

MAMANASCO LAKE IMPROVEMENT FUND FALL 2018



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President's Message

Dear Friends of Mamanasco Lake,
As we close the 2018 season, I am proud to report that the volunteer directors of Mamanasco Lake Improvement Fund have worked hard to protect and enhance our wonderful lake. The season started in May with the destructive macro-burst that devastated many homes and brought down over a dozen trees into our lake - a truly historic event. We also saw a tremendous amount of rain this season— 27.9" from May to September, more than two times the amount we received in 2017 during that period – which makes our treatment plans even more challenging. We continue to explore new and innovative methods to manage the health of our lake and welcome input and ideas from our lake community as we prepare our approach for summer 2019. I encourage you to reach out if you would like to get involved or perhaps just learn more about the work the organization does to protect and enhance Mamanasco Lake.

Kind Regards,
Dean Williams, President – Mamanasco Lake Improvement Fund



Board Members

Officers

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

Directors

Mike Austin, Barbara Cmiel,
Margie Collora, Mimi Dalbey, Nancy
Jacobowitz, Tessa Jucaite, Matt Kim

Contact Us

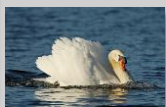
Email: mlifboard@gmail.com

Mamanasco Lake Wildlife

Featured below are just some of the beautiful wildlife that have been sighted in and around our lake this summer.



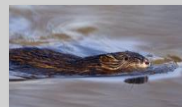
Bald Eagle



Mute Swan



Snapping Turtle



Muskrat



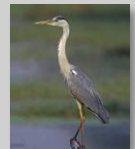
Smallmouth Bass



Painted Turtle



Bobcat



Grey Heron

Photos courtesy of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environment Protection

Trivia Challenge

Take our trivia challenge and see how well you know Mamanasco Lake?

1

What is the estimated number of gallons of water that Mamanasco Lake holds?

2

What is the average water depth of Mamanasco Lake?

3

What year was the first grist mill established on Mamanasco lake?

4

According to local history, what is the Native American translation for the word "Mamanasco"?

Annual Lake Management Report

In 2016, Mamasasco Lake Improvement Fund contracted Pond and Lake Connection to manage the aquatic plant management program for Mamasasco Lake. We worked closely with the Pond & Lake Connection team to develop a strategic multi-year plan to manage our lake. The focus of this plan is to manage the invasive aquatic weed Curly-Leaf Pondweed, control filamentous algae and to reduce the chances for a cyanobacterial bloom.

In 2018, there was a total of eight treatments performed on Mamasasco Lake. They took place from April 24th – September 6th. As in past years, the maximum rate of herbicide was applied to beds of Curly-Leaf Pondweed during the first treatment in an attempt to eradicate this plant before it matures. Curly-Leaf Pondweed is very abundant in our lake. This plant is a non-native, aggressive invader that can cover large portions of waterbodies and has little or no value for wildlife habitat or nutrition.

In addition to managing invasive Curly-Leaf Pondweed, the other predominate issue for our lake is extensive, season-long algae blooms. All types of algae are important to lake ecology because they serve as a food source for protozoans, insects, and fish. However, algae frequently reach nuisance levels. Some species can attain a high-biomass, by a rapid proliferation of cells, called blooms. These can cause harm to aquatic ecosystems.

Ecosystem damage by algae blooms may include for instance, disruption of food webs, shading out beneficial plants, fish kills by gill damage, or contribution to low oxygen “dead zones” after bloom degradation. The abundant growth of algae can also result in a number of

other concerns including aesthetics, and interference with fishing, swimming, and boating. Some algae species, called blue-green algae, can produce potent natural chemicals (toxins) that can persist in the water or enter the food web, leading to death of aquatic animals and pets or human illness.

It's important to note that Pond & Lake Connection observed native plants in much greater quantities this season which continues the trend from 2017. Some native plants seen growing in 2018 include; Duckweed, Coontail, Pickerel Rush, Spatterdock, Waterlilies, and small pondweed. From a lake health and ecology standpoint, this is a great benefit. The more vegetation that is found within the lake, the more competition there is with algae for nutrients. The Mamasasco Lake Improvement Fund volunteer board members will be working hard this offseason to prepare the most effective plan to manage our lake in the 2019 season.



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Email Notifications



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

If you live near the lake or use it for recreational purposes, we need your email address, so we can notify you of this important information. Please send us an email at MLIFBoard@gmail.com to be added to our contact list.

Trivia Answers

4. Mamasasco Lake's name originated from the Native American word 'Mamansquag' meaning "grassy pond"

3. 1716
2. 7 feet

1. 375,000 gallons of water

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