

Country Pond Lake Association

Meeting at Kingston Public Library

August 16, 2021 7:00 pm

Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:06

Present: Susan, Bill, Jen, Greg, Linda, Jeff, Tobi, Jeannie

Guests: Evy Nathan, Paul Dearborn,

Zoom: Amy Smagula, NHDES

Special Topic: Naiad Infestations

We are experiencing an infestation of 2 types of Naiads. Greg shared a picture of the northern end of the lake infested with Southern Naiad, which although native to Country Pond, is growing extensively and covering about 13 acres of surface area at the northern end of the lake. Three years ago, when we had a drought we had excessive Southern Naiad growth, but nowhere near as extensive as it is this year. People who have lived here for a lifetime have noted that they have never experienced this level of growth.

Amy informed us that they can only address the Spiny Naiad as it is an invasive species.

Naiads tend to grow in darker water ponds, mostly in Southern NH lakes. Some years are very abundant, and others may not experience much at all. NHDES has been treating Millville Lake for 4 years. Naiads are tricky and not a lot of research has been done to figure out how to treat them. They are very brittle and act like a tumble weed. Southern Naiad typically grows in 10-12 ft. water depth, Spiny Naiad only 2-3 ft. County pond has an average depth of 8 ft.

There is nothing NHDES can do this year for treatment, but Amy will come out to observe and map the infestation. She will then work to get a permit for 2022 and work with a contractor on the bid process. Permitting is done through the NH Dept. of Agriculture. We would likely get a permit in April for a May or June treatment. Spiny Naiad blooms in late June to early July. The entire process takes about 5 months.

Treatment options, effectiveness and costs:

- Herbicide Treatment
 - Diquat \$700-\$1000 per acre. Could be as much as \$100k
 - Diquat is very mild, swimming restrictions for 24 hours and irrigation restrictions for a couple of days
 - Would need an abutters list and tax maps for anyone within 200 ft of treatment zone
- Mechanical Harvesting
 - Was done at Powwow Pond to make a narrow channel, cost about \$7k
 - Used Solitude Lake Management, raised funds through fund raising
- Buoys to keep boats away from infested areas
- What can we do?

- Raking, digging or dredging requires a permit
- Anything that floats up can be removed
- Residents can clear a certain distance around beach and docks, we will need to reach out to NH Wetlands to find out what that area is so we can advise residents
- It is very brittle and breaks and seeds spread

We could experience Cyanobacteria blooms in fall late Sept /Oct as plants start to die off and release nutrients.

Mapping infestations

- Southern Naiad
 - Greg will continue to update map of southern Naiad
 - Montoni's point very thick
 - In front of Barb and Gino's
- Spiny Naiad
 - Tobi sent a map of Spiny Naiad on Aug 9th.
 - Tobi will finish mapping Spiny Naiad

Review and accept minutes from last meeting:

Jeannie made a correction and made a motion to accept with correction, Susan 2nd, all in favor by email.

Treasurers report:

- Financial update
 - Bank Balance \$2,553.89
 - Payments to NHLAKES made for Lake Host

Committees:

- VLAP: No new results. Bill talked to DES in Concord and got extra bottles, they are in his shed
- Social Media:
 - Sep 2nd Cyano advisory lifted - reached 224, 64 engagements, 4 shares, 5 likes
 - Aug 27 Cyano advisory - reached 1081, 308 engagements, 8 shares, 2 comments
 - Aug 26 possible Cyano bloom - 294 reached, 87 engagements, 5 comments, 5 shares, 1 like
 - Aug 24 * CPLA ANNUAL RAFFLE 175 reached, 42 engagements, 2 likes, 4 shares
 - Aug 19th Weeds! Naiad spiny alert: 485 reached, 295 engagements, 5 comments, 9 shares, 12 likes
 - Aug 17th possible Cyano blooms - 132 reached, 480 engagements, 2 likes, 3 comments, 4 shares
 - July 30 NH lakes webinars share - 121 reached, 5 engagements, 1 like, 1 share
 - July 20 State Removes Cyanobacteria Advisory - 338 reached, engagements 57, 6 shares, 5 likes
 - July 15 A cyanobacteria bloom has been observed - 1835 reached, 610 engagements, 13 shares, 9 likes, 3 comments
 - July 14 **CYANOBACTERIA ALERT** 223 reached, 330 engagements, 1 like, 2 comments, 4 shares
 - July 14 lots of rain post - 672 reached, 296 engagements, 12 likes, 3 comments, 9 shares.
- Weed Watchers: Will continue to map Spiny Naiad
- Lake Host:

- Greg made a motion made to increase budget by \$500 to extend coverage through Labor Day (weekends only). Susan 2nd, all in favor.

Communications:

- Letter to Newton PD – not from CPLA
- Email from Tully – culvert near boat ramp, pictures of old culvert?
- Email from Alicia - Naiad
- Blasts done: Cyano alert, Alert removed
- Thank you/receipt letters for membership donations
- Email blast to do –
 - Raffle – Susan will send an update on the raffle items, and ask CPLA members to purchase, raffle tickets to be sold and raffled at WGCOA cook off August 28th.
 - Lake Host open shifts
 - Naiad, inform members of the infestations, and that we are working with NH DES to see what our options are, and will communicate as we learn more. Attach the fact sheet, and the link to the pond weeds webinar.
- Website updates
 - Board meeting minutes added to Docs page
 - Supporters updated

Old Business:

- Watershed Assistance Grant application
 - Landowner permissions –
 - Susan will draft letters to have Adams and Kimballs sign
 - NHDES notified of intent to apply
 - Application and supporting documents due Sept 17

New Business:

- Discussion on purchase of Buoys to say Keep Out, may be cost prohibitive as each is several hundred dollars.

Next Meeting Date and Place: Tuesday, Sept 14th 7pm Kingston library

Adjourn: 9:09

To do list:

Raffle - Reach out early April to CPLA membership to get donations
Annual Meeting Planning
Ice Fishing Derby coordinate with Fish and Game