

SQUARE POND

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Special Issue:

Letter from the President

Lee Robator

Community Updates, Trivia, Info, and
Local Business Advertisements

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We love Square Pond!†

Looking to buy or sell waterfront property?
Our expert team is here to assist you every step of the way.



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SPIA 2025

Editor-in-Chief

Marji Kilgus

Board President

Lee Robator

Board of Directors

Kristen Morrisroe - Vice President

Brian Ferland - Treasurer

John Cole - Secretary

Board Members

Bill Rosenkrans

Kim Caron

Jane Kirton

Kathy Parenti

Allan Krans

Scott Haley

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cold weather has returned this winter, and at this writing, outdoor activity levels on the lake are soaring! It's exciting to see the ice fishing derby returned this year, and I hope many took advantage of the "Free Fishing" weekend to welcome new anglers into this rewarding sport.



Square Pond remains free of aquatic invasive plants! However, we must remain vigilant. Each year, bodies of water in our region encounter the threat of invasive species. Boats, animals, and birds can travel from lake to lake, creating pathways for these unwelcome invaders. Our best defenses are education for boat owners, Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI), and the Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP). Thanks to additional funding for the Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corps (ASYCC), we were able to extend CBI coverage at the public launch for 2024; however, funding sources are under attack. Our goal is to work with ASYCC to assure continued CBI coverage for the future. We strive to protect our precious resources by working together.

York County Soil & Water Conservation District (YCSWCD) collaborates with SPIA and ASYCC to combat erosion around the lake. In 2019, SPIA conducted a vital Watershed Survey of the entire shoreline and watershed of Square Pond. YCSWCD applied for a grant to tackle the identified erosion sites, and efforts began in earnest. With three rounds of DEP grants managed by YCSWCD completed, we continue to push forward. Our Phase 4 grant application was submitted but was not granted due to the number of applications and scoring. YCSWCD will reapply for a future grant.

I encourage everyone to become involved in your Square Pond community by volunteering, participating in social events, attending our membership meetings, and educating yourselves about shoreline protection laws. Above all, let's be respectful to our neighbors and cherish the priceless experience of living by the lake. Together, we can make a difference!

Lee Robator - President

LAZY SUSAN RAFFLE

BY SHELLY CAMIRE



This beautiful Lazy Susan is designed and donated by Shelly Camire. It is all hardwood and is 2 feet in diameter. We will be selling raffle tickets from the first meeting in June through the last meeting in August when we will be drawing the winning ticket. You can contact any board members for tickets, or volunteer to sell them to your friends and family that have ties to Square Pond.

Raffle Tickets

\$10 PER TICKET ENTRY



"HUMOR IS MANKIND'S GREATEST BLESSING." ~ MARK TWAIN



1. What has ears but can't hear?

A cornfield!

2. Why did the scarecrow win an award?

Because he was outstanding in his field!

3. What has hands but can't clap?

A clock!

4. Why did the bicycle fall over?

Because it was two-tired!

5. What do you call a bear with no teeth?

A gummy bear!

6. Why don't skeletons fight each other?

Because they don't have the guts!

7. What has one eye but can't see?

A needle!

8. Why did the golfer bring two pairs of pants?

In case he got a hole in one!

9. What goes up but never comes down?

Your age!

10. Why can't you give Elsa a balloon?

Because she'll let it go!

FAREWELL TO OUR EDITOR MARJI KILGUS



**FOR MARJI, SQUARE POND IS MORE THAN JUST A
BODY OF WATER. SQUARE POND IS A PART OF HER
HOME, HISTORY, AND HEART.**

Marji's connection to Square Pond runs deep, with her family's roots dating back to 1934 when her grandfather built their cherished cottage. Over the years, she, Bill, and Billy have continued that legacy, embracing the beauty and community of the lake.

For the past 17 years, Marji has shared her love for Square Pond through the annual newsletter, keeping residents and visitors connected with stories, updates, and reflections. Her dedication has made the newsletter a valued tradition, celebrating the lake's natural beauty and close-knit community.

As Marji steps away and retires as editor, this will be her final newsletter. Her contributions have left a lasting impact, and her passion for Square Pond will always be a part of its story. Marji, Bill & Billy have been proud to play a part in the story of Square Pond.

"Thanks for reading along for 17 years... I'll see you on the lake!"
~ Marji

ASYCC

ACTON SHAPLEIGH YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

DOING WHAT'S RIGHT FOR SQUARE POND FOR 25 YEARS!

What We Do:

- Courtesy Boat Inspections
- Erosion Control
- Technical Site Evaluations
- Permitting Assistance
- Invasive Plant Control
- Public Outreach / Education

Have water runoff or erosion issues? Setup a technical site evaluation (available year round) for erosion prevention ideas.

Contact ASYCC at
asycc.com/sitevisit

2024 Activities on Square Pond

- 781 Boat Inspections (typically 1,100 +/-)
 - low water level affected launch numbers
 - 21 plant fragments discovered (non-invasive)
 - significantly increased launch inspection hours
- 5 Erosion Control Projects
 - New Asst. Program Director, Jim Dochtermann
 - 8 Crew Members
- 9 Property Owner Evaluations
- Golf Tournament at Province Lake Golf
 - Very successful tournament with 97 golfers
 - **Save the 2025 Golf Date: Friday, August 1st**

We thank everyone for their past and continued financial support for this important work ASYCC is doing on Square Pond (Mousam & Loon too)!



Photo Credit: Dave

Square Pond Improvement Association

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY24_P&L - FY24 P&L

January - December 2024

	TOTAL				
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	REMAINING	% OF BUDGET
Revenue					
Contributed income					
Donations directed by individuals					
Association Dues	27,310.00	26,000.00	1,310.00	-1,310.00	105.04 %
Raffles	165.00	200.00	-35.00	35.00	82.50 %
Special Donation (deleted)	210.50		210.50	-210.50	
Total Donations directed by individuals	27,685.50	26,200.00	1,485.50	-1,485.50	105.67 %
Total Contributed Income	27,685.50	26,200.00	1,485.50	-1,485.50	105.67 %
Investment income	30.74		30.74	-30.74	
Bank Interest	1,867.52		1,867.52	-1,867.52	
Total Investment income	1,898.26		1,898.26	-1,898.26	
Services					
Newsletter Ads	2,375.00	1,700.00	675.00	-675.00	139.71 %
Total Services	2,375.00	1,700.00	675.00	-675.00	139.71 %
Uncategorized Income	210.03		210.03	-210.03	
Total Revenue	\$32,168.79	\$27,900.00	\$4,268.79	\$ -4,268.79	115.30 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$32,168.79	\$27,900.00	\$4,268.79	\$ -4,268.79	115.30 %
Expenditures					
Advertising & marketing					
Membership/Invoice Letter	559.23	1,000.00	-440.77	440.77	55.92 %
Newsletter	3,512.66	3,000.00	512.66	-512.66	117.09 %
SPIA Signs		1,000.00	-1,000.00	1,000.00	
Website/Webcam	1,152.15	1,500.00	-347.85	347.85	76.81 %
Welcome Bag	675.49	1,000.00	-324.51	324.51	67.55 %
Total Advertising & marketing	5,899.53	7,500.00	-1,600.47	1,600.47	78.66 %
Awards & grants to others					
ASYCC Donation	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	100.00 %
Lake Stewards	255.58	250.00	5.58	-5.58	102.23 %
Three Rivers Trust	5,000.00		5,000.00	-5,000.00	
Watershed Matching Fund		5,000.00	-5,000.00	5,000.00	
Total Awards & grants to others	11,255.58	11,250.00	5.58	-5.58	100.05 %
Contract & professional fees					
Legal fees					
Legal Fee (deleted)		500.00	-500.00	500.00	
Total Legal fees		500.00	-500.00	500.00	
Total Contract & professional fees		500.00	-500.00	500.00	
Insurance					
Directors & officers insurance	885.00	1,500.00	-615.00	615.00	59.00 %
Liability insurance	450.00	1,000.00	-550.00	550.00	45.00 %
Total Insurance	1,335.00	2,500.00	-1,165.00	1,165.00	53.40 %
Office expenses					
Board/Membership Meetings	510.47	300.00	210.47	-210.47	170.16 %
Maine Sec of State Non-Profit Tax	35.00	35.00	0.00	0.00	100.00 %
Office supplies		300.00	-300.00	300.00	
P.O. Box Rental	120.00	200.00	-80.00	80.00	60.00 %
Social Activities	216.54	1,100.00	-883.46	883.46	19.69 %
Software & apps	160.00	160.00	0.00	0.00	100.00 %
Total Office expenses	1,042.01	2,095.00	-1,052.99	1,052.99	49.74 %
PayPal Fees	109.61	250.00	-140.39	140.39	43.84 %
QuickBooks Payments Fees	36.15		36.15	-36.15	
Repairs & maintenance					
Invasive Plant Patrol	176.35	1,000.00	-823.65	823.65	17.64 %
Lake Markers	299.76	1,000.00	-700.24	700.24	29.98 %
Snail Snatcher	6,290.84	4,000.00	2,290.84	-2,290.84	157.27 %
Water Quality Improvement	620.00	2,000.00	-1,380.00	1,380.00	31.00 %
Watershed Survey		500.00	-500.00	500.00	
Total Repairs & maintenance	7,386.95	8,500.00	-1,113.05	1,113.05	86.91 %
Total Expenditures	\$27,064.83	\$32,595.00	\$ -5,530.17	\$5,530.17	83.03 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$5,103.96	\$ -4,695.00	\$9,798.96	\$ -9,798.96	-108.71 %
NET REVENUE	\$5,103.96	\$ -4,695.00	\$9,798.96	\$ -9,798.96	-108.71 %



SQUARE POND LEGACY

BY RICK HUTCHINS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICK HUTCHINS

My life at Square Pond started around 1950 when my grandfather Russell built a beautiful camp on Indian Village Road. My aunt and uncle, Sylvia and Theodore, had already bought an existing camp next door.



Summers were spent with cousins and friends romping all over the place from sun up to sundown and then flashlight tag after dark.

Swimming, fishing, and walks to Bob's Trading Post were the big events of the day. For one week out of the summer, two cousins from Niagara Falls New York would visit. To say that they were rambunctious would be an understatement. It's a miracle they never seriously got hurt. Two city boys out in the country on a lake,well, you get an idea.

Time moved on, and when I was sixteen, I started to bring up to the camp on Sundays, a certain beautiful brown eyed girl named Connie. We both went to Wells High School, and she was from Wells. I was from Ogunquit. To make a long story short, our relationship blossomed, and we got married right after we graduated from Wells High School.

We started a family and spent all the time we could at the lake with our daughter and son. We would go swimming, fishing, and water skiing all day long. The canoe and sailboat races were tons of fun, and our family won our fair share of the races.

Then, four grandkids came along and they became part of our summer life at the camp. Nana became a full time cook for these hungry munchkins. We would play cribbage until late in the night, and I can still hear the laughter coming from that porch.

Connie loved the fall the best. Activity on the lake got much quieter, the leaves turned beautiful colors, and the sunsets were spectacular. We would go for long walks, canoe out to the islands, and enjoy the outdoor fireplace that my grandfather and father built many years ago. This was her happy place.

But, Alzheimer's took her away from me in August of last year. We had a memorial service right on our beach with many family members and lake friends. A sun dog appeared in the sky at the end of the service, so I think she was telling us something. The last time I was up in November, a spectacular sign appeared on the water late in the day just before I left. She was telling me she was still here and always would be.



OUTDOORS

THINGS TO DO NEAR

SQUARE POND

BY MARJI KILGUS

Southern Maine offers a variety of scenic walking trails and waterfalls suitable for all skill levels. Here are some of our favorite, and more notable, trails and falls to discover.



HIKING TRAILS

1. Mount Agamenticus Conservation Region (York, ME): This area features several interconnected trails that lead to the summit of Mount Agamenticus. The trails vary in difficulty, providing options for both casual walkers and more experienced hikers. From the summit, visitors are rewarded with panoramic views of the coastline and surrounding forests.

2. Eastern Trail (South Portland to Kennebunk, ME): Part of the larger East Coast Greenway, the Eastern Trail offers a flat, multi-use path that stretches over 65 miles. It is ideal for walking, biking, and bird-watching, passing through forests, wetlands, and coastal areas.

3. Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge (Wells, ME): The refuge provides a one-mile accessible trail that meanders through salt marshes and coastal uplands. Interpretive signs along the way offer insights into the local ecosystem and wildlife, making it both an educational and scenic walk.

4. Fore River Sanctuary (Portland, ME): Home to Portland's only natural waterfall, Jewell Falls, this sanctuary offers a network of trails totaling about 85 acres. The paths wind through forests and wetlands, providing a peaceful retreat within the city.

5. Wells Reserve at Laudholm (Wells, ME): This reserve features seven miles of trails that traverse diverse habitats, including forests, fields, wetlands, and beaches. The trails are well-marked and offer opportunities for wildlife observation and photography.

Enjoy the natural beauty that Southern Maine's walking trails have to offer!



WATERFALLS

Not only do we have many walking trails nearby, but Southern Maine offers several picturesque waterfalls that are both accessible and captivating. Here are some notable ones to explore:

Cascade Falls (Saco): Located in the heart of Saco, Cascade Falls is a series of cascades along the Saco River. The area provides ample parking and handicap accessibility, making it suitable for families and individuals with limited mobility. Several viewing platforms and a scenic riverwalk trail offer various vantage points to admire the falls.

Jewell Falls (Portland): Situated within the Fore River Sanctuary, Jewell Falls is Portland's only natural waterfall. The 85-acre preserve features a network of trails that wind through diverse habitats, including forests and wetlands, leading visitors to this serene waterfall.

Presumpscot Falls (Falmouth): Easily accessible, Presumpscot Falls can be reached via a trail from Presumpscot Falls Park to a scenic overlook. Alternatively, trails from Oat Nuts Park and Presumpscot River Preserve lead to the falls. The Oat Nuts Park Trail is a 2.5-mile out-and-back route, making it ideal for families with children.

Kennebunk Falls (Kennebunk): Right along Main Street in Kennebunk, a small bridge crosses the Mousam River beside an old mill, where water once powered the mill. Today, the water cascades over a ledge, creating a picturesque scene as it drains into the Atlantic Ocean.

These falls not only provide scenic beauty, but also opportunities for hiking, relaxation and connecting with nature in Southern Maine.

A loon with a black head, a sharp beak, and a red eye is swimming in a blue lake. The loon's body is black with white checkered patterns on its back and white with black vertical stripes on its neck and chest. In the background, there are blue mountains and a forested shoreline under a blue sky with white clouds.

LOON LORE

A SHORT INSIGHT & HISTORY OF
SQUARE POND'S MOST FAMOUS RESIDENTS

BY MARJI KILGUS

Loons are not technically prehistoric birds, but they are considered ancient in evolutionary terms. Fossil evidence suggests that loons have existed for more than 30 million years, with their ancestors dating back even further. Their body structure—particularly their solid bones, streamlined shape and webbed feet—has remained relatively unchanged, making them one of the more “primitive” modern bird species.

The loons red eyes serve a practical purpose: enhancing underwater vision. The red pigment helps reduce glare and improve contrast in aquatic environments, allowing them to spot prey more efficiently. Their eye color can change with the seasons— during winter, their eyes often turn a duller gray or brownish shade which suggests that the red may be particularly useful in their summer breeding habitat.

The loons are highly specialized aquatic birds with remarkable adaptations for diving, hunting and survival in their environments. They are expert divers that can plunge up to 200 feet and stay submerged up to a minute or sometimes more.

Unlike most birds, their bones are solid instead of hollow which makes them less buoyant and allows them to dive quickly and stay submerged longer. Their legs are positioned far back on their bodies, giving them powerful propulsion under water, but this makes them awkward on land. Though loons are powerful swimmers, they are not great at taking off from water. The loons need a long “runway” to gain speed, which can be over a quarter of a mile long. Once in flight, they can fly at speeds up to 70 MPH.

Loons are known for their haunting, eerie calls, which play a crucial role in communication.

- Wail: A long mournful sound for long distance
- Tremolo: A rapid quivering call to signal distress
- Yodel: A territorial call, mostly used by males
- Hoot: A soft call used between mates and family

Loons mate for life and return to the same nesting sites each year. They build floating nests on the edges of lakes, often in sheltered coves. Both parents take turns incubation one or two eggs and later feeding chicks.

Loons typically return to the same lakes year after year, and this is called “site fidelity.” Adults return to their previous breeding lakes, but juvenile loons do not return to their natal lakes and remain in coastal waters for their first few years before migrating to find a breeding territory.

Perhaps the most critical piece of information is knowing that shoreline development can destroy nesting sites, making it hard for loons to return. Please consult a professional when making these types of changes to your property.



THE RISE OF PICKLEBALL: A LOW IMPACT SPORT WITH BIG BENEFITS

Pickleball has taken the sports world by storm, emerging as one of the fastest-growing activities in the U.S. Originally invented in 1965, the game combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong, making it accessible to players of all ages and skill levels.

One of pickleball's biggest draws is its low-impact nature. Unlike high-intensity sports, it places less strain on the joints while still providing an excellent cardiovascular workout. The smaller court size reduces the need for excessive running, making it a favorite for those looking to stay active without risking injury. It also enhances agility, balance, and coordination while fostering a social and engaging atmosphere.

For newcomers to the game, understanding key pickleball terms can enhance the experience. "Dinking" refers to a soft shot played at the net to control the pace of the game. The "kitchen" is a non-volley zone where players must let the ball bounce before hitting it. "Third shot drop" is a strategic shot used to transition from defense to offense, while "bangers" describe aggressive players who rely on power over finesse.

Whether you're a casual player or aiming to compete, pickleball offers an enjoyable way to stay fit, meet new people, and embrace a sport that's here to stay.



SEASONS OF SQUARE POND

BY MARJI KILGUS

Lake Turnover - The many transitions of a lake over the seasons.

A lake goes thru many transitions over the seasons. This is called a lake turn over. It refers to a seasonal process where the water in a lake mixes from top to bottom. This phenomenon occurs in temperate regions and is driven by changes in water temperature and density. It usually happens in the spring and fall, and here is how it works:

During summer, lakes often become stratified into 3 layers.
Warm, less dense surface water.
A transition layer where the temperature drops sharply
Cold dense bottom water.
These layers do not mix because of the temperature differences.

During the cooling in the fall, as temperatures drop, the surface water cools, becoming denser. Eventually, the surface water becomes as dense as the bottom water, which allows the layers to mix. Wind also helps to stir the lake, causing oxygen and nutrients to redistribute throughout the water column.

During the ice formation in the winter, surface water cools further and freezes.

The Spring is when the turnover will happen. When ice melts and the surface warms back up, the water mixes again, similar to the fall event.

Turnover brings oxygen to the bottom of the lake and nutrients from the bottom to the surface, which supports aquatic life. It prevents oxygen depletion in the lower layers and allows for a balance environment. Nutrients brought to the surface can sometimes lead to algae blooms.





WAVES

BY RICK HUTCHINS

The waves on the water keep moving on and on,
But when they reach the shore, they are entirely gone.

Some have come from far away,
Others have a very short stay.

The wind plays a big factor in what you will see,
Waves crashing on the shore endlessly.

When the water pulls back, some will get a second chance,
To form again and learn how to dance.

Back they go again to the endless sea,
Waiting to see what they will be.

A mighty force from up above they will see,
And that will determine their destiny.

2024 Water Quality Report

The summer of '24 was awesome. The lake was busy with a lot of people enjoying the great weather. As the graph shows, the water clarity was lower in June due to some rain and a lot of pollen, around 16' of visibility. After the pollen stopped, the clarity improved to well above 20' which is very clear water. The average clarity remained excellent for the rest of the summer.

I have included 3 graphs with this letter.

- The first one is a graph of the water temperature from late May until mid-September. As you can see the surface temperature changes quite a bit but the bottom temperature remains almost the same. The highest temperature was about 81 degrees in mid-July but the water cooled off after that.
- The second graph is water clarity. Clarity started low in June but steadily increased into July and August, showing good improvement throughout the summer.
- The third graph is a measure of dissolved oxygen(DO) in the water.

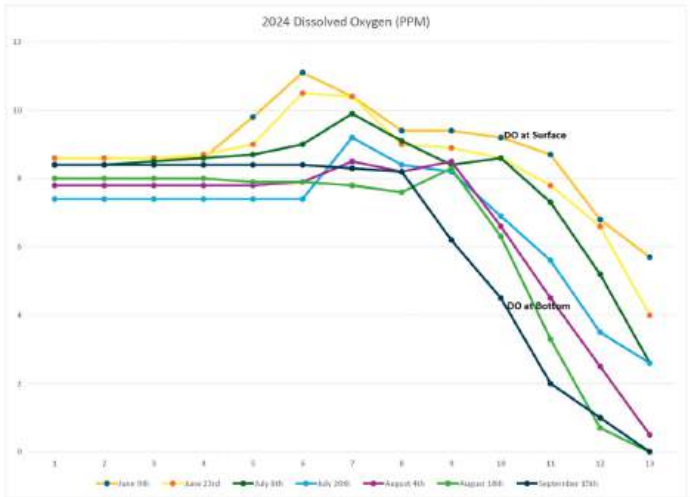
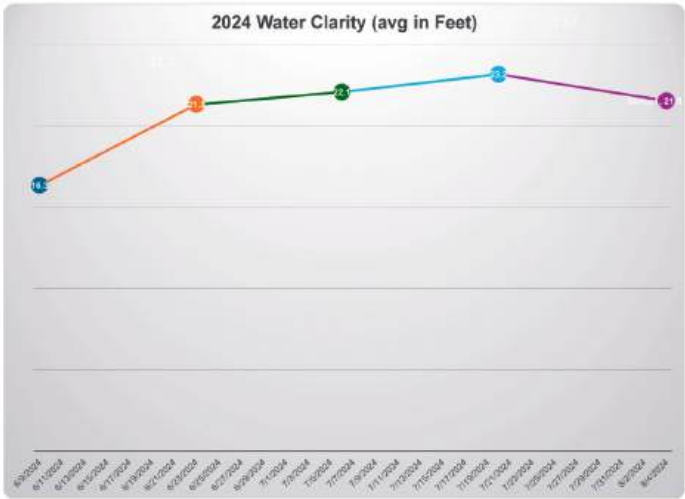
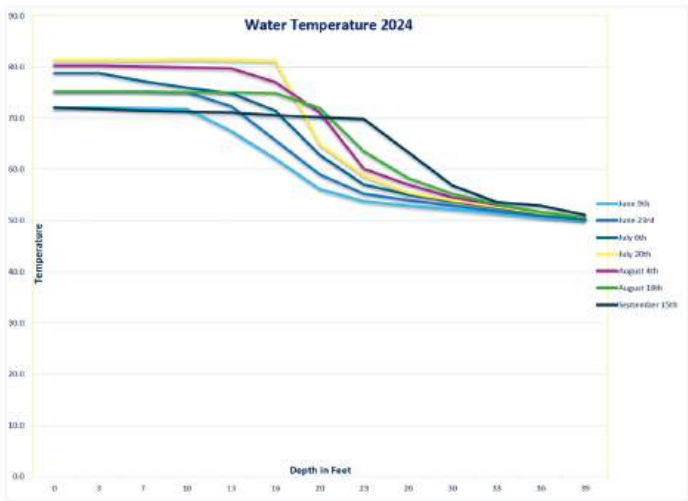
Dissolved oxygen is a good measure of lake health. If the oxygen is too low the fish can't survive and algae can take over the lake. The dissolved oxygen at the bottom of the lake always goes down to almost 0. This is normal due to the water temperature being so much colder. By measuring the DO over the full water column we can compare the readings year after year and determine if there are any major changes that require any external action.

The data shows that Square Pond is healthy.

The Lake Stewards of Maine is the agency that all data is reported to, and they monitor any changes in the data from all lakes in Maine. They are a non-profit organization and are always short on funding but are critical to informing water quality monitors about what our readings are telling us. If anyone wants to donate to them you can go to their web site www.lakestewardsofmaine.org

As always if anyone has questions you can email me at rcaronster@gmail.com

We are all looking forward to a sunnier summer for 2025.





2024

SNAIL SNATCHERS REPORT

The Snail Snatchers are an amazing group of volunteers: We have 33 certified divers on our volunteer list and all participated in at least one dive this year and many of these attended several if not all dives.

We are always looking for more divers and hope to have another class this summer.

Five divers have completed the required 10 hours of diving to get the reimbursement from SPIA towards their diver certification.

39 different people have provided surface support for the divers, again, with many of these attending several if not all dives.

We had 8 different volunteers use the surface breather this summer. One person brought up 27.5 lbs. which is amazing for someone using the surface breather.

The snorkelers pulled in 65 lbs. of snails. This proves that more people could help by snorkeling within their own shoreline.

Thank you to Heather and Shawn Beaupre for hosting a dive this summer. The Deans and the Adams brought lunch in for some dives which was much appreciated by the volunteers. If anyone would like to provide lunch for a dive, please let me know. The best way is to bring it to the dive spot as many people come by kayak so traveling after the dive is challenging.

There were over 80 different people that have volunteered their time to help with this cause this summer, many coming on many dives. I don't think any other lake in Maine or most other states could assemble this kind of volunteer support, so thank you to all that participated.

Other Thank you's

John and Christine Beaudoin have picked up the job and have brought the tanks to and from the shop for filling

To the Dump:

Thank you to Scott Landsberry for doing the majority of snail removal and Bill Deans for filling in when he couldn't make it. We need help in this area!

The Snail Snatchers also did a day of cleanup in the water at the Kittridge's to clean up debris from the fireworks. This is another advantage of having this great group of volunteers.



2024

SNAIL SNATCHERS REPORT

Finally, the numbers:

After 6 dives we have extracted 2,374 lbs. of snails or approximately 94,960 snails.

YOY Totals

Year	Square Pond Divers (in lbs.)	Paid Divers (in lbs.)	Total (in lbs.)
2013	400	1200	1600
2014	280	1020	1300
2015	110	720	830
2016	210	830	1040
2017	355	1475	1830
2018	325	101	426
2019	875	246	1121
2020	1693	0	1693
2021	2203	0	2203
2022	2360	0	2360
2023	1562 (as of 8/20)	0	1562
2024	2374	0	2374
		Paid Diver total 5,592 LBS.	8147 includes both for 7 years 10,192 SPIA only divers for 5 years
TOTAL CMS extraction (lbs.)			18,339 LBS. 733,560 SNAILS

NOTE:

One major issue that we have been facing is getting our dive tanks filled. There are sometimes 20 tanks that need to be brought to the dive shop in Wolfeboro to fill and then be picked up to return to the dive trailer. These tanks are heavy and tall so very difficult to carry for shorter people. We recently purchased a used dive fill compressor from the Acton fire department to be able to fill ourselves without moving the tanks out of the trailer. We have a lot of work to do to get this up and running and will be looking for volunteers to help. We'll also be getting a training class from Dive Winnepesaukee on how to use and maintain it. There will be much more to come on this topic.

THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE BREEZE



Why Shapleigh is Windy...

BY MARJI KILGUS

The eastern side of Square Pond may seem windier due to a combination of local geography, prevailing winds, and the open nature of the lake's surface. Here are the main reasons:

1. **Prevailing Winds:** In much of the northeastern United States, including Maine, prevailing winds often come from the west or northwest. As these winds travel across Square Pond, they gain momentum over the open water and hit the eastern shore with greater force.
2. **Geographical Features:** The surrounding landscape of the pond, such as hills or trees on the western side, can create a funneling effect, directing and amplifying winds as they move eastward. This can make the eastern shore feel consistently windier.
3. **Thermal Effects:** During the day, the sun heats the land and water differently. Warm air over the land rises, drawing cooler air from the lake's surface. This can enhance wind patterns, particularly on the eastern side if it aligns with prevailing breezes.
4. **Open Water Exposure:** The eastern shore may have fewer natural windbreaks, such as trees or buildings, compared to other parts of the pond. This allows winds to hit the area more directly and with greater intensity.

These factors combine to create the perception that the eastern side of Square Pond is consistently windier, especially during certain times of day or weather conditions.



Little Island Erosion

I was walking on the lake this week and was surprised to see snowmobile tracks running over the little island. It appears some of the vegetation has been damaged and thought it would be a good idea to remind people to be respectful of these environmentally sensitive areas. With the high water from a year ago and now the damage from winter activities, the little island could be compromised, turning into a sandbar and more of a navigation hazard.



~ Lee Robator



“As the season drew to a close, the Travel Team surveyed Lower Mousam Lake”

An area of Mousam Lake which hadn't been completed during the 2023 rapid response effort. Over the 2024 season, the Team welcomed new members, who immediately jumped in to help Mousam Lake Region Association (MRA) survey for swollen bladderwort.

Volunteer surveyors from lakes all over southern Maine, including Little Ossipee, Lake Arrowhead, Spaulding Pond, Highland Lake, Panther Pond, and beyond graciously supported the survey effort.

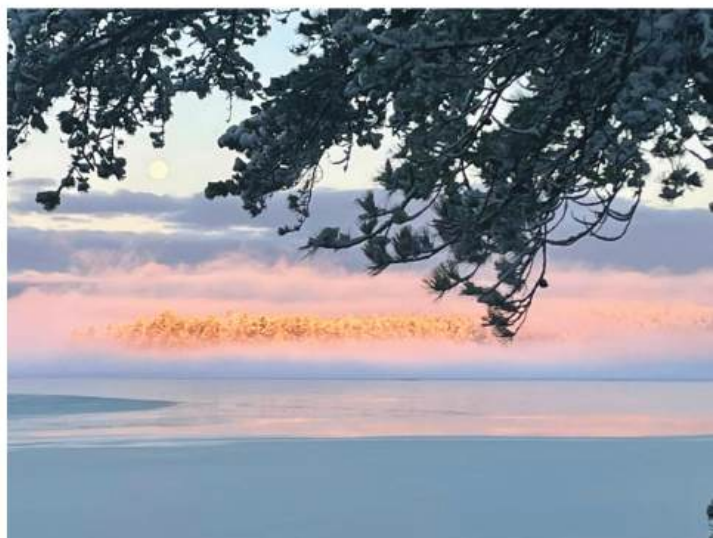
Square Pond IPP member Donna Rosenkrans participated in this survey. She is in the front row third from the right.



Thank You

DONNA

Thank you Donna for your incredible dedication to the Square Pond Improvement Association. Your 13 years of leadership with the invasive plant patrol, along with your prior commitment as membership director, have made a lasting impact on our community and the health of our lake. We truly appreciate all of your hard work and passion!



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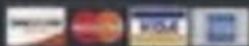
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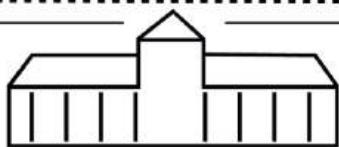
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