



## Mamasasco Lake Improvement Fund SPRING 2016

MAMANASCO – IT'S A GREAT LAKE!

IN THIS ISSUE:  
Eroding Streambed  
Richardson Grant  
MLIF Website: Check It Out!  
Email Addresses  
Lake Management



## President's Message

*As of early June, Mamasasco Lake looks great. The water is clear, the water birds are back, the algae is under control, and the weeds are not too bad. The \$64,000 question: will this continue? We sure hope so.*

*The MLIF Board hired a new lake management company this year with a new approach. They suggested we leave some weeds in the lake to use up the nutrients, because if weeds don't use nutrients, the algae will. If all weeds are removed we will likely get another horrible blue/green algae bloom like last year.*

*We need your help too. Too many nutrients wash into the lake from all over the watershed. Please help by:*

- **Limiting fertilizer, especially on your lawn.**
- **Maintaining your septic system.**

*If we all work together, hopefully we can have another great summer on the lake.*

*Sincerely,*

*Barb Hartman, MLIF President*

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### Eroding Streambed

Last fall the town worked on the lower half of the stream at the unbuilt Third Lane to stop the extensive erosion that has been filling the lake. You may recall

this stream was so deeply eroded that we began calling it the "Grand Canyon of Mamasasco." This exaggeration highlights the extreme erosion shocking to all who viewed it. This spring voters approved the funds to complete

the project. We expect the work on the upper half to continue late summer or fall. If the work goes as planned, the erosion will be halted and MLIF's seven years of work will be rewarded.

## Richardson Grant

Kitty Fischer did a great job of filing for a grant from the Richardson Fund. We will hear in early July if we received any grant money. Funds will be used to pay for water testing and a lake survey of weeds and algae. With any left over money, we will remove some trees that are in the lake or about to be in the lake. If you know of any trees that are candidates for removal, please let us know.

## Email Addresses

MLIF sends out notices about important things pertaining to the lake. We never share our list or use it for any other purpose. If you live on or near the lake and/or use it for any recreational purposes, **we need your email address** so we can let you know about lake water test results, lake treatments and water use restrictions. Please contact Barb Hartman to get on our list. *(See President's Message for contact information.)*

## MLIF Website

Check our website ([mlif.org](http://mlif.org)) for highlights of the MLIF Board meetings, facts about and history of Mamasasco Lake, and suggestions as to how the watershed residents can pitch in and help maintain the health of the lake.

## Lake Management

This year we have switched management companies to The Pond and Lake Connection ([thepondconnection.com](http://thepondconnection.com)). After a really devastating summer last year battling the blue green algae we knew we had to review our options. We spent the fall interviewing management companies, discussing options and even looked into a non-treatment study. After much deliberation we came to the decision that a local company with roots invested in our community made the most sense.

We had a permits in and ready the first week of January (as the process begins Jan 1). Sadly it took until we called Rep John Frey to follow up on May 9th to finally get it approved. Every year we get "stuck" waiting for a final letter regarding wildlife. The Pond Connection scurried to get all the notices and procedures in place so that the treatment would be well in advance of the Beach Club Opening weekend. The new owner of the home at the spillway started up the siphon pipes and lowered the water, then pulled the tarps up to contain the water for the 5 day requirements. Treatments were done and the lake was open and ready before Memorial Day weekend! Hopefully our new plan to keep a few more weeds will result in the eradication of the blue green algae problem. The lake management company will be closely monitoring the lake and doing ongoing spot treatments during the summer.

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