

NEWSLETTER

LAKE EDEN ASSOCIATION



Message from the BOD

Lake Protection Begins Here

Happy Spring Lake Eden,

We are looking forward to another great season at the lake. We hope that you will have a fun and safe season at the lake, be respectful of each other and our beautiful lake as you create new memories.

The volunteer board is deep into planning and setting up all of our initiatives and programs aimed at maintaining and improving the quality of the lake. It is our hope that more lake property owners will join the Lake Eden Association this year to support all of these programs which in turn protect your personal investments. In the past we have had roughly 65% participation of lake properties owners. Our hope is to reach 80% this season. Please consider supporting our mission for just \$40 a year. See you on the lake!

Colleen Brennan
LEA President



Membership Dues



Complete your membership form [online by clicking here](#),

Or for a mail-in form [click here](#).

Upcoming Events



June 6- Rock the Dock 5-9 pm Town Recreation Area

Join the LEA in honoring Art Curcillo & Steve Walsh for their years of service. Enjoy the Band Lawless. We will provide all the fixings for sandwiches cake, water and lemonade People can bring a side dish if they choose to. **BYOB**



July 11- Annual Meeting 9:30-11:30am Scout Camp

*Two board seats are open. Please contact Colleen to become involved. cbrennanvt@gmail.com

Grants Awarded

Awards from Town of Eden

The town again voted in favor of a 4K allocation towards the Greeter Program. While we have been fortunate to receive grants for this program in the past, they do not cover the full expense (25-30K) of the program and require a volunteer and/or cash match. Therefore, we are very thankful that the town supports our mission to reduce transport of invasive species in and out of Lake Eden. The town also works in tandem with us to run the Greeter program by employing the Greeters and providing administrative support.

Federal Grant

The Lake Eden Association/Town of Eden was awarded a \$25K grant to be used towards Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) mitigation efforts (specifically aquatic plant surveys and DASH) and a \$17K grant from VT DEC to run the Greeter Program. The Greeter grant funding is down 3k from the last few years.

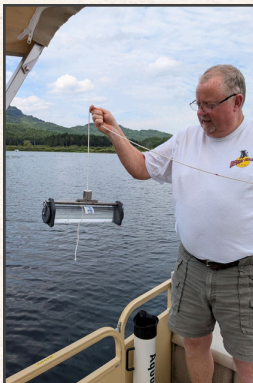
We are still under contract for a 2 year federal grant we received last year for \$93K. This grant is used for the herbicide treatments. This grant will not be available going forward as it was eliminated by the federal government. We hope not to need herbicide treatments for a few years after this season's treatments. In the future we will need to explore other funding sources.



Lay Monitoring

After 14 years, Steve Walsh is stepping down from doing our water testing. We are appreciative beyond words for all Steve has done in this volunteer position. He has trained John Cannon & Jeff Rochette who will take on this role in 2026. To see Lake Eden's scorecard, [click here](#). For information on this program and Lake Eden's standing see:

<https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/monitor/lay-monitoring-program>



Mitigation Update

We are entering our fifth season of mitigating Eurasian Watermilfoil. This season's plan will be similar to last season. We anticipate spending roughly \$50K on all mitigation efforts. Pending our pre-treatment survey and approval by the DEC, we plan to treat the new hot spots in the SW end, SW cove, and fishhook cove of the lake with herbicide. Last season hand pulling and DASH could not effectively control the spread in those areas. DASH, hand pulling, and potentially benthic blankets will be used to address EWM growth in the other areas of the lake. Notices will be sent out once treatment plans are approved and scheduled. Notice will also be posted on Friends of Lake Eden Facebook page and on Lakeedenvt.org.

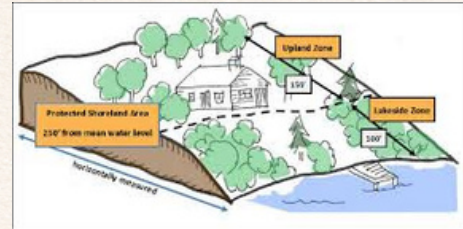
Finally, our volunteer VIP's (VT Invasive Patrollers) will be patrolling the lake for areas of growth and marking them with orange buoys. Detailed information on our Mitigation efforts will be presented at the annual meeting.



Shoreline Protection Act

The VT Shoreline Protection Act regulates activities within 250 feet of the Lake's water edge. The goal is to allow for reasonable development along the shoreline of VT lakes while protecting water quality, aquatic habitat and maintaining the stability of the shoreline. Please contact Laura.dlugolecki@vermont.gov to see if you need to register or apply for a permit BEFORE you begin:

- Clearing vegetation or trees
- Build dwelling extensions or replacements
- Create new or expanded driveways & walkways (dirt or paved),
- Add patios, retaining walls, or any hardscape
- Expand lawns or gardens into wooded areas, etc.



These are not necessarily things that are not allowed but may require some other modifications on your property such as additional plantings to absorb the impact these projects may have on the lake's health relative to water run-off, sediment & nutrient loading, etc. They tend to be very flexible in finding ways to allow your project to move forward. Violating this act could result in costly fines and need to remove projects. For more information go to https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/lakes/docs/Shoreland/ShorelandProtectionActSummary_2272017.pdf

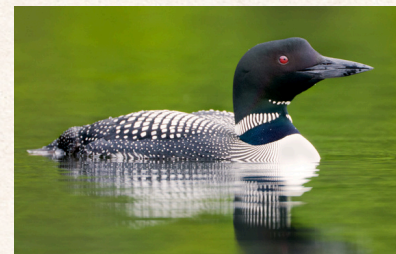
How to Make Your Property More Lake Healthy



- Eliminate or minimize lawns; create "no Mow zones". Lawns are poor filters of nutrients and so should be minimized in general and not cut too short.
- Avoid or at least minimize fertilizer use on lawns & in gardens (use of phosphorus & nitrogen fertilizers is illegal in VT)
- Correct any areas of erosion and runoff on your property; especially in areas where water is running directly from your property and into the Lake.
- Reduce the amount of impervious surfaces: driveways (paved & unpaved), parking areas, roofs/buildings, decks, patio's, etc.
- Maintain/plant vegetative buffers along the shoreline using native plants; this also provides habitats for fish and other wildlife and helps to cool the water.
- Conserve areas of natural shoreline-DO NOT clear entire property shoreline to water's edge. This includes lawns that extend to the lakes edge as lawns are poor filters of nutrients.
- Resist the urge to tidy up a "messy" shoreline: The leaves, twigs and brush support a storm-resilient property and help contribute to a more vibrant lake overall.

Website Update

The new Lake Eden Association website is up and running. Some editing and additions are still needed but the bulk is done thanks to Lisa Vaillancourt & Teri Williams. There is a lot of good info regarding all things Lake Eden with links to lots of additional sources of information. Give it a look at www.lakeedenvt.org



Lakewise

Three years ago, there were just four properties that had earned a Lakewise award. Now we are up to six and hope to reach ten by 2027. We are excited that fifteen properties signed up for Lakewise visits in 2025. If we reach just 15 % of properties, we will receive a “Gold Award” from the state. This award would identify us as a lake community of good stewards and will assist us in getting grants. If you would like a no obligation consult, to see if you are eligible for an award and/or to seek recommendations on what simple changes will make your property more “Lake healthy”, contact Alison Marchione 802-409-6128 Alison.marchione@vermont.gov



For more information on this program: <https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/lakeshores-lake-wise>

VIP Team

Jan Scipione has passed the reins on to Jeff Rochette who will now head up the VIP program. We are thankful to Jan for her service and grateful she will be staying on as a VIP. We currently have four vacant VIP positions and are seeking volunteers to assist in patrolling the lake for Invasive species. It is a minimal commitment that involves a 2-hour training (online or in person) and a minimum of one patrol of a specified area of the lake per season. Please consider joining our team to help prevent further infestations. There are roughly 50 invasive species in Lake Champlain that we hope to prevent. For further information contact Jeff @ jroche1969@gmail.com



Watershed Management

We are so excited to have John Cannon volunteer to head up our Watershed Management project initiatives. We are hopeful with some dedicated attention we will be able to make some better progress on completing projects around the lake that will reduce sediment and nutrient loading into the lake.

We hope to reverse the slow but downward trend we are seeing in the lake's water quality. For more information on our Watershed Management projects and to view our Watershed management plan go to lakeedenvt.org/copy-of-lake-wise-program



Greeter Program

As we prepare for the new season, we want to extend a huge thank you to Monica Wood, who has volunteered her time to manage this program for the past two years. Her outstanding organization and enthusiasm have been instrumental in keeping our team equipped with the latest information and updated materials. We are incredibly grateful for her continued leadership in this essential conservation effort.



[Contact Us](#)



lakeedenvt.org