



Perkins Pond Protective Association

The Perkins Ponder

Spring 2013



**2013 Spring Meeting
Sat. May 25
10 a.m.**

**14 Northwest Lane
Anne & Michael Dionian
603-763-1225**

Bring chairs. Come by boat or car.

From Ryder Corner Road, turn onto Melody Lane. Go about 1/4 mile to the first left you can make which is Northwest Lane. Dionians' house is below and to the left of the brown garage on your right.

Lost a green fiberglass canoe? Ask Dionians — they found one.



Join the Email List

Get Perkins Pond news and updates faster and sooner.



To join the list,
send email to:

"Gary Szalucka"
[<salukeva35@aol.com>](mailto:salukeva35@aol.com)

Water Carnival is coming Sat July 27



Gearans' Summer Olympics Boat in 2012 Boat Parade

2013



Saturday July 27, 2013

Boat Parade at 12 noon

(gather at Riter's for parade at 11:45)

Potluck Lunch immediately following

At 40 Burma Road

Jim and Sheri Riter

For more info or to volunteer, call 603-763-5362

Volunteers to help are appreciated.

Bring a potluck lunch contribution.

*All Perkins
Pond area
residents are
welcome!*

*Fun for
Everyone!*

*Mark your
Calendar!*



Compete in the Over-30 Horse Shoe Tournament.



Bring your antique water skis or towable equipment.



Decorate your boat or
'parade as you are.'



Spring 2012 Meeting

The Perkins Pond Protective Association met at the home of Gerry and Susan Farland on May 26, 2012. President Gary Szalucka called the meeting to order at 10 am.

Sewer Project

Members celebrated the approval of Perkins Pond sewers by Sunapee voters. The project passed with 16 votes over the required number. The group expressed gratitude to all who had contributed to the successful vote.

Gary explained that the project would be funded half through Sunapee taxes, and half from residents through a 20 year bond that would be repaid to the Town. Roads will be dug up in segments. The system will not be turned on until the entire line has been laid and is ready. There is preparation to obtain needed easements, and an effort to obtain a Rural Development Grant to alleviate costs.

Silt

Robin Saunders reported on concerns about silt coming into the pond. A Perkins Pond Silt Taskforce had tried to get a grant from the State of NH. The grant was not awarded. The state suggested that Perkins Pond residents and the Town could manage on their own, and that other lakes had higher priority. Some projects were part of the sewer project improvements and will be done anyway. Robin pointed out that residents should avoid installing impervious surfaces and abstain from creating any trenches to the pond. Dundee Nestler described some relevant pond history (see page 5).

Water Quality Testing

Gary reported that NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) had cut back on staff and lab work. Consequently, they now are doing data analysis of water quality every other year. Since they did this for Perkins Pond in 2011, they would not do it in 2012. However, Colby College has a contract with the state to do water analysis. We can analyze water samples through Colby at a cost of \$69/test. Paula McDonough moved to continue testing and spend the money. Suzanne McMahon seconded and it passed unanimously. (Note: Testing was done 3 times in 2012.)



Robin commented that her "Fish Finder" says the deepest part of the pond is 9 feet deep. Dundee described some history of Perkins Pond that has contributed to its becoming more shallow.

Gary reported on Sunapee's progress toward initiating a permit procedure for fireworks.

Paula McDonough reported that the algae in the water was native and natural. Robin, Holly, and Kathy Priest are collaborating with Paula as a weed-watcher team.

Treasurer Holly Leonard reported that 50% of the people on the Pond mailing list had paid dues for the year 2011.

Attendees thanked Paul Pratt for his ten years of hanging the Milfoil sign at the landing, and thanked the Farlands for doing it this year.

Suzanne McMahon moved and Robert Evans seconded to contribute \$100 to the New Hampshire Lakes Association. The motion passed unanimously. Suzanne McMahon moved and Robert Evans seconded to contribute \$100 to the Lake Sunapee Protective Association. The motion also passed unanimously.

Dundee reported that there was an abundance of beavers at his end of the pond. He is allowed to trap them on his land, but has not done so for five years.

Suzanne McMahon moved and Ron Bealer seconded to adjourn the meeting. This passed unanimously.



Everyone enjoyed seeing the Farlands' new house close up, with a tour of the interior following the meeting.

Perkins Pond Sewer Project Information distributed at the Fall 2012 Meeting

Attachment Fees: Homes that were in existence or were built where there was a home in existence prior to 1973 are exempt from the attachment fee of \$3000. Homes that were built from 1973 to July 18, 1986 will be assessed a prorated amount of the attachment fee. Newer homes will be assessed the \$3000 fee per each living unit.

Each property owner will be responsible for the cost of installing and maintaining a grinder pump station and the piping to attach to the new sewer mains on the road. This installation must be inspected and approved by the Water & Sewer department prior to covering.

The cost of installing the sewer mains around the pond will be bonded by the Town and split between all living units equally. This amount will be billed back to each property owner either yearly or semi-annually on their sewer bills over the number of years that the bond is taken out for, or that sum can be paid in full whenever the owners wish to pay it off. Any new homes attaching during the scheduled payment period will result in a recalculation of the bond amount billed to each owner.

This project will not make town water available to the area.



Time allowed for completion of the hook-up will be one year subsequent to the readiness of the sewer facility. The Commissioners may extend the connection time up to 3 years, provided proof is presented that the existing system meets the current State standards, is less than 3 years old, and is in good working condition.

The old septic tanks must be emptied and cleaned of sludge and filled with suitable material. Owners who already have a sewer pump station should contact their contractor to see what may need to be done to utilize the same station for the grinder pump.

Currently the Sunapee Sewer Department sends bills for sewer user fees twice a year in April and in October. Owners will see the Perkins Pond Sewer Bond on these bills.

Rural Development Grant Awarded for Sewer Project

Sunapee has been awarded a Rural Development Grant in the amount of \$739,000 to go towards the cost of the Perkins Pond Sewer Project. This great news was announced by the Sunapee Water & Sewer Commission. Holly Leonard, Association member and Treasurer as well as the Office Manager for the Water & Sewer Commission, was instrumental in obtaining the grant.

This represents approximately a 27% savings for Perkins Pond residents as well as for Sunapee taxpayers over the course of the entire project. This will greatly decrease the amount that each of us will have to pay back towards the bond on an annual basis.

We all owe a great deal of gratitude to Holly for all of her efforts in the research and submission of the Rural Development Grant. It will result in considerable savings to all of us over the next 30 years! We should also be grateful for all of the support our project has received from our Town Manager, all of our Town Officials, the Board of Selectman, and of course, the Water & Sewer Commission.

Perkins Pond Silt History

At the Spring 2012 meeting, Dundee Nestler recounted some history of the pond as he has heard it. He mentioned that Perkins Pond is fed by natural springs on the bottom.

In the late 1800s or early 1900s, Reeds Saw Mill, located on Reeds Mill Road, used the water power of Long Pond Brook coming out of "The Overflow", today known as "Loon Lake".

In the dry season they needed more water, so Reeds Mill stored Ledge Pond water in Perkins Pond. To do this, they filled in the bog at the south end of Piney Point Cove and stopped the natural flow of water out of our pond. (Twenty years ago, the PPPA reopened that outlet).

At the north end of Perkins Pond they built a dam and sluice gate below the junction of Ledge Pond Brook and Perkins Pond Brook. When "The Overflow" ran out of water, they opened this sluice gate to retrieve the stored water needed to run the mill.

This is when Perkins Pond started to silt in, due to the lack of free-flowing water out of Perkins Pond. Before the closing of the outlet our pond had a sandy, rocky bottom and was 35 or more feet



After the hurricane of 1938, which took down all the trees in the area; three private companies floated the downed trees in Perkins Pond to preserve them. These companies set up saw mills on Perkins Pond to mill the logs which were 8-10 feet long. They operated for 3 or 4 years using up the floating wood.

To preserve them, the ends of the logs were painted with mercury-based paint. Many of the preserved logs sank and remain in the pond today. On the left side of the boat launch, some of these old logs with the mercury painted ends have been seen. Sawdust containing mercury from the mills was also dumped into the pond. At times, a foot of sawdust floated on the pond's surface.

Fall 2012 Meeting

The Perkins Pond Protective Association met at the home of John and Suzanne McMahon on September 1, 2012. President Gary Szalucka called the meeting to order at 10 am.

Gary updated the group on the sewer project. The project would go out to bid soon, and once bids were in, the work would start, perhaps by Spring 2013. Gary discussed easements and how none would be required on most roads. In some cases, there would be a need for special easements. Attention was being paid to keeping access to cottages open during the project.

Gary reported that there had been an unsuccessful effort to obtain a rural development grant for the sewer project. Perkins Pond had been unable to meet the eligibility criteria of proving that 80% of the residences were used full-time.

Paula McDonough reported that algae was making the water look turbid, but it was natural and okay, and due to the warm temperatures and low water level.

Treasurer Holly Leonard reported that 55% of the people on the Perkins Pond mailing list had paid dues for the year.

Richard Jaffe moved and Suzanne McMahon seconded to reelect all the current Association officers. This passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11.

Perkins Pond Memorabilia



Orders or Questions:
Paula McDonough
617-909-5735

Silt History (Cont)

When the logs and sawdust sank, this added to the sediment. Over the years, additional layers of silt have slowly been accumulating in the pond. This silt has encapsulated the mercury on the bottom of the pond and prevents it from circulating in the water.

Dredging the pond, would stir up the phosphorous as well as mercury laden sawdust and logs. The phosphorus would increase vegetation growth and the mercury could cause illness in animals and humans. In addition, there are now strict laws which make dredging impossible.

Robert's WebCam Watches the Pond



March 9, 2013 The shadows recede as the morning sun moves, and a few people come out to play on the ice.



Tue April 8 at 12:30 pm



Tue April 8 at 1 pm



Tue April 8 at 1:30 pm



Wed April 10
Webcam spies Mike Dionian fishing..
I think the ice is all gone.
But Hold On....



Down at the other end, it's still Iced In on April 13.



On April 13, Robin breaks through the ice to be the first paddle boat out.



April 15, Gary takes a cruise and ponders the meaning of "Ice Out". Some ice still lingers in a Piney Point cove.



Wave to the Webcam!
Evans/VanTine and Rooney had motorboats out on April 27-28.

Please Support the Perkins Pond Protective Association

The Association has been meeting for over half a century for the purpose of protecting the Pond. It conducts activities and seeks to influence and educate for pond protection. It holds two meetings a year open to all who care about Perkins Pond, and has sponsored events such as the Water Carnivals.

The shared nature of the pond causes many of the same forces to affect all of us, and the activities of each of us affects many. If you live, vacation, or own property on Perkins Pond, then protection of the pond means protecting the value and enjoyment of your property. Please support the Perkins Pond Protective Association with your dues and participation.

Mission of the Perkins Pond Protective Association

The mission of the Perkins Pond Protective Association is to actively monitor, protect, and enhance the viability of Perkins Pond and its watershed. This will be implemented through:

- Collaboration with local, state and federal organizations
- Providing educational resources
- Encouraging a sense of community.

Adopted at the Fall 2010 meeting.



2013 PPPA Dues \$25 per family

Bring to Spring Meeting or
Send in Enclosed Envelope

PPPA Treasurer
Holly Leonard,
26 Mary's Road
Sunapee, NH 03782

What does the Perkins Pond Protective Association Do?



- **Water Quality** is key to protecting the pond. Most PPPA projects support this goal. The Perkins Pond Protective Association tests, monitors, and documents water quality on a regular basis and for special studies.
- **The Sewer Project** aims to bring town sewers to Perkins Pond. The PPPA assisted the state with a survey of septic systems and a Diagnostic Study, developed and distributed educational materials, and confers regularly with town officials about this goal.
- **Alien Weeds** can destroy a body of water. The PPPA conducts a program to monitor the weeds in Perkins Pond and educate on ways to keep alien species out. It also put up the banner and posted information for incoming boats.
- **The State of NH** affects the Perkins Pond community in many ways. The PPPA collaborates with the Dept. of Environmental Services to monitor water quality, and alerts residents to changing regulations in areas such as boating, licensing, and shoreline protection.
- **Town of Sunapee** zoning, taxes, road maintenance, and sewer planning affect everyone. The PPPA acts as a focal point to advocate for Perkins Pond homeowners to the town. Its influence helped to get local roads accepted as emergency lanes, and septic planning sponsored.
- **Major Projects** to protect the pond have been organized by the PPPA. The PPPA created the outlet at the end of Piney Point Cove to keep water flowing through the pond. Now the sewer project has won approval, the PPPA is turning its attention to the problem of Storm Water Runoff and sand and silt entering the pond.
- **Participation** with local organizations provides training and information to the PPPA and leverages its influence at the town and state level.
- **Education** by the PPPA about all these topics provides accurate information to the Perkins Pond community and promotes practices that protect the health of the pond.

PPPA Officers

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Perkins Pond Reminders

- Boat speed must be at “No Wake” within 150 feet of shore, docks, rafts, other boats, and swimmers. For jet-skis and ski craft, it’s 300 feet. It’s NH law.
- If your boat has been in other waters, wash it thoroughly before launching into Perkins Pond. Let’s keep the alien weeds out.
- Power boats travel in a clockwise direction on Perkins Pond.
- There are many rocks in the pond. Stay East and North of black/white markers and West and South of red/white markers.
- Do not feed the ducks or geese. It’s bad for the water and bad for the birds.
- Don’t use lawn fertilizers. They cause phosphorus to enter the pond, producing plant growth that clogs the waterways and harms water quality.
- Be courteous to your neighbors. Continually barking dogs echoing across the pond can really disturb a peaceful summer day.
- Take it easy on night lighting: it hides the stars and disturbs the wildlife.

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77 Piney Point Road
Sunapee, NH 03782