

# THE EAGLE LAKE NEWSLETTER

June 2012

1907 - Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc. - 2012

*Celebrating 105 years of responsible lake stewardship.*

## DATE CHANGE! New Annual Meeting and Picnic Date: July 7th

To accommodate our hosts at the Chilson Community Center we've moved the date of the Eagle Lake Property Owners annual meeting and picnic from July 14<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>. Chilson Volunteer Fire Department allows us the use of the center free of charge, but they had a serious scheduling conflict for our original date – it was the same date as their own annual barbecue and classic fire apparatus show. Please clear your calendar and join us on Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, at Chilson Community Center, 60 Putts Pond Road; annual meeting at 10:00 A.M. and the social picnic at noon. Enclosed with this newsletter are the membership renewal, picnic sign-up and proxy forms for you to complete. See you there!

### Everyone can help out!



That's Samantha Hyde, cleaning up leaves at the beach. Many hands make light work. Little hands count as well. Thank you to all those who maintain the beach each year.

### The Milfoil Project: Progress Report

***Breaking news – and the hope of some good news at last for the Eagle Lake milfoil project.*** State Senator Betty Little, who is working closely on this with Assemblymember Teresa Sayward, has told project leader Rolf Tiedemann that a path is being readied for us to get a permit to use Renovate OTF™. The application is expected to be a demonstration project, limited in scope (probably to a single bay), and would include a scaled back and relatively affordable use of minimal curtains. The ELPOI milfoil project team and staffers at Senator Little's and Assemblymember Sayward's offices are working with the governor's office, the towns of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, the D.E.C. and the A.P.A. on the details of the permit process, and we should know more in coming weeks. The application will of course comply with all D.E.C. permit regulations; the goal is to apply the treatment in May of 2013. As more information is available it will be shared, perhaps as early as at the annual meeting on July 7th (note change of date), or if necessary through a special mailing and a second membership meeting later in the summer.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the years of effort that Rolf and others have put into the milfoil project on our behalf. Special thanks go to Board Member Jack Mulcahy who has worked with Rolf on recent contacts, and to Chris Hyde, Steve Stubing and Dianne Tiedemann for their active support and attendance at meetings with state and A.P.A. officials in the process. An important part of the effort was a letter that the board sent earlier this year to Governor Cuomo; a copy of that letter is available for your review at, <http://eaglelake1.org/html/archives/communications.shtml> along with many other documents including an informative letter from Sarah Miller, an aquatics specialist with SePRO Corporation, on the ELPOI web site. If you have additional questions, address them to Rolf or Chris, and they'll either answer or pass them along to the right person. Chris: [cchhyde1@gmail.com](mailto:cchhyde1@gmail.com), Rolf: [camptouchstone@yahoo.com](mailto:camptouchstone@yahoo.com).

*For more news about the fight against milfoil and other invasive species, see articles below in this issue. For more detailed information on the Eagle Lake milfoil project, visit [http://eaglelake1.org/html/banner/milfoil\\_project.shtml](http://eaglelake1.org/html/banner/milfoil_project.shtml)*

### Three Cheers for Rin Fraize!

For more than 12 years Rin Fraize has served as a board member and variously as treasurer and president of Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., but as of this year he's decided to step down from the board. All of us who love this lake and value our time – and our properties! – here owe Rin an enormous debt of gratitude for all he's done for us over the years. His detailed knowledge of the lake, his command of the laws and regulations that rule our operations and in particular his meticulous care for and guidance of our finances have all contributed far more than we could ever have asked. Thank you, Rin Fraize!

### Eagle Lake Loon Report from a Neighbor



As she canoed Eagle Lake one recent morning, Schroon Lake resident Ellie George found six loons, including a loon banded as a juvenile in 2003 on Putnam Pond. He had hung out at Gooseneck Pond in the summer of 2010 but was not seen last year, so Ellie was thrilled to have him fly in and whiz right past her ear and land among the group of loons she was watching. He has an orange band on his right leg, and a green band (with a stripe on the green that you will probably never see) and a silver band on his left leg. The loons did not demonstrate territorial behavior; they all seemed to get along, like non-breeders – and a great blue heron let Ellie paddle right up to him on the big inhabited island. On the same trip Ellie also saw an osprey catch two fish, and after the second fish it was pursued by a mature bald eagle but managed to outmaneuver the eagle and get away with

its prize. A raven flew by carrying a hapless nestling bird to feed to its own squawking chicks, so it's likely that we have both osprey and raven nests nearby, and possibly an eagle nest. Finally, the causeway bridge is once again full of barn swallow nests underneath, and it's fun to watch the swallows and see the nests when you canoe under it. If you see any bands on loons or eagles, or see any signs of loons nesting, please send Ellie an e-mail at [elgeorge46@gmail.com](mailto:elgeorge46@gmail.com).

### Tonya Condon's Adopt-A-Highway Program Milestone



ELPOI member Tonya Whitford Condon recently celebrated 12 years of service to the Adopt-A-Highway Program with her 125th roadside clean-up along Route 74 in Eagle Lake. Tonya's service to this community is remarkable and greatly appreciated. Make sure to thank her when you see her!

Tonya is also a National Wildlife Federation Master Naturalist and was recently re-appointed as an official Endangered Species/Wildlife Habitat Ambassador for the Northeastern United States by the federation. Tonya, who created Native Sky Wildlife Sanctuary at Eagle Lake, teaches individuals, families and organizations about environmental stewardship and about what they can do to help contribute to the quality of our environment. She specializes in habitat creation and restoration, ecosystem health, and endangered species recovery, and continues to lecture and educate the public about various NWF programs such as Keep the Wild Alive and the Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program. Tonya and Todd's own property is home to a wide diversity of wildlife that benefits from the natural landscape, and has been recognized and certified by the National Wildlife Federation, Audubon International, Windstar Wildlife Institute, The Brooks Bird Club, Cortesia Sanctuary and Center, Wild Ones, and The Humane Society of the United States. Congratulations, Tonya!

## Maintaining the Lake Level, Countering Beaver Activity, Maintaining the Beach

Thanks go to Tonya Whitford Condon, Paul and Lloyd Burroughs, Tim Brooks, Debra and Jack Mulcahy and Chris Mulcahy, all of whom have been keeping an eye on the dam and the busy beavers over the past six months, and intervening as necessary. Jack and Debra especially have spent hours undoing beaver construction, and all this effort has kept the lake high enough through the dry winter but not too high during this wet spring. Finally, thanks as always to Jim and Wendy Davis, Eugene and Michelle Slade and all our year-round neighbors who maintain the beach and keep careful watch over the lake.

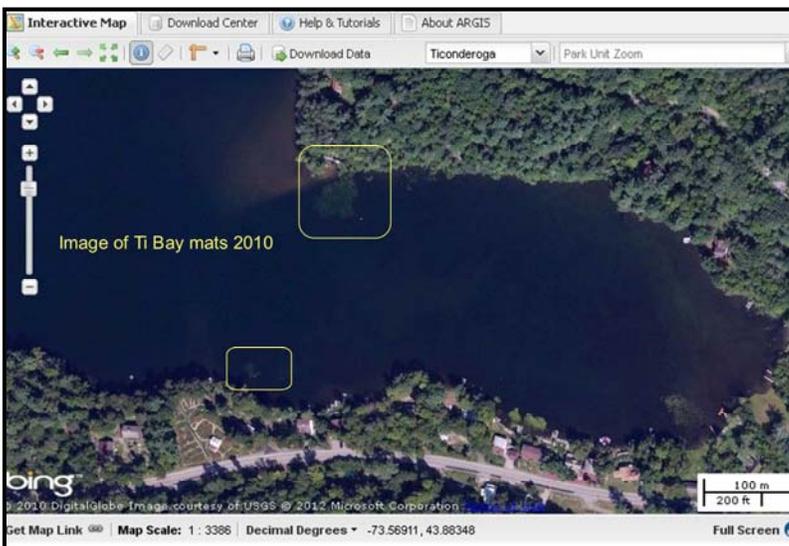
## Web Site News [www.eaglelake1.org](http://www.eaglelake1.org) Sponsorships, Live Web Cam

Rolf and Michael Tiedemann have been working on a project to post small, unobtrusive sponsorship badges on the web site, to help defray the cost of maintaining the site. The idea is an offshoot of the business membership category that we added last year; possible sponsors could include local real estate agencies, service businesses, restaurants, shops and others. A sample page will be up on the site soon to show what this would look like; watch your e-mail for an update. Contact Chris Hyde if you would like to be or refer a sponsor – and please consider taking a role in helping us solicit site sponsors (and business members) for ELPOI. 2011 was an active year for the site, with 771 page loads, 396 unique visits, and 384 first-time visits – pretty respectable numbers for a small site. *Editor's correction, previous numbers were for May 2012. The actual usage for 2011 is 10,284 page loads, 4,474 unique visits and 4,315 first time visits, and 159 returning visits.* Rolf and Mike are also experimenting with a web cam (<http://eaglelake1.org/html/video/webcam.shtml>) that offers a live view of the lake; video quality is low right now because they're using a donated camera, but they're hoping to arrange an upgrade – and planning a survey on the site to gauge interest in the camera. Thanks to the Tiedemanns, *père et fils*, for keeping things interesting and active on the site – and don't forget to forward them photos and documents for posting at [camptouchstone@yahoo.com](mailto:camptouchstone@yahoo.com) – just as Ellie George did with her loon story above.

## Lake-Friendly Living Tips from the Lake George Association

The Lake George Association offers many useful resources for lakeshore dwellers like us; of particular interest is the Lake-Friendly Living blog at <http://www.lakegeorge.com/lakefriendlyliving/> and the downloadable Homeowners Guide to Lake-Friendly Living at...

[www.lakegeorgeassociation.org/publications/documents/May2012Homeownersguidetolakefriendlylivingbrochureforweb.pdf](http://www.lakegeorgeassociation.org/publications/documents/May2012Homeownersguidetolakefriendlylivingbrochureforweb.pdf).



## ARGIS: The Adirondack Regional Geographic Information System

Just for fun, take a look at the images available at <http://aprgis.org/argis/> for excellent satellite images of Eagle Lake. In this image Rolf has marked the locations where anti-milfoil mats had formerly been placed. ARGIS is "a regional spatial data portal designed to serve data that is authoritative, visualized, interactive and dynamic" it says here. Perhaps so; all your editor knows is that the pictures are cool.

## New: Dunkin Donuts and Peebles Department Store in Ticonderoga

Closed since 2008, the Dunkin Donuts in Ticonderoga has reopened with new owners and managers and a remodeled store. The new proprietors own and operate 11 other Dunkin Donut locations in the region, and are perhaps better prepared to make a go of the location. And the Peebles Department Store chain is expected to open a Ticonderoga store this summer, in the space vacated by Tops Market (and Grand Union before them) in the shopping plaza at Routes 9N and 74. The building has been vacant for about five years. Peebles is a department store chain that "brings nationally-known, brand name apparel, accessories, footwear and cosmetics to small towns and communities throughout the U.S."

## More Milfoil and Invasive Species News

### Eurasian Watermilfoil Management Summit

The Adirondack Lake Alliance will sponsor a day dedicated to sharing lessons learned from Eurasian watermilfoil management in our region. Details are on line at <http://www.adkinvasives.com/Summit.html>. There is no registration fee, but R.S.V.P. is requested by August 2nd to Allie Smith at [acsmit09@stlawu.edu](mailto:acsmit09@stlawu.edu) or (518) 668-5773.

Eurasian Watermilfoil Management Summit  
Lessons Learned from the Adirondack Region  
August 16, 2012  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Horicon Town Hall, Brant Lake, New York

### Free Invasive Species Training

At least 79 Adirondack lakes and ponds are infested with invasive plants like Eurasian watermilfoil and water chestnut. These plant fragments spread from lake to lake by “hitchhiking” on boats, gear, and trailers. As the boating season begins the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) will host its annual volunteer training sessions in aquatic plant identification and survey techniques on June 21st in Bolton Landing, June 26th in Paul Smiths, and June 28th in Inlet. All sessions are from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and are free and open to the public, but space is limited. Please RSVP by June 14th to Meghan Johnstone at 518-576-2082 x 119 or [mjohnstone@tnc.org](mailto:mjohnstone@tnc.org).

### Warren County: A Model Aquatic Transport Law

**PREVENT THE SPREAD OF  
INVASIVE SPECIES  
IT'S THE LAW !**

**PROHIBITED ACTIONS INCLUDE:**

- Launching a boat into a waterbody with any visible plants or animals attached to the boat, trailer, or other equipment.
- Entering a public highway with any visible plants or animals attached to the boat, trailer, or other equipment.
- Introducing an aquatic invasive species to any waterbody by any other means.

**Maximum penalty for violation  
\$5,000 fine and 15 days jail**  
County of Warren Local Law No. 9 of 2011



**STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!**  
PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES. IT'S THE LAW

CLEAN    DRAIN    DRY

Seven towns and villages in the Adirondacks, in addition to Warren County, have local transport laws, and Warren County has offered its law to other counties as a model for their own efforts. Here's hoping the idea catches on. Signs like this one are posted at every boat launch in Warren County.

### Paradox Lake Group Fights Milfoil

The Paradox Lake Association has reportedly been aggressive in its efforts to control Eurasian milfoil, starting a lake steward program in 2010 to educate boaters about cleaning their boats and not carrying any further invasives into the lake. Milfoil was first discovered in Paradox Lake by Lake Manager Steve LaMere of Adirondack Ecologists in 2008; Scott Ralls of Southwoods Camp has donated two full-time stewards to monitor the boat launch site for 40 hours a week, with volunteers from the PLA taking turns covering early morning hours and days off. To date, these stewards have stopped boats carrying water chestnut, milfoil and zebra mussels to prevent any more infestation of the lake and educated hundreds of people about the threat of invasives. However, last summer it was apparent that milfoil was spreading to sites not previously infested; as suspected, the spread was coming from plants 10 to 12 feet below the surface, which divers quickly harvested. “With the supervision of our lake manager and the dedication of many volunteers, we are managing the problem successfully,” a spokesman says.

### Don't Transport Firewood: Buy Local, Burn Local!

A New York State regulation prohibits the import of firewood into the state unless it has been heat treated to kill pests. The regulation also limits the transportation of untreated firewood to fewer than 50 miles from its source. Quarantines further restrict firewood transportation. Don't bring firewood to campgrounds or parks. If you do transport firewood within New York State, it must have a receipt, label or a Self-Issued Certificate of Source (download from the D.E.C. web site) that lists the firewood's source – and it must remain within 50 miles of that source. For more information, see the Frequently Asked Questions for Firewood Regulation at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/44008.html>, or call 1-866-640-0652 or e-mail [firewood@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:firewood@gw.dec.state.ny.us).

### Feral Pigs

The New York Times reports that feral pigs, long a problem in the south and west, have begun to invade the Champlain Valley. Feral pigs are nocturnal, omnivorous, smart, and have almost no natural predators. The pigs eat ground-nesting birds and reptiles, fawns and domestic livestock, native vegetation and crops. Alternately called wild boars and feral swine, the pigs start to breed as early as six months of age, bearing litters of as many as 10 piglets. They carry disease and can be aggressive toward people. They have even inspired a new television series, “Hogs Gone Wild,” about efforts to hunt them from Hawaii to Alabama. State officials are working to corral a “souder” (group) of feral pigs in Peru, New York, to prevent their spread south toward... us.

# MEMBERSHIP

Below are your membership renewal form, picnic sign up, and proxy form. We need, welcome and value your ideas, support and leadership. Please take a moment today to renew your membership. Full property owner membership remains at \$25.00 per year; associate membership (for those committed to but not owning property on Eagle Lake) is \$15.00. We have added a business membership level, which will allow community businesses to support ELPOI. In return for their support, businesses receive a sponsor "badge" on the ELPOI web site, a sponsor "ad" in this newsletter, each issue of which reaches more than 120 motivated families. Business membership is \$65.00 per year. For current members who want to become business members the additional cost is only \$50.00 per year. To sign up for a business membership contact Chris Hyde at [Cdhyde1@gmail.com](mailto:Cdhyde1@gmail.com).

Your membership dues and all other contributions to Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., are tax deductible under rules governing not-for-profit 501(c)3 status. Membership dues provide for the day to day operating expenses of ELPOI including minimal stationery, telephone and mailing costs (although most of these are donated by International Paper and our members, very occasional conference costs and travel, annual lake water testing by both CSLAP (analytical) and additional non-CSLAP (fecal), donations to local emergency services, and a limited amount to milfoil control. The officers of ELPOI serve in a voluntary capacity. Dues alone cannot pay for the expense of milfoil control; if you can make an additional contribution toward the milfoil project, please indicate your intention on the membership form below.

## 2012 Membership Application/ Renewal and Proxy Form

Please return dues by June 30, the date of record for the annual meeting. Membership dues may also be paid at the annual meeting, before the start of the meeting at 10:00 a.m. meeting. Costs are listed below – burgers, hot dogs, soda, water and place settings provided; please bring a dish to pass.

**Cut here: Return Lower Portion to: ELPOI, c/o Rin Fraize, 11 Deepwood Drive, Ticonderoga, NY 12883**



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winter Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Winter Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lake Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### ENCLOSED:

		<u>Picnic Reservations</u>		<u>Additional Donation(s)</u>
Member	\$25.00 _____	_____ # Adults x \$6.00	\$ _____	Unrestricted Donation \$ _____
Associate	\$15.00 _____	_____ # Children x \$4.00	\$ _____	Milfoil Restricted Use \$ _____
Business	\$65.00 _____	_____ #Families x \$18.00	\$ _____	Total Enclosed \$ _____ (Make checks payable to ELPOI)

### Member Proxy

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a Member in good standing of the ELPOI, do hereby designate \_\_\_\_\_, who is also a member in good standing or who is another owner of record of the same membership parcel of said corporation, to vote and act on my behalf on all matters that come before the meeting to be held on July 7, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Eagle Lake Newsletter is published by Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., c/o Rin Fraize, 11 Deepwood Drive, Ticonderoga, NY 12883. ELPOI is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation and contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law. This issue was written by Chris Hyde, Rolf Tiedemann and Steve Phelps, and edited by Steve Phelps. Additional photography by Ellie George, Todd Condon and Chris Hyde. Send information, changes of address, and especially new or changed e-mail addresses to Chris at [Cdhyde1@gmail.com](mailto:Cdhyde1@gmail.com) and Steve at [stephenephelpsir@gmail.com](mailto:stephenephelpsir@gmail.com).

*If You Enjoy Eagle Lake,*  
**PLEASE HELP US  
PROTECT IT.**  
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Eagle Lake Property Owners Inc.  
[www.EagleLake1.org](http://www.EagleLake1.org)

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