

Lake Life

For Members of the Baboosic Lake Association
October 2006 Edition

Once again we come to the end of another summer season. Fall is here, the foliage is starting to sparkle around the lake and when the water is calm, the reflections are breathtaking. People are busy taking in the summer toys and getting things buttoned up for the winter months ahead.

Let's take a moment to reflect back on some past events. We saw some of the highest water levels this spring at the lake. We had a cyanobacteria algae bloom in late August, which in a way was good for us, because many of the other lakes in NH were having problems earlier in the year and for longer durations. Our good fortune could be attributed to you and many of the good things going on around the lake. By being lake smart, having your septic systems pumped out once a year and replacing your old systems with more efficient models. Being careful of what products you use in and outside of your homes. Not fertilizing your lawns, dumping sand, and maintaining a natural vegetation buffer along the shoreline also helps tremendously. Like I have said before, every little bit helps. The community septic is going into phase II, in which more homes will be getting hooked up to it. The grant for uncontrolled storm water runoff is moving along. We spent over 8 hours one day, going around the lake and watershed with two engineers, targeting problem runoff areas. Our social committee, headed by Ellen and Marie and their crew of helpers, had a busy summer schedule for you to enjoy. They started it off with a boat parade. I can still hear that air horn from the Cell block crew. Followed that up with two ice cream socials, that you all consumed 35 gallons of ice cream and toppings. A cardboard boat race, luminary night and a morning canoe/kayak breakfast. If that wasn't enough, they ended the social calendar with a spectacular cookout with over 130 adults and children attending. Chowing down the great food and strawberry shortcake and ice cream for dessert. The kids were busy at the craft table and waiting for their gift bag raffle. Once again, clothing was on top of their game with a well stocked inventory and many new items for you to choose from.

I would just like to take a moment to thank all the Board members and Association members for their hard work and dedication they put forth this year. Whether it was helping out on BLA social events, water testing, weed watching, e-coli testing, the newsletter, clothing sales or any other issues that involved the lake. Thank you.

Just a few reminders for our winter users of the lake. Please use extreme caution when on the ice this winter. Be it ice skating, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, walking or snowmobiling; make sure it is thick enough to support you and your winter activity. Remember, if it doesn't look safe, it probably isn't or when in doubt; don't go out on the ice. Please be careful of the buoys around the lake. We put some reflective tape on them so they are more visible for the snowmobilers and ATV riders. Also, please don't let your pets out on the thin ice, think of their safety too.

Boater Safety Course

This is just a Reminder from the safety committee that anyone born between 1964 and 1957 is required to take the Boater Safety Course by January 1, 2007. Anyone born before 1957 is required to take the course by January 1, 2008.

Important: The online test stops on January 1 of 2007. If you don't pass your test by then, you are required to take a proctored test in person. Taking the test online is convenient for many people, so if you want to do so, it must be taken this year.

The link to do so is at: <http://www.boat-ed.com/nh/index.htm>

Web Site

The Baboosic Lake Associations web site has a new domain name. The new name is <http://www.baboosiclake.com> our web site has been updated with lots of information about the lake, some great photos, and an email list. All BLA members are encouraged to sign up for the email list at: <http://www.baboosiclake.com/mail> Signing up helps us reduce the printing and postage costs of distributing the newsletter so we can devote more of our dues to our mission. It also helps reduce the paperwork burden on our volunteers. Many thanks go out to Ed and Linda Matz and Jeff Mulligan for getting this web site up and running.

Water Testing

Water quality testing has wrapped up for the 06 season. They got off to a slow start this year with the water level of the lake being so high for the first month of testing, but things got back on course and they were out on the lake every Wednesday. They generally spend about two hours of their day collecting and testing the water samples from four sections of the lake. Next year they will be taking on added responsibilities five more sites are being added along the Amherst shoreline where the community septic system is being installed. These tests will help give valuable information that the community septic is helping the water quality of the lake. This year's team of testers were Wally Kido, Terri Glazier, Bob and Marion Severance, Donna and Kurt Sullivan. Joe Kearns was responsible for taking the e-coli samples from 11 locations around the lake and bringing them to the lab the next morning. Thank you all for your dedication and time you give to the lake.

Ice Safety Tips

"Thick and blue, tried and true. Thin or crispy, way too risky." Take a hard look at the ice before you go out on it. Clear blue ice is the strongest, and it takes 4 to 6 inches to safely hold you or a snowmobile. Ice is too inconsistent: Milky, honeycombed ice that has air bubbles or snow crystals trapped in it is much weaker and less trustworthy than clear blue ice. Water currents under the ice or springs can create weaker spots. Snow cover complicates thing with ice. It insulates and inhibits ice formation. So be doubly careful before venturing out onto a snow-covered pond or lake. On really cold days, you are likely to hear the ice rumbling and pinging. Sometimes you'll even see long cracks developing. That makes a lot of people nervous, but if the ice is thick enough to hold you safely, don't panic. Those rumbling and cracklings are the sound of pressure being relieved as more ice forms beneath the surface. Remember that ice thickness isn't consistent!!!

BABOOSIC LAKE

D N H K H E W N E H H S Z X G D J F D W T I
 U C B C S B A G B N R U W X H A U L A U U G
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WORD BANK

AMHERST	ANCHORS	BABOOSIC
BAREFOOTERS	BASS	BLA
BOATING	BOATPARADE	BOUYS
CANOE	CLARKISLAND	CYJ
DUCKS	FIREWORKS	FISHING
GEESE	ICECREAM	ICEFISHING
JETSKI	KAYAK	MARINEPATROL
MERRIMACK	MOONBEAM	PAVILLION
PONTOON	SAILING	SNOWMOBILE
SWIMMING	TOWNBEACH	TUBING
WAKEBOARDING	WASHER	WATERSKIING
WATERTESTING	WEEDWATCHING	

