



# The Sampler

July 26, 2016

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 [Pleasant Lake Preservation Association, Deerfield and Northwood, NH](#)

[Toxic Algae May Be Causing Decline In NH Loon Population](#)

[Lake Association Mixer Was a Success](#)

[Life's a Beach in Local Communities](#)

[In Hot Water: Climate Change is Affecting North American Fish](#)

[Dam Good! Beavers May Restore Imperiled Streams, Fish Populations](#)

[After Decades of Cleanup Attempts; World's Lakes Still Suffer from Phosphorus Pollution](#)

[Will This Toxic Algae Bloom Eat Florida?](#)

[Scientists Watch Water Fleas Take Over New Territory](#)

[Utah Lake's Poop-Driven Algal Bloom is a Crappy](#)

## Monthly VLAP Summary

The 2016 VLAP sampling season has hit the ground running and it's hard to believe we're more than halfway through the season; where did the summer go? We've endured some hot and humid days, but there always seems to be a pleasant breeze on the water. Volunteer monitors have been very busy collecting water quality samples and utilizing the Jody Connor Limnology Center (JCLC) and Lake Sunapee Protective Association-Colby Sawyer College (LSPA-CSC) laboratories to borrow equipment and analyze samples.

VLAP sampling kicked off in April with many lakes dropping off chloride and tributary samples following the early spring snow melt and ice out. Volunteers were also busy tracking lake ice-in and ice-out and entering the dates into the new online form. May sampling consisted of four biologist visits and nine lakes sampling on their own which is consistent with past years. The VLAP workshop was held on Saturday May 21st and was well attended by volunteers throughout the state. The average air temperature in May was 1.9 degrees above normal due to a warm last half of the month while total rainfall was 1.03 inches below normal as recorded by the National Weather Service in Concord, NH.

June kicked off with the training of new interns and the annual lake ecology day at Monomonac Lake in Rindge, NH. Fifth grade students from Rindge Elementary and Winchendon Elementary Schools joined staff from the JCLC and volunteers from the [Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association](#) (MLPOA) on six pontoon boats for a day of water quality sampling and watershed activities. VLAP staff completed a total of 36 biologist visits and volunteers sampled a total of 57 lakes on their own. VLAP welcomed one new lake, Long Pond in Danville, and two returning lakes, Knowles Pond in Northfield and Horseshoe Pond in Concord during June. June air temperatures were 1.2 degrees above normal making this June the warmest since 2008. The dry conditions continued into June and total rainfall was 2.28 inches below normal making it the driest June since 1997.



Big Pea Porridge Pond, Madison, NH

The dry May and June conditions have resulted in lower water levels in many lakes with tributaries dry or experiencing very low flow conditions. The dry conditions have generally resulted in higher (better) lake clarities in May and June due to the lack of stormwater runoff. However warm water

## Situation

## **Upcoming Events**

### Protecting Shorelands to Preserve Water Quality

Tuesday July 26, 2016  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

and

### Underwater Layering of Lake Sunapee and Other Area Lakes

Thursday July 28, 2016  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
LSPA's Learning Center  
63 Main St.  
Sunapee, NH 03782

### Lake Wentworth Sailing Regatta

Saturday August 6, 2016  
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

### 40th Alton Bay Boat Show

Saturday August 13, 2016  
Alton Bay Town Docks  
Alton, NH

## **Grants**

### Upper Connecticut River Mitigation and Enhancement Fund

Deadline: January 6, 2017

### 2017 Local Source Water Protection Grants

Deadline: November 1, 2016

temperatures and sunny day have prompted filamentous green algal growth along lake shorelines. The earlier ice outs resulted in an earlier start to the growing season for aquatic plants and algae, with many lakes also noting above average exotic and native aquatic plant growth.

So far, July has been BUSY! We've managed to conduct a total of 40 biologist visits and volunteers have sampled 60 times on their own so far. I don't know how we fit it all in! The JCLC and LSPA-CSC laboratory staff thank all the volunteer monitors for a great start to the 2016 VLAP sampling season.

## **NHDES Releases New Hampshire Lake Information Mapper**

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) has released a new interactive surface water quality map that provides links to historical and current lake trophic survey reports, current volunteer lake assessment program reports, and exotic aquatic species distribution information. More than 1,500 reports on greater than 750 lakes from 1975 to 2016 are available via this map.

This interactive map allows the user to zoom in and click on a lake of interest and access a pop up menu that displays the lake name, waterbody ID, trophic status, reports by year, and other information.

To access the map, please visit:

<http://nhdes.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1f45dc20877b4b959239b8a4a60ef540>

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## **Limno Lingo**

**Impoundment:** Typically a body of water created or modified by a dam. Impoundments were created for many different purposes such as reservoirs for drinking water, hydroelectric power and flood protection. Impoundments can alter the stability and flow of downstream river channels, disconnect these systems from their natural floodplains and block fish passage contributing to the loss of species diversity.

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