



Long Pond Association

Lakeville and East Freetown Massachusetts

Hello from Long Pond Association!

We are pleased to bring you our first newsletter of the 2026 season!

Our Association's objective is to reach out to you - someone who has an interest in the lake and its future - to tell you a little bit about who we are, what we are doing to preserve the quality of this body of water that we all love - and, candidly, to ask you for your help and support.

Thanks to your support and the ongoing efforts of Senator Michael Rodrigues, the Association has accomplished a lot recently: we have secured another state grant in the amount of \$60,000, we are in the process of improving and upgrading our very own D.A.S.H. (diver assisted suction harvesting) boat, we engineered a very successful weed harvest last August, we secured an EP SNEP Capital Mini-Grant in the amount of \$3,000 and we conducted our first major fundraiser last summer and raffled off a 2024 Sun Tracker pontoon boat!

But here's the best part: we have achieved one of our most ambitious goals years ahead of schedule: we recently purchased our own Eco Harvester! This exciting purchase will allow us to harvest even more weeds on our own schedule and save money in the process because we won't have to pay outside firms to help us. Keep an eye out on the pond for our D.A.S.H. boat and our Eco Harvester this summer!

We are looking forward to a great season on the lake - and we hope we can count on you to get involved and lend a helping hand!

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Our Annual Meeting Update

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Meeting on Saturday, July 26 at the Lakeville Town Library.

And a special thank you to State Senator Mike Rodrigues and Lakeville Select Board member Paul Hunt for joining us as well! And welcome to our newest board member, Andrew Butrick of Lakeville!



One of the meeting's highlights was the good news that we received from Senator Rodrigues. He announced that the **Long Pond Association state grant in the amount of \$60,000** was once again included in next year's budget which Governor Healey signed earlier in July. Thank you, Senator Rodrigues, for all your efforts on our behalf! These funds will go to great use, helping us continue to fight the invasive weeds in Long Pond!

The meeting was a huge success.



SNEP Restoration Capital Mini-Grants

The **Long Pond Association** is the proud recipient of an **EPA's SNEP** (Southeast New England Program) **Capital Mini-Grant** in the amount of **\$3,000**, through a partnership with **Restore America's Estuaries** (RAE). **LPA** used this generous grant to purchase much needed technology equipment, including an HP laptop, color laser printer, monitor and docking station!



This equipment helps us to operate more efficiently, update critical software and improve communication.

This purchase was supported by the Environmental Protection Agency as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$3000 with 100 percent funded by EPA. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by EPA, or the U.S. Government.



Weed Harvesting

Setting a record!

The **LPA** concluded eight days of weed harvesting in August, with record-breaking results! The conditions were perfect the entire time, and we removed more weeds from the pond than ever before. We pulled approximately 210 bags of invasive weeds from the north side of Goat Island, Point of Pines and the Freetown Beach area.



Even better, we received all the equipment we had ordered to finish building out our own "D.A.S.H." (diver assisted suction harvesting) pontoon boat and will have it ready to go this summer. Stay tuned for more details!



Support the Long Pond Association & its mission!

As a non-profit, all volunteer organization, we need your help in continuing our mission.

If you have not joined the Association, please consider doing so today – it is only \$25 per year! You can apply for membership by clicking on this link

Tinyurl.com/LPA-Membership

Please consider volunteering to help in some capacity. We have a great group but as the saying goes, many hands make light work. So please help by getting involved. All assistance is greatly appreciated, but we could especially use help from people with experience in insurance and grant writing. Send us an email at LongPondContact@gmail.com to let us know if you would like to get involved – or even just if you would like additional information.

We're always looking for sponsors: As a non-profit, we rely upon support from not only our membership dues but also from the generous support of area businesses and organizations. Interested? Learn more about sponsorships by visiting this link: LongPondAssociation.org/Donate

As we look ahead to next year and another great season on the lake, please consider helping us make it even better! We look forward to hearing from you.

2025 Slo-Poker Run

Friends of Lakeville Eagles and Long Pond Association

We are grateful to all who participated in our **2025 Slo-Poker Run**, held in conjunction with **Friends of Lakeville Eagles**. The weather was perfect, and the event was a huge success.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helps us in our continuing efforts to protect Long Pond!

Pontoon Boat Raffle

We have a winner! Our first major fundraiser was a resounding success. Our Association raffled off a 2024 Sun Tracker pontoon boat with a 75 horsepower Mercury engine. We sold 492 out of 500 available tickets, and Geoff Loftus from Lakeville was the raffle winner. **Congratulations, Geoff!**

It was a fun event; everyone enjoyed the great music provided by Shenanigan's, food, cold beverages, and of course the people who were there. A huge thank you to everyone that supported the raffle!

Please visit our website:

LongPondAssociation.org