

DPA

newsletter



The Dudley Pond Association
A non-profit organization, founded in 1968

Fall 2014

www.dudleypond.org

DPA Board 2014-2015

- President - Lisa Jacobs
- First VP - Doron Almog
- Second VP - Eric Macklin
- Treasurer - Jamie Pierce
- Secretary - John Darack

For membership info see
www.dudleypond.org

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We have had a busy summer of activity on Dudley Pond. We kicked off the summer season with the Newcomers Pot Luck dinner and welcomed lots of new faces to the community. In addition to the unicycle riding LaClaires representing the DPA in the Memorial Day parade, a whole bunch of Dudley Ponders marched in The Wayland 375 Parade commemorating the end of the year-long Wayland 375 celebration. Our float consisted of a few cars carrying kayaks, paddles, goggles, life preservers & kids throwing “goldfish” snacks to the crowd.

We moved the ice cream social to July and it was a big hit with kids and adults alike, with the addition of a balloon maker, face painters, and all the make-your-own-sundaes you could eat. The weather at the end of July was perfect for the 3rd annual Dudley Pond Jazz on the Pond. Many varieties of boats were trailing the Dirty Water Brass Band as they worked their way around the pond. And we decided to bring back the Mansion Beach summer barbecue after the band finished their tour of the pond. And the 18th annual fun run was a huge success – see the article and pictures inside.

As the fall rolls around, we are looking to get more Dudley Ponders involved in our activities. Did you know we are on facebook? We are also updating our website so it can be a better resource. And anyone who would like to help us develop better social media skills is most welcome. We are looking into a community bulletin board where we can disseminate information and locate lost items.

After many years of meetings and debates, the Wayland community at the Spring Town Meeting, voted to transfer Dudley Woods to Recreation and possible future use for wastewater management. Rocky Point has already been transferred to conservation.

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News & Events

Fall Meeting

DPA Membership Meeting &
Spaghetti Dinner
Town Building - Senior Center

Sunday, October 26th, 5pm

- 2014 Run/Walk Recap
- Pond Management Update
- 2015 Budget Presentation & Vote



Ella LeClaire and Emma Dilanni on their unicycles before the Run/Walk.

Stay in the loop! If you are not currently receiving our emails, please send an email to dpasecretary84@gmail.com



Kids Fun Run ...



... And the 5k Race

President's Letter (Continued)

2014 was another great milfoil-free season, thanks to the spot treatments and extensive hand-pulling done last summer. However, a new native plant, Tapegrass or Eel grass, first seen in 2010, has taken over in some areas of the pond. The reasons for this aren't fully understood yet, but planning has begun to understand how to control it.

Learn more about our new weed problem and what we have planned for this upcoming year by joining us at the fall meeting and spaghetti dinner on Sunday October 26, 2014 at the Wayland Town Hall Senior Center, from 5 to 7pm. If you have not already done so, please consider joining or renewing your membership at www.dudleypond.org.

Cheers,

Lisa Jacobs

DPA President
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18th Annual Dudley Pond Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run

By Karen Lowery

On Sunday, September 21, the weather forecast was for steady showers throughout the day. It looked like the Annual Dudley Pond Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run would be held in the rain for the first time in 18 years. But just at the start, the sun broke through overcast skies and the rain held off. Participants, friends, and families came from 22 local communities to share in the day's events. The Dudley Pond Association works closely with Wayland's Surface Water Quality Committee to monitor the health of Dudley Pond... a "great pond" of Massachusetts. The Annual Run/Walk and Kids Race benefits the Dudley Pond Association's work to preserve the health of this important natural resource and its watershed.

Sylvia Greene, personal trainer at Passion to Move, began the day with a non-competitive fitness walk along the Dudley Pond shoreline. Then kid's races began for ages 1-13. Each race ended with ribbons for all and Dilly Ice Cream Bars donated by Dairy Queen of Natick.

The challenging 5K USATF sanctioned run and 2 Mile competitive walk followed a hilly course along the Dudley Pond shoreline with a loop back to the finish. Runners and walkers in the 5K and 2M walk ranged in ages from 7 to 80+. Teams of runners and walkers participated from the event's Official Sponsor, Get in Shape for Women-Wayland, from the Greater Framingham Running Club, Fitness Together-Wayland, and the Village Bank. Following the race, raffle prizes were given out and trophies were awarded to Overall and Division winners.

The Dudley Pond Association thanks all the corporate, contributing, refreshment and raffle sponsors, as well as over 50 volunteers who gave so generously to help make this year's Dudley Pond Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run such a successful community event.

Surface Water Quality Committee: 2014 Season-End Update

By Mike Lowery (WSWQC)

The Strange Case of the Missing Milfoil

From the full-court press of 2013 – a 12 acre herbicide spot treatment, and pulling a record 44,699 plants – to 2014 when the Eurasian Milfoil plants were few and far between...

Yes, it's still popping up, and yes we are still hand-pulling it – but what happened? Is it gone for good? Don't count on it.

We gave it a solid whack with both hand-pulling and spot herbicide last year. The spot treatment was later in the year – perhaps so late that regrowth was limited. We had a long winter – and a record late ice-out – meaning not much light was getting through. Then came the algae – cloudy water, and floating algal mats that we removed. The algae reduced the light and coated the plants.

Tapegrass

Milfoil's competition has arrived in force: Vallisneria Americana, aka tapegrass, or eel grass.



Tapegrass has taken over beds where milfoil used to predominate.

First spotted in 2010 South of the peninsula in the Chateau arm, it has spread there and now forms thick mats making boating and swimming problematic.

It can spread by seeds but mostly through its rhizomes – runners in the sediments.

It has spread to nearly all of the shoreline.

Can we do anything about it? We are removing floating mats, but it's not in our "Order of Conditions" from the Conservation Commission – so we are limited in 2014.

Unlike Eurasian Milfoil, tapegrass is a native plant and brings some benefits to the ecosystem. But even natives can become nuisance weeds – the DEP now recognizes this.

It has become so troublesome that we've mapped it so we would have data to bring to Conservation.

Over the winter divers Ted Fiust, Allison LaClaire will confer with the SWQC. We'll do our research and may submit a Notice of Intent to Conservation for permission to manage it.

Septic Management & Stormwater

SWQC has researched septic practices around Dudley Pond and near water bodies in other Massachusetts towns – and plans to make recommendations to the Board of Health to minimize nutrient contributions to Dudley Pond.

In collaboration with the DPW, parts of the stormwater handling system (along Simpson Road) has been cleaned with the town's 'vac truck' and mapped. SWQC will work with DPW, Recreation, and Conservation to improve stormwater handling in the Mansion Beach area.