

# Kanasatka Water Matters

## News & Updates

December 2022 - Issue 2



### ***Boat Launch and Dam Project Planned for Fall of 2023***

*by Kevin Kelly*

The current plan is as follows:

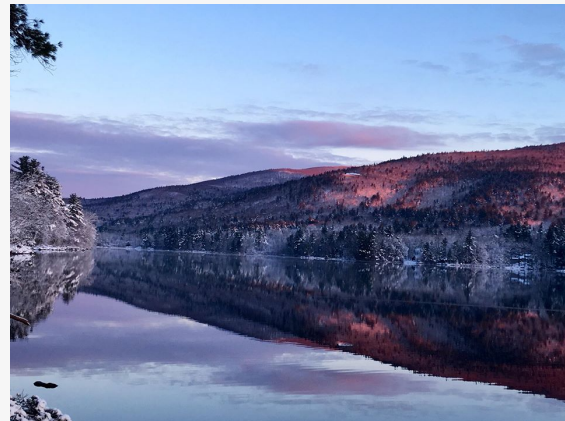
1. Replace the existing boat ramp with a precast ramp.
2. Regrade and pave the existing parking area.
3. Install berms between the parking area and the lake.

The new parking area will be graded to sheet storm flow to the east and west of the parking area, which will prevent direct entry into the lake.

DES Dam Bureau is hoping to get the design plan for the boat ramp to DOT by the end of February, 2023. Then DOT can finish the Wetland Impact Plan and Erosion Control Plan for DES Dam Bureau's use in applying for the Wetland Impact Permit. (DES Dam Bureau has to submit the application to DES Wetlands Bureau.



*Photo Contributed by: Kevin Kelly*



### ***LKWA Board Meeting November 17, 2022***

The Board met via Zoom for the November meeting. Topics discussed included:

- starting a "regularly scheduled" monthly meeting date, which after discussion became the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.
- the monthly treasurer's report,
- a cyanobacteria update which reported that the state finally lifted the current advisory which was in place for 79 days, a brief 319 funding discussion awaiting NH-DES results,
- the newly reorganized Communications Committee which shared info on the November newsletter which went out via email blast and was very well received.
- The board discussed the need for the Grant and Fund Raising committee to include additional members.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2022.

#### **Current Board Members**

Kirk Meloney, President  
Jane Nash, Vice President  
Rob Baker, Treasurer  
Colette Cooke, Secretary  
Wendy Booker  
Tim Baker  
Lisa Hutchinson  
Chris Wallace



### ***Did You Know? LKWA Logo and Beyond***

*by Carol Hart*

My maternal grandfather, Myron J. Sharp, and his wife Carol, loved our lake. They loved fishing, hearing the loons, and just sitting with the beauty of the lake. In the early years of coming to NH, my grandparents summered at Fletchers farm, camping there before there were cottages. When the cottages were built, without running water, they continued to spend several summers there at "Kanasatka Cottages."

They began renting a place on Red Hill Road and many years later, in 1955, they bought our family cottage while it was being built. One of their dear friends from NJ who visited often played the trumpet, and was known for offering Taps in the evenings which echoed over the water as the sun was setting.

Somewhere during the late 1960's or early 1970's, the environmental movement began to infiltrate our collective consciousness. Out of this growing awareness, our lake association was born, shepherded by Ted Hilton, Art Ramage, and Bob Foster. Probably encouraged by my mother, Lee Hart, but mostly from his own deep desire to preserve the beauty of Kanasatka, Myron designed the association logo the we still use today. A few years later, he also designed a logo for the new Loon Preservation Center in Moultonboro. Along with my grandmother, his daughters and their families, loons and the lake were his great loves.



## Dues for Fiscal year 2023

At the July 2022 annual meeting, a motion was made and voted on to raise LKWA dues from \$25.00 to \$35.00 per year per voting member. Beginning January 1, 2023 dues payment in the amount \$35.00 may be sent to: [LKWA P.O. Box 774 Center Harbor, NH 03226](mailto:LKWA.P.O.Box774@centerharbor.nh.gov).

Thank you for your support.



## LKWA 319 Grant Application by Kirk Meloney

Greetings all, welcome to the 2022 Holiday season. I hope this finds everyone well and enjoying this time of year with friends and family. As 2022 winds down much has been accomplished by your association this year but there is still plenty more work to be done to help our Lake. We are disappointed to report the LKWA 319 Grant application for 2023 funds to help implement our Watershed Management Plan was not successful. NH-DES reasons include

an unexpectedly large number of very competitive applications this year and the fact that Lake Kanasatka is not yet listed on the States "impaired waters list" (303d), which is updated only periodically.

Fifteen applications were turned in and reviewed this year and the top seven applications were granted funding. There was a very close scoring difference between all applications submitted. See next section as quoted from the NH-DES letter to LKWA:

"Although not selected to move forward to a Full Proposal this year, it is very important to consider the extremely competitive grant cycle encountered, the scoring rationale and projected outcomes associated with top-ranked projects. Many grant program managers deliver letters to non-select applicants with the blanket term of "it was a very competitive pool of applicants" to provide some encouragement while conveying bad news. In this case, it was the most competitive grant cycle I have experienced in my two decades of involvement with Watershed Assistance Grants at NHDES. The top three-ranked projects achieved high scores in all categories with only a half point differential between the top project and third project."

"Looking at the remaining projects invited to receive funding this year, projects ranked fourth through seventh had a point spread from top to bottom of only 2.1, further underscoring the competitive atmosphere and high-quality pre-proposals facing the review team. Although your pre-proposal ranked fourteenth, in a different year, it would have ranked higher when put up against moderate competition for limited funding."

DES does recognize our concerns and issues and is strongly encouraging us to apply next year. "On behalf of the entire review team in the Watershed Assistance Section, I can say with confidence that we envision partnering with

you and your team in the very near future. We are all seeking the same improvements and restoration targets for Lake Kanasatka, and we look forward to working with you over the winter and spring to take that first implementation step.”

This is a temporary setback for the association as we had hoped to get a jump-start using the funding to address some of the most critical issues as watershed residents begin work on improving their own properties. This result also stresses the need for more proactive fundraising to address common lake wide problems.

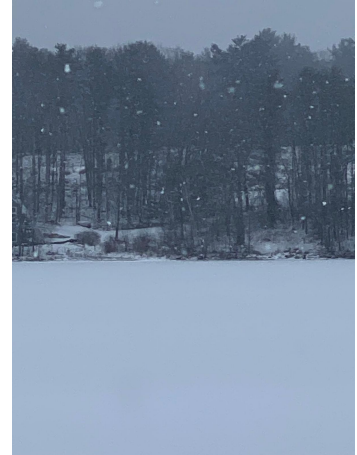
Stay tuned. We will keep you apprised of the continuing work of the association and any future grants and funding opportunities as they arise.

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## What are 319 Grants?

Each year NHDES solicits projects to address nonpoint source (NPS) pollution through the implementation of watershed-based plans in priority watersheds. Projects must comprehensively address NPS problems, and must have a quantitative way to assess progress and determine success. The watershed-based plan must have a clear water quality goal and include the nine, minimum elements (a) through (i) required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Funded projects must make reasonable progress toward achieving the water quality goal established in the watershed-based plan.

Funds for these Watershed Assistance Grants are appropriated through the EPA under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.



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## Be LakeSmart!



### Track Your Time and Money!

*From Bree Rossiter, Lake Winnepesaukee Association Conservation Program Manager*

"For those that participated in the WinniBlue/LakeSmart program, please remember to track the time and \$\$\$ that you are contributing in implementing lake-friendly recommendations. This information is key to using as a match for the watershed management plan and is critical in showing that property owners are doing all they can to prevent excess nutrient loading and sedimentation from impacting Lake Kanasatka."

LWA will be developing a form for this purpose over the winter months. In the meantime, please keep a written record with dates, costs and time spent on your improvements.

## Give Back to Our Lake! You Can Make a Difference

Lake Kanasatka has provided so much to each and every one of us over the years. Some of us are drawn to the beauty and tranquility of the setting, others appreciate the opportunities to gather their extended families at the place that has so meant so much to multiple generations. Others of us still, appreciate the simplicity of lake living, away from the hubbub of our busy working lives. Gathering with family and friends, enjoying the outdoors, swimming, boating, hiking and campfires all compete as favorite memories accumulated over the years.



Our precious lake and everything we treasure about time spent here is at risk. Please consider giving back to our lake by making an end of year donation to the LKWA Watershed Management Fund. Your generosity will help to insure that Lake Kanasatka will be enjoyed by family and friends for years to come. **As a non-profit organization, all gifts are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Employer matching is encouraged. If you require a Tax ID # for this purpose please contact Kirk**



Thank you for your support. Working together we can make a difference!



## 2022 Loon Chick Report *By Kevin Kelly*

June 18th, a loon chick was spotted in the area of the nesting platform. A few days later, there were multiple sightings of two chicks being fed by two adults in the area of the Vonhurst Beach. June 30th, a Bishop Shore Road resident spotted a deceased loon chick washed up on their beach. They contacted The Loon Preservation Committee

and summer intern Field Biologist Jayden Jech responded and collected the loon chick. August 2nd, a Coe Point Road resident contacted LPC about a deceased loon chick floating at the west end of the lake. LPC responded and collected the loon chick.

November 4th, Caroline Hughes from LPC reported on the loon fatalities - June 30th chick: "Necropsy was done off site and the official form has not made its way back to us just yet. Our collection report noted some exterior wounds on the chick that could have been caused by sibling rivalry or potentially by an intruding loon, and I am guessing the necropsy results will likely indicate that one of these two things was the cause of death." She also reported on the August 2nd chick fatality - "The chick was collected on 8/2 and was sent to the New Hampshire Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (NHVDL) for necropsy. Their necropsy process consists of two parts—the gross necropsy (examination of the loon both externally and internally, including looking at all the organs and noting any visible lesions) and histopathology (microscopic examination of organ tissues). So far, we have received the results of the gross necropsy, which were inconclusive. At that level, the pathologist was not able to determine a cause of death for the chick. We are still waiting on the histopathology results, which may reveal more."

*Photo contributed by Steve Corcoran*



**Impervious Surfaces and Tree Cutting**  
*Scott Dvorak, the Town of Moultonborough Code Enforcement/Health officer has asked us to share the following Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act (SWQPA) regulations with our LKWA community.*

4.7.1.6.4 Under V. (g) **Impervious surfaces.**  
(3) If the impervious surface area will exceed 20 percent (where the RSA currently reads, 30 percent) and the tree,



**A Long Cyanobacteria Advisory**

sapling, shrub, and groundcover in the waterfront buffer does not meet the point score requirement of 100 points in any segment, then such segment shall be planted, as determined by rule of the department, with trees, saplings, shrubs, or groundcover in sufficient quantity, type, and location either to meet the minimum score or to provide at least an equivalent level of protection as provided by the minimum score and shall be maintained in accordance with RSA 483-B:9, V(a).

4.7.1.7 In addition to the requirements of the SWQPA and not in limitation thereof:

4.7.1.7.1 *No person shall commence cutting down trees or saplings*, within the natural woodland buffer, without first filing with the Code Enforcement Office a diagram of the waterfront buffer as set forth in the SWQPA\* RSA 483-B:9, V.(a)(2)(D) and photographic documentation of the natural woodland buffer.

LKWA had two cyanobacteria advisories this past summer, with the second advisory, beginning on August 29, lasting 79 days. This surprised and frustrated many of us. NHDES and your Water Quality team coordinated throughout to share updates, advise on sightings by lake residents (thank you!), and re-test weekly.

Samples showed levels over the state threshold of 70,000 cells/mL every other week. While the levels dropped between these spikes in cyanobacteria concentrations and weather made re-testing difficult on some dates, it was clear from reports, observations and photos that the bloom remained present and quite widespread around the lake. NHDES, based on these conditions, chose to keep the advisory in place, deeming it more prudent to ensure the bloom had cleared than need to issue a third advisory a few days later.

So does 79 days set any record for our area or the State? The answer is no. The longest bloom on record in NH is 131 days. There were also lakes this year which had advisories much longer than our 79 days, according to NHDES, but had a week where it was lifted only to have to be reissued again.

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## More on Alum Treatment, and a popular Frequently Asked Question

Pursuing an in-lake treatment (alum) cannot happen immediately. Significant preliminary efforts are necessary before any application would even be considered by NHDES and the EPA:

1. Performing rigorous new testing to determine the extent of anoxic conditions in the lake over the season. Results of this year's testing were in the November article.
2. Making significant progress in making properties more lake friendly, reducing storm water runoff and the amount of new phosphorus coming into the lake – including a) the 22 sites identified in the Watershed Survey and b) lakefront properties, especially any coded yellow, orange, or red in the Shoreline Survey
3. Reducing septic system loads, including regular inspections and replacing faulty or outdated systems

FAQ: How soon is the lake going to recover? Is the lake going to recover?

A: Getting to our current situation happened little by little, over many years, with less native woodlands, more development, more people on the lake, and with climate changes. The reality is the issue of cyanobacteria is becoming more prevalent in New Hampshire and across the country, and we are not the only lake affected. Winnepesaukee had several blooms this past summer. It cannot be fixed overnight. It will take concerted efforts over a number of years, with all of us doing our part, to bring Lake Kanawatka back to health. But if we work together the lake can recover.

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## Volunteers Needed:

LKWA is looking for someone to update and maintain the LKWA website in an effort to keep [kanawatka.org](http://kanawatka.org) current and relevant as we begin the implementation phase of the Watershed Management Plan. Please contact LKWA President Kirk Meloney at [kirk.meloney@gmail.com](mailto:kirk.meloney@gmail.com) if you are interested and would like further details.

A grant writing/fundraising committee is forming to focus on bringing in much-needed monies (from sources other than the 319 Grant) to help with our Watershed Management Plan implementation. We have two people with grant writing experience, Eileen Ehman, Eric Carlson along with Candy Hoene. We are looking for volunteers who can come up with creative ideas on the fundraising side - develop and propose events and help run them. Please email [LKWAWatershedPlan@gmail.com](mailto:LKWAWatershedPlan@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the fun and raising some funds!

If anyone has any photos that we can utilize in the newsletter please send them to the Communications email. They must be yours, or you must provide permission to use the photos. That just makes our job easier in putting together the newsletter. Thanks.

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**LKWA email contacts:**

Watershed plan

[LKWAWatershedPlan@gmail.com](mailto:LKWAWatershedPlan@gmail.com)

LKWA Communications email:

[LKWACommunications@gmail.com](mailto:LKWACommunications@gmail.com)

Link to WMP:

[https://fbenvironmental.com/PDF/Kanasatka/LakeKanasatka\\_WMP\\_Final\\_20220816.pdf](https://fbenvironmental.com/PDF/Kanasatka/LakeKanasatka_WMP_Final_20220816.pdf)

Lake Kanasatka Watershed  
Association |  
[www.kanasatka.org](http://www.kanasatka.org)

