

Lake Breezes

Lake Rescue Association, P.O. Box 372, Ludlow, VT 05149
www.lakerescue.org

May 2013

Shoreland Protection Bill Shelved Until 2014

Throughout the winter, the Vermont Legislature considered a bill that would create 'protected shoreland areas' within 250 feet of the shore line. On March 28th the House passed a bill, but the Senate chose to hold the bill over in committee. The Senate committee will hold hearings around Vermont during the summer to allow for public discussion. When the legislature reconvenes in January, the Senate is expected to continue consideration of shoreland legislation. The complete history of this legislative effort is available at vermontlakes.org/legislativeupdates.

A significant provision of the House bill is that local shore land protection regulations would take precedence over state regulations if enacted before January, 2015. At this time Ludlow does not have such regulations (other than the 50' setback from the shoreline). Ludlow and The Southern Windsor Regional Planning Commission will be drafting these rules in the coming months. The LRA board has been asked to provide comments and we welcome input from our members. Please email us at lakerescueassn@gmail.com and watch our website and Facebook page for updates on this important matter.

Dredging Plans Proceed

In anticipation of dredging this September, our preparations will continue through the

summer. Griggs-Lang will be re-surveying parts of Round Pond in early summer to pinpoint the affected areas. You may see temporary markers (i.e., gallon milk jugs!) informally marking shallow areas to avoid while boating. As always, however, boaters are responsible for safe navigation. We hope to meet soon with state Agency for Natural Resources personnel to discuss details of the work plan and how best to minimize interference with boaters. As the summer progresses we will post updates on our website and Facebook page.

Fundraising Update

The Rescue our Lakes fundraising campaign stands at about \$74,000 in gifts and pledges. We thank you all again and welcome additional contributions. We will wait until the scope of the dredging project is better known to determine if a follow-up appeal or additional funding sources will be needed, but are hopeful that will not be the case. The standard request for LRA contributions that normally accompanies the spring membership letter was omitted in 2012, in lieu of the campaign, but will resume with this year's letter, so there are always opportunities to support the important work of the LRA.

In the fall, we will be acknowledging campaign donors by name in our newsletter. If you have donated and prefer to remain anonymous, please email barbholt@yahoo.com.

LRA Ecosystem Restoration Grant

Last September the LRA received approval of a \$41,000 grant to study and address long term solutions to the sediment which continues to flow into Lake Rescue from the Black River. This study will focus on the three tributaries feeding the Black River upstream from our lake. Previous geomorphic studies have identified Buffalo Brook and Patch Brook as major contributors of sediment. The current project will explore alternatives to reduce this flow from the 2 streams mentioned, as well as recommend solutions at the Money Brook landslide. In the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene, it is especially important to tackle these persistent problem areas. We expect that at least some of these recommendations will be implemented in the near future (1-2 years out). The LRA role is to coordinate these efforts along with Kristen Underwood of South Mountain Consultants. Kristen previously carried out the geomorphic survey of Patch Brook and Buffalo Brook in 2009. One of our tasks is to conduct ‘windshield surveys’. This consists of visiting the waterways mentioned above and recording any evidence of sediment, stream bank damage, flooding or any other event that shows storm damage. This is particularly useful after significant rainfall. An example



Money Brook, with the Black River beyond
April 15, 2013

of the kind of photo that we are looking for is shown above. We could use extra help with documenting sediment flows, so if you are interested in helping out, please visit the LRA website, www.lakerescue.org/documents and click on the ‘Windshield Survey Form’ link. Or, you can contact Charlie Robinson at 802 989 7079 for details and forms.

Family Fun Day on July 4th

Our annual picnic is scheduled for July 4th, immediately following the Boat Parade. A mailing with further details and a reply form will be going out soon. **Helpers are needed!** Contact Angi Ciufu, angi@tonyciufu.com. Our continued thanks to the Spauldings and Mahoneys for use of their properties.

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Website:
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Promoting Water Safety,
Environmental Education
&
Improved Water Quality

The Lake Rescue Association is a 501c3 Non-Profit organization. All donations to the Lake Restoration Fund are tax-deductible.

We're on Facebook!

Visit our Group Page:

Lake Rescue Association