

Eagle Lake Newsletter –September 2008

Summer is over and almost all of us have closed up camp. Our dive team is just about done also, with school taking Michael Tiedemann, and other divers turning to fall tasks. The water is cooling off, making diving a bit uncomfortable. What has been accomplished this year on the Milfoil Project?

Crown Point hired Lycott Environmental who employed Rolf Tiedemann and up to three divers to start in July to mat and hand harvest Milfoil. They have put in 24,000 square feet of matting, mostly on the southern shore of the lake, and filled 84 bags with hand harvested Milfoil. A good beginning, but, admittedly not how your association wanted to start. We all agree that the situation calls for a more aggressive beginning followed up with matting and hand harvesting. State agencies and park environmental groups have caused this approach. Using your contributions and the \$18,750 NYS grant, under the auspices of Crown Point, some \$25,000 was spent to get this accomplished. The State will now remit the balance of the \$25,000 grant, \$6,250, to Crown Point.

What comes next? As previously reported, the Towns of Crown Point and Ticonderoga were awarded a NYS DEC Invasive Species Eradication Grant of \$110,000 (\$55,000 state to be matched by \$55,000 from us up front) for the proposed three year (2008-2010) milfoil removal project. Our matching funds commitment includes not only the \$25,000 spent this year, but also your gifts over the past few years and your time spent and reported by working on the project. Note that no Town budget money is to be used on this project. You, the Lake residents, are the only source of 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-in-kind service to the milfoil removal project. The labor-in-kind service performed can be hand harvesting and/or matting in front of your own property out to six feet of water depth, or assisting with the larger project on the lake.***

A big boost has come from the Hyde family, long time lake residents and owners of Hyde's RV & Boats in Rexford, NY. The Hyde's loaned the dive team a pontoon boat for the summer, rental value of which goes

toward our matching fund target! We are all grateful not only to the Hydes, but also to the many of you who have contributed to this project, cutting, marking and tying weights on mats. . This includes Jim and Joyce Shultz, Harry and Elizabeth Walton and Jane Sanger.

NEXT STEPS

1. ELPOI to issue questionnaire to determine your thoughts on use of Renovate in our Lake. Look for it to come in mail soon. We want your input, so please return it quickly. Look for information about Renovate on our web site.

Renovate® OTF
On Target Flakes



Aquatic Sites: For control of emersed, 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.

2. Apply for use of Renovate in Eagle Lake. This is progressing slowly. Rolf Tiedemann, as ELPOI's Project Leader, has maintained almost constant contact with the DEC and APA seeking their definition of application

requirements for use of Renovate inside the Park. This effort is fraught with many frustrations. One current issue is need for curtains to isolate treated areas. Curtains are expensive, time consuming and not required outside of the Park. Steps agreed to so far include designation of large patches in Eagle Lake for treatment and taking of plant surveys in these areas. Our State Senator, Betty Little, has provided a \$10,000 state grant for this and other application requirements. Thank you Senator Little.

3. In 2009 move mats to new locations, hand harvest if Renovate is not approved. Apply Renovate if it is approved.
4. 2010 brings ongoing maintenance to treated areas and more matting / hand harvesting if funds are available.

Please note: Based on Renovate's product label, there should be no swimming restrictions after its application, but there might be some limited water use restrictions for only a matter of days.

Remember however Eagle Lake is NOT classified or designated as a source for drinking water, any use of it for this purpose is done so at one's own risk.

Boating Safety

The following excerpts are from the New York State Boaters Guide. For complete information and copies of the handbook contact The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation at 518-474-0445 or www.nysparks.com.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

New York requires that anyone operating a personal watercraft (and all other powerboats) complete an approved course in boating safety or otherwise be accompanied, on board, by someone 18 years of age or older who is the holder of an approved boating safety certificate. Certificates are required to be carried at all times when operating the PWC.

Operators of jet skis and all other power boats should be mindful of property owners as well as environmentally sensitive areas.

Speed is limited to 5 miles per hour within 100 feet of shore, dock, raft or anchored boat (notably fishermen).

Operators and passengers must wear a Coast Guard approved PFD (personal flotation device).

Since Personal Watercraft cannot immediately stop, it is important to stay clear of other boats and swimmers.

Any vessel towing a water skier/board/tube must have on board, in addition to the operator, an observer at least 10 years of age who will watch out for the person being towed.

Jet-skiing and waterskiing are restricted to the hours between sunrise and sunset.

In other words in consideration of the safety and pleasure of all our residents it is important to be mindful of other boaters and especially swimmers.

Please insure that your guests and renters all understand these rules. You might want to hang a copy in camp for their education.

Ticonderoga Property Assessments

The new Ticonderoga property assessor, Patricia Osier, wants you to be aware that she is working on updating property assessments throughout the Town. And she is in process of visiting all properties. Eagle Lake will be visited probably in the Spring. The Town Board is looking to update assessments for the 2010 tax year. This a requirement of the State. Patricia is well aware that Eagle Lake is not the same as Lake George. She lives not far from Eagle Lake and has enjoyed the State Park with her family through the years.

Membership – We need YOU

If you have not yet joined, know that you can help the Lake in its fight against Milfoil simply by joining. It is just \$25 for each property. Please send your check to:

ELPOI
11 Deepwood Drive
Ticonderoga, NY 12883

Quiet Waters

Eagle Lake is reported as being on the APA list of Park waters being considered for limited boat motor use. If approved, no motor use may be instituted. Questions of property owner desires will be included in the survey you will receive shortly. Please be sure to return the survey so the Board can advise the APA of Lake property owner wishes. We will keep you informed on any developments on this initiative.

Water Testing

E-coli again tested on day following Labor Day. Results were minimal, less than one colony per 100 ml except Ti Bay, where the reading was 2 colonies Coliform and one colony Fecal Coliform. CSLAP is testing still going on. See our web site for not only past reports, but also for a myriad of information. Michael Tiedemann has been very busy maintaining the site. Thank you, Michael. Just discovered, Beaver have closed dam of approximately 50 feet across outlet. Rolf will try to get group together during next couple of weeks to open it up. Water level up at least 6 inches due to dam!

Thanks to IP, Todd Condon and Donna Wadsworth who are always there for us providing copier service.

On a final note, please give your condolences to JoAnne Riley on the death of her father, Joe Muehleck. Joe was a long time lake resident.