



Little Sebago Lake Association

Winter - 2011

"Our mission is to protect, restore, and improve our lake's water quality and fragile ecosystem. We will create and nurture a community of lake stewards, always mindful that human needs must be balanced with the needs of the natural environment."

BOARD MEMBERS

President

Pam Wilkinson

Vice President

Jeff Wilkinson

Secretary

Jan Smith

Treasurer

Sharon Lamontagne

Other members

Rod Bernier

Scott Lowell

Chris Micucci

Tim Greer

John Redlon

John Mullaney

Tom Torre

Tom Tobiasen

Judy Andrews

COMMITTEE / RESOURCE HELPERS

Milfoil Initiative

Carol Ann Doucette

Database Assistant

Diane Burnell

Water Quality / Dam

Bruce Micucci

Event Coordinator

Deb Gellerson /

Ginger Heart

Newsletter Editor

Donna Wilkinson

Message From The President Pam Wilkinson

June just didn't allow for us to prepare for the July 4th weekend. Rain dampened most of June, and we scrambled to prepare the yard and get all the necessities for company to arrive. From that time on, weather treated us well, and we all managed to enjoy what our lake has to offer and the reason why we live here.

Our annual meeting at Aimhi (always the second Saturday of July) provided an opportunity for lake members to view the HIPPO's (milfoil dredges) and Piranha (sand dredge) and meet the various board members and committee people who serve you. We listened to reports updating everyone on the status of water quality, dam conditions, safety patrol, lower narrows restoration, milfoil successes, and what is still remaining to be done - a very special thank you to

all these people who are so important to the quality of our lake!

The Pirate Parade (always the third Saturday of July) was very successful, with lots of splashes and smiles for both the young and young at heart. A slight disruptive glitch with the game wardens was addressed by a letter from your board, offering to notify them

*Continued on
Page 2*

Contact Us:

Little Sebago Lake Association
P.O. Box 912, Windham, ME 04062-0912
www.littlesebagolake.com • 207-809-4706

What's inside...

LSLA Board Members.....	1	LSLA Web Site.....	10
Message from The President.....	1-2	Membership Address Updates.....	10
LSLA Endowments.....	3	Donations Wanted.....	10
2011 Milfoil Militia End of Year Report.....	4-5	Safety Patrol Program.....	11
Milfoil Volunteers Welcome.....	5	Public Boat Launch.....	11
Road Association News.....	5	Little Sebago Lake Fish Stocking Reports.....	11
Hoptkins Dam Report.....	6	Milfoil Militia Polk-A-Dot Legend.....	12
Water Quality Report.....	7	Maine Lakes Navigation Legend.....	12
LSLA Positions Available.....	7	Thank You To Our Supporters.....	13
LSLA Functions and Finances.....	7	LSLA Merchandise.....	14
Lower Narrows Restoration.....	8	Membership Update & Dues Request.....	15
Local Town Support.....	9	Closing Message.....	16

President's Message - Continued from Page 1

so that inspections, if scheduled for that day, could be performed prior to the start of the parade. The warden service agreed to do so.

While you have taken advantage of the sunny days on the lake, your board of directors, committee members, and volunteers have been hard at work making sure you are able to continue your experiences in a safe manner, while protecting all that makes it special.

As second tier large lot development encroaches upon the shoreline, we will keep a vigilant eagle eye on accumulative impacts and work with developers and local officials to ensure water quality is maintained. Developments are inevitable, and we will continue to make sure those who want to enter the lake are good stewards and are aware of all our efforts, especially milfoil. Milfoil is still our number one concern. Although we are making great strides, we are very concerned with anything that will dampen our past efforts.

Our programs do not come without a cost. We need the involvement of everyone to assist and ensure the quality of the lake. If you cannot give your time, please pay your modest dues of \$25.00. It should not be 332 people of our 1166 lake members who bear the brunt of the responsibility. We are blessed that this one third of our membership is paying and most are also giving generously over that amount. I encourage you to read the article inside and use the dues form on the back page to become a contributing member of your lake association. Goals set for 2012 will be to enhance our website and to engage every shoreline property owner to become educated and involved with what is lurking on the bottom of the lake in front of their property, natural or invasive. As the lake transitions from liquid to solid, enjoy the winter months and what our ice yard has to offer as well.

Warmest Wishes for Winter,



LSLA Endowment Fund

*"It is every man's obligation to put back into the world
at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it."*

Albert Einstein

In 2010, the Little Sebago Lake Association established an endowment fund. The endowment fund was created, and accounts were set up to help provide for the long term health and protection of Little Sebago Lake. We have had five members contribute to our endowment fund to date. A plaque was made to acknowledge these contributions and is pictured on our website – click on the endowment tab at littlesebagolake.com. We plan on displaying this plaque at both Gray and Windham town halls.

Donations to the endowment provide an annuity that benefit Little Sebago Lake for a long time. Contributions to the endowment should be over and above the Association dues. People frequently think of making a contribution to an endowment when they complete long-term financial planning or estate planning. Sometimes referred to as planned giving, an individual may decide that as part of their estate that they will bequeath a portion of their assets to an endowment. A typical example of this is leaving money to your college or university.

If you are interested in giving to the Little Sebago Lake Endowment, please go to www.littlesebagolake.com for more information. You can also contact me, Tom Torre, at 207-233-8974. Please consult your financial or tax advisor before making a contribution to the Little Sebago Lake Endowment.


Committee Representatives

John Mullaney and Tom Torre

2011 Milfoil Militia End of Year Report

Pam Wilkinson, Scott Lowell, Tim Greer, Jeff Wilkinson,
John Redlon, Tom Torr and Tom Tobiasen

Little Sebago Lake yearly comparison of milfoil bags removed

	Upper Basin Gray	Twin Brooks Gray	Beaver Cove Gray	Mumford Cove Gray	Lower Basin Windham	Totals Per Year	
2007	271	55	91	133	710	1260	
2008	215	62	63	97	1332	1769	
2009	390	58	9	296	967	1720	
2010	241	54	2	47	1491	1835	
2011	182	17	7	16	500	722	
Totals Per Area	1299	246	172	589	5000	7306	*Totals Bags Removed

Calculation Key:

Each bag at 20# dry weight=pounds-divided 2000 equals tons removed.

This is year seven in our battle with the variable milfoil in Little Sebago Lake. Words are not necessary to describe the success after viewing the yearly chart of onion bags full of milfoil removed. Our defense strategies are making great strides, but our guard cannot be let down. Yearly, we are vigilant with revisiting the once dense beds of milfoil to find only "teenagers" that need removal before maturing. The battle to reduce dense beds in which plants can self-fragment at the end of the season or that boat traffic can churn up and create floating fragments that can root anywhere is becoming controllable. Areas in Gray's Upper Basin, where dense beds were worked on for four years, are showing less "teenagers", and most are described now as sporadic. We hope to achieve the sporadic bed conditions in the Lower Basin in another couple of years. It took five concentrated years in the Upper Basin to discourage the root systems. Our team of volunteers and paid crew concentrated most of their efforts in the Lower Basin the past four years and hope to reach the success achieved so far in Gray's Upper Basin. Success does not mean total

eradication; we wish that could be a realistic goal. A realistic goal would be reconnaissance and removal for one week once a month! We are presently working a little more than one week a month in the Upper Basin. The rest of the time has been spent in Windham's Lower Basin, using both HIPPO's (Hydraulic Invasive Plant Processing Operation), a custom engineered suction dredge system, assisted by a diver. The diver hand pulls the root system and feeds it into a hose that carries it to a filter and collection system. There the milfoil is put into onion bags for disposal. We are working on areas we know about from the year past. We have performed mini-vegetation surveys to point the operation to the best locations.

There is more to do. We need to keep watch for areas that may have a few plants to prevent a dense infestation. If we find where fragments have dropped and started growth early, then we can prevent it from spreading to other areas. **This is where you come in!** I hope to challenge every shore front property owner to know the difference between natural vegetation

Continued on Page 5



and an invasive plant. We have had several people call this year and report to us that they see a strange plant. This is great, and we have responded. Sometimes the plant is water marigold (looks like milfoil), and we want to keep the plant there to discourage the growth of something unnatural, like milfoil. Other areas had the occasional milfoil plant; we removed it and marked it on a map for rechecking next year. I ask that we quadrant the lake into sections and have a person in that area coordinate a monthly

snorkel survey to see what is below. This could be fun! There are workshops in the spring put on by the State of Maine and Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, after which you can be knowledgeable on what to do to keep milfoil from your area, know the difference, and create a defense for your shoreline. During the winter doldrums, visit www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org and see how you can be a part of a team that protects YOUR lake frontage. More will be posted on the website as we get closer to spring.



**Don't defer until later - ask what you can do now!
Call and put your name on the list to be contacted.
428-3732 or dingwell@maine.rr.com.**



Let's kick this up a notch and have everyone become a part of making sure the milfoil does not spread to other areas.

Road Association News

Jeff Wilkinson

We would like to establish or maintain contact with the various road associations in the Little Sebago Lake watershed. Timely information exchange and sharing can help us to pass on educational information such as milfoil plans, practices regarding erosion, and rainwater runoff situations. This will ultimately help to keep a clean, healthy lake for all.

An extensive road association contact list is available on the Windham website under the "Private Roads Assistance" link at windhamweb.com. We also maintain a Road Association and Island list on our website under that tab. We invite updates so we can keep the list timely and useful to all.

Please send updates to
jwilkinson@littlesebagolake.com
or leave a message at **207 809 4706**.



HOPKINS DAM REPORT

Bruce Micucci

We never seem to have a typical year anymore. Highlights of 2011 include record snowfall in March, heavy rain in April, the latest ice out in memory, and a hurricane in August. Most of this summer was spent bringing Little Sebago Lake down to summer level, rather than trying to bring it up. The lake was at a high point of 290.0 (+8") on April 17, 2011 and a low point of 288.7 (-5") on August 27, 2011, as we prepared for the arrival of Hurricane Irene.

The Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for Little Sebago Lake was finally accepted by MEMA in July after three failed submissions. The end product is a simple two page document that states specifically what the responsibilities of the Little Sebago Lake dam owners are in the event of a major dam failure. These owners include all that live on Little Sebago Lake, not just association members. As usual, the devil is in the detail. Questions that needed to be answered are:

- ***What is a MAJOR dam failure - water through the spillway or a complete removal of the granite structure?***
- ***How much water would flow?***
- ***How high would the water level get on Mill Pond, Collins Pond, Ditch Brook, Pleasant River and the Presumpscot River?***
- ***How many homes would be flooded and who are they?***
- ***Who needs notification and in what order?***

Sensing my frustration after three failed submissions, Tara Ayotte of the Dam Safety Administration in Augusta agreed to come to Little Sebago Lake and help with the calculations needed to develop an inundation map. To determine the most likely failure scenario, the state dam inspector, Tony Fletcher, agreed to accompany her and do a complete inspection of the Little Sebago Lake dam. Windham fire Chief Charlie Hammond attended the meeting and incorporated the newest reverse 911 information into our notification flow chart. Rodger Patterson, Con Fullam, and Paula Monaghan of the Collins Pond Association not only attended the meeting, but did the complete Collins Pond flood survey, mapping every home that was within the flood inundation zone. The expertise of all these people, along with LSLA Dam Committee members Rod Bernier, Chris Micucci, and Jim Theiss, has produced an approved EAP and up to date dam inspection that should give us a measure of comfort. The only concerns noted by the state dam inspector were the need to have the oak planks that form a seal between the draw and base replaced, as they are getting worn. Trees growing on the sides should be removed so that roots will not grow between the granite. The Hopkins dam is 120 years old, and in all likelihood, will be here another 120 years.





WATER QUALITY REPORT

Bruce Micucci



The 2011 data collection continues to support the long term data that Little Sebago Lake is "stable".

The lake still maintains some negative characteristics that have been a concern. Oxygen levels maintain around 8 ppm at the surface and hold that to around 20 feet in depth, and then fall off to less than 2 ppm at the bottom.

All three basins have the same oxygen trend profile.

The first indication that we are improving water quality will be a deeper penetration of higher oxygen levels. Likewise, continuing oxygen depletion would indicate a serious watershed issue. A level of 5 ppm is needed to support a healthy fish habitat.

The clarity of Little Sebago Lake was slightly less than in past years, but the primary

driver to water clarity in a lake is runoff from a heavy rainfall. We have had a very wet year, and I am confident that when the 2011 data is analyzed, all Maine lakes will show a clarity decline. The middle basin consistently measured clarity to a depth of 6.5 meters, the south basin 5.2 meters, and the north 3.7 meters.

The highest water temperature recorded was on July 24, 2011. South basin was 82.2 degrees, north basin 81.7 degrees, and middle basin 80.8 degrees. The last water test of the 2011 season will be on October 2, 2011. The 2011 data will be sent to the VLMP office in Auburn for evaluation, and the final report on the health of Little Sebago Lake will be issued in March, 2012.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

** Part time or Full Time **

TWO BOARD MEMBER POSITIONS

Board meets on a monthly basis.

WATER QUALITY MONITOR

Bruce Micucci is stepping down, but he will assist with training.

FUND RAISER

Need someone with innovative ideas to generate funds to offset the various LSLA tasks and responsibilities

PR PERSON

Need someone to notify various media of our efforts, and to generate awareness of projects and events

PLANT PATROL COORDINATOR

Assist in educating, identifying areas around our shoreline with invasive plants and recording location for removal

Little Sebago Lake Association Functions & Finances

What we do...

Membership	CCSWCS-Watershed &
Data Base Update	Erosion Control
Financial/Budgets	Lake Fun Day
By-Law and Policy Reviews	Annual Meeting Planning
Fund Raising	Milfoil Initiative Consortium
Planned Giving/Endowments	Operations of Organization
Safety Patrol Program	Water Quality Testing
Boat Landing / CBI	Dam Monitoring &
Grant Writing	Emergency Plan
Public Forums	Buoy Placement & Removal
Town-State-Federal interactions	Strategic Planning
Road Associations Networking	Benthic Barrier Program
Website / Newsletter /	Milfoil Operations
Merchandise	Fleet Maintenance
Lower Narrows Restoration	Organize Educational Forums
Task Force	



Lower Narrows Restoration

Jeff Wilkinson

The beach restoration of the lower narrows was accomplished with great success this year. Previously, the narrows had been opened by wintertime dredging. This process involved a lengthy permit application and proper winter season timing, so the heavy equipment required could be as close to the water as possible, and lots of money! We had budgeted funds each year, planning on this costly method every four years or so. Always looking for alternatives, we discovered the Piranha Pump Mini Dredge system. An investigative committee was formed, including board members Jeff Wilkinson, Tim Greer, and Scott Lowell, property owner Doug Davies, dam operator and water quality monitor, Bruce Micucci, and LSLA consultant and mechanical engineer, Bill Shelly. A number of meetings discussing the machine, its capability, cost, and options were held. A board decision was made to spend just under \$10K to obtain the pumps and apparatus required to construct our own mini dredge system. A previously investigated permit for beach restoration was obtained, and the equipment was purchased last winter. This spring, the equipment was installed on "Ed's Boat" which had previously been used for buoy placement, and tests were conducted. It worked quite well after milfoil diver Jim McNaught developed a technique of his own. The results are a navigable lower narrows that can be passed in most cases without the need to trim your motor or the fear of getting stuck.

We now have the capability to keep the narrows navigable for years to come. Our only issue is the somewhat negative connotation of the name Piranha – we would like to enlist your help in naming this newest member of the LSLA fleet. Email your suggestions to jwilkinson@littlesebagolake.com.





Local Town Support

Windham & Gray

Jeff Wilkinson



This year both the towns of Windham and Gray provided support for our milfoil removal efforts; each town supported us with \$8,000. This consideration was warmly welcomed and will be put to good use. Their support allows us to focus more on removal efforts and less on fund raising.

Spearheaded by Pam Wilkinson and Jeff Wilkinson, presentations were made to the Gray and Windham town councils with emphasis on potential consequences of a severe milfoil infestation and the effect on property values and thus, the tax base. A presentation was given to the Gray councilors at their monthly meeting. Detailed tax information for the Windham watershed properties was shared with Windham officials, and a grant application was submitted. The grant requires deliverable reports to give updates on our progress in this battle against the invasive variable milfoil plant. We are pleased to comply with both towns once final data is tallied at the end of the milfoil program. We are appreciative for the reinstatement of funding from Windham, after a couple of years of hiatus.

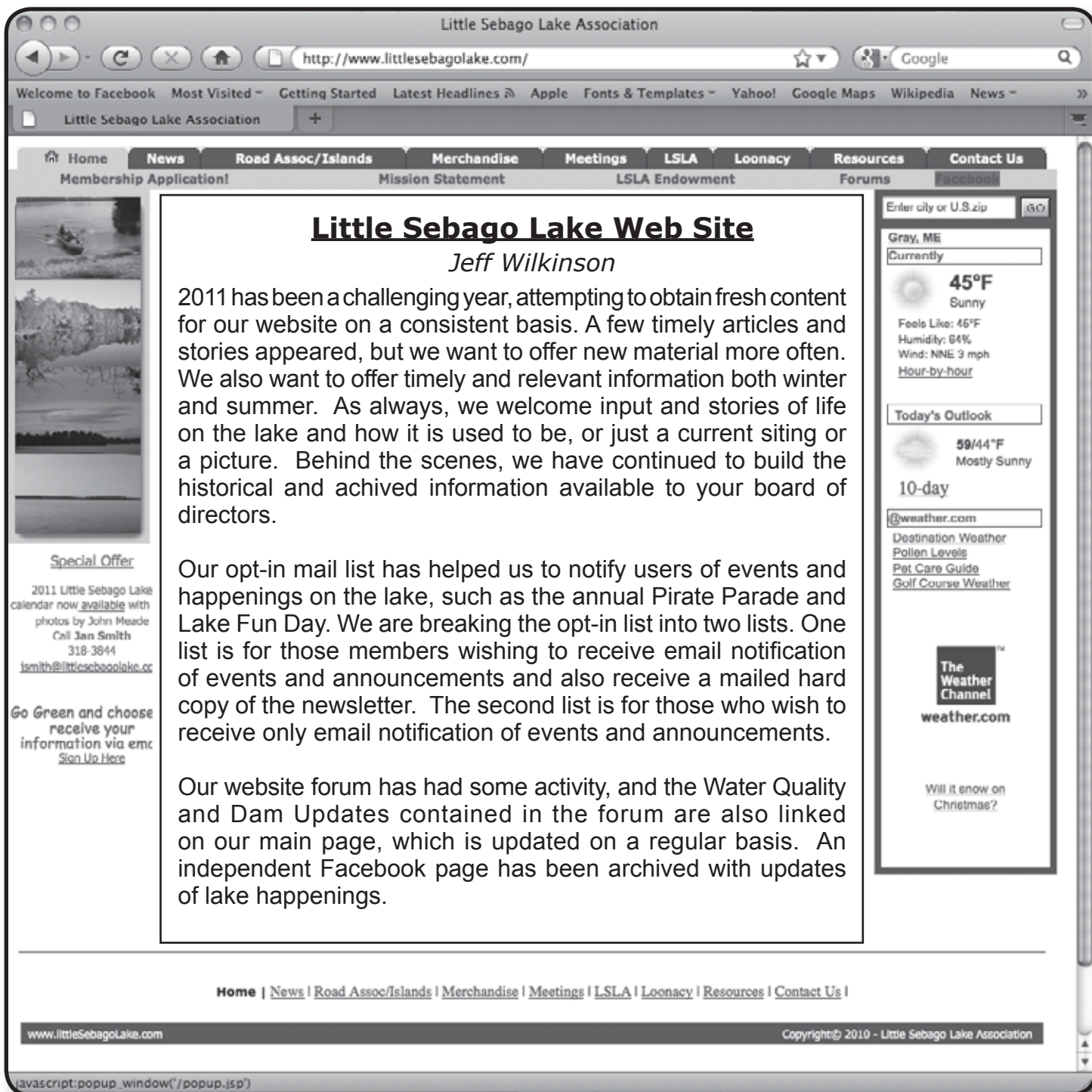


**Please tune in to your local cable access channel
for presentations at each town's council meeting,
updating this year's milfoil successes:**

Gray, November 15, 2011, 7:00 PM

Windham, tentatively, November 22 or December 13, 7:00 PM





Membership Address Updates

Please contact Diane Burnell via email at diane.burnell@sci-us.com with corrections to addresses.

Attention!!!

We are always looking for donated items that can be used for our silent auction, and future raffles. If you think that you are able to help out with this, please contact any of our committee members.



Safety Patrol Program

Sharon Lamontagne

The Safety Patrol Program was again a big success, with well over 100 hours logged out on the lake. Cumberland County Sheriffs were on board 6 afternoons this summer with only a few citations written. Most people who were stopped were given life jackets if they were short, or a quick lecture on speed and safety. Many of you were actually rewarded with free pizza coupons or gift certificates. A big Thank you to Pizza Hut of Windham and Thatcher's for generously donating our reward coupons and supporting our program. Keep your eyes and ears open for a possible Boater Safety Program next spring!



Public Boat Launch

Jan Smith

Many thanks to Jackie and Jimmy Fitzgerald for another season as our Courtesy Boat Inspectors. A total of 2190 watercraft were inspected, 369 of which were non-motorized. No suspicious fragments were found. In addition to inspections, Jimmy and Jackie keep the area clean, handout informational brochures, and sell LSLA promotional items. They are always helpful and eager to share their knowledge with those who are interested. We hope that all who use this facility appreciate the time and effort it takes to keep things moving smoothly. Please give a special thanks to our dedicated inspectors who do much more than inspect boats.



Little Sebago Lake Fish Stocking Reports 2002 - 2011



Spring 2002:

18 Brown Trout 22" – 24"
22 Rainbow Trout 14" – 16"

Fall 2004:

1200 Brown Trout 12" – 14"
150 Rainbow Trout 14" – 16"
75 Brown Trout 18" – 20"

Fall 2008:

1000 Brown Trout 13"
700 Rainbow Trout 14"

Fall 2002:

1500 Brown Trout 12" – 14"
150 Rainbow Trout 12" – 14"
30 Brown Trout 22" – 24"

Fall 2005:

1500 Brown Trout 10" – 12"
500 Rainbow Trout 12" – 14"

Fall 2009:

1000 Brown Trout 12"
700 Rainbow Trout 14"

Fall 2003:

1500 Brown Trout 12" – 14"
150 Rainbow Trout 14" – 16"
10 Brown Trout 22" – 24"

Fall 2006:

1500 Brown Trout 12" – 14"
700 Rainbow Trout 6" – 8"

Fall 2010:

1000 Brown Trout 14"
700 Rainbow Trout 14"

Fall 2007:

1500 Brown Trout 12"

Fall 2011:

700 Brown Trout 14"

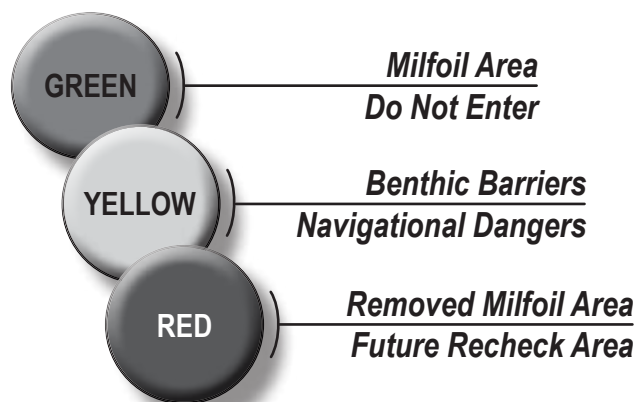


Milfoil Militia

**Help us watch for milfoil
in Little Sebago Lake
and keep the natural
vegetation in it's place
to discourage
milfoil growth.**

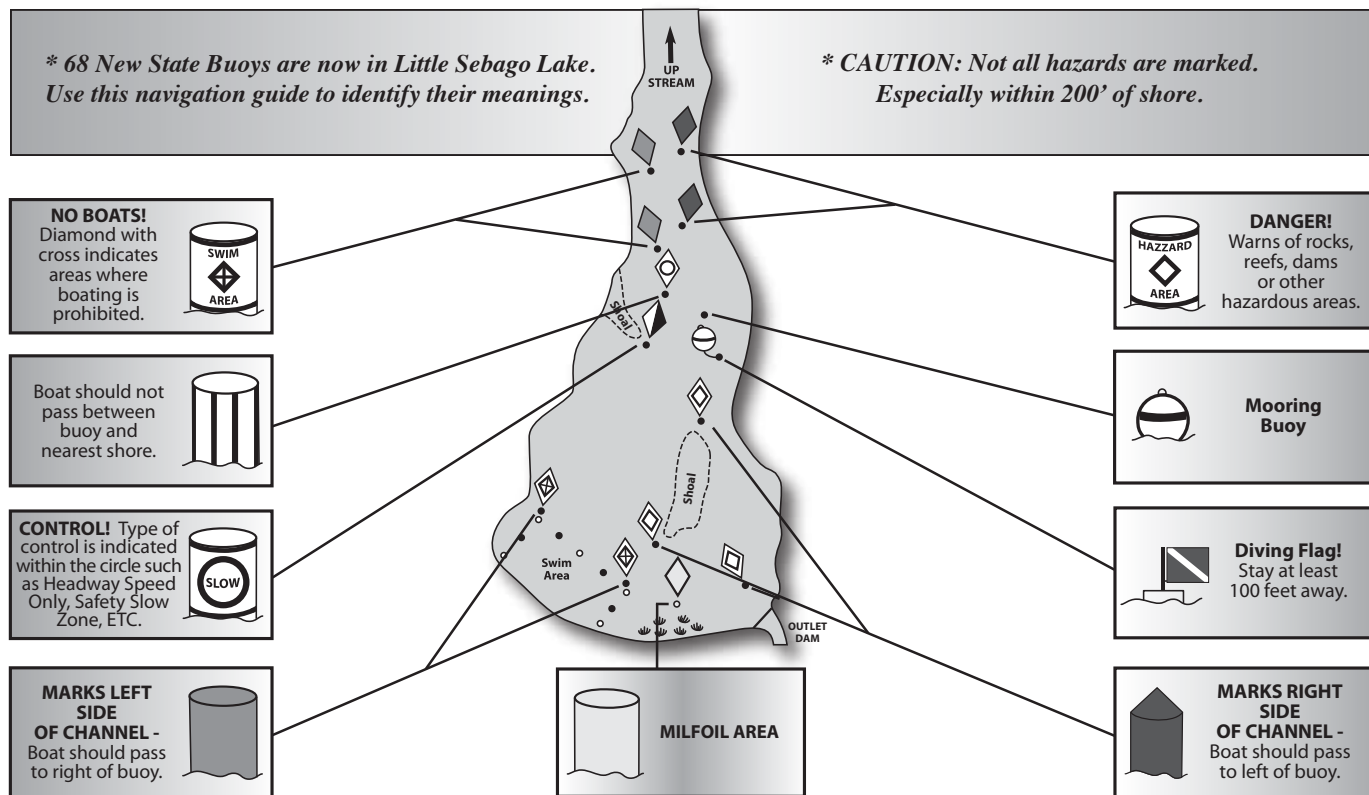
*For any questions or to report milfoil sightings
in your area, call Pam Wilkinson (LSLA)
at: 428-3732, or email her at:
pwilkinson@littlesebagolake.com*

**Stop Sign "Polk-A-Dot" Campaign
Noodle Markers ~ What do they mean?**

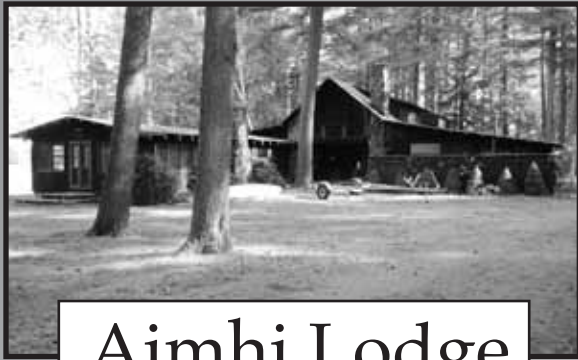


Maine Aides to Navigation System

For boating safety...learn to recognize these aides to navigation



*For more information or Questions Call
Rod Bernier (LSLA) at: 809-4706 or Email him at: rbernier@littlesebagolake.com*



Aimhi Lodge



AndroscogginBank

Special Thanks To:

*Aimhi Lodge of Windham
for the use of their facility for the Annual Meeting*

*Androscoggin Bank of Gray
for the use of their facility for monthly board meetings*

*Pizza Hut of Windham
for Safety Patrol Boat rewards program*

*Thatcher's of Windham
for The Safety Patrol Boat rewards program*

All the volunteers that made a difference for our special Little Sebago Lake



LSLA Promotional Merchandise

Our new holiday ornament is the perfect gift for this season. It is a white ball with the LSLA loon logo in dark green. They are \$10 each, or 3 for \$25. Another great gift is our 2012 Calendar featuring 12 beautiful loon pictures, taken by Marie Sheldon. Check our website at www.littleseabagolake.com for a complete list and pictures and to print an order form. All items are subject to 5% Maine sales tax, plus \$5 per item shipping and handling.



T-Shirts & Tank Tops
sm - xxl
Adult \$15



Youth T-Shirt
lg only
\$10



Ladies' Golf
sm, md, lg only
\$25



Adult Sweatshirt
sm only
\$20



Adult Pullover Shirt
xsm to xxl
\$30

Holiday Special

Free shipping on Holiday Ornaments
shipped to a single address within U.S.

Contact Jan Smith at:

207-318-3844 or sabbadyjs@yahoo.com.



Ball Cap
\$20



Beach Towels
gold only
\$25



Tote & Cooler
\$12



Aerial Photo
\$20



2012 Calendar
\$20



Holiday Ornament
\$10 or 3 for \$25



**Lamp Shade Map
& Base**
sm \$60 / lg \$75



**Lamp Shade Map
Only**
sm \$40 / lg \$55

***Order Lamps &
Shades directly
from Shades of
Maine:
207-215-4552**



1. Please Fill out
form to the right.



2. If you have not already
done so, please include
a check written to
"LSLA" in the amount
of \$25.00 for your dues.

3. Cut out the form, place
in an envelope with
your signed check, and
mail to :

LSLA
PO Box 912
Windham, ME 04062



Name: _____

Lake Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

_____ Check here if you would like to receive email notification of Lake news
and events.

_____ Check here if you would like to receive email notification of the Newsletter
online and NOT receive a hard copy in the mail. Help us to reduce costs.



Membership Update

Sharon Lamontagne



**Please help us to get the word out!
We need every member's dues support.**

Our mission statement is written in large font across the front of this newsletter: ***To protect, restore, and improve our lake's water quality.*** This is not easy and is certainly not cheap. As land owners on and around this beautiful body of water, it is your responsibility to support us in this mission. We, as a board, can only do so much. We need your financial support; **we need the other two-thirds who are not paying to help.** We send this newsletter out to 1166 homes and yet only 322 of you have paid your dues. Granted, some of you have purchased raffle tickets and

merchandise items, and that does help. But I still have over 700 members listed as **unpaid** Above is an address form for your convenience. **Please cut it out, fill in the information, and put it in an envelope along with your dues. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!** Without your financial support, this board will not be able to protect, restore, and improve the quality of your lake water, as we have been directed to do. The future of this lake and your real estate investments **depend on you.**

The minimum dues payment is \$25.00, and anything given over that amount can be considered a tax deductible donation. We are a tax exempt 501C3 organization. If you do not remember if you have paid, please contact me, Sharon Lamontagne, at 892-3157, or email me at:

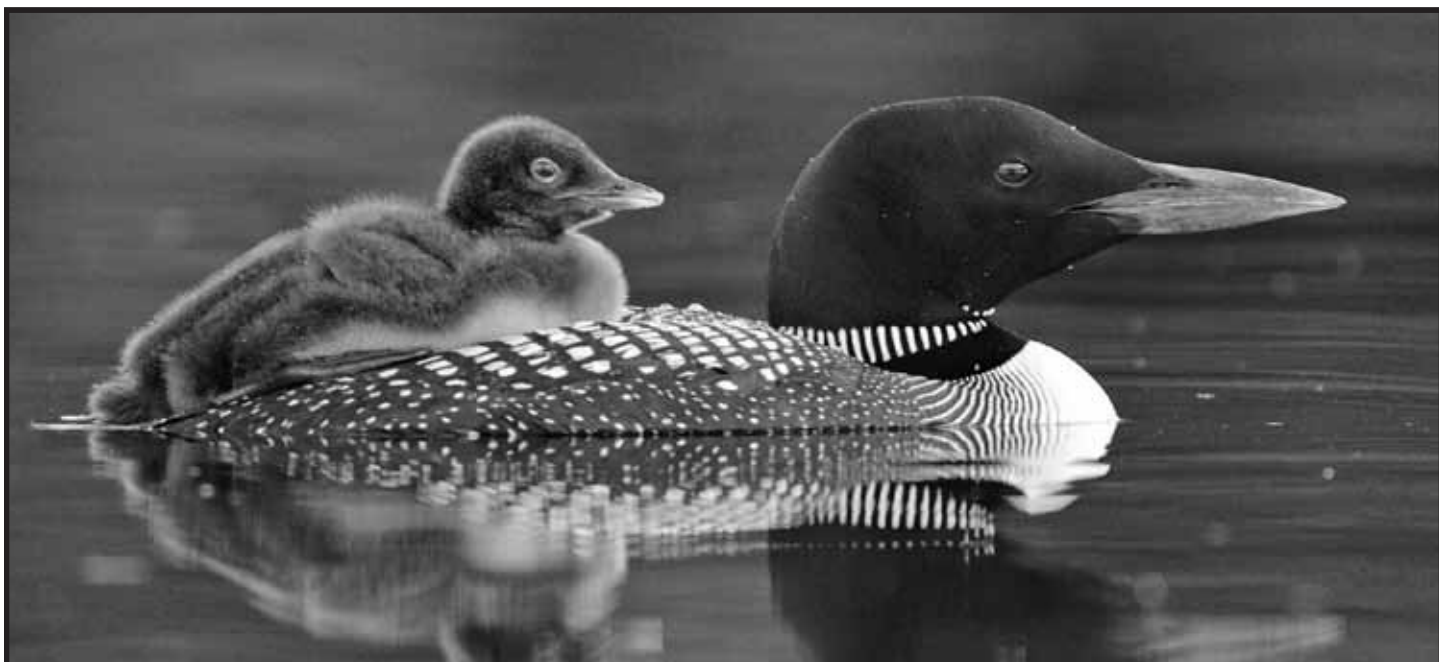
slamontagne@littlesebagolake.net

Thank you for making this a priority!



**Little Sebago Lake Association
PO Box 912
Windham, ME 04062**

PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, ME
PERMIT #477



The Little Sebago Lake belongs to all of us. Please do your part to preserve it's natural health and beauty for ourselves, our future generations, and everyone who appreciates everything that the lake has to offer.