

Impact Across the Watershed in 2024

Water Quality Monitoring



We collect extensive data to track the health of our lakes and ponds, measuring water clarity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, phosphorus, and other parameters.

This season, with the help of 35 volunteers, we monitored 13 lakes and ponds, making 112 visits.

Courtesy Boat Inspections & Invasive Plant Surveys



Paid staff and volunteers logged 2,568 hours inspecting 3,801 boats for hitchhiking plants and animals, while educating boaters about the threat of invasives. Of the 99 plant fragments found, one was identified as invasive milfoil, saving Echo Lake from a possible infestation.

Our staff supported eight volunteer plant survey teams (96 volunteers) with workshops, plant identification, surveying, and more. The goal of this work is to catch invasive plant infestations early.

Supporting Landowners

We launched a new initiative to improve shoreline buffers, planting over 300 live stakes on shorefront properties. We assist landowners by recommending lake-friendly practices to reduce harmful erosion. As a LakeSmart regional hub, our staff provide technical support for five volunteer lake teams who conduct free visits for landowners.



Managing Invasive Plants



For the 4th season, our staff continued managing invasive milfoil on Androscoggin Lake, surveying over 260 hours and removing all milfoil found. We've begun using benthic barriers as part of our control work and expect to use them heavily in 2025.

This was our first full season managing the swollen bladderwort infestation in Tilton Pond. Efforts included installing a fragment net at the pond's outlet to reduce risk to downstream waters, increasing surveying on downstream David Pond, monitoring plant growth, and supporting volunteer survey and removal efforts.

Addressing Pollution from Roads



In response to the growing threat of intense rainstorms that wash out roads, severely polluting our waters, we've expanded our focus on making road infrastructure more resilient. We help towns and road associations by providing technical assistance, acquiring grant funding, and more.

New Building Update



Phase I of our "new" building - renovating the barn - will be completed this year, becoming our home base in the watershed. By revitalizing this building in the heart of Mount Vernon Village, we will create a space for the community to work together to protect our beloved lakes and ponds. Stay tuned for updates on Phase II!



**Do your part to keep our lakes and ponds clean and healthy.
Help us raise \$60K by December 31st with your gift today!**

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