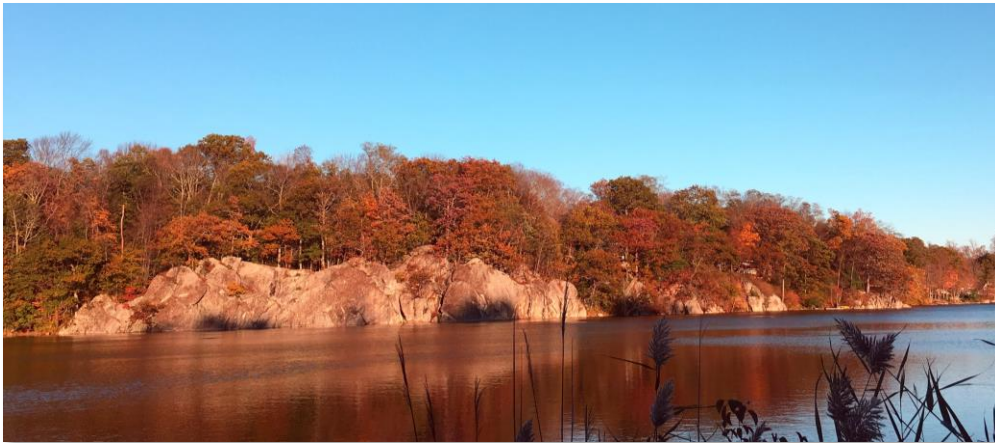


MAMANASCO LAKE IMPROVEMENT FUND FALL 2017



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President's Message

Did you know the word Mamanasco is Native American, and one definition is grassy swamp. So it is no wonder that MLIF constantly battles to keep the lake usable for recreation. So far, we have been successful. As we end another season at Mamanasco Lake, I am happy to report that it was a good year. The invasive weeds and algae were in check for most of the season and water clarity is excellent. People have been swimming, paddle boarding, kayaking and canoeing all summer. The fishermen have been out in large numbers. There have been lots of birds, even osprey and an eagle.

MLIF board members work hard all year to keep our lake in the best possible shape. We are always looking for ways to improve the lake. We welcome any ideas you have and encourage anyone to come to MLIF Board meetings, which are the first Thursday of the month at 8pm at CVS on Main Street.

We need the help of everyone in the watershed to keep our lake healthy: keeping leaves out of streams and the lake, limiting fertilizers, and maintaining your septic system all make a huge difference in the nutrients that end up in the lake. More nutrients mean more weeds and algae. Please keep these lake friendly practices in mind and help keep our lake beautiful.

Thanks for your help,
Barb Hartman, MLIF President
barbara-hartman@sbcglobal.net



Amazon Smile is an easy way to donate to MLIF when you do your holiday shopping on-line. Make sure the benefit is set for MLIF!

How do you select a charitable organization to support?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Email Notifications

MLIF sends out notices by email about lake water test results, lake treatments and water use restrictions.



If you live on or near the lake or use it for recreational purposes, we need your email address so we can notify you of this important information. We never share our list or use it for any other purpose. Please contact Barb Hartman to get your name on our list. (See President's message for contact info.)

Follow Us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/MamanascoLakeImprovementFund



Lake Treatment Report



We are now in our second year with "The Pond and Lake Connection" (thepondconnection.com). The summer had a very clear lake and minimized algae blooms with NO BLUE GREEN ALGAE.

We did have a bit more algae than we wanted, but we will work on that again next year. We had an early start this year and now have a 3 year permit. The Pond and Lake Connection team attended a board meeting this year, performed 9 lake inspections and 8 treatments of Herbicides and/or Algaecides. A record setting amount of time on our lake vs prior lake management companies that we have worked with. We reviewed the study performed by the State of CT (paid for by your donations), and implemented suggestions. For 2018, we are investigating ways to reduce the amount of muck on the lake floor without creating turmoil to the lake. Please note that there will be no water level draw-down this fall.

Fundraising

Enclosed with this newsletter is our last fundraising letter for the 2017 Lake Mamasasco fund raising season. We are very grateful to those of you who have already given so generously this year.

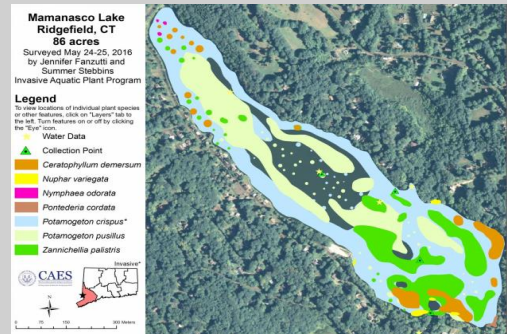


If you have not yet made a donation to MLIF, we ask that you please give what you can so we will have the funds we need to care for the lake. Your donation goes directly toward the vital programs that keep the lake a viable and beautiful asset to our community. Does your company offer matching funds? Many companies have matching grant programs. We are a non-profit, tax-exempt organization and would qualify for this program. Please check to see if your donation to MLIF is eligible for an additional contribution from your company. If it is, please request the required forms and forward them to us at: MLIF, P.O. Box 246, Ridgefield, CT 06877. These extra dollars make a great difference in our ability to care for Lake Mamasasco!

Anne S. Richardson Grant

In 2016, MLIF applied and received a grant from the Anne S. Richardson Fund. Our \$10,000 award was designated for two purposes: an aquatic plant lake study and removal of trees and brush in the lake that make the lake less safe for recreation. Those projects were carried out in 2016 and the beginning of 2017. MLIF formed a committee to decide which trees to remove, bids were received and a tree company was hired to remove the dead and dying trees. The lake study was completed by Greg Bugbee, Associate Scientist, and his team from the CT Agricultural Experiment Station, Department of Environmental Sciences and his team.

At our annual "State of the Lake" meeting in March 2017, Mr. Bugbee outlined the study results. This study continues to be important to our understanding of the lake ecology and is guiding the Board and our lake management company as we work to manage the lake.



Board Members

Officers:

President: Barb Hartman
Vice President: Dean Williams
Secretary: Kitty Fischer
Treasurer: Rosemary Hawkins Sposito

Directors:

Mimi Dalbey Mike Austin
Margie Collora Nancy Jacobowitz
Jason Geane Barbara Cmiel

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