



Lake Shirley Association
“The Eagle Newsletter”
Spring 2022



Visit us at www.lakeshirley.com

Hello Lake Shirley Neighbors,

Spring is here, it's so exciting seeing boats in the lake so early this year!! I want to thank the lake community and neighbors for all of your kind thoughts and prayers for me and my family. Many thanks for the delicious meals, special baskets, baked goods and the out pouring of cards. I am so thankful, grateful, and blessed to be part of such a caring & supportive lake community, THANK YOU! Now on to the 2022 summer season.

The Lake Shirley Improvement Corporation (LSIC) Annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at Shady Point, 701 Reservoir Rd (Rain Date 5-19-22). Bring a chair and drink of choice, the LSIC board will be selling pizza and water, we look forward to seeing you there. I have included the agenda for your reference.

The LSIC is still working with our two consultants, Dominic Meringolo, Solitude Lake Management, and Wendy Gendron, Aquatic Restoration Consultants (ARC). The Lake Associate and the consultants continue to meet with the Lunenburg and Shirley Conservation Commission to adhere to the Order of Conditions for the Lake Management Plan, both can be found at <https://www.lakeshirley.com/resources.html>.

2022/2023 PRIORITIES

1. Enhance communications as to what the Association achieves for all lake property owners. Use social media (particularly Facebook), and the refreshed website to educate, inform and update members, elected representatives, and all those who enjoy our lake about key issues related to the lake.
2. Continue to work with and recruit the top consultants to teach the Association proper and latest trending techniques. Continue to test lake water quality and closely monitor environment trends and ongoing research.
3. Implement comprehensive membership recruitment and retention strategy to increase membership.
4. Activate the Nomination Committee to recruit candidates for upcoming Board vacancies. Develop and implement a strategy for recruiting more volunteers.
5. Continue to research and apply for State Grant Applications.

Congratulations and welcome to the new home owners, Lake Shirley is a phenomenal place to live. Involvement with the LSIC can be such an educational and rewarding experience, the Association's expanding level of activity will only be achieved with support from additional volunteers. Our lake association is only effective and viable with representation, support and participation from all of the membership. I strongly urge the continued involvement of long-term members, as well as participation from our newer members. so please think of how you could participate in a way that rewards you and at the same time can benefit Lake Shirley.

As always, be kind to each other and my favorite quote, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." author. Dr. Seuss. The yearly newsletter will be added to the website www.lakeshirley.com/ for all to review. If you do not have access to a computer, please call me and I will provide you a paper copy.

Sincerely,
Joanna Bilotta-Simeone
President, Lake Shirley Improvement Corporation

Lake Shirley Improvement Corporation

**P.O. Box 567
Shirley, MA 01464**

Annual Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2022, (Rain date: May 19, 2022)

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Shady Point, 701 Reservoir Road, Lunenburg, MA 01462

1. Roll of officers and Directors. (T. Lovewell, Secretary)
2. Determination of a quorum of 21 paid members. (Susan Jewell, Membership)
3. Proof of meeting notice ~ spring 2022 Newsletter. (Joanna Bilotta-Simeone, President)
4. Reading of minutes of the May 20, 2021, Annual Meeting. (T Lovewell 2021 Secretary)
5. Guest Speakers Wendy Gendron, Aquatic Restoration Consultants (ARC) and Dominic Meringolo, Solitude Lake Management
6. Reports of Officers and Committees
 - I. President/Vice President
 - II. Treasurer/Secretary
 - III. Vegetation and Algae Management (Joanna Bilotta)
 - IV. Water Quality (Joel Swenson/Steve Vitone)
 - V. Dam & Safety (Richie Patry & Ron Wilson)
 - VI. Website (Jay Elowitz & Jay Simeone)
 - VII. Membership (Susan Jewell)
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Report of nominating committee and nominations from the floor for the election of Directors and other officers
10. Vote for Secretary and Treasurer
11. Nomination and Vote for Board of Directors
12. 10. Adjournment

*Immediately following the Annual Meeting, the 2022 newly elected Board of Directors will elect the President, Vice President.

SOLitude Lake Management **Submitted by Dominic Meringolo**

Lake Shirley – Survey and Treatment Plan

In accordance with the aquatic plant management contract between SOLitude Lake Management (SOLitude) and the Lake Shirley Improvement Corporation (LSIC) for Lake Shirley, the following document serves to provide this year's treatment and survey results, as well as management recommendations for next season. The continued objective of the program is to manage non-native and nuisance aquatic vegetation as well as potentially harmful cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) blooms. Multiple monitoring events, herbicide/algacide treatments and reporting are key tasks of the project.

All management activities were consistent with the Order of Conditions [DEP File #284-0474 (Shirley), DEP File #208-1168 (Lunenburg)] and the License to Apply Chemicals issued by MA DEP (#WM04-0000631).

2021 Management Program Summary Program Task Date Completed

- Early Season Survey/Sample Collection June 16, 2021
- Received Approved License to Apply Chemicals July 22, 2021
- Herbicide Treatment July 28, 2021

This year's pre-treatment survey was conducted on June 16th. The survey was conducted according to the expanded methodology used in recent years, which is a combination of SLM's historical qualitative assessment and Geosyntec's more quantitative procedures. In addition to recording data on the general plant assemblage, point data was collected at 66 data points throughout the lake. At each point, data was collected on the species composition (species present), plant growth density and plant biomass. These are the same locations and point #'s used by Geosyntec in past reports. The pre-treatment survey serves to assess the growth of all invasive species [fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*), curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*), Eurasian milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) and variable milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*)] as well as identify any nuisance growth of native plant species.

Although not as abundant as last year, several seed producing pondweed species were again commonly observed during the survey, mostly along the shallower margins of the lake. These species are variable (or grassy) pondweed (*Potamogeton gramineus*), leafy pondweed (*Potamogeton foliosus*), clasping leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton perfoliatus*) and snailseed pondweed (*Potamogeton bicupulatus*). No milfoils were observed but fanwort was present in many areas of the lake.

Per the Lake Management Plan, areas of the lake that exhibit either density or biomass factors of 3 or greater (>50%) are candidates for management. Additionally, any growth of non-native species, in this case curlyleaf pondweed and fanwort can also be treated. Some candidate areas were not designated for treatment due to their proximity to undeveloped shorelines and/or the presence of non-nuisance species (ex. Stonewort/Chara, Coontail, Robbins pondweed) or species such as fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*) of which management is limited. Specifically, treatment areas were adjusted adjacent to Points 17, 18, 44 and 54 to avoid affecting these species.

Given the success of the pilot treatment using Clipper (flumioxazin) last year in Pearl Street Cove, additional treatment with Clipper (flumioxazin) herbicide in the May Street cove and the cove north of Flynn Road (marked in yellow on the map) was proposed. These coves will be treated with 100 ppb of flumioxazin and a low dose of diquat. In the other areas, Tribune (diquat) herbicide will be used for treatment at a rate of 1.0-1.5 gallons per acre and a copper-based product, either Nautique or copper sulfate will also be applied in areas dominated by tapegrass.

Continue Reading at:

<https://www.lakeshirley.com/resources.html>



Aquatic Restoration Consultants, LLC.
Submitted by Wendy Gendron

INTRODUCTION

The Lake Shirley Improvement Corporation (LSIC) contracted Aquatic Restoration Consulting, LLC (ARC) to perform the fall aquatic plant survey and summarize the lake management activities that occurred during the prior year (October 15, 2020 through October 14, 2021) in accordance with the Order of Conditions (MassDEP File No. 208-1168 for the Town of Lunenburg and 284-0474 for the Town of Shirley). This report summarizes the LSIC management activities, data evaluation and recommendations.

The report is organized in a semi-chronological order of activities for the 2020-2021 year:

- winter water level drawdown,
- water quality monitoring,
- herbicide/algacide treatment,
- fall aquatic plant survey and prior year data comparison,
- education and outreach activities; and
- recommended changes (if appropriate) from the management program.

WINTER WATER LEVEL DRAWDOWN

Winter water level drawdowns in combination with targeted herbicide treatments have shown combined success as a nuisance weed management strategy in Lake Shirley. The primary mechanism through which water level drawdown controls aquatic plants is exposure to dry and freezing conditions for an extended period. Ice movement and scour also has an effect. Not every year is a “good” drawdown year as frequent rainfall, fluctuating water levels, early insulating snowfall, groundwater seepage and other factors can limit freezing and drying. Bottom substrates can also affect how well the drawdown works, as mucky and peaty soils (as are often seen in cove areas) are more resistant to drying.

Winter water level drawdown of Lake Shirley has been used for many years mainly to manage the growth of nuisance aquatic plant growth. The Metcalf & Eddy Diagnostic Feasibility study prescribed an optimal drawdown of up to nine feet, but due to impacts on shallow private wells, the drawdown is limited to six feet. The drawdown has worked well to control nuisance growth of milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum* and *M. spicatum*) and fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*) in the shallow margins of the lake, but the effectiveness is variable year-to-year as the technique requires sustained lowered water level and freezing temperatures absent of insulating snowfall. Some plant species, particularly those that produce seed or winter turions, are often less impacted (e.g., tapegrass/wild celery, pondweeds and naiads) and can show increased growth following a drawdown. Plants in areas deeper than the drawdown zone (>6 feet) are generally not impacted by this technique. The current drawdown practice in Lake Shirley reduces nuisance plant growth within the drawdown zone lessening the need for additional herbicide use.

The goal of LSIC is to achieve a seasonal six-foot drawdown on an annual basis. The drawdown is accomplished by opening the two gates at the Lake Shirley dam in the fall (on or after October 15). The drawdown rate is monitored and maintained at approximately two to three inches per day. The desired depth is typically achieved by December 1, but weather conditions (precipitation) can prohibit achievement of the target level. Additionally, ice and debris can clog the gates limiting the depth of the drawdown. The gates are adjusted to balance desired water level and downstream river flow once the target depth is achieved. LSIC provides notification to the Conservation Commissions and lake residents prior to initiating lowering.

Continuing reading at: <https://www.lakeshirley.com/assets/2020-plant-analysis.pdf>

P. PERFOLIATUS



P. GRAMINEUS



EUROPEAN NAIAD



EURASIAN MILFOIL



VARIABLE MILFOIL



FANWORT



PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE



CURLY-LEAVE PONDWEED



Lake Shirley Dam and Water Level Information

The Dam Keepers, Richie Patry & Ron Wilson, are appointed by the Town of Lunenburg and are responsible for maintaining the lake water levels through monitoring weather conditions and adjusting the dam valves. On October 15, 2021 both dam valves were opened to start the annual drawdown. We were able to reach our order of conditions of 4ft to 6ft drawdown by the first of December. it was a struggle to reach this goal with heavy rain storm in October and November. We had to clean the mouth of the valve many times of debris restricting the out flow of the dam. The lake was refilled on Thursday March 31, 2022. I would have not been able to accomplish without the help of Rich Patry. As a reminder we start the drawdown on October 15th 2022

Ron Wilson
Lake Shirley Dam Keeper

The water level, per the LSIC Notice of Intent, with Lunenburg and Shirley Conservation Commission, see below.

Drawdown.

1. The target drawdowns are to be up to 6 feet and the achieved depth will naturally vary based on variations in precipitation during the drawdown period.
2. The data collection on lake levels and stream flows are to be gathered no less than weekly between October 1 and April 15 and submitted with the Annual Report
3. Commence drawdown on or after October 15th.
4. Achieve the target drawdown depth by or before December 1st
5. Achieve full lake level by April 1st.
6. Keep outflow during drawdown below a discharge equivalent to 57.2 cs unless the water is flowing over the spillway. Once the target water level is achieved, match outflow to inflow to the greatest extent possible, maintaining a stable water level.
7. Keep outflow during refill above a discharge equivalent to 7.15 cfs.
8. Any resident concerns with wells should be reported to the LCC who will take appropriate action. The LSIC shall refer all residents to the LCC for issues concerning wells.
9. The Tests shall take place between January 15 and March 1 as allowed by ice safety. A dissolved oxygen profile should be performed at the one of the deepest locations on the lake and graphed from surface to the bottom showing dissolved O₂ level and temperature.

Ron Wilson
Lake Shirley Dam Keeper

The Lake Shirley Website: www.Lakeshirley.Com

The top priority of the committee is to keep our website informative and active with our up-to-date news, events, contact info, bylaws, minutes, and photos.

Click on Mail and sign up for the Lake Shirley Improvement Corporation Mailing List to get the most up-to-date information on what's happening on Lake Shirley. Such as weed and algae treatments, drawdown, lake events, and general news. You can also update and confirm your email with LSIC to receive newsletters through email instead of postal mail. This will help reduce our operating cost by eliminating paper and postage, not to mention saving time as this is all done by volunteers. Please register your email using the form on the contact page.

PayPal: You can now pay your yearly dues thru PayPal anytime, day or night, whenever it's convenient for you. Using PayPal also helps reduce costs by reducing the number of paper bills that need to be mailed out. Please consider using PayPal, located on the membership page.

Jay Simeone,
Website Manager

<https://www.lakeshirley.com>



FACEBOOK

Be sure to follow us on Facebook for the latest Lake Shirley news and events! We post regularly about events, updates on weed and algae treatments, local news, photos, and much more! Do you have an idea for a community event or fundraiser for Lake Shirley? Please contact us! Our Facebook page can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/LakeShirleyMA/>



4th of July Parade

The Annual 4th of July Boat Parade will be held on the 4th of July (with a rain date of July 5th). Please decorate your boat and meet us at 3:00 pm at the Eagle's Nest and make sure you return to the Eagle's Nest at the end of the parade for the awards. More information to follow!!!

Light up Lake Shirley Boat Parade

Saturday, August TBD, 2022, Parade Starts at 8:00 pm

Gate opens at Shady Point Beach at 6:00 pm! Join in the fun, light up your lake front!

Third-Annual Lake Shirley Benefit Golf Tournament

Lake Shirley Held the annual Golf Tournament on Friday, September 10, 2021 at the Westminster Golf and Country Club. A special thank you to Jessica and Joel Swenson for Chairing the event. They did a phenomenal job, we are so grateful and thankful to Jessica, Joel and their team for spearheading our largest fund raiser. Thankfully they have volunteered again this year! Thank you to all of the volunteers!! **SAVE THE DATE:** This year's Gold tournament is **Saturday, August 27, 2022**, more details to follow!!

| <u>Spon.Level</u> | <u>Company</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Bronze | Big Steve's Car Wash |
| Bronze | Bull Run |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Bronze | Caitlin & Calvin Katisch |
| Bronze | Deb & Alex Yawor |
| Bronze | Joanna & Jay Bilotta-Simeone |
| Bronze | Ken Chenis |
| Bronze | Lakefront Living Realty, LLC |
| Bronze | Lorie Coyle-Godfrey |
| Bronze | Maki Building Centers |
| Bronze | Market Basket |
| Bronze | Mike & Cindy Lee Gee |
| Bronze | Monument Financial Retirement Services |
| Bronze | RC Motors |
| Bronze | Roux Pools |
| Bronze | Tammy & Mike Lovewell |
| Bronze | The Billiards Café |
| Bronze | Tom & Cee Cee Fessbender |
| Bronze | Walter Godfrey |
| Gold | Coffin Construction |
| Gold | Godfrey Construction LLC |
| Gold(Title?) | North End Subaru |
| Platinum | Fratlicelli Oil Co. |
| Platinum | IC Credit Union |
| Platinum | Jimenez & Son Construction |
| Platinum | P.J. Keating Company |
| Platinum | Precision Water Sports |
| Platinum | Re/Max Patriot Realty |
| Silver | Flat Hill Orchards LLC |
| Silver | Powell Stone & Gravel |
| Silver | Red Carpet Disposal & Service Inc. |
| Silver | Top Notch Plumbing |
| Supporter | Alan & Christine Kulberg |
| Supporter | Chopsticks |
| Supporter | Daily Bagel |
| Supporter | Jessica Swenson |
| Supporter | Longhorn Steakhouse |
| Supporter | Madaline & Brian Burak |
| Supporter | Mary Perkins |
| Supporter | Taste of Vietnam |

Where is Ms. Shirley Eagle?

This year we held the second annual Miss Shirley ICE OUT Challenge. The event was a 50/50 raffle contest to guess when Miss Shirley Eagle would fall through the ice. We had a web cam on her that was live fed to the LSIC web site. She went in on March 15, 2022 at 4:14 pm. Cee Cee Fassbender, our lake neighbor, had the closest guess without going over. The contest ran for one month and it collected \$220 with \$110 going to the lucky winner. Jay Simeone performed the rescue on 3/19/2022. Thank you to all participants and we look forward to everyone joining in the fun again next year.

Tammy Lovewell

Secretary LSIC



THANK YOU, FROM THE LSIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS!**2021 PAID MEMBERS**

| | | | | | |
|------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|
| Apollonio | Ben & Sara | Harrison | John | Payne | Tom & Melanie |
| Arpano | Theresa | Hart | David & Maureen | Pearson | Richard |
| Baker | Paul & Janet | Helstowski | Constance | Pelletier | Dave & Andrea |
| Balducci | Susan & Peter | Hitzenbuhler | Sean | Perkins | Mary |
| Bean | Steve | Holman | Irene | Perko | Sandra |
| Bell | Nanci & Wendi | Howard | John | Pirro | Nicholas |
| Bernard | Candice | Huse | Storm | Planitzer | Kerry & Sheila |
| Bilotta | Jane | Iadeluca | Matthew & Justine | Polcari | Anthony & Janice |
| Bilotta | Simeone | Jacoby | Douglas | Rahaim | Nancy |
| Brisson | Brian & Liz | Jalbert | John | Ramondelli | Jackie |
| Champagne | Daniel & Joanne | Jewell | Perry & Sue | Reilly | Jason & Kathleen |
| Chandler | Smith | Johns | Debbie | Reinhart | Scott |
| Chenis | Kenneth | Jordon | James & Susan | Reinhart | Kathleen & Glen |
| Cila | Cheryl | Katisch | Nathan & Caitlin | Reyno | Donna |
| Clouthier | Gloria | PJ | Keatings | Ritchie | Brian & Cynthia |
| Cole | Braun | Kidder | Kevin | Rivard | Steven & Debbie |
| Collins | Brian & Victoria | Kincaid | Patrick | Rossley | Scott |
| Coolen | Plankey | King | Linda & David | Roux | Jason |
| Couture | George & Linda | Kodzis | Ray & Sally | Ryder | Brian & Kelly |
| Coyle | Godfrey | Kohlstrom | Cassavechi | Serra | Fernando |
| Crocker | Thomas | Koronis | Peter & Lillian | Spindt | Gary & Maureen |
| Dailey | Ralph & Matthew | Kroll | Gary & Tina | Sprague | Marc & Christine |
| Dalmaso | Brian | Kuehl | Troy | Stone | Larry |
| DeGeorge | Chris & Suzann | Kullberg | Alan & Christine | Sullivan | Brenda & Paul |
| DeLaite | Deborah | LaBranche | Dennis & Carol | Swenson | Jessica & Joel |
| Derner | Carl & Joy | Lastella | Cote | Tata | Louise & John |
| Dorsey | Jim & Susan | Leger | Roland | Tessier | Comsana |
| Dumbleton | Draieu | LeVeille | Dan & Julie | Tocci | George |
| Elowitz | Jay & Jill | Lovewell | Tammy Mike | Tousignant | Justin |
| Evans | R & J | Marchetti | Robert | Tower | Brian & Karen |
| Farley | Monica & Adam | Mayotte | Michael & Kelly | Tremblay | Teresa & Richard |
| Farrow | Shawn & Danielle | McAllister | Robert & Diane | Tucker | John |
| Fassbender | Tom & Cece | McCaffrey | Kelly | Tufts | Mike & Denise |
| Fortin | Anne Marie | McCarthy | Melissa | Vaillette | Lawrence |
| Fortin | Delollis | McGurn | Hamberg | Valente | Paula |
| Fournier | J & F | McNiff | Virginia | Vitone | Tom & Joan |
| Gallagher | John & Annette | Melanson | Kim & Gerry | Viviano | Robert Judith |
| Gee | Cindylee & Mike | Merkel | Peter | Watt | David & Ludmila |
| Gerante | Cindy | Morgan | Justin & Butch | White | Steve |
| Goguen | Paul | Naparstek | Walter | Whitten | Mark |
| Goodall | Darrell & Karen | Nazarenko | Matthew & Tara | Widdowson | Janice & Martin |
| Griffin | Shannon & Jamie | Noke | Rebecca & Bill | Wilson | Ron & Robin |
| Griffis | Caroline | Normandin | Elaine | Wu | Thomas & Alice |
| Hale | Tim & Tammy | Nuthman | Conrad | Wysk | Joe & Diane |
| Hantschar | Anna | Osoff | David | Yapp | Wilcox |
| James Adam | Harbor Classics | Patry | Kathy & Richie | Yawor | Alex & Deb |
| | | Patterson | Scott | | |

LSIC DUES PAYMENT

- LSIC offers an online payment through PayPal. All you need to do is go to the membership page at www.lakeshirley.com and click on PayPal to make your payment.
- The LSIC is willing to work with people for partial payments or monthly payments, as long as you are paid in full by the annual meeting where you will be a member with voting rights.
- You may also continue to pay by check. Make sure to enclose the tear-off slip below with your payment.
- The LSIC needs to receive your payment by the time of the annual meeting to enable you to vote at the annual meeting. Please try to pay as soon as possible as we are putting together the budget for this year's work and we need to know what we can afford to take on to continue to manage the quality of our Lake for the summer season.
- LSIC is a non-profitable organization (501(c)(3), all contributions are tax deductible. A year-end statement will be mailed to you.

LSIC 2022 ANNUAL DUES

Please check the appropriate category and payment amount:

- Single-family home \$300
- Multiple homes \$450
- Business \$600

Name: _____

Lake Address

Street: _____

Town: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Mailing Address (If different than Lake Address)

Street: _____

Town: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

EMAIL: _____

Harmful Algal Blooms in Freshwater Bodies



ARE ALGAL BLOOMS HARMFUL?

Algal blooms can be harmful to people and animals. Cyanobacteria (sometimes called blue-green algae) occur naturally in freshwater. Under certain conditions, they can multiply quickly, creating a highly concentrated area known as a cyanobacterial harmful algal bloom, or cyanoHAB. Some HABs produce toxins (known as cyanotoxins). In the US, from 2007-2011, HABs were reported to have caused:

- 183 cases of human illness
- 38 dog fatalities

HABs in Massachusetts are most common in summer and early fall. They can last from several days to several months.

HOW DO I KNOW IF THERE IS A HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM IN THE WATER?

Cyanobacteria can cause the water to appear slightly discolored, cloudy, or resemble pea soup or paint. They are usually blue or green but can also be brown or red. They can also give the water a bad odor. The cyanobacteria in some blooms are dispersed throughout the water, while in other blooms they are concentrated in a scum or mat, either on the surface of the water or in sediment along the shoreline.

WHAT CAUSES CYANOBACTERIA TO GROW?

Certain environmental conditions, such as warm weather, sunlight, excess nutrients, and stagnant/slow-moving waters help cyanobacteria grow faster. Specific factors behind each bloom vary because every waterbody is different. However, two of the most common factors are phosphorus and nitrogen, which are found in fertilizers and human/animal waste.

HOW ARE HUMANS AND ANIMALS EXPOSED TO CYANOBACTERIA?

People and animals can be exposed to cyanobacteria through direct skin contact, ingestion, or inhalation. Those using the water for active recreation (like swimmers or jet-skiers) or for drinking are most likely to be exposed. Children and pets, who are more likely to get these bacteria in their mouths, are of special concern. Dogs can become very ill and even die from licking cyanobacteria off their fur.

Cyanotoxins (if present) are usually contained within the cyanobacteria cell. When the cells die, the toxins are released into the water where they can be ingested. Cyanotoxins are not absorbed through the skin.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SUSPECT A HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM?

If you see a possible HAB, avoid contact with the water.

Contact your local health department if the bloom is at a recreational waterbody. If the suspected bloom is at a drinking water reservoir, contact the local water department

WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY OUT!

and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE HEALTH EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH CYANOBACTERIA?

Health effects associated with blooms vary depending on the type of cyanobacteria, the route of exposure, and the amount of toxins present.

- Ingestion is the primary concern. Ingesting small amounts of cyanobacteria or toxin can cause gastrointestinal symptoms. Ingesting large amounts of toxins may cause liver or neurological damage.
- Contact with cyanobacteria can cause skin or eye irritation.
- Inhaling water spray containing cyanobacteria can cause asthma-like symptoms.
- Small children and pets are more susceptible to the effects of toxins than adults.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM EXPOSED TO CYANOBACTERIA?

During a bloom, DPH recommends avoiding contact with the water.

If contact occurs, wash yourself and your pet with tap or bottled water. If you or your pet swallows water, call your doctor or veterinarian. If you believe you or your pet is experiencing adverse health effects, contact your doctor or veterinarian immediately.

WHAT ASSISTANCE CAN DPH PROVIDE?

DPH can provide guidance and technical assistance regarding reported blooms and health effects. DPH recommends that the managing entity (typically local health, or a local or state parks department) issue an advisory if any of the following criteria is met:

- A visible scum is present.
- The algal cell count exceeds 70,000 cells/milliliter of water.
- The level of the toxin, microcystin, is 14 parts per billion (ppb) or higher.

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO ELIMINATE AN ALGAL BLOOM?

Unfortunately, once a bloom appears there are few options besides letting it run its natural course. Blooms depend on available nutrients and optimal weather conditions. Chemical treatment methods (such as algaecides) are not recommended during a bloom.

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PREVENT HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS?

There are a number of best management practices that can reduce bloom-promoting nutrients:

- Maintain septic systems and storm drains
- Reduce application of fertilizer
- Pick up pet waste
- Do not feed ducks or geese
- Plant or maintain native vegetation around the water's edge

For more information contact:

Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Bureau of Environmental Health | Environmental Toxicology Program
250 Washington Street, 7th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
Phone: 617-624-5757 | Fax: 617-624-5183 | TTY: 617-624-5286
www.mass.gov/dph/algae



Additional Resources:

MA Dept. of Env. Protection: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/cyanobacterial-harmful-algal-blooms-cyanohabs-water>
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/cwh/taer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: www.epa.gov/cyanohabs

Revised October 2019

Massachusetts Boating Law Summary

A summary of Massachusetts boating law including: Minimum age; safety education; required safety equipment and a listing of types of operation that are prohibited or considered unsafe.

Minimum Age Restrictions

No person under 12 years of age may operate a motorboat, unless accompanied on-board and directly supervised by a competent person 18 years of age or older. Personal watercraft (PWC) users must still be at least 16 years of age in order to operate, with no exceptions.

Safety Education Certification

Youth who are between 12 and 15 years of age must complete an approved basic boating course in order to operate a motorboat without adult supervision. Upon successful completion of such a course, students are issued a state "boating safety certificate" which must be in the possession of the certified operator when underway. Personal watercraft users who are 16 or 17 years of age must also complete such a boating course. Youth less than 16 years of age are not allowed to operate personal watercraft.

Accident Reporting:

The operator of any motorboat involved in an accident which results in personal injury, death, or property damage (over \$500) shall immediately notify the MA Environmental Police and file the appropriate accident report within the required time frame. (2 days-fatality; 5 days - all other accidents)

Safety Equipment

Most of the state equipment carriage requirements are similar to federal laws. This primary list includes life preservers, fire extinguishers, signaling devices, visual distress signals, and navigation lights. In Massachusetts, life preservers are required to be worn by: (1) youth less than 12 years of age (2) personal watercraft users (3) waterskiers (4) canoeists/kayakers from September 15 - May 15. A boat owner or a boat's operator is responsible to ensure that passengers on-board wear life preservers as required. Additionally, the state requires that all motorboats (with the exception of personal watercraft) be equipped with an anchor, manual bailer, and line. A paddle or an oar is required on boats less than 16 feet in length. Motorboats towing skiers must also be equipped with a boarding ladder. Registration and numbering of all boats powered by machinery is required.

Prohibited Operation

The following types of operation are extremely unsafe and are prohibited:

- Operating any vessel under the influence of alcohol or drugs. A blood alcohol concentration of .08 BAC is the current standard of intoxication in Massachusetts. Penalties have increased substantially and may include the loss of a motor vehicle driver's license.
- Operating a motorboat within 150 feet of a swimming area, whether public or private.
- Operating at an excessive speed considering weather conditions, boat traffic, and other hazards. For inland waters, operating at a speed greater than 45 mph is considered negligent operation.
- Operating a motorboat without properly working lights.
- Operating a motorboat during the nighttime while towing waterskiers, tubers, etc.
- Operating at greater than headway speed (6 mph or less) within 150 feet of a swimmer, waterskier, mooring area, marina, boat launch, or when the operator's vision is obscured in any way.
- Operating in an overloaded condition (carrying total weight that exceeds capacity plate recommendations or is excessive considering water conditions)
- Operating with passengers on the bow, gunwales, or any other place where there may be a chance of falling overboard.

Personal Watercraft Operation

Personal watercraft (PWC) are considered motorboats by law and must comply with all boating laws and navigation rules, including the speed and operation provisions above. Additionally, PWC users must adhere to state regulations specific to personal watercraft operation:

- Wear an approved life jacket (PFD) at all times (operator and passengers).
- Attach the safety lanyard to the operator and the cutoff/kill switch.
- Always operate at slow, no-wake speed (6 mph or less) within 150 feet of a swimmer, the shoreline, a water-skier, a boat launch, a raft or float or a moored or docked boat

You must not operate a PWC:

- If less than 16 years old
- Under the influence of alcohol
- Between sunset and sunrise
- At high speed in congested areas
- On waters under 75 acres
- While towing persons on skis, tubes, etc.

Please note

This is only a summary of boating laws. All boaters must know and observe all local, state, and federal laws. For further information on boating laws, boating education, or to obtain accident report forms contact the Massachusetts Environmental Police at (508) 564-4961

DATES AND HAPPENINGS IN LUNENBURG

- Lake Shirley Annual Meeting, Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 6:00 pm, at Shady Point
- Lunenburg Annual Town Meeting May 7, 2022, 9:00 am, at Lunenburg Middle/High School
- Lunenburg Town Election May 21, 2022 7:00 am – 5:00 pm, at TC Passios School
- Devens Regional Household Hazardous Products Collection Center: Open to Lunenburg 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- <https://devenshhw.com//Materials.html>, <https://devenshhw.com/flyer>,

| 2022 | |
|-------------|--------------|
| March 2 & 5 | Aug. 3 & 6 |
| April 6 & 9 | Sept. 7 & 10 |
| May 4 & 7 | Oct. 5 & 8 |
| June 1 & 4 | Nov. 2 & 5 |
| July 6 & 9 | Dec. 7 & 10 |

- The Lunenburg Landfill, off of Youngs Road will be open **Saturday's from 8 am to 4 pm**
Spring 2022 ~ April 16, 23, 30th & May 7, 14 , 21
- Acceptable material: grass clippings, bark mulch, wood chips, leaves, brush, (with a diameter not to exceed 3 inches ... unlimited length). Shrubbery and plantings; with the same restrictions. Any container; bags, boxes, barrels, trashcans, tarps, flower pots, etc., must be removed and taken by the resident. ***No household garbage, trash, building materials/waste or rubbish of any kind will be accepted. No materials within the Landfill area; sand, stone, gravel, etc. are to be given away or sold. Access will be restricted to the disposal area. Commercial landscapers will not be allowed to dump.
- Open to Lunenburg residents only. Travel permitted only on town easement. No trespassing on tri-town landing development.

<https://www.lunenburgma.gov/departments/public-works/yard-waste-days>

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY Lunenburg Town government needs citizens who are willing to give time to the service of their community. Fill out a Talent Bank form on the Town of Lunenburg homepage.



LAKE SHIRLEY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION P.O BOX 567 SHIRLEY, MA 01464**June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Address</i> | <i>Email</i> |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Joanna Bilotta | 362 Sunset Lane | jobilotta@comcast.net |
| Jay Elowitz | 76 Oak Ridge Rd | ellowitz@aol.com |
| Lori Godfrey | 55 Spring Street | loriecoylegodfrey@hotmail.com |
| Sue Jewell | 20 Sunset Lane & PO Box 484 | sue.jewell@comcast.net |
| Caitlin Katisch | 605 Reservoir Road | keefe.katisch@comcast.net |
| Tammy Lovewell | 579 Reservoir Road | tdlovewell@gmail.com |
| Justine Morgan | 701R Reservoir Rd | jmorgan@emersonhosp.org |
| Rich Patry | 655 Reservoir Rd | alelliott@comcast.net |
| David Pelletier | 711 Reservoir Rd | drpelletier2@verizon.net |
| Sandra Perko | 64 Spring St Ext. | Sperko47@yahoo.com |
| Jessica Swenson | 17 Ruth Street | jessicagswenson@gmail.com |
| Steve Vitone | 18 Oakridge Road | svtone98@gmail.com |
| Tom Vitone | 106 Cedar St. Clinton, MA 01510 | tom.vitone@verizon.net |
| Ron Wilson | 701 Reservoir Rd | willienem@aol.com |