



Perkins Pond Protective Association

The Perkins Ponder

Spring 2009

2009 PPPA Dues \$25 per family

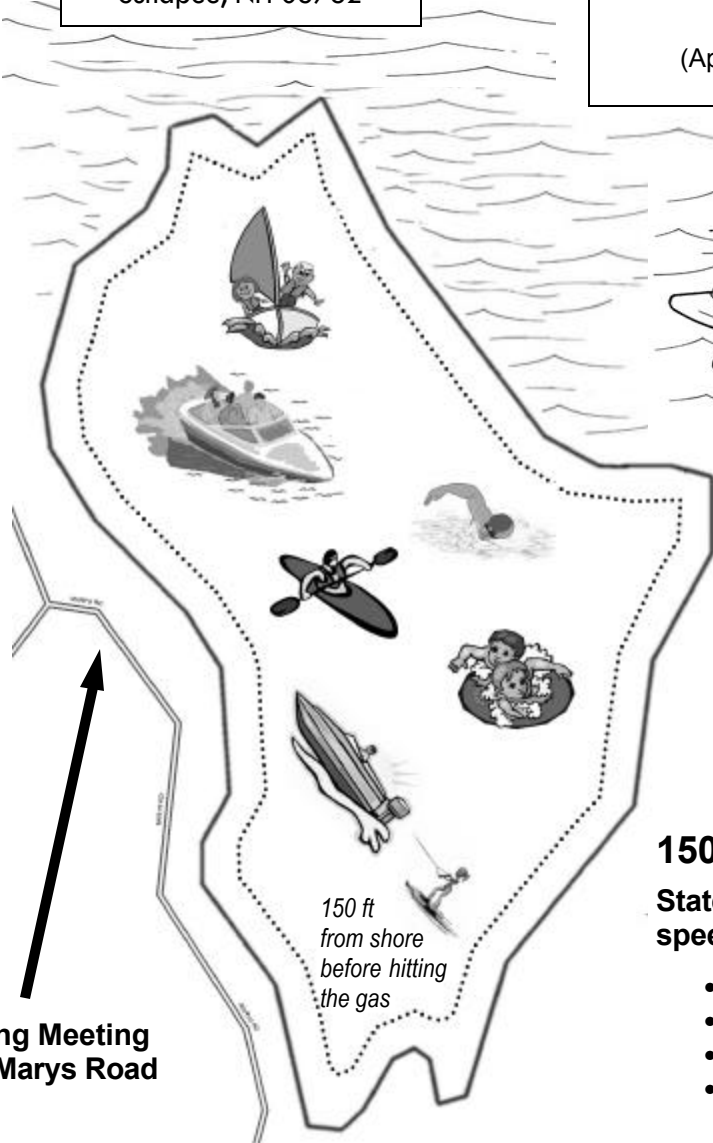
Bring to Spring meeting
or send to PPPA Treasurer
Holly Leonard,
26 Mary's Road
Sunapee, NH 03782

2009 Spring Meeting Sat. May 23 10 a.m.

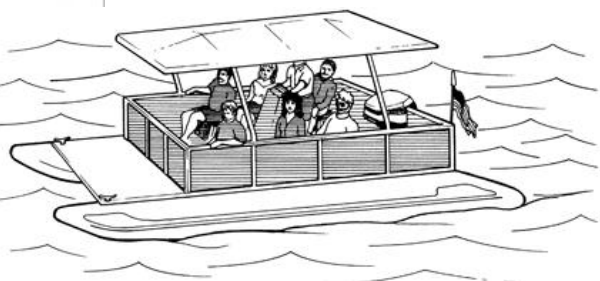
116 Mary's Road
Steve and Cathy Priest
603-763-2402

Please bring chairs.

(Approximate location shown on map.)



Spring Meeting
116 Marys Road



Get a Pontoon Boat Ride to the Spring Meeting

Call Claude Leavitt

By Noon Friday May 22

603-763-2129

150 Feet "No Wake" Regulations

State law restricts boat speed to "headway speed" (no wake or 6 mph) within 150 feet of

- The Shoreline
- Swimmers
- Other Boats
- Rafts, floats, and docks

Perkins Pond Protective Association Meeting 8/16/08

Dundee and Linda Nestler welcomed participants to the "Fall" meeting of the Perkins Pond Protective Association on The Island. The August 16 meeting date was unusually early and the summer weather was fine.

President Gary Szalucka reported that several people had begun an effort to get acceptance of the Perkins Pond Sewer Project at the polls the following spring. Participants included Gary, Robin Saunders, Holly Leonard, and Bill Scharff.

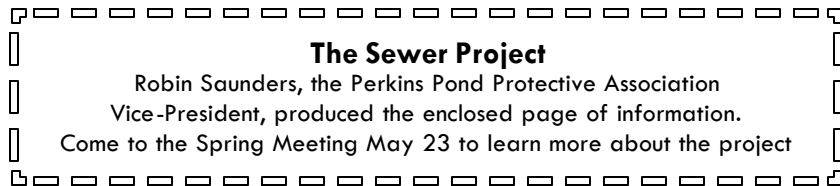
Participants had met with the Sunapee Selectmen, the Town Manager, as well as the Water and Sewer Commission. The majority of all of the town officials are in support of the Sewer Project. In the past, Sewer Project warrants only got on the ballot by citizen petition, without specific Selectmen support. Robin presented a Multi-Image presentation that she had created with information which would be presented to the Selectmen later that month.

Petra Schaefer made a motion, seconded by Suzanne McMahon, to authorize the Association to spend money as needed to promote acceptance of the Perkins Pond Sewer Project in the town. The motion passed unanimously.

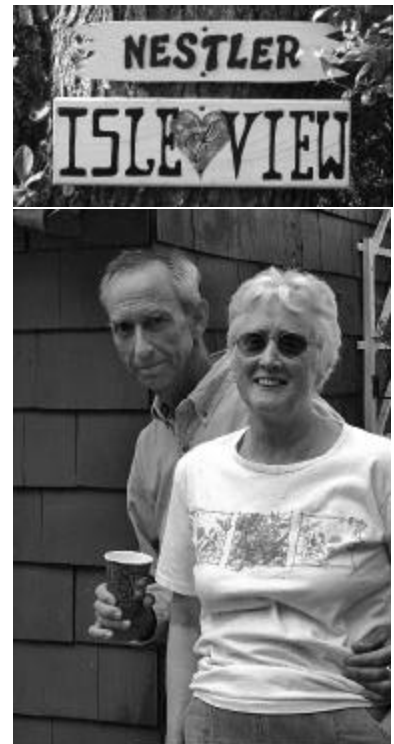
Gary reported that he had just received a draft copy of the long-awaited NH DES *Perkins Pond and Watershed Diagnostic Study*. The document concluded that “removing septic system phosphorus loads from the 250 foot buffer and implementing stormwater best management practices for all developed land in the buffer will have a significant benefit in maintaining lake water quality over the long term. Equally important is the maintenance of forest cover in the rest of the watershed.

Gary reported on the water testing that he does every year in conjunction with NH DES. Members discussed the water testing process and water quality.

Steve and Cathy Priest volunteered to host the spring meeting of the Association on Saturday May 23, 2009. Marian Leavitt moved and Suzanne McMahon seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 am. Following adjournment, Robin Saunders presented her Multi-Image presentation that she developed to communicate the Sewer Project needs to the officials and voters of Sunapee.



We have a very new member of the PPPA. Miss Amena Marie Martinez-Paris was born on 30 Nov. 2008 to proud parents Jake Paris and wife Shannon Martinez.



Dundee and Linda welcome members to the meeting.

Photos by Robin Saunders

PPPA Officers

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Gary Szalucka
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secretary@perkinspond.org

“Creel Notes” by Guide Islefish Anytime

You know all those times people told you “good things come to those that wait,” well, this isn’t one of them. I know, I know, you say that every time you open the Perkins Ponder and see one of my articles. As all of you know, and pretend if you didn’t, the Perkins Pond Association agreed to participate in a fish collection and sampling program last year that was sponsored by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES). Seeing as how there were strong rumors that I cast a line in the water every once in awhile, I was approached by the President, no, not Obama, ...Szalucka, to participate in the program on the Association’s behalf. There is an unwritten code, never refuse the request of a Polish President.

Not wanting to keep all the fun to myself I enlisted the services of my buddy, Ol’ JB, to give me a hand. The purpose of the program was to catch fish from the pond and deliver them to the DES in order to analyze them for mercury content. The DES standard is that any fish with concentrations of higher than 0.33 mg/kg is the starting point for health concerns. The two species of fish requested by DES were perch and bass.

After explaining to Mrs. Guide Islefish that the endless hours I need to spend away from home in the boat in order to catch these fish was “in the interest of science,” I felt humbled by her, “don’t let the door hit you on the way out.” Ol’ JB and I began our collection efforts in July, and finished in September. The fish caught were from all areas of the pond. A total of 8 perch, and 8 bass were delivered to DES in September 2008 for examination.

On March 27th I received the results. First the good news! The report indicated that, “your lake contributed more fish than any other volunteer group did this past summer.” Now for the not so good news that we’ve all been waiting for. Of the 16 samples provided, 10 had concentrations above 0.33 mg/kg threshold, and 7 out of 8 bass were found to be above the starting point for health concern.

So the moral of this report is that although fish are considered a good source of protein, and heart healthy, anyone eating fish from the pond should limit their consumption to the Freshwater Fish Consumption Guidelines established by DES which are:

- Pregnant and nursing women, and women who may get pregnant CAN SAFELY EAT one 8-ounce meal per month of freshwater fish.
- Children under age 7 CAN SAFELY EAT one 4-ounce meal per month of freshwater fish.
- All other adults and children age 7 and older CAN SAFELY EAT four 8 ounce meals per month of freshwater fish.
- *When eating bass, pickerel, white perch or yellow perch, limit consumption to fish **12 inches or less in length** while following the above guidelines.*

Well, salmon and trout season is upon us so I need to sign off in order to start putting my gear together. Until next time keep a tight line.



2008 Boat Parade and Picnic

Photos by John McMahon





3-Legged Races



Sack Races



Ice Storm December 11-12, 2008



Ice Storm

The December ice storm created a visual winter wonderland with treetops coated and sparkling. Many of the icy branches cracked off and fell into the snow. It took place right at the full moon, so the view was highlighted in the bright moonlight of the night. On a more practical basis, the storm caused a loss of electricity in Sunapee and much of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Those with generators got their money's worth, and those without scrambled to keep cottages above freezing temperatures. On North Shore Road, amazingly, electricity returned early Saturday morning.

Photos by Robert Evans and Anne VanTine on the ice storm weekend. Although it looks like moonlight, it is in fact the afternoon sun.

Ice-Out April 11, 2009

Gary Szalucka reports that the ice went out and the pond was clear the whole length by April 10. Chris Domian, looking in the other direction, declared it clear as of April 12. So we will enter the statistic as April 11. Word was that Gary's boat was ready to go in the water and he would soon be waterskiing. Lake Sunapee was declared ice-less on April 12. The big lake usually matches the Perkins Pond date within a day or two.

2009 Apr 11
2008 Apr 20
2007 Apr 23
2006 Apr 3
2005 Apr 19

2004 Apr 18
2003 Apr 28
2002 Apr 12
2001 May 3
2000 Apr 9

NH Boating Certificates



To operate a boat with over 25 hp in New Hampshire, the pilot is required to have a "Safe Boater Education Certificate." Those under age 16 may operate a boat with over 25 hp only when accompanied by an adult with a certificate. NH Marine Patrol has been enforcing these regulations vigorously.

The certificate is awarded for completion of the Safe Boating course. Several courses are scheduled to take place in Newbury. More information and course schedules are at

<http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/ss/boating/index.html>

or phone 888 254-2125.

Perkins Pond Memorabilia



Contact

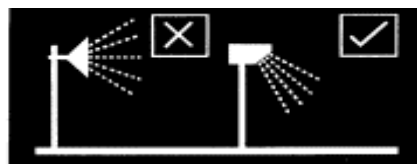
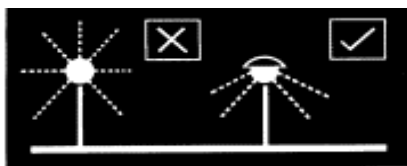
Paula McDonough
603-763-0195 (Sunapee)
or cell 617-909-5735

Dark Sky Lighting

One of the pleasures of being at Perkins Pond is seeing the natural dark of night. The landscape lit by the moon has a calm depth and soft shadows. The sky looks huge and millions of stars show up against the dark.

Outdoor electric lights enable us all to enjoy night-time activities. The Dark-Sky Association suggests balancing the use of outdoor lighting with the desire to preserve the beauty of the night. Their web site www.darksky.org suggests ways to reduce the impact of lighting. In some cases it's as simple as aiming a lamp toward the ground or shielding the top from lighting the sky. Here's some of their ideas.

- The people and activities that are using light can have it focused on them without lighting larger neighboring areas.
- Full cut-off lighting fixtures can help to minimize glare. Full cut-off means that no light is emitted above the horizontal.
- Some existing lighting fixtures may be fitted with shields to reduce glare.
- Rather than dusk to dawn lights, a more effective approach for security lighting may be motion detectors.



Light can be directed to the area that needs illumination rather than the sky or across the pond.

Pictures from www.darksky.org



Perkins Pond Reminders

- Boat speed must be at “No Wake” within 150 feet of shore, docks, rafts, other boats, and swimmers. It’s NH law, it’s safe, and it protects the shoreline.
- 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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Sunapee, NH 03782