

TOOTHAKER POND ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2014

MISSION STATEMENT

Toothaker Pond Association is a non-profit organization in which membership is voluntary and open to all. The Association is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the lake, its shores and the wildlife as a recreation area to be enjoyed by all for future generations.

RESTORATION PROJECT **FINAL PHASE**

Can it be! It's hard to believe but the TPA is ready to begin the last project to restore the pond's water quality. Now that the new dam is functioning very efficiently, it is time to start work on the final phase of the restoration project.

Currently the TPA is temporarily diverting the pristine waters from nearby Meadow Brook directly into the pond to promote flushing. Using a two inch pipe, the volume of water now entering the pond is a healthy 35 gallons a minute. A little additional math calculates the flow at approximately 50,000 gallons per day. This seasonal method of diversion is only a fraction of the water that could be entering the pond to permanently restore the water quality of our beloved pond.

We are finally ready for step two. This project will involve obtaining the necessary permits through the Natural Resource Protection Act to request that the diversion be made permanent. It will require the installation of a culvert under Fish Hatchery Road directly into the natural water course that once served the pond.

There are many hurdles to jump over first. Engineering must be done through a professional firm. We will then need a stamp of approval from The Army Corps of Engineers. The US Fish & Wildlife Service will base its approval of our project on the effect, if any, it will have on critical salmon habitat in the Sandy River. Throughout the process, the Maine DEP will be working hand in hand with the Army Corps of Engineers. Finally, all municipal officials must be notified. Landowner permission has already been obtained, and we therefore extend our thanks to Wayne Borden and Kathy Davenport.

WATER QUALITY

Water quality during the summer of 2013 remained fairly constant with no significant change in clarity readings. Our experts assured us that this is just a small bump in the road and it's to be expected. After experiencing annual improvements year after year, perhaps we got a little spoiled. At this point, Toothaker Pond remains on the Maine DEP/EPA 303(d) list of 'waters non-attaining Maine water quality standards.' When the final phase of our project is completed, we are confident that continued flushing of the pond will keep improving clarity year after year.

OLD HOME DAYS PICNIC

We will once again be hosting the annual picnic in the park during the Old Home Days festivities on Saturday, August 16th at 12:00 noon. The location is the Park By The Bridge on River Road. If the day turns soggy, the picnic will be held at the Phillips Performing Arts Center (PACC) located on Depot Street.

This is a popular event but it takes a village to make it all happen. We are asking TPA members to please help by donating a salad or dessert for the picnic. If you can possibly help with our event, please call 639-4381 or 639-2194. You can also reply to this email. It would be an understatement to say that we need all the help we can get. Everyone is encouraged to attend and please bring your families. It's FREE!

ANNUAL MEETING

The TPA annual meeting will be held on Saturday, August 16th directly following the picnic in the park. At that time we will hold election of officers and discuss the permanent diversion of Meadow Brook. All Association members are welcome to attend.

BATHTUB RACES

It appears that the bathtub races may become a thing of the past. Sadly, no one has stepped forward to replace Marie Pillsbury in sponsoring this event. Anyone interested in keeping this very popular tradition alive should contact Marie at 320-3077. It will require rebuilding the tubs, transporting them to Toothaker Pond and some other minor labor.

[Please visit our website at
www.toothakerpond.com](http://www.toothakerpond.com)

DO'S AND DON'T'S IN THE CARE OF OUR POND

DO leave trees and natural vegetation along the shoreline. Consult with Shoreland Zoning laws before cutting.

DO leave existing shoreline rocks in place. Add rip rap if erosion control is necessary. (DEP permit necessary).

DO plant deep rooted, woody vegetation along lake shores to prevent erosion.

DO use non-phosphate detergents.

DO conserve water and give the septic system time to rest after heavy use.

DO clean up animal waste and prevent it from washing into the pond.

DON'T put structures (sheds, decks, etc. close to the water. All structures must meet the required setback from the water.

DON'T use herbicides and pesticides in excess on your garden or lawn. Avoid them if possible.

DON'T allow run-off water to directly enter the pond. Use erosion control measures such as rip rap to correct these problem areas.

DON'T install or use an in-sink garbage disposal.

DON'T flush strong cleaning agents into the septic system.

(This partial list of DO's and DON'T's was culled from a brochure produced by a grant to the York County Soil and Water Conservation District.)

NEW ADDITION

Calling all hikers, fishermen and swimmers! The next time you visit the pond, you will notice a new picnic table next to the dam for all to enjoy, compliments of the TPA. Please use the carry in, carry out rule when picnicking.

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