

# Waukewan and Winona Watershed Protective Association

P.O. Box 451, Meredith, NH 03253

*An Environmental Organization Protecting the Waukewan and Winona Watershed*

## Message from Dave and Deb

### Our Mission

“The mission of the Waukewan and Winona Watershed Protective Association is to encourage and support long range planning, responsible lake level management and sound conservation techniques to preserve the ecology, environment and natural beauty of the Waukewan and Winona Watershed. It serves as a voice for its members in matters of group concern with regard to the environment and seeks to assist with scientific studies, education programs and the preparation and dissemination of educational materials.”

On April 19 there was still a considerable amount of ice on Lake Waukewan, but on Mother’s Day, small children were swimming while people launched boats for the season. Nature is amazing!!

Now that winter is behind us we can begin to think about all the wonderful days of summer that lie ahead. However, we must remember to be vigilant with regard to those things that can negatively affect the environment and water quality of the watershed.

Our association is gearing up to present two interesting and informative environmental seminars again this summer, and it is our hope

that many of you will be able to attend. What you will learn will help you become an even better lake steward and give you information to share with your neighbors and friends. There are also opportunities for you to volunteer in the watershed—as Lake Hosts, Weed Watchers and VLAP monitors. Please contact any member of our Board for information on these volunteer opportunities (contact info page 4.)

And, of course, we hope you all have a happy and safe summer 2015.

Dave Reilly and Deb Corr  
Co-Chairmen

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- Important Summer Dates for Your Calendar.

Picture below: A mother merganser and her chick.  
(Photo by Chris Jones)

## The Importance of VLAP by Deb Corr

For those who don’t know, VLAP stands for “Volunteer Lake Assessment Program.”

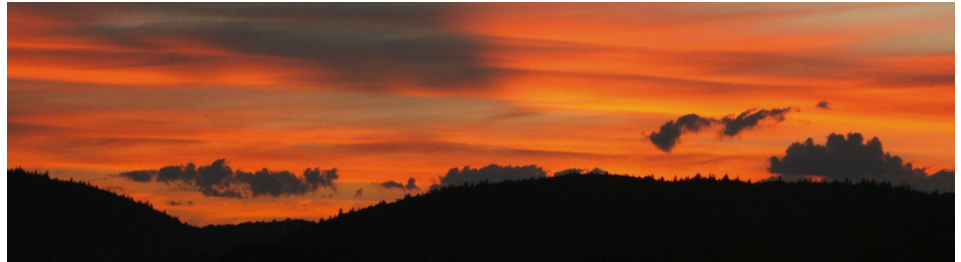
VLAP was initiated in 1985 in New Hampshire and now exists on about 178 lakes and ponds in the State. The program serves two very important functions: it gives the State the information it needs to monitor water quality and provides an excellent opportunity for volunteers to get involved doing important work for the health of the lakes and ponds in the State.



## The Importance of VLAP (continued)

Without the help of a dedicated group of volunteers, the State of NH would be unable to monitor the water quality of its waterbodies. The water samples collected provide the state's limnologists, towns, lake associations and others the data necessary to assist in protecting the future health of a water body and serves to alert them to negative trends so that corrective action can be taken if possible.

The NH DES provides training for volunteer monitors and funds grants



Sunset on Waukewan by Chris Jones

for monitoring equipment like the one that was awarded to Lake Winona a year ago.

Volunteer monitors are dedicated, hard working individuals who are making an invaluable contribution toward protecting NH's lakes and

ponds. We are very fortunate to have members on Lakes Winona and Waukewan and, most recently, on Hawkins Pond who have agreed to carry out VLAP monitoring. Please say "thank you" if you meet one of them. They deserve it!

## Introducing Hawkins Pond by Maureen Criasia

Hawkins Pond is a 120-acre naturally occurring "great pond." It is located in its entirety in West Center Harbor at the base of Piper and Fogg Hills, and with 3 miles of shoreline it is the largest of all ponds in Center Harbor. Its size and location create a significant storage capacity at the headwaters of the Waukewan/Winona Watershed.

The Pond is fed by and emptied through a perennial stream system that includes the 1.3 mile Hawkins Pond tributary into Lake Winona. The Hawkins Pond Dam outflow, which governs its water level, is owned and managed by the State of NH Water Resources Division Dam Bureau.

Along the southern and eastern shores of the Pond lies a 31 acre Dept. of Environmental Services designated Prime Wetland complex, "providing invaluable flood water storage and water quality enhancement." Within the same lo-

cale exists two stratified drift aquifers totaling over 60 acres in size, providing a source of well water to many area residents.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Wildlife Action Plan has ranked the wildlife habitat within and surrounding Hawkins Pond as "Tier 1" - a habitat of the HIGHEST relative rank by ecological condition in New Hampshire.



The majority of land surrounding Hawkins Pond is privately owned with the exception of the 4.6 acre NH Fish and Game property which is positioned at the junction of Piper Hill Road and Hawkins Pond Road. On this property is located a small parking area and the only public entry to Hawkins Pond—a "car top" boating access. There is an 8-horse power motor restriction as well as a 10 mph speed limit on the Pond, making it a popular destination for small boat fishing and paddle style boating such as canoeing and kayaking. Fortunately, to date, there has been no evidence of exotic aquatic species (including milfoil) in Hawkins Pond. All boaters are encouraged to be diligent about carefully inspecting their craft prior to entry into Hawkins Pond's waters.

Ref: Nat. Resources Inventory of Ctr. Harbor 2014.

**Hawkins Pond and mountains in the Background. ( Photo by Deb Corr)**

## Springtime Tips for Shore Owners

### Loons Are Back!

Our beautiful loons have returned. PLEASE help protect them.

If you think they are nesting in a nearby area, PLEASE stay away.

If you see them out on the water, PLEASE keep a good distance from them.

Always boat with care



Loon Family on Waukewan, Summer 2014 (Photo by Chris Jones)

around loons and loon chicks. If fishing, use the “Reel in Around Loons” rule to prevent a loon from getting caught in your line or swallowing a hook.

If you notice a problem with a loon or harassment of a loon, please contact the **Loon Preservation Committee** at (603) 476-5666 or your lake’s or pond’s LPC loon volunteers.

### Lead Sinkers and Gigs– a Head’s Up

When ingested, lead sinkers and gigs cause a 100 % mortality to loons. PLEASE dispose of any lead sinkers and gigs. Please remind family, friends and neighbors to do the same.

Listed below are places where you can dispose of lead sinkers and gigs:

NH Fish and Game Offices (Concord, Durham, Keene, Lancaster, New Hampton.) Visit [www.FishNH.com](http://www.FishNH.com) or call (603) 271-3212 or call NH Department of Environmental Services (603) 271-2047.



Sunset on Snake River (photo by Chris Jones)

### Lawn Care and Fertilizer

Please protect the lake when considering the care of your lawn this spring. Phosphorus and nitrogen promote the growth of grass but also contribute to the over abundance of algae in waterbodies.

**Phosphorus is highly detrimental to the health of waterbodies.** Please go to [DES.NH.GOV](http://DES.NH.GOV) to see NH rules and regulations pertaining to the use of fertilizer near waterbodies. If you feel you must fertilize, consider leaving grass clippings which naturally provide nutrients of nitrogen and potassium.

### Septic Sense

It’s the time of year when family and friends gather at the lake. It’s also the time of year to get your septic system pumped and checked to ensure it is in proper working order. Even new systems can be overworked. If you entertain frequently, protect your septic system and **protect the lake**; consider renting a port-o-toilet for parties, gatherings and large numbers of weekend guests. Google yellow pages for port-o-potty rentals in the lakes region. Most companies rent by weekend, week or month. Weekend and Weekly rentals range from \$105 to \$140.

# Important Dates for Your Calendar

## WWWPA ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

**JULY 11, 2015**

**10 AM**

**THE CORR'S**

**20 SEMINOLE AVENUE, NEW HAMPTON, NH 03256**

**FOR INFORMATION: (603)-279-6008 or (603) 279-4944**

### **WEED WATCHER TRAINING WORKSHOP\***

If you like boating, here's a great way to help protect the lake you love! Become a weed watcher. Training is interesting and easy. Join us and learn how to identify exotic aquatic plant and animal species.

**AMY SMAGULA**

**NHDES Limnologist/Exotic Species Program  
Coordinator**

**SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2015**

**10 AM—12 NOON**

**MEREDITH COMMUNITY CENTER**

**\*Please call 279-4944 or 279-6008 to register.  
Space is limited.**

### **UPLAND INVASIVE SPECIES SEMINAR**

Look around your property, drive down the road and everything is turning green. But, are insidious invasive plants lurking among the native vegetation? Invasive plant species are detrimental to native flora and fauna. Learn how to identify upland invasive plant species and why you should care. Find out the proper way to eradicate or control invasive species on your property to help stop them from spreading. **Information: 279-4944 or 279-6008.**

**DOUG CYGAN**

**NH Dept. of Agriculture Invasive Species  
Coordinator**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2015**

**6 - 7:30 PM**

**MEREDITH COMMUNITY CENTER**

## Who Are The Members of Our Board?

**Dave Reilly, Co-Chairman  
Lake Winona  
rreillydave@aol.com**

**Bea Thibeault, Secretary  
Lake Winona  
tbo@metrocast.net**

**Deb Corr, Co-Chairman  
Lake Waukewan  
debcorr@metrocast.net**

**Peter Tallman, Treasurer  
Lake Waukewan  
ptallman@metrocast.net**

**Janan Hays, Vice Chairman  
Lake Waukewan  
jhays@northstarnh.com**

**Lake Winona (photo by  
Deb Corr)**

