DISTRICT NEWS



Island In Upper Goose Pond, September 2016

Happy New Year from the Goose Pond Maintenance District!

We hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season and rang in the New Year with excitement! There is plenty going on at Goose Pond to be excited about!

Permit Application Status Update

The Notice of Intent permit application for the herbicide treatment of Goose Pond was submitted for in May 2016, after the

previous permit had expired in April 2016. The District was represented by Ken Wagner of Water Resource Services (WRS) during the public hearing process. Mr. Wagner prepared the study of the lake over the previous year and provided guidance for the treatment of both Eurasian milfoil and Phragmites in Goose Pond. This Permit Application was during a joint Lee and Tyringham Conservation Commission meeting and an Order of Conditions was approved on May xxx, 2016. This permit is valid for 3 years, with the ability to request an extension for up to 3 additional years.

The Notice of Intent Permit Application for the Drawdown of Goose Pond was submitted in September 2016. It was originally calculated that the Order of Conditions for the drawdown was valid until 2017, but it was discovered that a clerical error voided the permit. Therefore, in order to drawdown Goose Pond this year, the application needed to be filed and approved. Luckily WRS was available to assist with this submission. The Permit Application was heard during a joint Lee and Tyringham Conservation Commission and an Order of Conditions was approved on September 2016. This permit is valid for 3 years, with the ability to request an extension for up to 3 additional years.

Also, the Goose Pond Dam was due for the bi-annual dam inspections, a Phase 1, in August 2016. Berkshire Engineering, Inc. was hired to complete the inspection and prepare the report required for the state. The inspection determined that the dam is in good condition and only minor repairs are necessary.

Invasive Weed Treatment

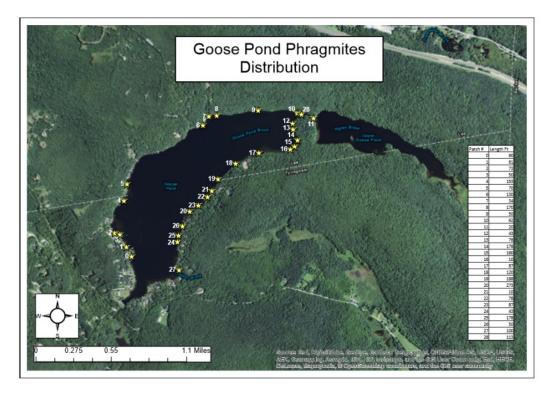
Initially, herbicide treatments in Goose Pond were planned for the 2017 growing season. However, there were numerous comments and concerns brought to the attention of the District regarding the increase weed nuisance in Goose Pond. With the necessary permits now in place, the District reached out to WRS to prepare a current survey and study of the phragmites and milfoil in the pond. It was determined that the invasive species had

Lesiure Lee Beach with a stand

of Phragmites to the left

spread from the study prepared just a year ago.

This new study would allow the District to solicit bids for the herbicide treatment of the pond. Phragmites are best treated in the fall, when the plant begins to become dormant. Milfoil is best treated in the spring, when the plant is striving for nutrients to grow and spread.

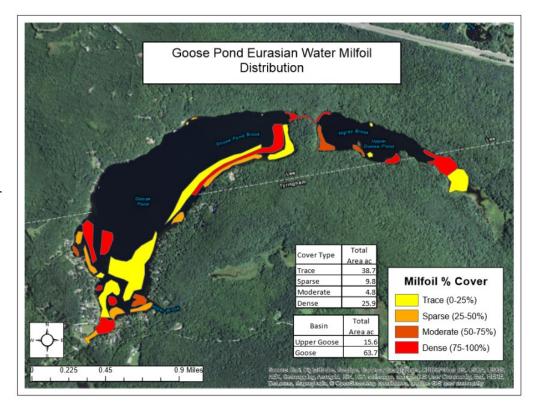


In the fall of 2016, the District contracted with SOLitude, formerly ACT, to perform a spraytreatment of the mapped areas of phragmites. As the plant dies, some of you may notice this along the

edge of the pond, or just inside the waters edge. These plants can be cut, bagged and disposed of in your trash, or alternatively they can be burned.

The Prudential
Committee is
beginning to
reach out and
obtain further
information
about what the
best methods
of treatment for
milfoil is and
plans on
starting
treatment this
spring.

The Prudential Committee has also researched effective



alternative methods to herbicides for the treatment of invasive species in Goose Pond. In the past, the District has installed xxx mats on the lake bottom in the area of Leisure Lee Beach, Cooper Creek Road Beach and xxx and found it effective. The Committee has reached out to local paper mills in the attempts to obtain used mats from their paper making production and intend on replacing the existing mats and installing new ones. So far we have a couple of bundles and found a few of the mills receptive to our request. The District will be installing these mats over the winter, before the lake levels return to normal. Anyone interested in helping can contact a Committee member or the Superintendent for additional information.

New Chairman

At the August 10, 2016 special meeting of the Prudential Committee, Mr. Matthew Puntin submitted for his resignation as chairman of the Committee. In turn, the Committee nominated Mr. Joe Janis to succeed in his place. Mr. Janis has an extensive history with the Committee and the District and has a vetted interest in maintaining Goose Pond. We would like to thank Mr. Puntin for his contributions as Chairman and welcome Mr. Janis into the position.

Tax Bills

The annual Goose Pond Maintenance District Tax bill was sent out at the end of December 2016. This bill will be due by April 3, 2017. Anyone with questions should contact Peggy DeSantis with any questions.

Information

As we move into the digital age, the Prudential Committee requests that any district member that would like to receive newsletters or other information from the Committee via email, to please email the District Superintendent at goosepondmanager@gmail.com with your name and email address. We will add you to the mailing list. This will allow us to provide you with the most up to date information in the most efficient means possible. While we transition, we will still send out information by regular mail.

As always, you may submit requests for written information to the District at P.O. Box 519, Lee, MA 01238, or by contacting the District Superintendent Sarah Gapinski by email at goosepondmanager@gmail.com or by phone at (413) 358-0623.

Officers / Staff

Joseph Janis, Chairman Until 2017
Matthew Puntin, Chairman Until 2018
Roy Rapp Until 2019

John Philpott Lee

William J. DeSantis Tyringham

William DeSantis (senior) Dam Watcher

Peter Beckwith Dam Watcher (backup)

Peggy DeSantis District Clerk and Treasurer Sarah Gapinski District Superintendent