

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Peter A. A. Berle,  
Commissioner

Ray Brook, New York 12977  
November 2, 1978

Robert C. Stevens, President  
Eagle Lake Property Owners' Association  
One Green Ridge Road  
Pittsford, New York 14534

Dear Mr. Stevens:

Your letter of September 19, 1978 regarding the questions raised at the annual meeting of the Eagle Lake Association has been referred to this office for reply in reference of question # 3.

The small round floating objects in the lake which you described in your letter are most likely members of the animal plankton community. These small creatures are from the order Cladocera, more specifically, the genus Holopedium. These small organisms enclose themselves in a gelatinous case which becomes quite visible to the naked eye. In waters the size of Eagle Lake, populations of Holopedium are usually quite large in the summer and experience a larger increase in numbers in the autumn which would explain why they were still visible after Labor Day. They are not detrimental to the Environment and are actually food for the fish species present in Eagle Lake.

From the information given, this is our best determination of the objects you described.

Sincerely,

David B. Smith  
Conservation Biologist

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