

Echo Lake Protective Association



Summer 2008 Newsletter - Hello Echo Lake Association Members!

Milfoil Prevention Project

The Echo Lake Milfoil Prevention Project received \$10,890 in grants for this year, including \$500 from the town of Charleston. This allows us to staff the access from 6AM to 6PM Tuesday through Sunday. We hired 4 new milfoil inspectors: Diane Anderson, Janna Ketchum, Michelle Preston, and Theron Matthews. Look for their pictures under the Milfoil Prevention Project on our new Echo Lake website: echolakeassociation.net

Thanks to inspection volunteers for donating 4 hours per week of their time this summer: George Thompson, Tom Wagner, Patti Lennon, and Maryanne O'Brien.

Thanks to all the Echo Lake Association members who donated \$1,280 to the Milfoil Prevention Project so far. We also received dues from 34 members out of the 84 we have on our list. We only receive 1/2 the grant funds during the summer, so we need the dues and donations to pay for salaries, overhead to the Northwoods Center, and supplies. See the dues form at the end of this newsletter if you haven't paid your dues yet!

Ways to get involved for \$12/hour in-kind match for the grant

Be trained as a Vermont Invasive Patroller - Tom and Amy Wagner and Eric and Peggy Stevens have been trained as Vermont Invasive Patrollers. It would be great to have several more folks go through the training. There is a 4-hour workshop in Newport on Lake Memphremagog on July 17 from 1-5PM. All hours spent on training and patrolling the lake count as \$12/hour in kind match for the grants. You can download the form to sign up on our website or call Peggy for more information at 723-5951 for more information.

Citizen Watershed Survey - Susan Warren from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation will be coming to Echo Lake sometime in July or August to assess the general ongoing health of the lake. This will include inspection of the shoreline from canoes and kayaks. Participants will survey the perimeter of the lake for aquatic nuisances, shoreline erosion, runoff problems, etc. Anyone who is interested in coming along is welcome. Please call Peggy Stevens 723-5951 to let her know you are interested in participating. All hours spent on this survey count as \$12/hour in kind match for the grants.

General survey of the lake - Anytime you're out paddling on the lake, you could be looking for aquatic nuisances. Forms, including directions, are available at the kiosk or you can download them online. You can give them to anyone working at the access when you are finished. Your time is worth \$12/hour in kind match for the grants. These hours can really add up!

Echo Lake Association website: echolakeassociation.net

We launched our website in time for summer. You can check the weather, see our donation thermometer go up, check Echo Lake related events over the summer, get your fishing license online, download lake survey maps and directions, read information about the loons and what they are doing this summer, and much more. Please check it out. Email Cindy Swanson (cinswanson@gmail.com) if you have any suggestions or have information (pictures of you and yours on Echo Lake as jpeg files) you would like to include. This will help personalize the website. Check out the Echo Lake Association blog to get information about the loons on Echo and the smelt survey George Thompson, Peter Engels and Eric Stevens did this spring.

Echo Lake Information Kiosk and the East Charleston Country Store

Our kiosk is in the process of being updated, thanks to your donations. There will be plastic brochure holders with maps, hunting and fishing guides, and milfoil prevention information available when no one is on duty. We are also purchasing a brochure stand for the East Charleston Country store to hopefully reach more of the East Charleston community. The brochure stand will be stocked with milfoil prevention information and general information to help keep Echo Lake clean and safe.

2008 Annual Meeting and Picnic on Saturday, July 26 at 11 AM At the Engels Residence next to Access

The Annual Meeting starts at 11AM and the picnic will follow in the Engels' backyard. Barbeque will be provided by Echo Lake Association thanks to the hospitality committee - Jean Wilson, Patti Eckels, Zilpha Thompson, Mary Sue McCarthy and George Thompson, and also to Peter and Nancy Engels for the generous use of their backyard. Member potluck of appetizers, salads and desserts.

Echo Lake Maps for Sale, and more!!!

Fundraising projects will be one of the main focus of our agenda, including the new Echo Lake map that will be for sale - thanks to Jean Wilson, Mary Kenison, Patti Lennon, and Patti Eckels. We will also be doing a fundraising raffle that day. Another focus will be information sharing about the smelt survey, shoreline erosion prevention, samples and examples of aquatic nuisances with specific directions for a general survey of Echo, VIP training, etc. Please check the Echo Lake website for more information or call Peggy at 723-5951.

ELPA Secretary and Board Members needed!

Please consider getting involved for a couple hours a year. Your input would be greatly appreciated by all!!!

Secretary - You would be responsible for attending 2 board meetings a year, one in early January and one in April or May. Attend the Echo Lake Association annual meeting. Take minutes from these three meetings and write them up for our records. Write and send out a Winter and Summer Newsletter based on our activities throughout the year to members who request a hard copy. Submit an electronic copy - all future newsletters will be available online on the Newsletters page of our website.

Board Members - You would be responsible for attending 2 board meetings a year, one in early January and one in April or May. Attend the Echo Lake Association annual meeting. Help with fund-raising and general problem solving. Elections will be held at our annual meeting.

Echo Lake Protective Association
Box 71
East Charleston, VT 05833

Echo Lake Protective Association 2008 dues

- ___ Here are my 2008 dues (\$30 family, \$15 individual)
- ___ Here's an extra donation to increase inspection hours at the access. (\$160 - sponsors 1 hour of paid staff time for 14 weeks; \$80 - sponsors 1/2 hour of paid staff time.
- ___ Contact me - I'm interested in volunteering

Name _____

Address _____

email address _____

telephone number _____

Please mail to: Peggy Stevens, Box 71
East Charleston, VT 05833

