

Upcoming Events!

Spring Meeting

DPA Membership Meeting &
Spaghetti Dinner
Town Building - Senior Center

Sunday, May 1st, 5pm
On-site babysitting will be available!

Board Election

We will be electing the new Board at the meeting. The candidates are:

Wayne Kelley—President
Lisa Jacobs—1st V.P.
Bob Smith—2nd V.P.
Susan Green—Secretary
Jamie Pierce—Treasurer

In Addition, nominations will be taken from the floor.

Newcomers' Pot-Luck — Sunday May 22, 4:30pm

Come and greet newcomers to the Pond community at the home of Susan Green and David Poole at 3 Priscilla Path

15th Annual Dudley Pond Run/Walk — Sunday September 11

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Non-Profit
U.S.Postage
PAID
Wayland, MA
Permit No. 73

DPA

newsletter

Spring 2011



The Dudley Pond Association

A non-profit organization, founded in 1968

www.dudleypond.org

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The winter has finally given way to spring, leaving memories of snow banks as high as I can ever remember. However, that did not stop the hardy souls who endured the snow and cold to enjoy the "hard water" to ice skate, play hockey, build snowmen and ice fish.

The Dudley Area Advisory Committee has been established and is in the beginning stages of study. There will be an update as to their progress at our May 1st meeting. I would like to thank Steve Garone for stepping up to represent the DPA at these monthly meetings. As always, our concern is that there be no negative impact to the quality of Dudley Pond.

The swans have again returned and are aggressively defending their territory against any encroaching swans or geese. They have started reconstructing their nest. It looks like we again will be favored by a batch of cygnets to enjoy over the summer.

Something amazing happened last Fall— no visible signs of milfoil were found in the pond. Thanks to the continued efforts of Mike Lowery and the SWQC and their long-term plan we have experienced amazing success over the past few years. We all know this is not the end of milfoil but it has suffered a serious setback. Inside Mike updates us on future plans to combat milfoil.

If I may, I would like to comment on membership in the DPA. The DPA's mission is, and always has been, the overall health of Dudley Pond. We now have the most expensive land (per square foot) in the town of Wayland, due to the proximity and health of the pond. If the pond were stagnant and weed-choked, the value of our properties would be greatly diminished. Given the importance of keeping our pond healthy, the need for all watershed residents to be involved in its care cannot be overstated. The DPA can be as social as you want to make it, but its overall goal is the health of the pond. If you have not already done so, please consider joining or renewing, at www.dudleypond.org

Thank You,
Wayne Kelley
DPA President

DPA Board 2010-2011

- President - Wayne Kelley
- First Vice President - Lisa Jacobs
- Second Vice President - Bob Smith
- Treasurer - Jamie Pierce
- Secretary - Susan Green

For membership info see
www.dudleypond.org

2010 Kids' Run



East Dudley Pond Septic Study

By Toni Moores (WSWQC) and Susan Green

Over the past year, the Wayland Surface Water Quality Committee (SWQC) has begun a study to measure the possible phosphorus contributions of the septic systems located on properties abutting the east side of Dudley Pond. A 1983 study established that the ground water flows into the east side of Dudley Pond and exits to the west, which would mean that phosphorus contributions from the east side of the Pond would likely have greater impact on the Pond than other sources. Measurement of phosphorus levels is the first step to establish a program to manage weed growth in Dudley Pond.

Dudley Pond was designated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a Category 5 impaired water body due to organic enrichment, low dissolved oxygen, turbidity and exotic species (Eurasian Milfoil). Category ratings range from 1 to 5, with 5 being the worst. Excessive growth of aquatic weeds and algae, notably milfoil, is due to high nutrient concentrations in Dudley Pond.

Management of aquatic weeds and algae involves a two-part approach including yearly weed and algae control (handpulling, herbicide application) and a long-range program to minimize the amount of nutrients fueling weed growth in the Pond. To develop a long-range program, the first step is to measure the amount of phosphorus going into Dudley Pond. Phosphorus is one of the major nutrients stimulating weed growth. Once the phosphorus levels are understood, scientists use this data along with other pond characteristics, to establish a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for each water body. A TMDL is the quantity of phosphorus that a water body can tolerate without resulting in excessive weed growth.

A 2007 study done for the Wayland SWQC provided estimates of phosphorus load on Dudley Pond from rainwater runoff. This current study extends the work to quantify the possible phosphorus load coming from septic systems, specifically those abutting the eastern part of the Pond. The objective of the study is threefold: to understand 1) how much phosphorus Dudley Pond can tolerate, 2) how much phosphorus is stored in and being released from Pond sediments and 3) how much phosphorus is entering the Pond annually from surface water runoff, ground water (septic systems) and other sources.

As of March 2011, the East Dudley Pond Septic Study has been through three revisions and will be reviewed with the Wayland Board of Health prior to being issued publicly. The target date for release is early April. Once a TMDL study is complete, the SWQC will be able to embark on the long-range nutrient management program for Dudley Pond by establishing watershed by-laws to minimize nutrients from surface water runoff and septic systems. Other communities in Massachusetts with similar issues have established such by-laws.

The 15th Annual Dudley Pond Run/Walk and Kids' Run Sunday, September 11, 2011

Be a DPA volunteer for the Dudley Pond Run/Walk and Kids Run, our biggest fundraiser of the year! There are volunteer opportunities before, during and after race day. We can use your help signing up sponsors, preparing flyers, selling raffle tickets, making signs, handing out ribbons at the Kids' Run, delivering prizes to raffle winners and more. Meet your neighbors and make an important contribution toward the health and preservation of the Dudley Pond watershed. Join us! Contact:

Bob Smith, dpa12us@yahoo.com, Karen Lowery, kclowery@gmail.com, Tom Klem, klemtj@yahoo.com, Lisa Jacobs, lisa@lisaj.com, or Mike Lowery, Lowery.mike@gmail.com

Thank you!

2011 Milfoil Season – No plants at 2010 year end!

By Mike Lowery (WSWQC)

What Milfoil? At the end of 2011, neither Allison LaClaire's underwater survey, nor ACT's rake toss survey found any milfoil. In 2010 we hand-pulled 6145 plants and spot treated 18 acres with the herbicide triclopyr. Our goal is the long term reduction of milfoil plants and minimization of herbicide use – and it looks like we've made progress.

Will it be back? Almost certainly – although we may not see it until mid-season. When triclopyr was used in North Pond, new growth appeared in late summer – probably from fragments. When your herbicide applicator tells you that you won't need his services in the next season, that's a good sign.

What's the plan? We have the permitting authority for spot treatment in 2011, and we have the funding, but we believe we'll be able to control the grow-back with diver hand pulling. We have the same funding as last year for hand-pulling, and we will begin by surveying from the surface, and later diver survey.

We hope to find fewer survivor plants growing back than we've seen in prior years after treatment with fluridone. We'll continue to work for a net reduction in rooted plants. **Read the whole 2010 end of season Dudley Pond report: www.dudleypond.org**

What can you do?

— Report any suspected plants to Mike Lowery – lowery.mike@gmail.com.

Long term control requires reducing nutrients flowing into Dudley Pond.

- Have your septic system pumped every two years if you are close to the pond.
- Pick up pet waste and ask others to do the same
- Minimize the use of fertilizer, look for low phosphorus organic fertilizers and keep a border from the street and any drainage to the pond.
- Wash your car at the car wash.
- Support regulations for fertilizer use, septic maintenance, and regular pump-outs.
- Slow any water flows draining to the pond.
- Keep catch basins clear to catch stormwater from entering the pond directly.

Dudley Area Advisory Committee Begins its Work

As a result of a vote at last fall's Town Meeting, the Wayland Board of Selectman has established the Dudley Area Advisory Committee. Its charter is make recommendations to the Selectman on the disposition and use of 7.5 acres of Town-owned land on Doran Road, Pond Drive, Cross Street, and Curtis Road. Nine voting members (including Steve Garone as the DPA's representative) comprise the Committee.

The Committee's first order of business was to develop and issue an RFP for the services of an consultant to conduct the land use and design studies required to determine the best use of the land. Possible options include: Open space preservation; Passive recreation use; Septic treatment for any new structures on the load or for adjacent properties; Stormwater runoff and nutrient loading management of Dudley Pond; Construction of affordable housing

Responses to the RFP were due on March 24th. The Committee received three proposals. Once the contractor is selected, the work will commence in late April/early May, with a presentation of the conceptual plan and report to the Board of Selectman in mid to late October. A more detailed report will be submitted for discussion at the Spring Meeting.