

Lake Breezes

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

October 2016

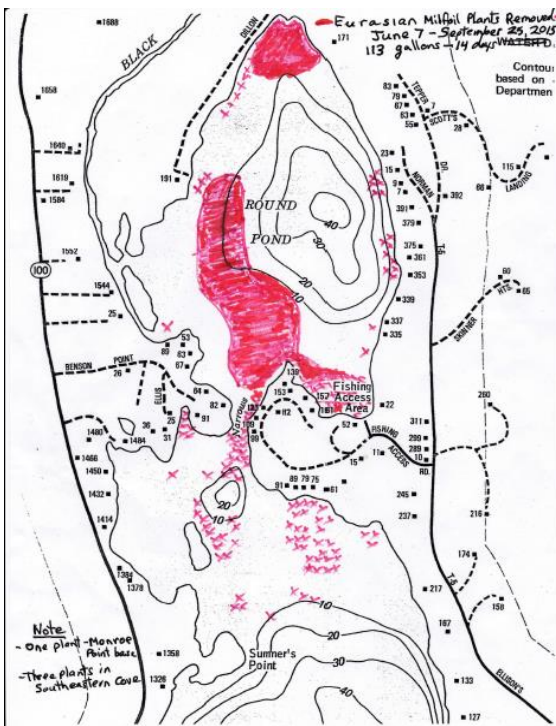
Milfoil: We May Have Turned the Corner

A year ago the milfoil outbreak looked to be quite serious and there was concern that it could get out of control and overcome our lake. Other lakes have unfortunately succumbed to this invasive weed and have ended up with irreversible milfoil infestation. (e.g., Bomoseen, St. Catherine, Lake Dunmore, etc.)

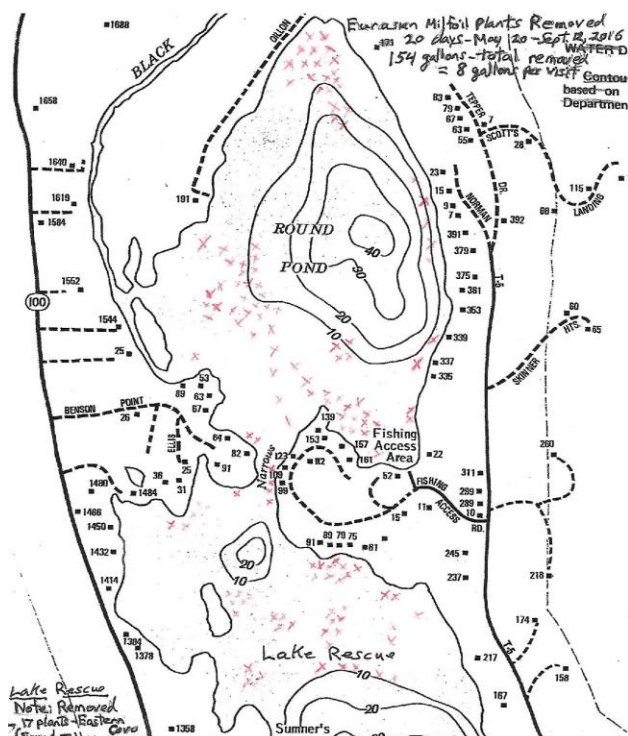
We took every action available to us and it has been effective in stopping the expansion of milfoil. We marked off the worst area in Round Pond to keep boats out. We obtained a 'suction harvesting' permit, in case things got worse, and

we hired divers to come twice a week throughout the summer to remove milfoil plants individually, by hand. At this point, we can hope that the number of plants will decrease each year until we can once again be milfoil free.

From the first indications this spring it was clear that our aggressive response was having an effect. In May the number and density of milfoil plants found in Round Pond was already down dramatically. As the summer growing season proceeded the number of plants increased and spread as expected, but stayed significantly below last year's levels. In 2016 we spent \$11,250 on our divers, and are budgeting \$18,000 for 2017. The state will contribute \$7580 toward our milfoil control efforts in 2016.



2015 Milfoil Findings in Lake Rescue



2016 Milfoil Findings in Lake Rescue

Eagles on the Lake!

Most of you know that we had a pair of nesting Bald Eagles on our lake this summer. The nest was located on the north side of Monroe Point. This exciting event is a part of the remarkable recovery of eagles in Vermont over the last two decades. The 2015 winter survey recorded 51 Bald Eagles: 30 adults, 20 immature and 1 of unknown age. These increases have resulted from a combination of factors; including the banning of DDT in North America, an effective reintroduction program and the protection of Bald Eagle breeding and wintering habitat through the Endangered Species Act. Vermont conducted its own reintroduction program from 2004-2006, releasing 29 eagles in Addison, VT.

Here is some more information about Bald Eagles that may interest you:

--Eagles generally mate for life, after they reach sexual maturity at the age of 5. Their average lifespan is 15-20 years.

--Eagles have juvenile plumage for the first 4 years of life and don't acquire their distinctive white head and tail, and yellow beak, until age 5. The juvenile plumage is dark brown with varying amounts of mottled white. Juveniles have a black beak.

--The average eagle nest is 4-5 ft. in diameter and 2-4 ft. deep. Male and female eagle build the nest together by interweaving sticks. The interior is lined with grass, cornstalks, moss and downy feather from the adults. The initial nest building can take 1-3 months and the eagles will return to the nest each breeding season, adding up to a foot of material

--Once the egg(s) is laid it must be constantly kept warm, and protected from predators. Both male and female share incubation responsibilities but the female typically spends more time on the nest than the male. The incubation period is 35 days.

--Bald Eagles fledge (fly) at about 10-14 weeks. Prior to their first flight, nestlings will flap their wings in the nest or while jumping to an adjacent branch, a behavior known as 'branching'.



The fledglings in their tree on Lake Rescue

Sources:

Baldeagleinfo.com
National Eagle Center
Audubon Vermont: Bald Eagle Recovery in Vermont

In Other News...

- Walker Bridge in the center of town will be replaced next summer. Detours will be in effect.
- Next May, the bridge at the intersection of Rts. 100 and 103 will be repaired. The bridge will be closed for 5-10 days and detours will be in effect.
- In 2018 the state will be putting a traffic light at the intersection on Rts. 100 and 103.
- TDI New England will be installing an electrical line along East Hill Rd. after 2018.

October In Vermont



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P.O. Box 372
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Website:

www.LakeRescue.org

**Promoting Water Safety,
Environmental Education
&
Improved Water Quality**

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The Lake Rescue Association is a 501c3
Non-Profit organization. All donations to
the 'Lake Restoration & Preservation' fund
are
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