

Association for the Preservation of Long Pond

83 Dunaskin Rd., Centerville, MA 02632

October 10, 2007

Dear Members:

Six years and still going strong. And we continue to believe that each of our members should be pleased and proud to know that they are part of the effort that has literally saved Long Pond. As you will recall, our effort started at a time when hydrilla had totally taken over the eastern basin and was spreading into the middle and western basins. The hydrilla growth was extremely dense and had grown to heights exceeding six feet. It was ugly to say the least. Even our Fire Department scuba divers found it impossible to swim in the jungle of hydrilla. We were well on our way to losing our beautiful pond.

And lest we forget, this is what hydrilla infestation looks like:



Hydrilla caught on an outboard motor in Florida



Hydrilla in Long Pond's East Basin in 2001

Thankfully, the very successful annual Sonar treatment programs initiated in 2002 have returned Long Pond to its original beauty and have served to keep it that way.

The Steering Committee would like to once again emphasize the importance of your support as members. Each year we have to appear before the Conservation Commission, the Conservation Staff and the Town Council. They have all been wonderfully responsive to our requests and we are indeed extremely grateful for their support. The importance of having Association support for these efforts should be obvious. As individuals, we have a voice. As an Association, we have a voice that is amplified many times over.

Time to Re-Up

That leads us to an appeal for you to renew your membership once again by sending the enclosed form with your 2007 dues of \$10 per household to our Treasurer Kallie Garoufes. To our good neighbors and new residents who are not currently members, we respectfully request that you consider joining us in our ongoing efforts on behalf of the beautiful resource called Long Pond.

The Summer of 2007

Keith Gazelle of Aquatic Control Technology conducted a survey of the Pond on June 22nd and found a small number of hydrilla plants scattered across various locations in each of the three basins. The plants were about 3 to 6 inches in size. The number found, and the size of the plants, were not too different from a year ago. This is not to say we haven't made progress on a year over year basis. We have! All of the plants from last year, and the tubers from whence they came, are gone as a result of the treatment in 2006. (Tubers are like large seeds.)

A recommendation was made to once again treat all three basins (the entire pond) with Sonar. The plan was agreed to, as required, by the Town, the State and Aquatic Control Technology. Your Association also lent its support. As in previous years, the Sonar was maintained at an extremely low and very safe level of concentration by the highly qualified folks from Aquatic Control Technology.

As a result of the 2007 treatment, we have now eliminated this year's emerging hydrilla plants and tubers before they had a chance to sprout new tubers. We will have fewer tubers next year and someday the number may be zero. We believe that's still a number of years from now but we are slowly but surely approaching the zero mark. The remaining tubers all seem to be about 4 to 6 inches below the bottom.

Thanks Again!

Once again we need to extend our thanks to Town officials for their continuing help in restoring our beautiful lake. It should also be noted again that their actions have also served to prevent the spread of hydrilla to other Lakes in Barnstable, Cape Cod and New England. Were it not for help from Rob Gatewood, the Town Council, Town Manager John Klimm, our Conservation Commission, and the Mass. Lakes and Ponds Program, we would not be able to submit this positive progress report. We also need to once again thank Dr. Haller of the University of Florida for his continued interest and expert advice.

Purple Loosestrife

Thanks to all those who have worked at removing their shoreline Purple Loosestrife plants. We have made considerable progress but more work needs to be done lest this rapid-spreading invasive shoreline plant gets ahead of us and succeeds in crowding out our desirable native plants. If you need help please contact one of the members of the Steering Committee.

We all Love our Ducks....But

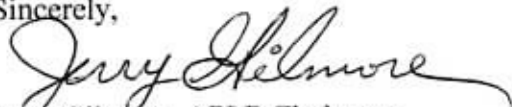
The Steering Committee would like to once again remind everyone that large numbers of ducks will not help the clarity of our Pond. The SC's request remains simple. Please don't feed the ducks. You may recall that we have noted that Hamblin's Pond turned green a number of years ago when someone decided it would be OK to have a small duck farm at the edge of the lake. It was eventually returned to normal after closing the duck farm and chemically treating the lake but there is a lesson there for us to contemplate. We really need everyone's compliance and help on this issue. According to the experts, this is also better for the ducks. We will more often than not feed them the wrong food and that is one of the reasons there is a Town Ordinance which prohibits the feeding of Ducks and other water fowl. So once again, we ask your cooperation and repeat our request: **Please** don't feed the ducks! Thank you!!

Come to the Annual Meeting !

The 2007 Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 7 – the day after Election Day. It will be held in the Parish Hall at Our Lady of Victory Church on South Main Street in Centerville. The meeting will begin at 7 PM and will last for perhaps one hour. Refreshments will be served at the end of the meeting providing attendees a chance to socialize or informally discuss issues of interest. Please plan to attend to show your support for your Association, or in the alternative, to show your love of home made chocolate-chip cookies or your desire to win the drawing for a 2008 champagne cruise on Long Pond with “Captain Ron”. ☺

Hope everyone had a great summer. We look forward to seeing many of you at the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,



Jerry Gilmore, APLP Chairman

and The APLP Steering Committee:

Dick Teel, Barbara Enos, Bob Enos, Kallie Garoufes,
Tony Antin, Ron Sirch, Walt Jebens,
David Elmer, MD and Ted Schilling, Esq.