

Eagle Lake Newsletter - April 2008

100 plus years of responsible lake stewardship 1907 – 2008

Dear Friends of Eagle Lake,

A respite of sun and above freezing temperatures contrasted to the week's previous ice storm and heavy snows found Eagle Lake resident Tonya Condon out on the lake with a colorful kite. What a way to enjoy a late March day, steady winds from the south, with that first of spring warmth and scent in the air, great for flying a kite and capturing the last beauty of winter as spring is poised to arrive.



BUSINESS MATTERS: A CALL FOR ACTION NOW!

The Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc. February 2008 newsletter reported that the Towns of Crown Point (as lead agent) and Ticonderoga have been awarded a 2007 NYS DEC Invasive Species Eradication Grant of \$110,000 for a proposed three year (2008-2010) milfoil removal project. (See *THREE-YEAR PROJECT PLAN*) There are many aspects to this grant. At the moment, focus is being placed on meeting the \$55,000 matching funding commitment. To date, \$45,000 of the \$55,000 matching funds has been secured. Of that \$45,000, \$35,000 is from other grants secured by the Town of Crown Point with ELPOI's assistance and \$10,000 is from previously donated money that exists in ELPOI's Milfoil Eradication Reserve Fund (Your previous contributions of cash to this Fund made it possible to pursue this level of funding. Thank you!) These reserve funds along with each cash donation raised in this call for action will be turned over to the Town in June to support the 2008 expenditures for this project.

We are appealing to you NOW to help meet the remaining \$10,000 commitment difference. Please note that no Town budget money is to be used on this project. The Town(s) as well as several other interested parties have offered in-kind services to assist, but YOU, the Lake residents, are the primary source of help. There are several ways for you to help:

- ❑ **By sending in a check to honor the past pledges you have made to ELPOI.**
- ❑ **By making a new or additional check contribution/donation.**
- ❑ **By volunteering your labor (or an in-kind service) to the milfoil removal project. The labor performed can be hand harvesting and/or**

matting in front of your own property (within strict guidelines), or assisting with the larger project on the lake. There is a cash value awarded to the grant for volunteer labor and in kind services.

If you cannot remember the dollar amount you previously pledged, don't be concerned. People's financial situations are ever changing. Contribute what currently works for you now. If you need to spread your contribution over the three years of the project that's okay, or if you want to contribute more in the future, please do so. **Remember, your contributions to ELPOI are tax deductible and may be eligible for an employer match.** Information about your pledge(s) will be kept confidential. (Only individuals that have a project based need-to-know will have access to this information.)

So, what we need from you at this time is your commitment! First, we need all of you that made a "cash pledge" in the past and those of you now willing to make a new/additional contribution to send in your check to ELPOI. Any level of contribution will be appreciated. If each of us can contribute at the \$500 level, it will help us meet our 3-year plan for eradicating milfoil. Sending in your contributions now will give us an idea of how much cash we will have available to meet the upfront operating expenses required during the first year of the project (summer 2008) and beyond. The grant stipulates that Crown Point (Lake Residents and friends) use its funds first in order to receive matching funds from the State for expenditures.

Second, we need all of you to define the type of labor commitment you are willing to make and the time frame in which it can be made. A "Milfoil Eradication Pledge Collection" form is included for your convenience. Your timely consideration and return of it will be most appreciated and will help in the planning phase for this summer's efforts.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED/ WHAT YOU CAN DO

There will be many opportunities for you to volunteer this summer and beyond on Eagle Lake. Just a few of the tasks that need volunteers include:

- Fragment chasing/diver-surface support
- Mat construction
- Equipment set-up
- Lunches and snacks
- Shallow water hand harvesting and mat placement without SCUBA in front of your property
- Boat launch signage and general member education

As part of the overall milfoil removal project, it will be essential for everyone to make it their duty to pick-up and remove to a secure area any Milfoil fragments found in the lake while out and about.

[WE NEED YOU!](#)

It cannot be overstated how much you are truly needed. Your support and commitment during this very crucial time in Eagle Lake's history is essential. Help make a difference – Help Eagle Lake survive!!!

Please complete the attached Milfoil Eradication Pledge Collection Form to make your volunteer labor commitment and/or a monetary contribution. If you need further information about any aspect of the project contact a member of your ELPOI Board.

[THREE-YEAR PROJECT PLAN](#)

The plan for milfoil removal is spread over the next 3 years. During year one (specifically summer of 2008), plans are to have divers working 4 to 5 days a week for a 6 week period. Crown Point will contract with a company to provide a 3 to 4 member dive team (with surface support) that will remove isolated Milfoil plants and place benthic mats over small to medium sized patches. The mats will be made from "mill wire" donated by International Paper, with weights attached by volunteers to keep them anchored at the bottom. The mats will need to be left in place for several weeks to effectively smother the milfoil underneath them. When the mats have been effective, they will be relocated. Mats placed late in the summer will be left for relocation in 2009. A property owner has agreed to accept the removed plant biomass for composting in a secure area.

The first year will also be used to continue the process necessary to obtain DEC and APA herbicide use permits for Renovate OTF. If permits are obtained, the plan is to "spot treat" several of the largest and densest patches in early summer of 2009. Divers will again be hand harvesting and matting plants. Specifics for this year are yet to be determined. Fund availability and permit allowance will determine actual action.

The 2010 season will see again hand harvesting and matting if funding permits, and doing the necessary follow up on any herbicide treatment that may have taken place. Year-end evaluations will be on going with each phase of the project. Results of these evaluations will be shared with you.

[NYS CHANGES HERBICIDE PREFERENCE](#)

To date, there has been only one other lake (Lake George) that has applied to use an herbicide (Sonar) within the Adirondack Park. Their application was denied even after spending significant amounts of money

Renovate[®] OTF
On Target Flakes



Aquatic Sites: For control of emergent, submersed and floating aquatic plants in the following aquatic sites: ponds; lakes; reservoirs; marshes; wetlands; impounded rivers, streams and other bodies of water that are quiescent; non-irrigation canals, seasonal irrigation waters and ditches which have little or no continuous outflow.

defending its merits. There were many reasons reported for this denial, several of which surrounded the type of herbicide chosen and how it would be applied. Since then, Renovate OTF has become registered for use in New York State for the control of milfoil. The DEC recently informed us that

the State's preference for the use of Renovate versus Sonar is based on a long and proven track record of Renovate's performance outside of New York. According to those in the know, Renovate has shown that it is more selective, requires a shorter plant contact time for effectiveness (days, not months), has shorter restriction times for resuming normal lake activities, and in general, will have "less baggage" associated with it when obtaining its permit approval. Therefore, the Town is pursuing the use of this herbicide as recommended by the DEC. As stated in the grant, plans for milfoil removal by physical means will still go forward, with or without the supplemental use of an herbicide. Based on Renovate's product label, there should be minimal swimming restrictions after its application, and there might be some limited water use restrictions. These restrictions will be dependent on your location with respect to the actual "spot treatment" site. **As a general note, Eagle Lake is not classified as a drinking water quality lake. It is also not tested for such purpose or use. Use of the water from the lake for potable purposes is done at ones own risk.**

[RESEARCH BY ELPOI MEMBER LELAND LOOSE](#)

Sonar versus Renovate Comparison:

I have done a lot of reading and checking with the folks who make both compounds. The gist of it is that both work on Eurasian Milfoil. They are both systemic herbicides, which means they translocate through the plant and move down to the roots, as opposed to contact herbicides, which kill or "burn" the visible biomass. Sonar is a more broad-spectrum herbicide and will kill a variety of species of plants. Renovate works on broad-leaf (dicots) and not monocots like pondweed. Sonar requires a long contact time with the plants (60 to 90 days), but kills the plants slowly and therefore does not cause oxygen depletion in the water body, which is important in large infestations. Renovate is much quicker and requires a higher dose, but a much shorter contact time (48 hours usually to kill milfoil). Thank you Leland!

A copy of the generic product label, as well as the "NYS Supplemental Labeling" document that describes the conditions for the use of Renovate in general and in New

York State, and the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) are located on the ELPOI website. In addition to the aforementioned documents, many other articles that relate to Renovate and this eradication project will be available under the "milfoil project" tab on that website. See eaglelake1.org.

INVASIVES OF ALL TYPES



Zebra Mussel, Spinney Water Flee, Purple Loosestrife (picture shown), Eurasian Water Milfoil, Cormorants, non-native bait fish, etc. are just a small

count of some of the terrestrial and aquatic species on the list of invasives that threaten lakes in New York State, as well as our own Eagle Lake. This past summer, an observant ELPOI member pulled approximately 10 Purple Loosestrife plants that started growing along the edge of Corduroy Road just past the turn off from Route 74. A few years before this, several plants were removed from the road edge by the Eagle Lake boat launch. While these invasive weeds produce a pretty purple flower, they also produce millions of seeds per plant. If left unchecked, these plants will out-compete all surrounding native vegetation essential for the survival of native wildlife populations. This is apparent on the sides of Route 74 as you head into Ticonderoga. Keep your eyes open for this plant and if you see the indications of a purple flower that is supported by a tall bushy plant, remove it and its roots before it becomes a nuisance on our roads and lake shoreline.

Our neighbors on Lake George and Lake Champlain have for the past few years been dealing with what they describe as a "population explosion" of a bird called the Cormorant. This bird is native to the area, but has recently rebounded in its ability to reproduce. As a result of this, it is starting to out-compete some of the other less-aggressive native birds. The reported concerns with these birds are their nesting, colonization and feeding practices. They tend to take over small islands, thus killing the vegetation and completely covering it in guano. They are also a fish eating bird and consume approximately a pound of fish per bird per day.

When it comes to the introduction, relocation and spread of invasives, it is important for all of us to educate ourselves and consider what our personal actions should be with regards to the environment as a whole as we use and enjoy the lake. Remember, as we bring plants from other communities, move boats from one lake to another or bring non-native live fish bait to Eagle Lake,

which is outlawed by the NYS DEC, we also bring the threat of introducing unwanted species with it. If we act now to learn what invasives are coming, we may be able to stop their arrival. Check the ELPOI website under invasives to learn more.

ELPOI ON THE WEB



For the past several years, ELPOI member Carlos Alden has donated his expert services of Web Master. Carlos has also offered to cover some of the costs associated with the hosting of the site. An

International Paper Grant offsets additional costs. The website serves as a way for the community at large to stay informed about the happenings at Eagle Lake. Posted there are current and past: meeting minutes, membership communications, grant applications, articles of importance with regard to milfoil and other invasives. Also on the site are: historical ELPOI records, old photos of Eagle Lake and some impressive aerial pictures of the lake (one is included here). View more at www.eaglelake1.org.

HISTORICAL RECORDS

Copies of the 1907 - 1935 historical records as described by Tad Runge at the July 2007 ELPOI Annual Meeting were obtained from the Ticonderoga Historical Society. Shortly, they will be scanned and made available for reading on our website. A notation in the records dated January 30th, 1901 reads "summer post office "Eagle Lake" established". A note a few months later changes the name to "Eagle Cliff" and yet 2 years later, that post office was discontinued, only to be re-established in 1909, once again under the name "Eagle Lake". By looking through the many pages of history available, one can enjoy this and many other interesting facts. More Eagle Lake history will be shared in our next newsletter.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Several people over the past years have shared interesting newspaper clippings with us as they read about other lakes and communities fights with invasives, specifically Milfoil. An excerpt from one article copied here highlights a tragic drowning in the Columbia River, but good reason for us to take action against our milfoil. If you should see articles in your local paper related to the milfoil topic, please take a moment to share a copy or a link to the article with us. We are interested in how others are approaching this problem.

Man's body recovered from Columbia River

Published Sunday, August 26th, 2007

By the Tri-City Herald staff, excerpt used with permission

A late-night swim in the Columbia River by four friends visiting the Tri-Cities turned tragic when a 22-year-old man drowned after apparently becoming entangled in thick milfoil, authorities said Saturday. Divers from Columbia Basin Dive Rescue recovered the man's body in about 10 to 12 feet of water about 25 feet from shore near the blue bridge, not far from the boat launch on the Kennewick side of the river. His name was not released pending notification of family.

SPECIAL LAKE EVENT



Several members gathered this past August to try out their skills at a sailing regatta. Carlos Alden organized this fun event after learning that in years past, several lake residents would gather to enjoy a similar event. There were no losers just a good time with a BBQ, bonfire and socializing afterwards. Carlos plans to gather a group together again this summer to catch the winds of 2008. Contact Carlos for more information on how to be a part of this fun event at calden3@msn.com.

CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS

In recent years, there has been a noticeable increase in the installation and use of outdoor lighting on properties around the lake. Some of this lighting broadcasts great distances at night, especially where there is minimal or no vegetation to block it. Property owners may not be aware that their lighting is having a negative impact on their immediate neighbor, or their neighbors across the lake/bay, or those out enjoying the lake after dark. Re-adjusting lighting downward or installing a form of light shielding on existing lights to help ensure that light goes only to the desired area, will go a long way towards minimizing the excess light pollution experienced by others. This way, we can leave the darkness of the evening sky as it was meant to be while simultaneously meeting the needs of all who wish to recreate or entertain outdoors in the evening or see to the safety of friends and family at night.

IN MEMORY OF

Doris Lodge Weisheit, Dianne Tiedemann's Great



Aunt, passed away

February 13th, 2008 at the age of 94. Doris summered at Eagle Lake with her older brothers, sister and their parents since 1913. She is pictured here with her late



Jane Knauss Stevens passed away unexpectedly, February 15th, 2008, at the age of 82. She and husband Robert C. were married for 59 ½ years. Jane, along with her brother William Knauss grew up in the Crown Point area and since childhood has spent her summers on Eagle Lake.

LOOK WHAT'S COMING UP IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

- Membership Renewal – Your Membership Counts!
- Annual ELPOI Meeting and Picnic (7/12/08) Invitation
- '07 Annual Meeting Minutes for your Review
- Fish Stocking Report from Andy Belkevich
- Milfoil Eradication Project Update
- Eagle Lake's Naming History
- And more

As we get closer to the summer season, updates will be provided on meeting our operating cash goals, volunteer enlistment efforts, progress with the permit process, and other details of the project.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Rolf Tiedemann

ELPOI Vice-President
camptouchstone@yahoo.com
(518) 597-3618 Eagle Lake
(585) 647-2514 Rochester

Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc.
c/o 11 Deepwood Drive
Ticonderoga, New York 12883
On the web at www.eaglelake1.org

Duplication complements of International Paper

Milfoil Eradication Pledge Collection Form – April 2008

Name _____
Address _____

E-mail _____
Phone _____

**Return Form and Check to:
Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc.
c/o 11 Deepwood Drive
Ticonderoga, New York 12883**

Cash Donation Amount \$ _____

- Enclosed in full
 To be paid in installments as below:
- Amount \$ _____ in 2008
 - Amount \$ _____ in 2009
 - Amount \$ _____ in 2010

If you have a special circumstance regarding your donation please contact ELPOI Treasurer Rinaldo Fraize at crin@earthlink.net

Make checks payable to Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc. (ELPOI)

Should we contact you with a reminder of payment due? NO YES

Comments: _____

A receipt will be returned as proof of your tax-deductible donation.

Volunteer Labor Commitment *there is a cash value awarded to the grant for volunteer labor and in kind services.*

Time(s) that I/we plan to be at the lake in 2008 and can volunteer are:

- June 1st 2nd 3rd 4th week - specific days/time _____
 July 1st 2nd 3rd 4th week - specific days/time _____
 August 1st 2nd 3rd 4th week - specific days/time _____
 September 1st 2nd 3rd 4th week - specific days/time _____

I/we plan to:

- Work on removing milfoil in front of our own place
 Work to assist with the entire lake project
 Provide a professional service for _____ see below*

Number of people in family committing to work _____

Total number of person hours I/we will plan to commit to this project in 08 _____ hours*

I/we would like you to plan for us in 2009 for _____ hours*

I/we would like you to plan for us in 2010 for _____ hours*

*General labor hours are valued at NYS prevailing minimum wage – Professional labor is valued on par (contact Rolf Tiedemann for further details if you are/can donate professional services at camptouchstone@yahoo.com or 585-647-2514 Rochester or 518-597-3618 Eagle Lake)

It is best to contact me for helping out by:

- Phone at Eagle Lake _____
 Cell phone (away from the lake) _____
 Phone at (location) _____ # _____
 E-mail _____
 Knocking on my lake residence door ☺

Thank you for your continued support and participation in this project.

Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc.

Officers '07 – '08

President – Jere Paddack
Vice President – Rolf Tiedemann
Secretary – Tonya Condon
Treasurer – Rinaldo Fraize

Board of Directors '07 – '08

Andy Belkevich
Lloyd Burroughs
Jack Devaney
Chyrl Pynn
Jim Shultz

Visit us on the web at www.eaglelake1.org

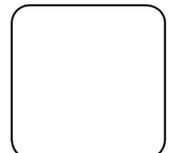
100 plus years of responsible lake stewardship 1907 - 2008

Established in 1907 and incorporated in 1993, ELPOI is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization that serves to protect the mutual interests of its property owners and to maintain the environmental and recreational quality of Eagle Lake.

Beneficiary of a NYS DEC Invasive Species Eradication Grant

The ELPOI newsletter is a publication used to communicate with the ELPOI membership. It is co-authored by Tonya Condon, Secretary; Rolf Tiedemann, Vice-President; with contributions from ELPOI Officers and Board of Directors; and Members. Address questions and comments to Rolf Tiedemann, Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., c/o 11 Deepwood Drive, Ticonderoga, New York 12883, or by e-mail at camptouchstone@yahoo.com.

Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc.
c/o 11 Deepwood Drive
Ticonderoga, New York 12883



A Call for Action!
Newsletter - April 2008