

# Lake Breezes



June 2018

## Milfoil Update

It is still early and hard to know how this year will turn out, but we are ready. Our divers, Cat and Shane Yoder are scheduled to begin their diving at the beginning of June and will be here twice a week throughout the summer. The State has increased our grant this year from \$6,110 to \$7,698. This increase is likely due to our increased efforts in fighting this invasive weed. Last year the actual cost of our divers was \$15,130 and this year we are projecting a cost of roughly the same amount.

## Annual Campaign

We want to thank all our members who responded to our appeal for donations at the end of last year, in which we raised nearly \$12,000. Thanks to your generosity we were able to cover all the costs of the milfoil program and finish the year 'in the black'. We are all in this fight together and we on the LRA board are heartened by your response.



If you see **Milfoil** (above) growing in the lake, DO NOT try to remove it. Mark the location and email us at [lakerescueassn@gmail.com](mailto:lakerescueassn@gmail.com). Our divers will safely remove it. THANK YOU!

## SAVE THE DATES!!

**Picnic on July 4th, Rain date July 5<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Meeting, August 4th, 9AM**

## Fish and Wildlife Dept. Applies for ADA Accessible Dock at Our Fishing Access

The Fish and Wildlife Department of the State of Vermont has applied for a permit to install a 48 foot dock at our fishing access area. The purpose of this dock would be to comply with ADA regulations and allow disabled people to get onto boats. The dock would be installed on the left side of the boat launch area and would extend into the lake 48 feet.

The application for a Lake Encroachment Permit was submitted at the end of January to the Watershed Management Division, Shoreland Permitting Section. Once abutters of the boat launch were notified and the word spread, there was enough public response and concern to call for a public hearing, which was held on March 28 at the Fletcher Memorial Library in Ludlow. The meeting was chaired by two hearing officers from the State Lakes and Ponds Division, who will ultimately make a decision on the permit application. Fish & Wildlife Dept. personnel presented their case for installing the dock. It seemed they were less concerned with ADA accessibility than with making it easier to launch boats, even by one person. Eighteen people from the public attended. All expressed concerns about the narrow constraints of the boat launch area, the proximity to children swimming from neighboring houses, and the attraction a dock would create for outside swimmers and partiers.

In the end, the hearing officers took the evidence under advisement and said a decision would come in about a month. At this writing it has been two months without a decision and we are still waiting. Watch our Facebook page for updates.

## Go Fish!

In the summer months we wake up in the morning to see boats in our coves, moving slowly around, and men and boys (mostly) fishing quietly and very intently. The next day it's the same, and the next. Some you know all about this, but many of us know little or nothing, so here is some information about the most common fish found in our lake:



**Smallmouth Bass:** Their flanks are golden green to brownish bronze, with 8 to 15 dark thin vertical bars. When their mouth is closed, their upper jaw extends only to just below their eye. This is in contrast to to Largemouth Bass, whose upper jaw extends well past their eye. The average length is 8 - 14".



**Largemouth Bass:** Their flanks are light green to golden green, with a pronounced horizontal bar. They have a large round mouth when open. As already mentioned, when their mouth is closed the upper jaw extends past the eye. The average length is 8 - 15".



**Pumpkinseed:** a small brightly colored sunfish that is representative of a group of fish called "panfish", which in Lake Rescue includes bluegill, redbreast sunfish, rockbass and crappies. Panfish rarely exceed 10", but are excellent eating, abundant and fun to catch for anglers of all ages.

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**Sources:** [eregulations.com/state/fishing](http://eregulations.com/state/fishing)  
[vtliving.com/fishing/species](http://vtliving.com/fishing/species)



**Rainbow Trout:** Their tail and flanks are heavily spotted with small, well-defined spots, and their flank usually has a pink or reddish stripe, for which they are named. The average length is 8 - 12". These fish are stocked in Lake Rescue in the spring (April-May) each year, with 300 scheduled to be released in 2018.



**Yellow Perch:** They have golden-yellow flanks with six to eight dark vertical bars. The average length is 4 - 10".



**Chain Pickerel:** Their flanks are a light, golden green, with dark, chain-like markings and have sharp needle-like teeth. The average length is 10 - 15"

**Winter Fishing:** The same fish that are found in the summer are also there in the winter, but perch are the most common. You'll need some different equipment, too, like an ice augur and a skimmer to scoop chunks of ice from the water. An upside down bucket is handy to sit on and can be used to carry your gear. Licenses are still required.

**Licensing:** Licenses can be bought online at [www.vtfwdsales.com](http://www.vtfwdsales.com), or they can be bought locally at the Tyson Store, on Rt. 100 near the Echo Lake Inn. Youngsters under 15 can fish without a license. Non-residents can buy one-, three- or seven-day licenses for \$21, \$23 or \$31, respectively. An annual non-resident license is \$52.

## In Memory of Mary Rita Batesole, Tony Ciufo and Johnny Esau



Three beloved neighbors and longtime residents of Lake Rescue have recently passed away. All three were fixtures on our lake. Summer nights on Lake Rescue will never quite be the same without them but our happy memories of them will always endure.

Longtime LRA Board Member and unofficial 'Mayor' of Lake Rescue, Mary Rita Batesole, passed away on April 15 after a lengthy illness.

She will be sorely missed by the lake community and the larger Ludlow community, where she has lived for most of her life. She and her partner, Gary Fletcher (Fletch), were out on their pontoon boat most evenings, cruising and stopping along the way to visit with friends on the lake. Many mornings they would be out on the waterski course, which they set up every year. It was she and Fletch that organized the fabulous fireworks each year on our lake. MR, as she was known, was a tireless worker for the Lake Rescue Association. She organized the July 4th picnic and the Public Access Greeter Program at the boat launch each year. In the past she had served as president of the organization and was always there to help with whatever job needed to be done. A celebration of life for Mary Rita will be held at 4PM on July 7th, at The Loft at the Okemo base area.

Anthony "Tony" Ciufo, 60, died Jan. 22, 2018, at Massachusetts General Hospital, surrounded by family, of complications from heart and kidney transplants.

Tony, his wife, Angi Benson Ciufo, and two sons, Nick and Topher, would often be seen on their boat or sitting on the dock at the "Red Camp" on the channel between the big lake and Round Pond. Tony was raised on the Lake as his late parents Antonio and Aili Ciufo were also longtime residents. Tony was a home builder and his many projects included some beautiful homes and renovations on Lake Rescue. Tony was a great friend and will always be remembered for his great spirit, kind smile, and being a good neighbor.

John D. Esau passed away on January 9, 2018

after a graceful, courageous battle with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Johnny, his wife, Joanne Sehnal Esau, and their daughter Corey lived on Fishing Access Road on the north shore of Lake Rescue. Johnny thought he had the best view on the lake looking toward the Red Bridge and Okemo Mountain. Johnny was a kind-hearted and gentle man who was quick to smile and had a boisterous laugh. He wore his love for his beloved wife Joanne and their daughter Corey on his sleeve. His passion was his boat, an antique wooden cruiser "KNOCK ON WOOD"

\*\*\*REST IN PEACE\*\*\*

## Our New Website Makes Its Debut!

After much work and deliberation we have launched the new and fabulous [lakerescue.org](http://lakerescue.org) website!

The previous website had not been maintained and a total redo was called for. Under the leadership of Barb Silver and Bruce Zanca, we contracted with Boss Office Works in Killington, and NeonCRM to create a new website for us. This was done over the winter and spring months. Please visit our beautiful site and enjoy some of the new photos and sleek graphics.

In the coming weeks we will be adding a password protected area of the site, for members only, where you will be able to check your membership status, renew, make a donation, update your contact information and access the up-to-date membership directory. Watch our Facebook page for the update!

We are excited to bring you this 21st Century tool to stay abreast of events on our lake and improve communication among our membership!

## 2018 is Latest 'Ice Out' in 20+ Years

The 'Ice Out' date has been defined as the date when the ice is gone from the middle of lake. Frank

Wingate has been keeping a record of this for the last 21 years. Over this period, the average 'Ice Out' date is April 19, with 12 of 24 dates falling between April 14 and April 24. The two earliest dates were in 2012 and 2016, and the two latest dates were in 2001 and this year, 2018.



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[www.LakeRescue.org](http://www.LakeRescue.org)

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

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*We're on Facebook!*

*Visit our Group Page:*

Lake Rescue Association

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

