

From: Winnisquam Watershed Network winnisquamwatershednetwork@gmail.com
Subject: Quarterly News Update from the Winnisquam Watershed Network
Date: March 23, 2018 at 1:12 PM
To: ldeggleston@gmail.com

WW



WINNISQUAM WATERSHED NETWORK

NEWS FOR THE NETWORK

March 2018

Members and friends of the Winnisquam Watershed Network,

It's been eight months since the [Winnisquam Watershed Network](#) (WWN) was formally launched, and we have been hard at work getting the organization off the ground and pursuing our mission to preserve and protect the lake for future generations. Our aim is to work with state and local entities, our members, and volunteers in the pursuit of this mission, and to provide a key role in coordinating the water quality monitoring and milfoil prevention and control efforts for Lake Winnisquam. Here's a summary of what we've been up to, and how you can help:

- We have received federal designation as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. This makes all donations to the Winnisquam Watershed Network tax-deductible, and enables us to pursue additional grants to help support our mission.
- The WWN is taking steps to implement a lake-wide management plan for variable milfoil in Lake Winnisquam beginning this year. As opposed to the spot treatments that have been conducted in the past, we believe that consistent implementation of a lake-wide long-term milfoil management plan, in conjunction with the prevention, public education and early detection measures that we are also working on, will be the most successful and cost-effective means of preventing the spread of variable milfoil in Lake Winnisquam and limiting its impact in areas that have already been infested. Working with the WWN, staff from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) have updated their mapping of the milfoil in the lake and developed a recommended *2018 Long-Term Variable Milfoil Management Plan for Lake Winnisquam*. The plan calls for a controlled herbicide application in areas with the densest infestation (approximately 21 acres), and up to 25 days of professional diver assisted harvesting in additional areas of invasive milfoil.

professional diver-assisted harvesting in additional areas of invasive milfoil growth. The WWN has obtained competitive bids for the recommended work and estimates the total cost of the program for the 2018 growing season at about \$45,500. We have been awarded a \$11,380 Exotic Plant Control Grant from NHDES that will fund 25 percent of the work. We have also met with representatives of each of the five municipalities bordering the lake to discuss our strategic long-term management plan for milfoil and request local matches for this year's program. To date we have received commitments totaling about \$16,000 from three of them, and we believe that additional funding will be forthcoming from the other two municipalities shortly. In order to fully fund the 2018 milfoil program we need your help too - please consider making a tax-deductible [donation](#) today.

- Also starting this summer the WWN will coordinate a volunteer [Weed Watcher Program](#) for Lake Winnisquam to help detect any new invasive plant growth, including variable milfoil, water chestnut, fanwort and the like. If caught early enough, we can manage these growths with low-tech methods like hand pulling and prevent them from infesting the whole lake. We're looking for volunteers to help conduct once-monthly weed surveys of the shoreline areas near them. This is a great way for residents to get involved - volunteers will be instructed on how to conduct a weed survey, what to look for, and who to contact if there is a problem. They will also receive a binder full of information on the program and details on the most threatening invasives, and a plant identification key for common aquatic plants. The only equipment needed is a boat, a helper or two, and a nice bright summer day. We will be scheduling a Weed Watcher training session at the lake in late May or early June so please let us know if you are interested in participating. We'd like to get volunteers trained to cover each sector of the lake. If you would like to get involved, [contact us](#) today.
- Last summer, WWN volunteers implemented the first tier of a comprehensive water quality monitoring program for Lake Winnisquam, bringing together the efforts of two volunteer monitoring programs that have been operating on the lake for many years; the UNH Lakes Lay Monitoring Program (LLMP) and the NH DES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP). This comprehensive program provides better coordination of resources, builds on the data that has already been collected, and helps us assess water quality trends and identify pollutant sources to the lake. This year the WWN is aiming to implement the next tier of the comprehensive plan and monitor additional locations in the lake as well as some of the tributaries that flow into it. We are also planning to add [cyanobacteria](#) to the list of parameters that we will monitor, as this is an ongoing water quality concern. We are applying for grants to help with the cost of equipment and laboratory analyses, but we really need additional volunteers to help us conduct the monitoring. We will provide the training needed. This is another great way to get involved and is not a major time commitment, so please [contact us](#) today and let us know if you can help.
- We have begun collaboration efforts with the Lakes Region Planning Commission and area municipal planners to offer our assistance with the development of a Watershed Management Plan for the Winnisquam watershed and anticipate additional collaboration as work on the plan progresses. The data generated by our water quality monitoring program and a planned tributary assessment will help inform that process.
- The WWN hopes to organize a Lake Cleanup Day sometime in late July or August 2018. The purpose of the Cleanup Day is twofold: to remove litter and

August 2018. The purpose of the Cleanup Day is twofold, to remove litter and debris from the lake and to engage residents and visitors in the stewardship of Lake Winnisquam. We're looking for [volunteers](#) to participate as well as to help plan the event. This is a great activity for neighborhood groups to do together!

- The WWN Board has been keeping tabs on a proposed 200-unit RV development on the former Anchorage property in Tilton. The 34-acre mostly wooded property is a prominent feature on the southwestern shore of Lake Winnisquam. We have posted a copy of the [concept plan](#) for the development and will add updates if and when a formal application is filed with the Tilton Planning Board and a public hearing is scheduled.
- The logo design contest we held this winter did not produce any designs that met our criteria, so the Board is now working with a professional designer to develop a logo for the WWN. We are also working on developing informational materials about the organization and public information brochures about lake stewardship. If you have any skills you can lend to this effort or access to discounted printing services we'd love to [hear from you](#).
- Please spread the word about the WWN and help us build our membership! We are a lake association for the entire Winnisquam watershed collaborating to care for Lake Winnisquam, and we want to maximize participation. For a nominal annual fee of \$25.00, members can support our programs, stay up to date on our activities, and help ensure that we are doing everything we should to preserve the lake for future generations. Encourage your fellow lake lovers to click the "[Join Us](#)" button on the [Winnisquam Watershed Network](#) website.
- Several WWN Board members will be attending the [NH Lakes Congress](#) in Meredith on June 1st, 2018. Please plan on joining us for a great day of environmental education on how to help protect our lake.
- What skills do you have that can help further our mission? We are seeking additional volunteers to help with fundraising and membership campaigns, website design and management, and education and awareness. Or join one of our committees and help coordinate the milfoil control, water quality, and weed-watching programs and lake cleanup day. Our partners who coordinate the Lake Host invasive species prevention program at the Water Street Ramp in Laconia are also looking for volunteer [Lake Hosts](#) for off-peak hours, and we'd be happy to put anyone interested in touch with them. If you'd like to get more involved in the WWN please consider running for election to the Board of Directors at our next annual meeting.
- The 2018 annual meeting of the Winnisquam Watershed Network is scheduled for 9 am on July 28th at the Leslie J. Roberts Town Beach in Belmont. Additional details will be provided in advance of the meeting. We encourage all those interested to attend.

I hope you are excited by the work that the Winnisquam Watershed Network is doing, and inspired to support us with a monetary donation and/or a few hours of your time each month, and to encourage your neighbors and friends to do likewise. Together, we can ensure that all we cherish about Lake Winnisquam is protected for future generations to enjoy.

On behalf of the WWN Board of Directors,
Lisa Faaleston. President

www.winnisquamwatershed.org



Donate

Copyright © 2018 *WinnisquamWatershedNetwork!*, All rights reserved.
You are a member of the Winnisquam Watershed Network.

Contact us: winnisquamwatershednetwork@gmail.com

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [unsubscribe from this list](#)

This email was sent to ldeggleston@gmail.com
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Winnisquam Watershed Network · PO Box 502 · Winnisquam, NH 03289 · USA

MailChimp.