



The Sampler

September 30, 2015

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 [Webster Lake Association](#), Franklin, N.H.

[A Fight to Protect Loons, One Sign at a Time](#)

[Toxic Bacteria Blooming in N.H. Waters](#)

[Ossipee Lake Natural Area Suffers from Vandalism](#)

[New England Experts Concerned by Sighting of Invasive Turtle](#)

[LakeLine Summer 2015: HABs and USEPA](#)

[Role of Freshwater Lakes, Reservoirs in Global Carbon Cycle](#)

[Chemicals in Suburban Ponds Might Make More Frogs Female](#)

[Assessment of Winter Maintenance on Porous Asphalt](#)

[A New Analysis and Approach to Watershed Management](#)

[Protecting Lakes and Streams by Removing Phosphates and Nitrates](#)

Monthly VLAP Summary August and September

The 2015 VLAP sampling season is coming to a close on October 9th and we battled through a very hot and dry summer. The National Weather Service reports that the air temperature in July was 0.8 degrees above normal and rainfall was 1.71 inches below normal. This continued into August where the air temperature was 2.3 degrees above normal with rainfall amounts above and below average depending on the region of the state. In Concord, a total of 5.56 inches of rainfall was reported during just two rain events in August. These conditions resulted in warmer surface waters throughout the state creating ideal conditions for lake recreation.



September Sampling at Burns Pond in Whitefield

These conditions made for a busy summer at the Jody Connor Limnology Center (JCLC) and Lake Sunapee Protective Association-Colby Sawyer College (LSPA-CSC) laboratories. August started off a little slower and a few biologist visits were re-scheduled due to thunderstorms. However, VLAP staff conducted a total of 36 biologist visits and volunteers sampled a total of 63 times on their own in August. VLAP interns Callie and Carina were able to stay through almost the end of the month which helped immensely in making sure biologist visits were complete and laboratory operations ran smoothly. The warm and dry weather held into mid-September helping to keep the sampling season active. VLAP conducted four biologist visits but volunteers were still quite busy conducting 24 sampling events on their own.

Volunteers noted very low stream flow conditions throughout August and September. Volunteers continued to note above average (good) water clarity as well as above average growth of

[Satellite Imagery of Great Lakes Cyanobacteria Blooms](#)

Upcoming Events

[Salt Applicator: Green Snow Pro Training](#)

Friday, Sept. 30, 2015
Black Water Grill
Salem, NH

Monday, Oct. 5, 2015
Pease Golf Course Clubhouse
Portsmouth, NH

[Green Hills Fall Trout Trek](#)

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015
Marsh Rd.
Conway, NH 03818

[2nd Annual NH Salt Symposium](#)

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015
Castleton Conference Center
Windham, NH

Grants

[NHDES Drinking Water Supply Land Protection Grants](#)

I-93 Corridor and Lake Massabesic Watershed Eligibility Applications Due November 15, 2015
Final Applications Due February 15, 2016

[2016 Source Water Protection Grants](#)

Deadline November 2, 2105

[Training and Technical Assistance for Small Systems](#)

Provide training and technical assistance to small public water systems, wastewater systems and private well owners.
Deadline October 26, 2015

Limno Lingo

Morphology: Referring to the shape and size of a lake basin which can affect biological, chemical and physical characteristics of a waterbody. It is best described by a bathymetric map detailing the shoreline and depth contours which allow the determination of

native aquatic vegetation, such as Bladderwort. This was not a surprise as good water clarity allowed more sunlight to reach aquatic plant zones helping to increase their abundance. Warmer water temperatures and abundant sunlight also led to numerous cyanobacteria blooms reported throughout the state in August and September. Ten cyanobacteria advisories and five lake warnings were issued by the Beach Inspection Program in 2015.

Thank you to all of our volunteers sampling water quality throughout the state. You continue to go above and beyond to collect valuable information helping us to better understand local and statewide water quality issues, as well as advance scientific research. You are truly an amazing group! I hope you all have time to relax and enjoy the beautiful fall weather on our lakes. Thank you for another successful monitoring season and I look forward to seeing you again in 2016!

New Aquatic Invasive Species Identified in Lake Memphremagog, Vermont

An invasive macroalgae species was recently documented in northern Vermont in August. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Lakes' staff confirmed the presence of the non-native invasive macroalgae, *Nitellopsis obtusa* in a Vermont waterbody, Lake Memphremagog in Newport. This is the first confirmation of this species in that state. The common name for the macroalgae is starry stonewort. Starry stonewort has been problematic in the upper mid-west for a number of years now, and it appears to be migrating eastward. No populations have yet been detected in New Hampshire. There are two native and fairly common species of macroalgae that we do find in New Hampshire, which are Chara and Nitella. Both are fairly small and low to the bottom in generally low density. For more information about the identification of starry stonewort in Vermont visit [Flow](#) Vermont's watershed blog. DES is currently developing a fact sheet on starry stonewort that will be available this fall.

New Hampshire Training and Salt Applicator Certification for Winter Maintenance Professionals Offered this Fall

Maintain Safety, Limit Liability and Reduce the Environmental Impacts from Salt

Concord, NH – Green SnowPro training courses will be held for winter maintenance professionals in Salem, NH on September 30, 2015 and in Portsmouth, NH on October 5, 2015. Training attendees are eligible to become a Certified Salt Applicator by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and receive liability protection from ice related slip and fall cases.

Road salt is corrosive, expensive and harmful to local drinking water, lakes, rivers and streams. But salt is often necessary to ensure roads and parking lots are safe for the public during winter storms. With the goal of maintaining the same level of safety, Green SnowPro training promotes safe, efficient and effective use of salt in winter maintenance practices on private parking lots and roads including anti-icing, plowing, calibration and record keeping.

Local business owners can also benefit from requiring their contactors to become certified. They can save money through efficient winter maintenance practices, but, in addition, the certified contractor's liability protection extends to the business owner. Through smarter salt application practices, the Green SnowPro

specific lake morphological parameters such as: maximum length and width, area, volume, maximum and mean depths, and shoreline length.

program is helping to protect New Hampshire's water resources.

Over 400 professionals and municipal staff have attended this dedicated winter maintenance best practices course, passed a short written examination and are now certified. For anyone already Green SnowPro Certified, the required Professional Development Courses are also being offered this fall. For more information on all Green SnowPro training courses, visit the UNH Technology Transfer Center (T2) website at <http://t2.unh.edu/training-calendar> or contact Patrick Woodbrey at 603-271-5329 or patrick.woodbrey@des.nh.gov. Also, for more information on road salt reduction efforts in New Hampshire, visit: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/was/salt-reduction-initiative/index.htm>

State Announces 2015 Fall Lake Drawdowns

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) announced it's [2015 fall drawdown of lakes and ponds](#) controlled by dams operated by DES. For additional information on lake drawdown visit the DES Dam Bureau's [webpage](#) or read the DES fact sheet [WD-DB-16](#) Why Lake Drawdowns are Conducted.

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