

LAA Newsletter

The latest news from the
Lake Anasagunticook
Association.



Upcoming Events

4:00 PM Tuesday February 8	Board Meeting
TBD	Winter Events
4:00 PM Tuesday April 12	Board Meeting
4:00 PM Tuesday June 14	Board Meeting
4:00 PM Tuesday August 2	Board Meeting
Events TBD Saturday August 13	Lake Days
Time TBD Sunday August 14	Annual Members' Meeting

LAA –President's Message

Welcome to 2022! Your Lake Anasagunticook Association is happy to report that the results of all the hard work in partnership with Canton and Hartford has resulted in continued overall stability of the water quality of the lake. As I write this we have completed year one of the DEP grant work and are actively planning the details for year 2. It's no small feat to assemble all the volunteers, leadership, and various agencies involved to execute the many improvements in the watershed and shoreland Areas. So thanks to all of you who have helped along the way and supported the cause. Other accomplishments include the tremendously successful Canton bicentennial programs as well as events in Hartford and throughout the community. All of these efforts culminate in continued monitoring, testing, test and fixing water quality challenges where appropriate. Thank you all! Fundraising never ends and the new hats have almost sold out. Anyone who wants one should email Anasagunticook@gmail.com. Lastly as we enjoy all the cold-weather activities on the ice and throughout the watershed this winter, please respect the environment in the process and remove all trash and other materials as you come and go. We all need to do our part!

Tim Kirwan - LAA president

TKirwan1@gmail.com

Canton-Hartford Watershed Stewards



For More Information:

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
Interim: Tim Bernard, Lynn Hutter

Watershed Mitigation Work Underway!

With the Watershed Grant Award behind us – the hands-on work has begun and we are about ½ way through! 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 notice the paving on Camp Road, erosion control work at the Canton Water District and numerous roadside projects.

If you are a property owner in the watershed we can provide you a copy of your mitigation survey results - just reach out. 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 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-in TBD ??



This week there was a partial skin of ice that quickly melted in 40° temps and high winds. People likened the sound to the clacking of wooden wind chimes or ice cubes in a margarita!



Year-End Donations



Please keep in mind NOW is the time for year-end, TAX DEDUCTIBLE donations. We are a 501C-3 and your donations help power the engine for all our work on water quality. Long Live the Lake! Thank you in advance for your generosity.



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

Facebook: Friends of Lake Anasagunticook

Email: Anasagunticook@gmail.com

\$15 per person Annual Membership to LAA.

Events Recap for 2021

Thanks for the memories....😊

Canton Bi-Centennial saw a strong LAA presence

- ❑ **PR Booth – Community Fair** A team of LAA Reps spent the bulk of the day handing out LAA materials, selling hats and tickets for several wonderful raffle baskets. A good time was had by all, several new members signed up and we raised about \$600!
- ❑ **Managing the Snack Shack** as a fund raiser on Saturday evening August 7 was a great time – many hands make light work and we had some youth helpers as well AND we raised about \$600
- ❑ **Chicks with Sticks!** This amazing Calypso band was supported by the LAA for the finale of the Bicentennial events. Free ice-cream, cooling off in the Lake, perhaps an adult beverage!



Lake Days Saturday August 14: Because this followed so closely on the Bicentennial activity-heavy weekend we decided a relaxed afternoon was in order 😊

Annual Members' Meeting, Sunday August 15: This meeting was held at the Canton Historical Society and attended by approx. 20 members. Tom Hamilton provided an excellent update on the health of the lake, new Board Members were voted in and a draft budget was reviewed. See the FB page for additional document links.



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



Did you know?

Support our Loons!



We are talking about our feathered friends who spend the spring/summer/fall on the lake. We encourage NO WAKE ZONES in the mill pond and along nesting areas on the west side of the lake. This past year the number of new chicks appeared to be lower than before. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE help protect their habitats and help them continue to breed in safety.

Human impact on these birds varies based upon region and species. **Habitat destruction and pollution** make it difficult for loons in some areas to find food or nesting sites. Loons also accidentally eat lead sinkers abandoned while fishing, which can cause lead poisoning. Let's do our best to help them feel welcome!

LAKE SMART

WHAT IS LAKESMART?

LakeSmart is an education and reward program that helps lakefront homeowners manage landscapes in ways that protect water quality. The program is free, non-regulatory, and voluntary. Participating homeowners receive individualized suggestions for keeping pollutants in stormwater out of lake waters.

Maine Lakes partners with lake associations to deliver LakeSmart education property-by-property and shore-by-shore to create a conservation ethic across lake communities. Trained volunteers perform property assessments for participating homeowners. Sites that score well earn the coveted LakeSmart Award, consisting of two distinctive signs that can be posted at the waterfront and driveway. The signs identify the homes of good stewards and illustrate what lake-friendly living looks like.



If each homeowner does a little, the sum of many small actions adds up to a lot of lake protection. And being LakeSmart is the place to start!

See dianeraypfi@gmail.com or 717-314-7778 to schedule a Lake Smart visit!

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 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

Webpages:

Lake Anasagunticook Association – www.lakeanasagunticook.org

Town of Canton – www.cantonme.com

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

Canton Historical Society – 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 throughout include Prudy Adams, Paula Marsters, Philona Elliott, Tom Hamilton, Diane Ray and others



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