



Think Summer!!



GOOSE POND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT DISTRICT NEWS

May
2018

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2018 Annual Meeting

The 2018 Annual Meeting will be held **Saturday, May 26, 2018** at **Lee Elementary School** starting at **2:00 p.m.** Mr. Timothy Puntin is up for re-election to the Prudential Committee.

We urge everyone to attend the meeting for updates on activities and to help us to meet the Commonwealth's quorum requirements; if we do not get a quorum, we will need to reschedule the Annual Meeting at the District's expense. Every person and vote COUNTS!

If you cannot attend the meeting, then please fill out the proxy. The vote proxy certifications and warrant are folded with this newsletter.

Look what's back! The Website!!

The Goose Pond Maintenance District Webpage is back and better than ever! The new page includes all the need to know information about the District from its' history to what we do, and how we do it. You can also find information about the current happenings around the Pond, whether it's environmental permitting or invasive treatments. Also, any questions you may have about what you can or can't do in and around the lake can be found in the Rules and Regulations section. Finally, we have added a section called Visit Goose Pond in attempts to highlight the natural beauty of our Pond and provide information on what to do! We are trying to fill the webpage with photos, both current and historic, so if you have any to share, please send them along! Please visit it at www.goosepondma.com

Does the District have your email?

As previously requested, the District would love to have 100% participation on emails! If you haven't shared your email with the District, please reach out to the Superintendent. A signup sheet will be available at the Annual Meeting as well!

GPMD
P. O. Box 519
Lee, MA 01238

New, and Improved Boat Launch

In February 2018 The Office of Fishing and Boating Access submitted a Notice of Intent Application to the Tyringham Conservation Commission to reconstruct the Goose Pond Boat Ramp. The ramp, which is a public access right of way, had fallen in disrepair for lack of maintenance over a number of years. The proposed improvements include the replacement of the concrete ramp into the Pond, the resurfacing and realignment of the access road and the reconstruction of the roadside swale with stone check dams. From the Notice of Intent *“General Project Description: Maintenance repairs associated with an existing public boat access facility including precast concrete boat ramp replacement, stormwater management repairs and improvements; and access road grading and pavement surfacing work at Goose Pond in Tyringham.”* Upon completion of construction the ramp will be maintained by the Town of Tyringham.

Work is expected to begin in late April or early May and must be completed by June 30, 2018. The ramp may need to be shut down for approximately 3 weeks. To find out when this happens, please refer to the Office of Fishing and Boating Access website, as well as the Town will post a notice.



Update on Milfoil Treatment

In May 2017 at the Annual Meeting, The District voted to release funds for the treatment of Eurasian Milfoil in both Upper and Lower Goose Pond. The District contracted with SOLitude Lake Management to perform a series of treatments throughout the lake in attempts to get the invasive under control. This year’s treatment is the latest in an ongoing program to manage the Milfoil dating back to 2004. First a pre-treatment survey was conducted by Water Resource Services, Inc. (WRS). WRS is intimately familiar with Goose Pond having a number of years experience monitoring and providing supporting services to the District, most recently assisting with the permitting of the herbicide treatment and the drawdown. This survey assessed the distribution and relative abundance of milfoil and determined the most appropriate timing for treatment and confirmed areas of new growth from permitting mapping prepared in the Fall 2016. SOLitude then developed a treatment plan to provide low doses of fluridone for an extended period of time to control milfoil in both Upper and Lower Goose Pond. SONAR (fluridone is a pelletized formula that is easily released into masses of milfoil to prevent destruction of other natural vegetation. Treatments were performed on May 18th, July 11th and August 9th, 2018. Notifications were posted in multiple locations around the Pond notifying residents and visitors to the lake of the restrictions. In October 2017, SOLitude conducted a post-treatment survey of the areas and found them highly successful at destroying the invasive, while the growth of native vegetation was apparent. An independent survey will be performed by WRS post-treatment in May 2018 to evaluate treatment areas as spring growth flourishes. At this time any additional treatment management will be evaluated and discussed. Successful invasive mitigation will require constant monitoring and ongoing treatment.

Why Drawdown??

As you all know, Goose Pond is drawn down each year to a depth of approximately 6 feet. This is completed in accordance with our Wetlands Permit, Order of Conditions DEP file Numbers 196-0432 and 310-0120, issued by the Lee and Tyringham Conservation Commissions respectively. However, do you ask yourselves, why? The reason at Goose Pond is two-fold. Firstly, the Pond has been drawn now for over 60 years when it was once owned by the Lake May Power Company to provide hydroelectric power to the downstream mill properties. This also allowed the pond to provide storage capacity during the winter months for snow melt and springtime run-off. Lowering of the Pond for the winter months alleviates potential problems that might arise as the ice and snow pushes against the dam, potentially causing a failure. The dam is classified as Large Size dam based on its impoundment volume being greater than 1,000 acre-feet and a high-hazard dam due to its failure may result in the loss of life and serious damage to homes, businesses and major roadways in accordance with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Office of Dam Safety. The dam at the outlet of Goose Pond is a 27-foot high, 285-foot long reinforced earthen dam. Any protection to this dam to prevent a failure is necessary.

Secondly, Goose Pond is lowered in an effort to treat the large amounts of Eurasian Milfoil found around the perimeter of the pond. Milfoil typically survives in depths up to 15 feet. The drawdown exposes shoreline, which aids in killing the invasive species and helping to clean up our beautiful pond. The drawdown, in conjunction with the recent and expected on-going herbicide treatment, expects to minimize the milfoil population in Goose Pond.

But, Who Owns the Dam?

The Goose Pond Maintenance District purchased the Dam from the Lake May Power Company after the District was created in 1997. This includes the parcel as shown on the map below. This means the dam is privately owned, even though it is often frequented by the public including fishermen, patrons walking their dogs and abutters. Signs will be placed to remind everyone of the boundaries!



(Property noted at 0 Goose Pond Road Above)

Requests for Written Information

Please submit a written request to the District at:
P.O. Box 519, Lee, MA 01238

Officers / Staff

Joseph Janis, Chairman	Until 2020
Timothy Puntin	Until 2018
Roy Rapp	Until 2019
John Philpott	Lee
William J. DeSantis	Tyringham
William DeSantis (senior)	Dam Monitor
Peter Beckwith	“ (backup)
Peggy DeSantis	District Clerk and Treasurer
Sarah Gapinski	District Superintendent

You may contact Sarah with any questions, comments or concerns at (413) 358-0623 or goosepondmanager@gmail.com
Our website: <http://goosepondma.com>