



August 28, 2014

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 the [Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance](#)

[Algae: Friend or Foe?](#)

[Keeping Tabs on HABs: New Tools for Detecting, Monitoring and Preventing Harmful Algal Blooms](#)

[Explore Gunnison Lake in Goshen, NH](#)

Upcoming Events

[The Floating Classroom on Lake Winnepesaukee](#)

Tuesdays and Thursdays through Sept. 5, 2014

[Learning to Live with Beavers](#)

September 12, 2014

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Merrimack Town Hall

6 Baboosic Lake Rd.

Merrimack, NH 03054

Grants

[NHDES Water Supply Land Protection Grants For I-93 Corridor](#)

Deadline November 1, 2014

[2015 Local Source Water Protection Grants](#)

July and August VLAP Summary

The summer is fading fast, but hopefully we still have a few good weeks of water testing left! July and August were very busy months for VLAP sampling. The VLAP Coordinator and interns conducted a total of 44 biologist visits in July and 36 in August. Additionally, volunteers sampled a total 159 lakes on their own in July and August. The Jody Connor Limnology Center (JCLC) and VLAP satellite laboratories were very busy generating over 4,500 individual sample results.

July continued to experience slightly above average air temperatures at the beginning of the month, but cooler than normal air temperature towards the end of the month making July 2014 the coolest July since 2009, as recorded in Concord, NH. A total of 7.49 inches of rainfall was recorded and was double the normal July average of 3.74 inches making July 2014 the 7th wettest on record in Concord, NH. This highlights the importance of stormwater management around our lakes and rivers. Preliminarily, August has been fairly cool and dry, and lake water temperatures have been cooling off after the warm water temperatures experienced in July.

Keep an eye out for late summer algal and cyanobacteria blooms and notify us if you see one. You can call the JCLC Cyanobacteria Hotline at (603) 419-9229. Speaking of algal and cyanobacteria blooms, many VLAP lakes have been busy participating in an EPA pilot project to measure the amount of phycocyanin, a pigment found in cyanobacteria, in New England lakes. Thank you to all of the participating lakes and keep up the great work!

Algae Bloom Photo Contest

The North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) and the EPA are sponsoring the [2014 Algae Bloom Photo Contest](#). It seems algal blooms have been dominating the news lately, but for good reason. Send your best photos of algal blooms to be entered to win some great prizes, and help to educate others on the causes and effects of algal blooms throughout the country.

Deadline November 3, 2014

Limno Lingo

Zooplankton: Tiny animals, some microscopic, floating in the water column. They consume phytoplankton and other microscopic organisms and are an important part of the food web, being consumed by macroinvertebrates, small fish and other aquatic animals.



Change in Procedure for Submitting Wetland Dredge and Fill Permits

Reprinted from NHDES' The Municipal EcoLink, August 2014

As of June 17, 2014, town and city clerks are no longer required to mail Wetland Dredge and Fill permit application forms to NHDES. Town and city clerks are now only required to sign and certify that the municipality in which the property is located has received four copies of the application form and attachments. After the town or city clerks signs and certifies receipt of the application form and attachments, the applicant is responsible for either mailing or hand delivering the original permit application form and attachments to NHDES. Permit application forms can be hand delivered to NHDES during normal business hours; Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm.

Town or city clerks must still ensure a copy of the permit application form and attachment are provided to the local governing body, and, if any, the municipal planning board and the municipal conservation commission. The town or city clerk must also retain one copy of the permit application form and attachments to be made reasonably accessible to the public. If you have questions about this new procedure, please call (603) 271-2147.

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