



Greeting Friends of Lake Warner and the Mill River:

This is the first of what is hoped will be a series of regular e-newsletters from the pond people in the FoLW. Its sole purpose is to inform, to be clear, complete and concise but not pretty. We do hope to improve it over time. We will be circulating this ASAP after our monthly board meetings on the first Tuesday of the month.

What's happening with the Dam?

The funding for the dam repairs is intact and secure. The extent of repairs and the basic engineering have been established. The design is currently making its way through the design review, legal and permitting process. The repairs are scheduled to begin on 1 July 2016 and expected to last some six weeks. There will supposedly be no interference with the boat landing. We are preparing for a public ground breaking Lake Day celebration; stay tuned.

What have we been doing?

We've just published the 2015 State of The Lake Report (SoTL). This details almost everything we did last year and ties it into past and future activities. A downloadable .pdf copy of the FoLW 2015 SoTL is available under Studies/2015 Reports on our website or through the email addresses below.

We had our annual meeting and elected our current board. We continue to need new blood on our board. Please, if you are free to do so, join us.

We are preparing for the challenges of 2016. We are writing grant applications, coordinating research with other organizations and getting our instruments and equipment ready to go out on the lake. Please support the CPA funding article at the Town Meeting on 5 May 2015 to help support ongoing monitoring and management of the lake.

We expect the lake ice to break up by the Ides of March. You will then start to see us on the lake. Look for the blue or lime colored FoLW T-shirts.

What's next?

Our first priority out on the water will be detailed and accurate bathymetric (depth) map of the lake. The bathymetric map will support our scientific research and will feed into our SoTL 2016 report, numerous scientific projects and our various lake management plans.

We will continue to collect scientific data, especially aquatic vegetation identification, along the ten transect survey lines we established in 2015.

We will begin a very aggressive, weekly schedule of Water Chestnut (WC) GPS mapping and elimination. We hope to locate and eliminate all WC in the lake before it can seed in July of 2016. We will need your help and participation.

We will be broadening our focus from WC infestation to address other nuisance weeds which seriously impact on the health of the lake and on its recreational use.

These activities are both laborious and time consuming. We welcome public participation. You can expect a boat ride on a lovely lake in iffy weather and our thanks

Calendar of Upcoming Activities and Events

6:30PM, Apr 5, 2016: FoLW Board Meeting, North Hadley Church
2PM, Apr 10, 2016: Kayak Meet Up Group on Lake Warner, Boat Ramp

7:00PM, Apr 28 2016: FoLW Public Meeting, North Hadley Church
6:30PM, May 3 2016: FoLW Board Meeting, North Hadley Church
7:00PM, May 5, 2016: Hadley Town Meeting, Hopkins Academy
11AM-3PM, May 21, 2016: Lake Cleanup Day (22 May Rain Date).
July 16: exact date/time TBD Lake Day, Dam Ground Breaking Celebration.

There will be numerous public outreach and education efforts.

Thank you for your support!

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