

DES VOLUNTEER LAKE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

VLAP was launched in 1985 to establish a citizen-based lake sampling program to assist NH DES in evaluating lake quality throughout the state, and to empower citizens with information about the health of the state's lakes and ponds. Forest Lake has been participating in the VLAP program since its inception. Over the years many FLIA members have been trained by the state to conduct bi-annual water sampling on Forest Lake and in the watersheds surrounding the lake. One of our lake families have been involved in the VLAP for 30 years spanning two generations.

Water testing has been an important factor in managing the reduction of milfoil growth and identifying potential high-risk situations when Phosphorus counts climb. Phosphorus levels aid in advance growth of milfoil and it is imperative that the FLIA maintain a steady watch on the TP counts in Forest Lake and the watersheds that feed the lake. In 2008 members of the FLIA were recognized by the state with the VLAP Secchi Disk Annual Award for service and dedication to the VLAP program. FLIA members are proud of the long-standing tenner the Association has in the VLAP.

If this sounds like something you would have fun with, please reach out and let us know. We are always looking for members to join the FLIA team of VLAP monitors. One morning, twice a year and lots of laughs. DES joins us frequently and they are a wealth of knowledge when they are on the lake with us.