



# Lake Anasagunticook Association Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 1  
Spring 2009



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

First, there is good news. A temporary dam is to be installed sometime this May. Soon!!

Second, the Core Group has been working diligently toward a permanent solution to the dam problem and has made significant progress. There is an update on page 2. of this newsletter. The lake community should be proud of the work that has been accomplished and we need to continue to work with them until the project is complete.

Third, I guess by now that you've noticed there is a survey included in the newsletter. I hope you will take the time to fill it out and return it. Postage is provided so all it will cost you is some time and a couple of staples or pieces of tape to return it.

There are a lot of issues coming to the fore at the same time so we'd like to know your opinions about the lake association. Why you choose to volunteer or why you don't and what direction you think your association should take in the future?

Currently, we are faced with the potential of aquatic invasive plants entering the lake. Some association members have been trained to spot them but it is hard and time-consuming work to survey the lake. So, if you see people snorkeling or peering into the lake through buckets it's probably the plant patrol. They may leave special buoys behind to mark spot for further investigation. Please

leave them there. We'll remove them at the appropriate time.

The best and only way to prevent invasive plants from entering the lake is to wash boats and trailers before they are put in the water. So please wash you boat and trailer. Clean off any plant life. And clean or purge engines on motors and jet-skis

So, do we need a new boat ramp so we can inspect all boats before they go in the water? Where can we put a washing station? Who will staff them? It's best to figure this out now because it can cost well over an initial investment of (one needs to buy a special boat) \$200,000 to control invasive plants once they enter a lake and upwards of \$20,000 a year to control them.

Also, LakeSmart is a program we've supported to help land owners in the watershed improve property to control erosion and pollution of the lake. Do we continue this worthwhile project?

New laws are being written to require owners of private camp road to maintain them according to standards decided by the legislature. Camp road associations appear to be needed to control costs and liabilities. If work has to be done on these dirt and gravel roads, should your Lake Association lead the way?

Please return the survey. Let us know what you think. And welcome to spring.

*William Atwater, LAA President and Editor*

## **Update on the Lake Anasagunticook Dam**

Kleinschmidt Energy & Water Resource Consultants of Pittsfield was hired to complete Phase I: Preliminary designs, permitting requirements and cost estimates for repairing the current dam and building a new replacement dam. The core group has reviewed two drafts of this report and, upon receipt of the final report, a choice must be made between the three options before moving on to the final detailed design phase and construction. The core group has supported "Option I: Build a new dam upstream of the existing dam" but recently favors "Option II: Repair the existing dam" because of the difference in cost estimates. "Option III: Remove the existing dam" is included in Options I and II and would also repair the left embankment per the MEMA Order.

A new concrete gravity dam, an overflow spillway type structure with one or two slide gates, located at the bridge abutments is described by Option I. Flashboards, four foot high, installed with steel pins would create a spillway approximately 63' long and is designed to fail when overtopped by two feet of water. One or two manually operated five foot wide gates would allow the dam to be used for flood control consistent with the old dam and protect the flashboard system against failure. Driving a sheet pile retaining wall into the Rt. 140 side of the stream would stabilize the left embankment. Removal of the existing dam would consist of removing the four piers, steel deck and superstructure and eastern downstream training wall and extending the concrete apron to the east abutment will increase

the flow significantly. The estimated cost of Option I, including a 30% contingency, is \$860,000 plus \$65,000 for the final engineering design and permitting.

Option II includes repair of the existing dam structure to address dam safety concerns and improve the hydraulic capacity of the dam. Repair of the left embankment has already been described above. New stainless steel gates would replace the existing gate structure with hand-wheel operators. A fifth gate would be installed in the previously blocked powerhouse bay and an emergency spillway would handle high flows. The estimated cost of this option is \$650,000 plus \$45,000 for the final engineering design and permitting.

The Canton Water District's NRPA application for a temporary sandbag dam was withdrawn. A stop log dam will be installed next month at the old bridge abutments. Use of these non-fill materials for less than seven months of the year can be done without a NRPA permit.

An Inter-local Agreement for operation and maintenance of a fully operational permanent dam will go to the voters at the Hartford town meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> and to the Canton voters at a special town meeting.

Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) is searching for federal funding for the dam project. A group of volunteers from the lake association are also planning a fundraising campaign. The needed funds will be significant no matter which design option is chosen. Support and volunteers will be needed from throughout the community. Please let me know if you can help.

## **ASCE KEY ALERT: Support Dam Rehabilitation Legislation**

***Please contact your federal lawmakers and ask them to cosponsor the Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act***

The Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act (S. 732/H.R. 1770) has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives and the United States Senate, legislation that would provide funds to repair the nation's ailing publicly owned non-federal dams.

**ASCE members should contact their Representative and Senators and encourage them to cosponsor this much needed legislation.**

### **BACKGROUND - Dams in Need of Repair**

ASCE's 2009 *Report Card for America's Infrastructure* gives the condition of our nation's dams a grade of D, equal to the overall infrastructure grade. State dam safety programs have identified more than 4,095 "unsafe" dams, which have deficiencies that leave them more susceptible to failure, especially during large flood events or earthquakes. The number of unsafe dams will continue to increase until a funding source is created to repair them.

The Association of State Dam Safety Officials estimates that \$50 billion is needed to rehabilitate all dams across the nation, and \$12 billion is needed over the next 10 years to address the most critical dams, both public and private, that pose a direct risk to human life should they fail. Needed repairs to publicly owned dams are estimated at \$8.7 billion.

ASCE has worked with members of Congress to draft legislation that would begin to address these problems. The Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act as proposed would provide up to \$200 million over five years to address deficiencies in the nation's publicly owned non-federal dams. Major features of the bill include:

Establishment of a program within the Federal Emergency Management Agency to fund dam rehabilitation and repairs.

Enactment of a public fund to award grants for assistance to repair unsafe dams that are publicly-owned (state and local dams).

Authorization of appropriation levels that will help rehabilitate publicly owned non-federal deficient dams.

For additional information, visit the Association of State Dam Safety Officials' website at <http://www.damsafety.org> or the Dam Safety Coalition at <http://www.damsafetycoalition.org>

Please for the sake of  
the Lake have a  
Lake Smart Evaluation

QuickTime™ and a  
decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

**Members Projects (no particular order)**  
**Finance Committee:**  
Judy Hamilton, John Convey, Bill Gray  
**Lake Water Quality:** Tom Hamilton  
**Hiking Trails, Conservation:**  
Shawn Henderson  
**Canton Liaison:** Rick Ray  
**Hartford Liaison:** Judy Hamilton  
**Canton Beach Railing:** Jack Atwater  
**Wildlife & Loon Protection:**  
Buzz Croston, Rick Ray & Daryl Boness  
**Lake Days & Social Events**  
Grace Goodrow & Dona Daigle  
**501(c)(3)** Leslie Boness  
**Invasive Plants**  
Biff Atwater, Buzz Croston & John  
Convey  
**Fund Raising:**  
Polly Bussiere & Judy Hamilton  
**Web Site:** Terri Swanick  
**Inventory of Gravel Roads:** Joe Cloonan  
**LakeSmart Issues:** Judy Hamilton  
**E-mail Distribution & Newsletter:**  
Biff Atwater

“High quality water is more than  
the dream of the  
conservationists, more than a  
political slogan; high quality  
water, in the right  
quantity at the right place at the

right time, is essential to health,  
recreation, and economic  
growth.”

Edmund Muskie

**Lake Day is August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**Hartford Public Beach Bring**  
**Your Own Drinks and Food.**  
**11:00 am till 2:00 pm.**

**ANNUAL MEETING AUG. 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Officers**

Serve for one year, no term limits.

President: Biff Atwater

Vice President: Bill Gray

Secretary: Terry Hinkley

Treasurer : Judy Hamilton

**Directors:**

Serve from one to three years

**1 Year:** Jack Atwater, Joe Cloonan,  
Buzz Croston, Shawn

Henderson

**2 Year:** Brenda  
Adams, Polly Brussiere, Leslie Boness,  
Rick Ray

**3 Year:** Donna Daigle  
**Newsletter Editor:** Biff Atwater

**CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR INFO**  
**CLICK ON THE NEW DAM PAGES**  
**[WWW.LAKEANASAGUNTICOOK.ORG](http://WWW.LAKEANASAGUNTICOOK.ORG)**  
**READ THE LATEST ABOUT THE DAM**

decompressor

2009 Dues Due

How can you tell if you have  
paid your dues this year? Turn to  
the address label on this  
Newsletter. Just above your name  
and address, you will see the

last year your dues were paid. If your label says "0000", we have not yet been able to convince you of our need for your support. Dues are now \$10 per person per year. Please join the Lake Association. We have a lot of interesting projects.