



August 22, 2013

The Sampler is a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program.

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## Web Highlights

This month's featured lake website is [Province Lake Association](#) in Effingham and Wakefield, NH and So. Parsonsfield, ME

[Nutrient Loading in Lake Erie Video](#)

## Upcoming Events

### LakeFest 2013

Hands Across the Water  
Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013  
Weirs Beach, Laconia, NH

### Nature of the Lakes Cruises

September 3rd to October 10th  
Tue., Wed. and Thurs. at 3:00pm  
Squam Lakes Natural Science Center  
23 Science Center Rd.  
Holderness, NH 03245

## Grants

### Community Grants Program

NH Charitable Foundation  
Small Grants (< \$5,000)  
March 1 through November 15, 2013

## **Limno Lingo**

## **Chinese Mystery Snail**

The Chinese mystery snail has been reported in New Hampshire water bodies for many years. You may have noticed a large snail floating on the top of the water or buried in the sand along the



shore and wondered what it was and where it came from. The Chinese Mystery Snail is a relatively large invasive snail with a light to dark, olive-green colored shell that turns brownish-red in the adult stages. The shell usually has 6 to 7 convex whorls and can grow up to 2 inches in length. Females live up to 5 years and can produce greater than 170 young throughout their lifetime. This non-native snail was likely introduced to our waterbodies in the hopes of establishing a local population to be used for the Asian food market. Once introduced into a waterbody, the snails can be spread to other waterbodies in bait bucket water, on plants attached to boat propellers or in any spaces on boats that hold water.

The Chinese mystery snail is not native to the United States, and is difficult to control once it has infested a waterbody. Its unique operculum or "trap door" feature covers the shell opening and allows it to avoid predation and survive in unfavorable conditions. The Chinese mystery snail competes for food and space with native populations. They feed off of algae and other organic and inorganic material. When not eating algae, the snails are sometimes found floating at the surface of the water. To report the Chinese mystery snail in your waterbody contact the DES Exotic Species Program (603) 271-2248 or the NH Fish and Game Department (603) 271-3421. For more information visit <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/factsheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1045>.

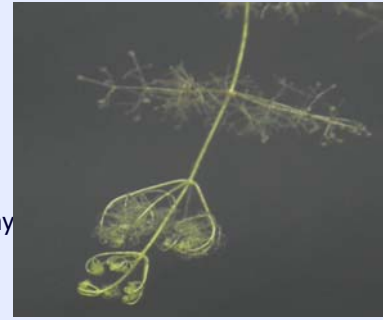
## **July VLAP Summary**

As expected, July was another busy month for VLAP and satellite labs in New London and Plymouth. The VLAP coordinator, PSU Satellite Lab Manager, and two interns conducted 43 biologist visits. Additionally, volunteers sampled 80 lakes on their own. Similar to June, according to the National Weather Service, July was very wet with Concord experiencing 6.70" of rainfall making it the 8th wettest July on record. Concord experience rain on 17 out of the 31 days in July. Because this wet July followed a wet June the total rainfall for June and July is already three inches higher than the average total rainfall of June, July and August. July was also hot, with one official heat wave in the middle of the month that lasted five days making July 2013 the 10th warmest July on record.

Despite the wet summer, by mid-July most VLAP lakes reported

**Kettle Lakes:** Kettles are depressions left behind after partially-buried ice blocks melt. Many of these depressions are filled with water and referred to as "kettle lakes". They get the name kettle from the way the basin was formed. Kettle lake basins were formed as the glaciers receded. As blocks of ice fell off the glacier, excess debris started forming around the ice block. When the ice block finally melted, all the debris fell into the hole as it filled up with water, creating a kettle basin.

their water levels as being close to normal. Consistent with June, due to the above average precipitation, July lake clarity was slightly below average. Many lakes and tributaries also noted the water was more tea colored than normal. The above average precipitation flushed wetland systems rich in tannins, which give the water its tea colored hue, contributing to noticeably darker waters. Filamentous green algae was starting to grow along the shore in many lakes and ponds, and many volunteers reported an abundance of Bladderwort, a non-rooted aquatic plant that have tiny bladders on branched leaves (see photo).



### **Need Materials for Lake Management Projects?**

Look no further than [repurposed MATERIALS](#). They have used conveyer belts, 55 gallon drums, wood, cable, pallets, chains, ropes and many other products that could be used for stormwater management and other projects around your property.

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