

SPIA e-News

July 2026

Happy July Square Ponders! I think we can all agree that there's nothing better than the summer on the lake- jumping into the cool water during a hot day, the smell of a campfire at night, and spending time with family and friends. Lake life is the best life! Check out a few articles before you get back out on the water.

Stop Invasive Aquatic Species

Invasive plants are moving into lakes across our area, and SPIA is working to keep them out of Square Pond. Our Invasive Aquatic Species Program is based on state best practices and everyone can help with prevention and early detection. A few minutes of learning can make a big difference, so check out the links below. Want to do more? The map on page 2 shows the 2025 shoreline monitored by the Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) team- and there are gaps. If you would like to learn more about the IPP Team or to report an unusual plant, email ippsquarepond@gmail.com.

- 🔗 [Maine DEP Invasive Aquatic Plant Map](#)
- 🔗 [Lake Stewards of Maine- 15 Aquatic Invaders](#)
- 🔗 [Maine DIFW- Clean, Drain, Dry Facebook Video](#)
- 🔗 [ASYCC Courtesy Boat Inspections](#)

Invasive Aquatic Species Program

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| PREVENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clean, Drain, and Dry law• Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI) at public launch |
| DETECT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) Team• Educate lake users about 15 invasive aquatic plants |
| CONTROL | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Varies based on species & severity• Snail Snatchers Team |

Cribbage Champ Fireworks Safety

The 4th Annual SPIA Cribbage Tournament was a hit on June 6th! With twelve spirited players and a round-robin tournament, the event was packed with friendly rivalry. Huge congrats to champ **Jay Donoghue** — and thanks to everyone who played and supported SPIA!

According to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, 14,700 people were treated in Emergency Rooms for fireworks-related injuries in 2024. Please consider leaving the displays to the experts. If you decide to use fireworks, please review these tips 🔗 [National Safety Council](#) and remember to check local ordinances (🔗 [Shapleigh Fireworks Ordinance](#))

The S'more the Better!

Tired of the same old s'more? Try some new fillings to go along with graham crackers and marshmallows:

Caramel-filled chocolate + sea salt

Dark chocolate + candied bacon

Nutella + banana or strawberry slices

Peanut butter + strawberry jam

Dark chocolate + cinnamon + chili powder

If you're feeling crazy, try savory! Melt brie bites and smash between crackers with some prosciutto. Yummmmmmm!

Whatever you do, be ready for the age-old debate about whether it's better to set the marshmallows on fire or slowly toast. No need to argue- they're both AMAZING!

Reminders

- The next Membership Meeting will be August 22nd 10:00 AM at the Acton Town Hall ** NOTE LOCATION **
- If you see the scuba diving flag (red flag with a white diagonal stripe) on a boat, it means that divers/ snorkelers are in the water. Boating law requires you stay at least 100 feet away.
- Boating law requires watercraft to operate at "headway speed" when within 200 feet of any shoreline (including islands).
- An overview of Square Pond's Navigation Buoys can be found on our website: 🔗 [Navigation Buoys link](#)
- Got an idea for a SPIA event that you'd like to help plan? We'd love to hear about it, email secretary@squarepond.org.



SQUARE POND
Improvement Association

🔗 www.squarepond.org

✉ contact@squarepond.org

Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) 2025 Monitoring Map

The Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) Team is looking for more volunteers. Early detection of invasives is critical, before they spread and become established. This map shows where the shoreline was monitored by the IPP Team last year, but large sections remain unmonitored. We need more volunteers to have all of Square Pond's shoreline monitored. To learn more about the IPP Team, email ippsquarepond@gmail.com.



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