com>> or mailed to Dave Burns, ASYCC, P.O. Box 47, Springvale, Maine 04083.

The ASYCC Erosion Control

Crew will work from late June through mid-August, completing erosion control projects for landowners on Mousam Lake, Square Pond, Loon Pond and Goose Pond. We are currently seeking high school students for crew members and a more experienced crew leader for the ECC team.

If you are interested, please download an application. All applications are due by March 31, 2018 and interviews will take place in mid April. Applications can be emailed to Doug Ridley at eccleader@asycc.com <<mailto:eccleader@asycc.com>> or mailed to Doug Ridley, ASYCC, P.O. Box 47, Springvale, Maine 04083.

Dave Burns
CBI Director, ASYCC
cbileader@asycc.com
<<mailto:cbileader@asycc.com>>
207-651-2604



MLRA 2018 Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars for this years MLRA events! These are a great way to meet other members and have some fun!

MLRA Annual Meeting	Saturday, June 30, 2017 9-11am
Light Up The Lake	Tuesday, July 3, 2017
Annual Boat Parade (Shapleigh Side, meet in Carpenter's Cove)	Wednesday, July 4, 2017, Register at 11:00am
Kids Fishing Derby (Baxter Dock, main lake near Ham's Cove)	Saturday, July 14, 2017. Registration 8:00
Invasive Plant Patrol Workshop (Lower Mousam)	TBD
ASYCC Annual Golf Tournament	Friday, August 3, 2017
Invasive Plant Patrol Workshop (Lower Mousam)	TBD

ASYCC Update

The Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corps (ASYCC) is a community based non-profit organization whose goal is to protect the lakes and water quality in the Mousam Lake - Square Pond Watershed through the application of effective erosion control measures, technical assistance, public outreach, education and courtesy boat inspections.

The ASYCC works closely with town code enforcement officers, town officials, the York County Soil & Water District, local lake associations and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. We are proud to staff our program with youths and adults with direct ties to the towns we serve. During 2017, the Erosion Control Crew (ECC) completed 20 erosion control projects. Since 2001, the Erosion Control Crew has completed 367 erosion control projects within the Mousam Lake-Square Pond Watershed. The demand for the Erosion Control Crew continues to remain constant; with fewer than 30 percent of the property owners within the watershed having used the services of the ECC, there is still more work to be done. Education continues to be a major focus of our program. During the 2017

season the ASYCC conducted 48 technical visits to property owners, for a total of 688 since 2001, and the demand continues to rise.

The second program under the AYSCC umbrella is the Courtesy Boat Inspection Program (CBI). The CBI program works to prevent the introduction of invasive aquatic plants from entering the Mousam Lake-Square Pond Watershed. During the 2017 CBI season, 6650 boats were inspected. All plant fragment collections tagged and submitted by our inspectors were determined to be native/non-invasive finds. As the number of boaters visiting the clean waters of the Mousam Lake-Square Pond Watershed continues to increase, so do the chances of an invasive plant or organism being entered into our important waters. With the constant and consistent presence of the CBIs on the Mousam Lake and Square Pond Boat Launches, the public continues to be favorable and better educated about the risks of these invasive and their potential hazards to our beautiful waterways. The ASYCC CBI program is an important line of defense for our lakes. On behalf of the ASYCC organization, we would like to thank

the MLRA for your continued support and look forward to another successful year of working together for the good of our nearby towns, residents and businesses, the lake and pond property owners and the visitors of our great water resources. Though we have done great things together to date, there is much work that remains to protect our most valuable resources. If you would like to learn more about the ASYCC or to view past ASYCC Annual reports please visit www.asycc.com.

All of this would not be possible without our dedicated volunteer Board members who provide time, knowledge and support. Our members include Kent Haake- President, Joe Borst-Treasurer, Jane Thomas-Secretary, Scott & Debbie Lansberry-Directors. And we are happy to announce two new members sharing a Director's position - Craig & Annmarie McMurray. The ASYCC has open board member positions available and we encourage anyone who may be interested, to contact us via our web site link mentioned above. Help us to continue this important work. Lastly, SAVE THE DATE for the

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- Plant Patrollers and coordina-

tors (Summer positions, a few hours every other week or so)

If you would like more information on any of these positions, please email us at: general@mousamlake.org

Portland Press Herald

Portland, Me., Press Herald, Tuesday, October 26, 1971

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Area Currently 'Holding Own'

Mousam Lake Future Stirs Up Regional Concern

By C. SCOTT HOAR

ACTON — Alarmed members of the Mousam Lake Association have undertaken a program whipping up regional concern over the future of Mousam Lake and other bodies of water that affect the quality of the lake.

The association's clean water committee, headed by Nasson College Prof. James J. McLaughlin, is reviewing a professional — but preliminary — study of the lake which indicates that "Mousam Lake is currently holding its own."

"But we feel that it is a 'see-saw' situation at the moment which the heavy influx of people due to development of the lake shore could tip in the direction of serious pollution," McLaughlin points out.

Members of the committee already have met with representatives of the Acton town government and are planning similar sessions with officials of Shapleigh, which borders one side of the lake.

"But it is not just Mousam Lake we have to be concerned about," McLaughlin notes. "Square Pond feeds into Mousam and Mousam is the immediate headwater of the Mousam River that flows to the ocean."

"WHAT WE ARE aiming for is an enlarged study of the region with participation by all concerned — the towns and the shore property owners which involve people from a variety of states."

Prof. Robert Ciullo of the Nason College science department, was hired to undertake the initial study, aimed at "giving us a base line from which to expand."

His initial report involves the results of tests taken at six "stations" located around the lake during the period from April to mid-July.

He notes that the classification of the lake is B-1. His tests during the period indicate that the percentage of dissolved oxygen and parts per million of oxygen during the period were within the specifications of the classification — but "decreased slowly" during the period.

The parts per million ranged from 12 down to seven while specifications require that the level not drop below five parts per million.

HE POINTED OUT that the dissolved oxygen content relates to the ability of the lake to support marine life.

The hydrogen concentration

ranged from 6.3 to 6.95 which is within the range of 6.0 to 8.5 set by the classification standards.

The coliform bacteria count, however, rose steadily during the test period and "didn't meet the criteria" of the classification standards.

The standard set is that the coliform bacteria count shouldn't exceed 300 per 100 milliliters and during the testing period, the coliform bacteria count in the lake "increased steadily" and ranged from five to 964.

On July 10, for instance, the report stated, the count at Stations 3 and 6 was 348 and 450, respectively; and on July 17, ranged from 400 at Station 2 to 650 at Station 4.

COLIFORM BACTERIA count relates to the presence of human and animal waste.

Dr. Ciullo's report also indicated that phosphate and nitrate nutrients "exist in a higher than desirable level" in the lake.

He also noted that turbidity — the presence of solids in the water — increased and decreased slowly as did the plankton level. The higher the levels of these two factors, the less the quality of the water, he added.

He also noted that the concentration of detergents is relatively low.

"The lake is holding its own

against increased demands of those who use it," Dr. Ciullo summarized, "except for the nutrients and the total coliform bacteria count. The water quality of Mousam Lake will be largely determined by the concern of the people who use it."

THE TESTING is due to continue to Nov. 1. The final report is expected to give an overall profile of the lake from which more definite conclusions can be drawn and from which more definite future steps can be taken for a more "in depth" study and anti-pollution program, officials feel.

Dr. Ciullo said he feels what the situation "may come down to is that it will have to be determined how many people the lake can support."

Some regulations are already in effect — the town of Acton has a local ordinance, in line with a state law, that requires a minimum of 20,000 square feet for a building lot.

Both Acton and Shapleigh fully feel that their respective plumbing inspectors are carefully enforcing plumbing standards set by the state.

ACTON SELECTMAN Robert Foley, a former summer resident himself here, feels that much of the problem can be traced to the small 50-foot lots which camps were traditionally built and because of the

"antiquated disposal systems in many of the cottages dating back over the years."

He feels that either through local, state or Federal laws, standards should be set and a deadline set — say 1980 — for all cottage owners to update their systems' just as has been required of the auto industry in improving their vehicles to meet anti-pollution and safety standards."

Selectman Robert Benson considers the matter "still in the exploration phase," adding that "We aren't to the point yet where we can reach a conclusion as to what direction we should take."

ALTHOUGH THE chairman of Shapleigh's board of selectmen, Russell Day, said that town's board hasn't yet met with the lake association, "We are interested and we are concerned about this matter."

He noted that Shapleigh has no local codes or regulations relating to development, "But we feel the planning board is becoming more active and will probably present some proposals this year."

TRADITIONALLY, smaller towns have balked at zoning, building and other regulatory codes on grounds that they infringe on a property owner's rights.

Day said he felt, however, that the town's plumbing inspector "is doing a good job" enforcing state regulations.

In the background is the feeling by many association members, expressed by McLaughlin, that the towns should contribute financially to studies and action relating to preserving the quality of the lakes.

"After all," he points out, "these towns derive a large percentage of their revenue from these lake shore property owners, most of whom are out of staters or from other towns"

TOWN OFFICIALS brush this off, pointing out that out of staters "being benefiting from everyone's taxes the minute they cross the bridge at Kittery — highways, state police protection, and so forth and if these towns weren't here, they wouldn't have a place to come to. And towns have children and roads and services that must be supported by local taxpayers."

He also noted that in many towns — including Acton — many camp roads have been improved and paved with town funds on a 50-50 shared basis with the cottage owners.

"What we want most right now is that concern and interest in this potential problem be whipped up so that something gets done" — it is too late," Prof. IV concluded.

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

Look for the Winter Newsletter in December!

MOUSAM LAKE REGION ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 333
SPRINGVALE, ME 04083
WW.MOUSAMLAKE.ORG



REGION ASSOCIATION