

## What does your Richmond Pond Association do?

### Our Purposes:

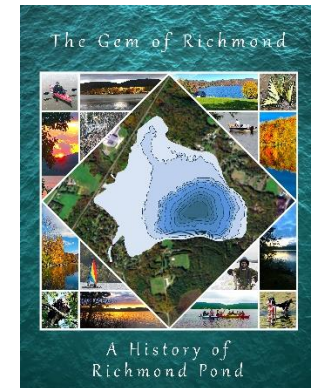
- Promote and support the pond's preservation and protection, and maintain and enhance the natural environmental, recreational, aesthetic and economic values to the public of Richmond Pond and its watershed.
- Educate the public about the importance of preserving and protecting Richmond Pond, its watershed, and the wetland values associated with the pond.
- Assist town, regional, state and federal governmental bodies, nonprofit environmental organizations, and planning agencies to facilitate financial support for pond preservation and protection, including repairs to the dam and other infrastructure.
- Establish an information base regarding the pond, and serve as a member of the Lakes and Ponds Association of Western Massachusetts and similar organizations, and advance the exchange of ideas and information regarding the protection and preservation of the pond.
- Conduct other such activities and programs in furtherance of the foregoing purposes as may be carried out by a corporation organized under the M.G.L. c 180 and described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### Recent Specific Projects - many in collaboration with the Richmond Town Administrator & others:

- Maintain a highly informative website ([www.richmondpondassociation.org](http://www.richmondpondassociation.org)) & email regular updates to our subscribers.
- Conduct a summer "annual meeting" to inform the public about pond health strategies & solicit input on pond matters.
- Develop & implement a Lake Management Plan (ongoing).
- Support pond health efforts financially.
- Provide input on herbicide & other weed management strategies to control invasive weeds & nuisance native weeds.
- Educate pond users to ensure clean boats; this has helped keep zebra mussels & other invasives out of the pond.
- Educate pond users about safe boating & swimming practices.
- Engage in RPA board member education through regional & state workshops.
- Respond to homeowner concerns regarding sound & light annoyances, canal health, & swimmer safety by facilitating conversations & solutions.
- Conduct regular testing of the 4 tributaries & the pond's outlet by RPA volunteers.
- Developed a protocol for water testing of the pond's beaches & generation of related communication alerts as needed.
- Updated the depth charting of the pond.
- Proactively assisted Mass Audubon in creating Tracy Brook Wildlife Sanctuary on a portion of the former Girl Scouts' Camp Marion White.
- Developed & implemented an all-pond goose management plan.

### Additional Projects:

- Historically, proactively advocate for pond health in other ways, such as limiting development parameters around the pond.
- Published A History of Richmond Pond book (\$20) in February 2022, still available at Bartlett's & local bookstores.



### RPA actual budget (July 2021-June 2022)

Income: \$25,686    Expenditures: \$23,065

Your contributions constitute most of our revenues, in addition to dues paid by member organizations. Annual expenses vary, based on initiatives. We earmark \$2,000 annually to both the dam maintenance fund and canal restoration fund. Revenues from history book sales have already exceeded publishing costs.

### Historical major expenses:

- Tributary testing & pond studies
- Assist with costs of weed treatments, boat ramp monitors & dam maintenance
- Annual newsletter

**Richmond Pond** is a 218-acre raised great pond, with a maximum depth of 53 feet, located in Richmond and Pittsfield, MA. It has a public boat launch ramp for small boats, a kayak launch dock, the Richmond town beach, 2 summer camps and 182 seasonal cottages and year-round dwellings, about 55 of which are at shoreline. MassWildlife fish surveys list 14 species: largemouth bass, rock bass, black crappie, chain pickerel, yellow perch, bluegill, sunfish, pumpkinseed, brown bullhead, common shiner, and bridle shiner, including the stocked rainbow, brook and brown trout.



### **How can you help?**

- **Learn more** about RPA and the pond at [www.richmondpondassociation.org](http://www.richmondpondassociation.org)
- **Sign up as a subscriber** to the RPA website network to receive free updates. Go to website's *About Us* page, cursor down to bottom, enter your email address & click on *Sign Up*.
- **Contribute to the RPA** – As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, donations are tax deductible. Send a check to Richmond Pond Association or visit the website's home page & click on *Donate Now*.

- **Volunteer** to serve on the Richmond Pond Association board (contact any RPA officer or ask your association or camp to designate you).

### **RPA Officers:**

Please contact any RPA officer with suggestions or concerns. We'd love to hear from you.

Ken Kelly, President (413) 329-9678  
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Doreen Donovan, Secretary (413) 441-7455  
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### **Mailing Address:**

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### **Website:**

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



# Richmond Pond Association



### **Our Mission:**

To preserve, protect, maintain and enhance the rural, environmental, recreational, aesthetic and economic values of Richmond Pond.

### **RPA Member Organizations:**

- Camp Russell (Boys & Girls Club of the Berkshires)
- Camp Arrow Wood (Mill Town Capital)
- Branch Farm Association
- Richmond Shores Civic Association
- South Pond Farm Association
- Whitewood Association
- Independent cottages

We are assisted in our work by the Richmond Town Administrator, a representative of the Richmond Conservation Commission, and the Parks, Open Spaces & Natural Resources Manager for the City of Pittsfield.

We welcome the public to our meetings!