



The Toddy Ponder

Newsletter of the Toddy Pond Association

ISSUE 47 / SPRING 2022

Serving the towns of Orland, Surry, Penobscot and Blue Hill

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OUR MISSION

To protect Toddy Pond and its watershed through responsible stewardship and education so that we and future generations may enjoy its beauty.



Summer Welcome!

Again it's time for cleaning up the branches and remaining leaves from the yards and porches of camps and homes - a rite of spring in Maine, and a welcome one, as it begins the season of fun on the pond, visitors, friends, and cookouts! Over the Winter, the Toddy Pond Association's board members and committees continued to hold monthly meetings via Zoom to advance our works and plans for the Summer Season.

Read further about all of our activities and projects on the following pages. And as you do, consider volunteering for one of our committees, or projects, or helping out in any way you like. Toddy Pond needs Y_O_U!

An unfortunate incident occurred over the winter, with the positive identification of the invasive plant, variable milfoil in Alamoosook Lake. An in-depth article appears on the next pages.



10th Annual "Hail to Summer" Potluck

Sunday, June 26th, 2022 from 4-7PM

Whaaaat ? That's right, readers, we will transition from our traditional BBQ to an all potluck event this year at a new venue ! This year we will hold our TPA events in the spacious gymnasium at the Orland Community Center, providing us with plenty of space to set up information tables, display our line of Toddy Pond Swag, and with easily accessible parking and bathrooms. Bring an entree, a salad or a dessert to share. Of course TPA will provide waters, seltzers, sodas and coffee/tea. The TPA will follow updated CDC recommendations at the time.

NEW : We will have a Loon Information Table: Learn about what the newly formed TPA's Loon Committee is doing, and what you can do to get involved.

NEW: Gain useful knowledge about naturally occurring plants that live in Toddy Pond, through a fun game.

And . . . the return of "The Raffle Guy"!

And again: Purchase your Toddy Pond Swag, and see new designs!

As always, you can pay your Annual Dues !

Location: Orland Community Center, 21 School House Road in Orland



Calendar of Events:

Lead Buy Back at the Orland Boat Landing

May 28, 2022

(Rain Date May 29) 6-10AM

Annual Hail to Summer Potluck

June 26, 2022

Loon Count

July 16, 2022, 7:00-7:30 AM

Annual Membership Meeting

August 16, 2022

TPA Board Meetings:

5/11, 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14

Become an Ipper - Get Certified



"Ipper" is the short term for Invasive Plant Patroller. Uber Ippers are an informal but dedicated team of volunteers with years of experience and knowledge who travel the state to survey and help in response efforts when an invasive has been found. This year, they will be helping to complete a thorough survey at Alamoosook Lake following the discovery of an invasive milfoil last fall.

It takes years to become an Ipper, but anyone can step up their plant patrol knowledge by becoming a certified Plant Patroller, which also increases the quality of plant surveillance on any lake. Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) provides training and certification for Ippers. While certification is not required to be an Ipper, there is this opportunity to become a well-informed "citizen scientist". LSM offers an excellent online course to replace the former 6-hour classroom portion of IPP 101. Followed by participation in a 2.5 hour "Plant Paddle" or "Outdoor Plant ID" offered locally, one can become certified. This course familiarizes Ippers with the most common native plants as well as identification of suspicious or invasive plants and is quite suitable for beginners as well. It is also free!

Hancock County will hold three plant paddle or plant ID events this year as follows:

- Branch Lake- July 12
- Alamoosook Lake- July 28
- Flanders Pond- Aug 9

For more information about certification and events, visit www.lakestewardsofmaine.org or email me: lucy.leaf@yahoo.com.



Annual Membership Meeting: Tuesday, Aug 16, 2022 6:30 - 9:00pm

Join us at the Orland Community Center for deserts, coffee and tea. Our guest speaker will be Christopher Roy, warden from Maine State Fish and Wildlife for our region. Mr Roy is very familiar with Toddy Pond, spending much time here over several years and looks forward to meeting the good folks of Toddy Pond. After his presentation he will be available for discussion and to answer your wildlife and boating safety questions.

What's in it for You? You will be able to hear about the Toddy Pond Association budget, vote in your board members, make suggestions or present thoughts of how to improve our organization, ask questions of your board members, or even volunteer to become a board member. We are seeking additional board members !

Returning: We will gather in smaller breakout groups to discuss issues of concern to you - dam, budget, loons, milfoil, water quality - any topic that you would like to learn more about.

And again: Another opportunity to purchase MORE Toddy Pond Swag!



Invasive Milfoil found in Alamoosook Lake

In February, we received shocking news that Alamoosook is now added to the list of infested lakes in Maine. A rooted variable water-milfoil plant was found off an island in the mid-lake area and close to a loon nesting site. It was found in September by a plant patroller and sent to Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) as a suspicious plant. Due to COVID delays, the final DNA analysis wasn't completed until mid-winter. However, meetings have already been held with LSM, DEP, HCS&W, and other organizations including TPA who will lend a hand in further evaluating the spread of the infestation this spring and summer. Following that, a mitigation plan will be put into effect.



The only thing we can conclude at this point is that we now have found at least one invasive plant in Hancock County, in waters that are downstream from Toddy. The good news is that both Toddy and Alamoosook already have Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) and Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) programs in place which can be increased to accommodate this higher level of risk to our lakes. Early detection and mitigation have been successful on other lakes in Maine and hopefully, this will apply to our neighboring lake as well.

We are proposing the following regarding our IPP program:

1. Participation in specialized digital and local training offered by LSM
2. Increased group activity so we can share knowledge
3. Increased use of motorized craft
4. Use of additional scopes and equipment for better surveillance

Working with teams in Washington County last summer, we learned that using pontoon (party) boats was a game changer in determining the extent of the invasive milfoil infestation found on Big Lake. These platform type boats provided transportation for patrollers and their kayaks in getting to regions beyond public access ramps and allowed us to work effectively together. I am proposing this for Toddy as well.



This is a CALL TO PONTOON BOAT OWNERS on Toddy. IF YOU CAN OFFER TO TRANSPORT AND ACCOMPANY A GROUP OF KAYAKERS for 1-2 days between AUG 8-14 or thereabouts, please email lucy.leaf@yahoo.com. We will choose the best weather days of that week to survey various plant productive areas including the landing. And we can always use additional patrollers. All patrollers receive a copy of "Native Plants of Toddy Pond" and individual instruction is available for newcomers. Lucy Leaf, IPP Coordinator

A BIG Thank You to our 2021 IPPer Volunteers:

Lucy Leaf
Dede Carlsten
Linda Jellison
John Manfred
Robin Yurkevich
Terrie Perrine
Phil Tardiff
William & Janet Martin
Chris Dadian

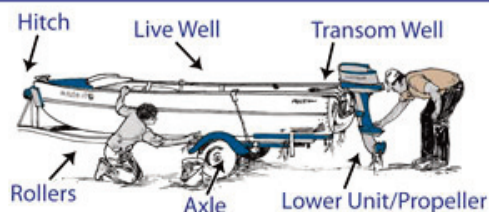
Nina Davis
Dave & Betty Parsons
Doug Randolph & Ellen Busching
Rob Giffin
Cindy Shulkosky
Robyn & Kurt Silberstein
Sarah Levy
Rachel Rosa
Donna & Yasuyki Tamaki

David Baron
Courtney Weaver
Richard & Yvette Tenney
Mark Pokras



TPA Introduces Random Boat Inspections

WATERCRAFT CHECK POINTS



When you leave a body of water:

- Clean** off any mud, plants (even small fragments), and animals from boats, trailers and equipment. If possible wash at home or at a car wash.
 - Drain** boat and equipment away from water.
 - Dry** anything that comes into contact with water.
- Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.

Last year, we increased hours of inspection to meet the increasing boat traffic seen on Toddy Pond since the pandemic started. We have learned a lot over the years regarding our CBI program, and this year the Board decided to focus on two areas of improvement: 1) increased efficiency and 2) sustainability of the program.

In 2021, efficiency was greatly increased by transmitting inspection data digitally, which is now a requirement to participate in the DEP program. Volunteer sign-up also became much easier with digital sign-up through our website. But adding more hours and more paid inspectors added to the coordinator's job, which is also now a paid position. And always, there is the weather problem, where both paid or volunteer inspectors are often sitting at the landing in fog or rain when few boats are entering. We also need to inspect more fishing boats earlier in the season and continue to emphasize education and self-inspection. While we have received some grant support in addition to DEP, grant funding is not something that can be relied on. We have had to think smarter and more creatively about

protecting our lake, understanding that it is not possible to cover all hours of boat traffic.

With all this in mind, following is our program for 2022. We are returning to six hour paid shifts Friday through Monday, which will be covered by just two paid inspectors. We will increase the season by covering weekends in May. We will continue using volunteers for 3-hour shifts, June-August, with the easy digital sign-up on the website. Volunteer days will be Tuesday thru Thursday this year.

To address the variable weather issue, we are adding a new pilot program this year called "random inspection". Our two paid inspectors have agreed to work additional hours at random times, such as added time on a busy day, early morning hours between 5-9 AM to reach fishing boats, and unfilled volunteer slots. This will all be during favorable weather only. We hope this will create a surprise element implying that an inspector could be present anytime.

We are always open to suggestions for improvement to our program. CBI is our biggest investment of time and money. Volunteers are vital to the program and can sign up for time slots of 9-12 or 12-3 and can easily reschedule if the weather is poor. Remember, CBI is the FIRST line of defense in preventing unwanted plants and species from entering our lake. If you can't be a volunteer inspector yourself but would like to support the program, please consider adding a donation to your membership, which is easy on our website, toddypond.org. I can be reached at 207-266-3212 or lucy.leaf@yahoo.com.

A BIG Thank You to our 2021 CBI Volunteers:

Marybeth Allen
Steve Antell
Alan Birk
Benjamin Branch
Ellen Busching
Siggy Cognetta
Rob Giffin
Floyd Johnson
Barbara Leaf

Adam & Sarah Levy
Bill & Janet Martin
Jerry Oliver
Dave & Betty Parson
Allie Pickering
Doug Randolph
Mark Restuccia
Phil & Rita Roberts
Kury & Robyn Silberstein

Phil Tardiff
Richard Tenney
Robin Yurkevicz
Joe Zimmerman



Browntail Moth Woes

Who would ever think we would need to fear a moth flying around our lamp or the sight of a caterpillar crawling across our deck? And yet here we are. The challenge with the browntail moth (BTM) derives mostly from the fact that throughout much of its life cycle (and especially in the very hairy caterpillar stage), it is armed with defensive, barbed hairs which break off and can cause **skin rashes, headaches, and even difficulty breathing**.



BTM caterpillars have dark brown bodies with a broken white strip running along each side of them. They have two red spots on their back and are covered in toxic, barbed hairs. They grow to about 1.5 inches in length.

Dangers associated with their barbed hairs include:

- The barbed hairs can cause severe rashes (similar to poison ivy), headaches, and significant respiratory problems.
- Their microscopic hairs remain toxic for 1-3 years.
- The small hairs can easily be stirred up by wind or while mowing, raking, gardening, or sweeping.
- Problems caused by their hairs are worst from May to July (when the caterpillars are most active) but can cause a reaction at any point during the year.
- Their cocoons (different from winter webs) are filled with their toxic hairs and should be handled/removed with care, preferably by a professional. (See toddypond.org for a list of licensed arborists who can provide this service.

Avoiding BTM caterpillars, especially coming into contact with their airborne hairs is difficult.

- Avoid areas that are heavily infested with these caterpillars. Indicators include vacated nests and defoliated trees and shrubs.
- Dry your laundry inside during the spring and summer months to help to avoid clothing, towels, and sheets from being covered in their barbed hairs.
- If you ever come into contact with these caterpillars or their hairs, change your clothing and take a cool shower. Make sure to wash your clothing thereafter.
- In areas that are heavily infested with their hairs wear masks, goggles, long pants, and shirts when performing a task that may stir up their hairs (raking, mowing, and weed whacking).
- Wipe or rinse off lawn furniture before sitting in them.
- Mow, work in the garden, and sweep on damp days when the high moisture levels help prevent the toxic hairs from becoming airborne.
- Turn off your outside lights from 10pm to midnight.
- A home remedy that includes a combination of cortisone cream, Benadryl ointment, and soothing aloe gel, can help to soothe the rash but stock up before summer as stores tend to sell out during the rash season.

We are beyond the point in time where we can reduce the population of their winter webs which is before April 15th. However, there is a great deal more BTM information available from the Maine Forest Service. Click on the picture of the BTM caterpillar on the website home page (toddypond.org) and it will link you to a number of informative videos that are available.

Did You Know . . . ?

There's a species of freshwater mussel called Eastern Elliptio (*Elliptio complanata*) that lives in Toddy Pond. It is an ecological indicator whose presence indicates a healthy lake. A filter-feeder, one adult mussel can filter 10 gallons of water in a single day. Up to 4 weeks of the developmental stage of the Eastern Elliptio is spent attached to the gills of a passing fish. It drops off the fish when it reaches the size of a grain of sand. Eastern Elliptio is food for otters, muskrats, and raccoons.



Elliptio complanata. (n.d.) University of Michigan Museum of Zoology: Animal Diversity Web. Retrieved Dec. 25, 2021, from https://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Elliptio_complanata/ Eastern Elliptio. (n.d.) Chesapeake Bay Program. Retrieved Dec. 25, 2021, from https://www.chesapeakebay.net/discover/field-guide/entry/eastern_ellip

Maine's New Loon Stewardship Project



On the afternoon of Sunday, April 27, 2003, just south of Westport, Mass., an oil tanker operated by the Bouchard Transportation Company passed on the wrong side of a navigational marker and struck rocks underwater, gouging a 12-foot hole in its hull. In the hours that followed, 98,000 gallons of heavy #6 fuel flowed into Buzzards Bay. The damage to natural resources was extensive and far reaching. Oil washed up along 100 miles of beaches, rocky shoreline, marshes and tidal flats. Shellfish, migratory birds, marine mammals, fish and invertebrates died directly because of the spill, with longer-term damage to their habitat and to water quality affecting survival for decades to come. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) estimated that 531 Common Loons over-wintering or migrating through the area of the spill died as a result of the spill. Since loons that breed in Maine are known to winter offshore along the New England coast, many suspected some of the dead loons were from Maine's breeding population. This was confirmed when oiled loons were discovered in Maine following the spill. More than 18 years later, a project funded by the responsible party will finally attempt to recover the "loon years lost" from the breeding population of Common Loons in Maine, the other New England states, and New York.

Who is leading this project in Maine?

Maine Lakes (<https://www.lakes.me>) is partnering with Maine Audubon, the lead organization, as well as Lakes

Environmental Association and the Penobscot Nation. Biodiversity Research Institute also received funding for loon productivity work primarily in northern and Downeast Maine. Funding for the project provided by the responsible party and administered by USFWS.

What are the goals of the project?

- To increase loon productivity across Maine by engaging volunteers to place, monitor, and maintain loon nesting rafts
- To conduct outreach and exchange programs that reduce the use of lead tackle
- To engage volunteers in outreach to lake users and in direct nest protection efforts that reduce disturbance to nesting loons and lethal collisions between boats and loon families

There are three main components of the project:

- **Artificial Nest Rafts:** In the right place, floating artificial nest rafts can increase the chance of loon eggs successfully hatching. Floating rafts go up and down with water level changes, so they are especially effective on lakes where water level changes consistently flood lakeside nests, causing them to fail. They also offer protection from predators. Floating nest rafts on lakes where hatching success is low has the potential to boost the number of loon eggs hatched.
- **Loon Rangers:** This project supports volunteers who will conduct outreach to lake users about loon safety and responsible boating practices near loons through lakeside interactions, signage, distribution of educational materials, and public presentations.
- **Lead Tackle Outreach:** Despite bans on some kinds of lead sinkers and lead-headed jigs, lead remains one of the leading causes of deaths for adult loons in Maine. This project funds continued outreach to anglers and angler groups, including lead tackle exchanges and lead tackle buy-back programs with retail stores.

Maine Audubon's Lead Buy Back

The Toddy Pond Association (TPA) is committed to protecting our loon population. Lead that enters our lake as lost or discarded fishing gear is a leading cause of death for adult Common Loons. The TPA is offering several ways to exchange lead tackle for loon safe non-lead tackle for free beginning Memorial Day Weekend.

- **May 28** 6 am -10 am Toddy Pond Boat Landing, Orland (rain date May 29)
- **June 26** TPA Potluck Dinner Orland Community Center (4-7pm)
- **August 16** TPA annual meeting Orland Community Center (6:30-9pm)
- **Drop off** lead tackle (without an exchange) at the Toddy Pond boat landing (anytime)

- **Visit Willey's Sport's Center** *Willey's* 248 State St, Ellsworth for a \$10 voucher when returning lead tackle



The Maine Lead Tackle Buyback Program is administered by Maine Audubon in partnership with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIFW) and funded by the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund.

What is the TPA Doing About Loons?

Responding to the apparent reduction in loon nesting success on Toddy Pond in recent years, and reflecting the priorities that were revealed in a recent survey of TPA members, TPA has established a small committee to determine if there are any steps that we can take to study and perhaps reverse the trend. What an amazing coincidence it was to discover that Maine Audubon had recently received a generous grant to address those same concerns. We quickly reached out to Tracy Hart of Maine Audubon to learn more about the grant and determine if we could piggyback on their efforts.

Tracy has been extremely helpful, willing to share resources and expertise. Our Toddy Pond committee is still feeling its way, recognizing that this will be a long-term commitment. Before jumping to solutions, we realize we need better data on



the loons currently on the pond. Our goal for this year is to recruit and train volunteers to start identifying loon breeding territories and documenting loon behaviors, starting as soon as possible after ice out in the spring and continuing throughout the breeding season. We will divide the pond into sections and ask each volunteer to survey their section on a weekly basis, recording their observations in the same system that Maine Audubon has developed for the rest of the state. At the same time, we will figure out a way to distribute brochures and other information on lead-free fishing gear and responsible boating practices. Any decisions about rafts

or other approaches will be made after we have a better handle on the current situation.

While we plan to rely on trained volunteers, everyone can help. If you know of a loon nest, see a chick, observe any unusual loon behavior, see an eagle harassing loons or, heaven forbid, find a dead loon, please contact Steve Antell (leafan@comcast.net, cell 802-734-1897) and fill him in. We also hope to pinpoint all eagle nests around the pond. There is one that has been in use for several years near Decorum Road, but there are undoubtedly others. Please contact Steve if you know of another nest. If you are wondering, we will continue to do the annual loon count on the third Saturday in July. It will be interesting to compare the information from the ongoing survey with the results from that one-day snapshot in time.



2022 ICE OUT DATES:

South Toddy - March 23
Middle Toddy - March 28
North Toddy - April 2

Here's How You Can Help

The lake we all love is under multiple threats. The lake into which our waters flow is now found to be infested with invasive water-milfoil. Small blooms of toxic algae have appeared in some of Toddy's coves. The dam that holds our waters is aging and in need of repair. Our loon counts indicate we need to step up our protective measures. If you are able to help, please consider joining one of our committees or even better, joining the board. Want to help but not a year-round resident? No problem – most of our meetings are conducted via Zoom.

TODDY POND COMMITTEES

- **Outreach:** Help organize the two summer events, contribute and publish the newsletter, maintain the website and social media, handle merchandise. Volunteers welcome for any part. Monthly zoom meetings as needed, year-round. Current Members: Robyn Silberstein (chair), Donna Foster, Lucy Leaf, Gaye Marie Rogers, Barry Johnson, Barb Leaf
- **Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP):** Choose a lake sector and patrol for invasive plant and animal species for 2-3 hours anytime, July-Sept. Current members: Lucy Leaf (chair), Linda Jellison, Dede Carlsten
- **Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI):** This occurs at the E.Orland boat landing. Sign up for 3 hour shifts. We will train you. June-Aug. Current Members: Barb Leaf (chair), Lucy Leaf (coordinator), Sarah LeVine
- **Loon:** Sign up for Loon Count (30 minutes on the 3rd Sat in July) and other loon protection activities. Monthly zoom meetings, June-Sept. Current Members: Steve Antell (chair), Mark Pokras, Robyn Silberstein
- **Water Quality:** Help do bi-weekly water testing. June-Sept. Current Members: Dick Salminen (chair), Phil Jellison, Rob Giffin, Floyd Johnson
- **Dam:** Attend meetings to learn how you can help. Monthly now, then quarterly. Year-round. Current Members: Donna Foster (chair), Chris Closs, Bob Jones
- **Development/Fundraising:** Help to increase membership, seek sponsors, organize fund-raising events and write grant proposals. Year-round. Current Members: Lucy Leaf (chair), Chris Closs, Sarah LeVine
- **Nominating/Governance:** Help with the nominating process of board members, officers; update bylaws as needed and monitor for compliance. Year-round, as needed. Current Members: Robyn Silberstein (chair) Barb Leaf, Lucy Leaf, Gaye Marie Rogers, Sarah LeVine
- **Finance:** Help with budgeting and financial oversight. Year-round. Quarterly zoom meetings. Current Members: Barbara Leaf (chair), Donna Foster, Chris Closs

Thank you to
Barry Johnson
for stepping up
as our IT
Consultant!



A BIG Thank You to our 2021 Loon Counters: 19 Loons!

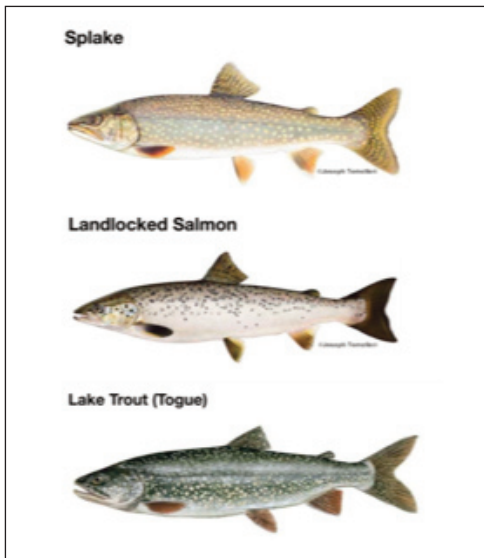
Steve Antell
Mark Pokras
Swazey Family
Linda & Phil Jellison
Barb & Rick Malm

John Manfred
Susan Thomas & Joan D'Agostino
Arn Krugman
Richard & Yvette Tenney
Rob & Maureen Giffin
Chris Dadian

Nina Davis
Robyn Silberstein
Donna Foster



Slim's Fishing Derby 2022



Described as “the best year yet”, this year’s ice fishing derby brought in a record number of participants for the weekend event held Feb 19-20. This event, held annually at the Toddy Pond landing, honors the memory of Jimmy “Slim” Douglas, an avid outdoorsman and noted member of the Deer Isle Fire Department. All proceeds go to a scholarship fund in his memory given to high school seniors across Hancock County, which amounted to \$7,000 after giving out \$4,000 in prizes.

While the weigh-in takes place at the Toddy landing, fish can be taken from ice-covered legal fishing waters across Hancock County. Fifty-one fish were weighed in, just ten coming from Toddy. Following is the organizer’s report for Toddy Pond, which included two splake, two salmon, a perch, three togue and two bass. “Both bass were just over 2.5lbs and 17 inches long. Average togue weight was 1.7lbs. The surprise was a 4.93lb salmon. An odd fish that caused quite a commotion, as its appearance strongly resembled a brown trout, but biologically was a salmon.”

This first prize salmon, caught by Autumn Robbins, measured in at 24.82 inches. The first prize togue weighed 3.04lbs, and first prize brown trout was 2.99 lbs. The biggest bass came in at 4.44lbs, length 20.21 inches

2022 Toddy Pond Merchandise

We are happy to report merchandise sales were quite successful last season. We will be ordering some inventory for May availability. Check out our website to see new designs and availability. Plant books and histories are available now.



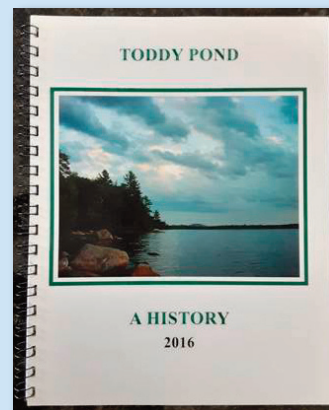
Bass Hat – 25.00



Black Cap - 20.00



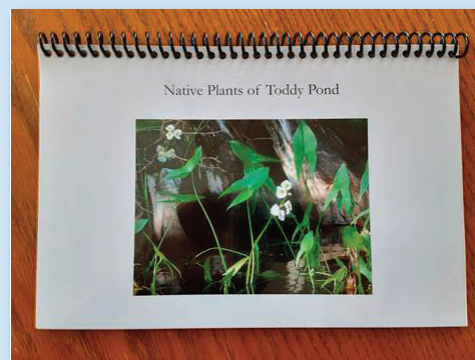
Youth Tee – 20.00



**Toddy Pond History
2016 – 20.00**



Be on the lookout for our newest tee shirt design! Available in mid May on our website and at the TPA Potluck.



Native plants of Toddy Pond – 15.00

Sponsors & Contributors

A Huge THANK YOU to our generous sponsors for helping to protect Toddy Pond



Maine Community Foundation
Your partner in philanthropy

A Special Thank You to Ram Island Conservation Fund

Thank you to our anonymous donors.

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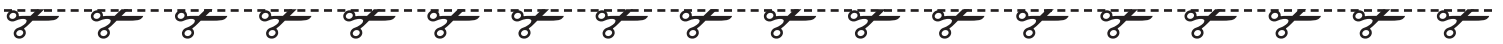
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Are you a business owner or an organization? Consider becoming a TPA contributor or sponsor. Toddy Pond Association is a 501(c)(3) organization so your donation is tax deductible. You can receive recognition in our newsletter and on our website while helping to preserve Toddy Pond. Our newsletter is sent to approximately 550 lake property owners twice a year. The donation is just \$100 for contributors, \$250 for sponsors. Contact Lucy Leaf at 207-266-3212 or lucy.leaf@yahoo.com

It is that time of year again. Please **renew** your annual membership sooner than later. If you are not yet a member, we **welcome** you to **join**. Memberships and donations are critical to keeping our organization viable and current especially in light of the most recent milfoil discovery on Alamoosook. You can utilize PayPal via our website or you can mail in a check using the membership form in this newsletter. We cannot thank you enough for your participation.



it's time to
**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP**



TPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member _____ Returning Member _____ for Year _____

Name(s) _____

Seasonal Address: _____ City/State _____

Permanent: _____ City/State: _____

Email(s) _____ Phone: _____

Memberships: Please note we have replaced our enclosed envelopes with this form to cut out and include with your payment. Our membership year is from January to December, however, if you are unsure whether you are up to date with your dues, contact Barbara Leaf at leafan@comcast.net or 802-734-4102 and she will be happy to provide that information. You can also pay dues and/or donations via the TPA website at: toddypond.org. The Toddy Pond Association is a 501©3 tax-exempt organization. Membership dues and donations are fully deductible.

Family – 1 year: (\$30) _____

Protector – (\$31 - \$99)	_____
Steward – (\$100 - \$199)	_____
Advocate – (\$200- \$499)	_____
Benefactor – (\$500+)	_____

If you have included a donation, can we publish your name as a donor? Yes No

Please send checks to: **Toddy Pond Association, PO Box 645, Blue Hill, Maine 04614**

Please circle the activities in which you would like to be involved:

Boat Inspections, Loon Count, Invasive Plant Patrol, Dam, Potluck (Jun), Annual Meeting (Aug), or Contact Me

Did you Know . . . ? There was an *Age of Ferns* 350 million years ago when ferns and club mosses were the dominant land plants and could grow to *100 ft tall!* It was called the Carboniferous Period. These tree-sized ancient ferns and club mosses decayed and formed most of the world's coal. *Circinate vernation* is the term for the fiddlehead shape of many emerging ferns. There's a fern called Virginia Chain Fern (*Woodwardia virginica*) that grows on the floating islands between North and Middle. An evergreen fern called Rock Polypody (*Polypodium virginianum*) grows on big rocks, often covering most of the rock. You may see it along your camp road or in your yard. One fern writer calls it, "the cheerful community of the polypody".

Walewski, J. (21016). *Ferns and Allies of the North Woods*. Kolath Stensaas Publishing.

Parson, F.T. (1902), *How to Know the Ferns: A guide to the names, haunts, and habits of our common ferns*. Charles Scribner's Son.



TODDY POND ASSOCIATION

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