

# LAA Newsletter

The latest news from the  
Lake Anasagunticook  
Association.



## Upcoming Events

|                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 4:00 PM<br>Tuesday April 13           | <b>Board Meeting</b>            |
| Saturday June 12<br>June 19 Rain date | <b>Canton Town Clean-up</b>     |
| 4:00 PM<br>Tuesday June 15            | <b>Board Meeting</b>            |
| 4:00 PM<br>Tuesday August 3           | <b>Board Meeting</b>            |
| Details inside<br>August 5,6,7,8      | <b>Bicentennial Celebration</b> |
| Events TBD<br>Saturday August 14      | <b>Lake Days</b>                |
| Time TBD<br>Sunday August 15          | <b>Annual Members' Meeting</b>  |

## LAA –President's Message

Once again we are about to embark on the summer season at Lake Anasagunticook. This will be my 36<sup>th</sup>. The lake continues to hold its own regarding invasives', overall water quality results, and general awareness of owner shoreline zoning requirements. All of the LAA efforts have contributed to this result in no small way – THANK YOU to the membership for their efforts. During the pandemic, we sustained communication and programming thru multiple ZOOM meetings and social networking. This spring we begin the Watershed Grant work for year one. As with any volunteer organization, we're constantly encouraging all who use and appreciate this valuable asset, to join our team to be able to oversee all the issues that arise. I'd be remiss if I didn't reinforce the importance of the free LAKE SMART property review program. Last year 7 properties were assessed! It is the best way to learn how to protect the lake in the shoreline zoning area. See details inside for technical and financial remediation assistance. Lastly have your friends and neighbors join LAA. \$15 per person gets you to the table. PO Box 411, Canton, ME 04221. I look forward to "seeing" everybody soon hopefully in person!

*Tim Kirwan - LAA president*

*Tkirwan1@gmail.com*

*Canton-Hartford Watershed Stewards*



Photo: Emily Bourassa

For More Information:

[www.lakeanasagunticook.org](http://www.lakeanasagunticook.org)



Friends of Lake Anasagunticook

# LAA Board Members

**President:** Tim Kirwan  
**Vice Pres:** Mike McCluskey  
**Secretary:** Diane Ray  
**Treasurer:** Biff Atwater

**Directors:**  
Mel Barron, Bill Gray, Carolyn Gray,  
Christine Carrigan

## Watershed Mitigation Work Starts NOW!

With the Watershed Survey, Watershed Mitigation Plan, Grant Application and Grant Award behind us – the hands-on work is beginning! A Steering Committee has formed and an initial meeting held – there is still room to join if you are interested.

Town locations in Hartford and Canton that were **HIGH PRIORITY** are being addressed with relevant parties – you may see work taking place soon!

Residents with locations identified as **HIGH PRIORITY** will be contacted shortly.

If you are a property owner in the watershed, we will be sending you a postcard shortly and asking if you want the results of your survey. For those interested in improving your property (even if you were not part of the watershed survey) you should:

- Contact Jeff Stern for a Technical Assistance visit via email or phone. [sternjm@Hotmail.com](mailto:sternjm@Hotmail.com) or (207) 595-0317.
- Matching grants for approved residential property improvements are available – reach out for more information

It's exciting to be working with Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District and Maine DEP!



## Ice-Out April 9, 2021



Congratulations to those prescient few who were closest to the actual date:

- ❖ Richard Ray – 1<sup>st</sup> place
- ❖ Tim Kirwan – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- ❖ Kayleigh Hood – 3<sup>rd</sup> place



Thank you to all participants, Dr. Tom Hamilton for judging this event and Gary Dougherty for managing the entries.

## LAA Membership is important – Please pay your Dues!

Membership Dues are used to support education efforts on water quality, invasive plants, signage, state regulations, individual homeowner mitigation efforts, wildlife habitats and more! Please pay your dues promptly to the address below..

Lake Anasagunticook Association  
PO Box 411  
Canton, ME 04221

[www.lakeanasagunticook.org](http://www.lakeanasagunticook.org)

Facebook: Friends of Lake Anasagunticook

Email: [Anasagunticook@gmail.com](mailto:Anasagunticook@gmail.com)

\$15 per person Annual Membership to LAA.

# Planned events for 2021

Here's hoping....

**Canton Bi-Centennial:** Please see a detailed schedule of the 4 days of events later in the newsletter but take note – LAA will be:

- ❑ ***Managing the Snack Shack*** as a fund raiser on Saturday evening August 7 – Diane Ray will send out more information as the event gets closer; think about helping underwrite the cost of supplies or donating an hour of your time.
- ❑ ***Providing Lake Tours*** as a promotional event on Sunday August 8. Carolyn Gray and Mel Baron are leading this event. Conversations have already started about liability, gas, having enough boats, proving some interesting lake history or nature tidbits, mementos to handout, social distancing, etc. Please reach out to Carolyn or Mel if you can help.



**Lake Days Saturday August 14:** Feedback was positive regarding the Dock-Dash and Moonlight Paddle –Please send a note to any Board Member with your thoughts on these and other activities – all ideas are welcome!

**Annual Members' Meeting, Sunday August 15:** Location and Format TBD but please hold the morning of this date.



No matter the  
season, life is  
always great at  
the Lake!





# What we did during a pandemic!

## (It wasn't all bad)

**Dock Dash:** To stay socially distant yet be *sociable* a dock-dash was held that saw three dock “hosts” around the lake. Boats, kayaks, jet-skis and paddle-boarders traveled around the lake to visit, pick up refreshments, trinkets and just touch-base with friends and neighbors. It's likely we will try this again in 2021!



**Nighttime Kayak Regatta:** Seven kayaks joined in for a leisurely sunset/evening paddle around the lake (decorative hats optional ☺). We need stronger bow/stern lights for after dark but a good time was had by all. Conversation is about organizing a full-moon paddle in 2021! Let someone know if you are interested.



**Annual Members' Meeting:** The 2020 meeting was held via ZOOM with attendance from Canton & Hartford members. A quorum was easily reached and business was conducted efficiently and safely! Please see the LAA website for a copy of the PowerPoint materials used in the meeting. As always, thank you to Dr. Tom Hamilton for keeping us apprised of lake quality trends.

**Online Raffle:** In lieu of the Lake Days Raffle and on-line raffle was held that raised over \$130. Many members, and even non-members, contributed a wide range of products and services. Thank you to all who made this a fun and profitable event!



Though no Winter Festival was held this year the Lake was still a hub of socially distant activity including ice fishing, snowmobiling, snow shoeing and of course.... HOCKEY!

# Canton Bi-Centennial Summer Celebration August 5,6,7 & 8 2021



***Please plan to join in!***

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2021**

- Founders' Dinner catered by Lilac Mixology and Catering.
- Canton's Treasures Presentation
- Entertainment featuring the Teachers Lounge Mafia comedy troop, DJ from 8th Street Entertainment and more.
- Cash Bar by Lilac Mixology

## **FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 2021**

- Historical Society Museum Display
- Photo and Art Exhibits ([Click here for the Photo and Art Application](#))
- Quilt Show
- Trolley Tours
- Picnic at the Park
- Whitney Brook Trail Nature Walk
- Soft Ball Game
- Cow Chip Bingo
- Evening Street Dance
  - Music by 8th Street Entertainment
  - Cash Bar by Lilac Mixology
  - Alabama BBQ selling some great food
- Fireworks

## **SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2021**

- Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Girl Scouts
- Old Time Church service at Bradbury Chapel
- Firemen's Muster
- Food at the Snack Shack hosted by Wilder Waters Community
- Recognition Event including our Veteran's
- Pontoon Boat Rides on the Lake – arranged by LAA

## **SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2021**

- Bicentennial Parade ([Click here for the Parade Application](#))
- Historical Society Museum Display
- Photo and Art Exhibit
- Quilt Show
- Car Show
- Live Music and Performers
- Historical Exhibits
- Artisan Demonstrations
- Craft Fair
- Food at the Snack Shack hosted by the Canton Hi-Riders Snowmobile Club
- Food Trucks and Vendors selling additional yummy delights
- Kids Games and Activities
- Town Photo
- Horse Show
- BBQ Dinner hosted by the Canton Busy Workers 4-H Club
- Concert Headliner:
  - Opening Act is Canton's very own Jason Lee
  - Headliner is The Don Campbell Band
  - Cash bar - Lilac Mixology
  - Food at the Snack Shack hosted by the Lake Anasagunticook Association

**ADMISSION TO THE EVENTS ARE FREE.**

***Food Services have a cost.***

***This schedule may be subject to change.***

# Did you know?

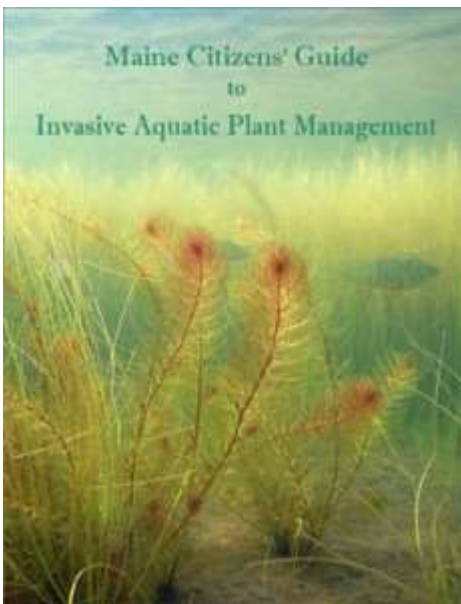
## Boat Exhaust safety – How to protect yourself and others!

Recent stories of carbon monoxide poisoning, and even death, prompt this reminder:

- You're in command of your boating safety. Follow these simple steps to help keep carbon monoxide from poisoning you, your passengers or others nearby.
- Know where and how CO may accumulate in and around your boat.
- Maintain fresh air circulation throughout the boat at all times. Run exhaust blowers whenever the generator is operating.
- Know where your engine and generator exhaust outlets are located and keep everyone away from these areas.
- Never sit, teak surf, or hang on the back deck or swim platform while the engines are running. Teak surfing is **NEVER** a safe activity.
- Never enter areas under swim platforms where exhaust outlets are located unless the area has been properly ventilated.
- Although CO can be present without the smell of exhaust fumes, if you smell exhaust fumes, CO is also present. Take immediate action to dissipate these fumes.
- Treat symptoms of seasickness as possible CO poisoning. Get the person into fresh air immediately. Seek medical attention-unless sure it's not CO.
- Install and maintain CO alarms inside your boat. Do not ignore any alarm. Alarms as recommended by the alarm manufacturer.
- Get a Vessel Safety Check. A VSC is a free bow-to-stern safety examination.



## Aquatic Herbicides – CAUTION, CAUTION, CAUTION



**To Lake Front Property Owners:** please report sightings to the DEP of suspected invasive plants instead of taking action on your own. Recent news about the invasive plant Eurasian watermilfoil have led some people to take inappropriate action against valuable lake plants. These actions range from physical removal to the illegal use of aquatic herbicides. While aquatic herbicides can be easily purchased in stores, mail order catalogs and over the Internet, people may have the misimpression that these chemicals are safe when they are not. Herbicides can be hazardous to the environment as well as the applicator. That's why applying these without proper permission is a serious legal offense. Maine requires a permit from the DEP\* and an applicator's license from the Pesticide Control Board to apply aquatic herbicides (or any other pesticides) to waters of the state. Homeowners are allowed to hand-remove a swath of vegetation 10 feet wide perpendicular from their shoreline out into the lake.. To do this, an owner needs to get a "Permit by Rule" from DEP. For information about permit by rule or if you have questions, contact your nearest regional DEP office.

# Online Community Resources

## *Newsletters:*

**LAA Newsletters:** Sign up by joining the association. Past issues posted on the LAA website.

**Canton Updates:** Sign up by sending your email address to [info@cantonme.org](mailto:info@cantonme.org) OR text message the word CANTONEVENT to 22828 and follow the prompts.

**Canton Crier:** To receive this hardcopy newsletter, provide your mailing address to the Canton Town Office.

**Hartford News:** sign up by sending your address to: [hartfdnews@megalink.net](mailto:hartfdnews@megalink.net)

## *Webpages:*

**Lake Anasagunticook Association** – [www.lakeanasagunticook.org](http://www.lakeanasagunticook.org)

**Town of Canton** – pending

**Town of Hartford** – <https://hartfordmaine.weebly.com>

**Canton Historical Society** – [www.cantonmehistorical.com](http://www.cantonmehistorical.com)

**Canton Bicentennial Committee** – <https://www.1821canton2021.org>

## *Facebook Pages:*

**Friends of Lake Anasagunticook** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/271189350112/about>

**Town of Canton, Maine** <https://www.facebook.com/cantonmaine/>

**Canton Volunteer Fire Department & Auxiliary** <https://www.facebook.com/canton-volunteer-fire-dept-215788898443562/>

## *Shore Landscaping Resources*

[Buffer Publication Resource List](#). This document lists publications available in Maine regarding lake buffers

[Buffer Handbook](#). A Guide to Creating Vegetated Buffers for Lakefront Properties (1998).

[Buffer Handbook Plant List](#). This 50-page publication contains a listing of and details about trees, shrubs, and groundcovers that could be used in planting or improving a buffer in Maine.

[Gardening to Conserve Maine's Natural Landscape: Plants to Use and Plants to Avoid](#) from University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

[Invasive plants](#) from the Maine Natural Areas Program.

[Yardscaping](#). Yard care tips with a conservation focus.

[LakeSmart Program](#), Maine Lakes Society.

[DEP Lakes Page](#). This webpage provides links to more information about lakes.







Assorted photo credits



**Lake Anasagunticook Association**  
**PO Box 411**  
**Canton, ME 04221**