



Winter Over Goose Pond

GPMd
P. O. Box 519
Lee, MA 01238



GOOSE POND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT DISTRICT NEWS

May
2017

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2017 Annual Meeting

The 2017 Annual Meeting will be held **Saturday, May 27, 2017** at **Lee Elementary School** starting at **2:00 p.m.** Mr. Joseph Janis 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.

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

Save a Tree, Email me!

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. This same request was in the January newsletter and there were only a handful of residences that reached out and shared their email.

Boating Safety

Arriving soon are the warm summer months of swimming, boating and kayaking! It is important to know what the regulations are if you take to the lake for either some recreational shoreline fun or enjoying the undisturbed beauty of Upper Goose Pond. Always familiarize yourself with current regulations and make sure that friends and family who visit know as well! Information can be found at the boat ramp kiosk and always can be found on the web at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/enforcement/environmental-police/boat-and-recreation-vehicle-safety-bureau/>

Invasive Species, can I help?

This District has been working over the past year to obtain proper permitting to manage and different types of invasive species that have invaded Goose Pond.

You may ask yourself if there is something I can to help treat and maintain the invasive species in Goose Pond. Well, there is! The Department of Conservation and Recreation developed a program to train local lake groups to monitor the invasive species in their ponds. This program is on a volunteer basis and will train local residences on how to identify what an invasive species looks like, how to properly remove the invasive plants and what procedures are required to permit and report. For more information the Weeds Watchers Program please check out the following link

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/water-res-protection/lakes-and-ponds/weeds-watcher-program.html>

Benthic Mats

There are a number of benthic mats located in Goose Pond. A benthic mat (also known as a benthic barrier/weed mat/bottom screen) is a mat that is installed at the bottom of a body of water to prevent or inhibit the growth of aquatic plants. It consists of a dark fabric or material that blocks sunlight and is held against the bottom by weights. Without sunlight, plants cannot photosynthesize and do not grow. These are typically found at the beach areas and, when properly maintained, are effective to control lake weeds. However, when unmaintained, sediment accumulates on the mats and weeds grow or they begin to pull up, and become a nuisance and swim hazard.



Photo Above: Mats installed over phragmites along shoreline

The District has reached out to a number of local paper mills in the area to see if they are willing to donate their used paper felts to the District for use around the lake. These felts have the same features as a benthic mat or weed barrier. Over

the winter Tim Puntin has been integral in coordinating, organizing and obtaining these mats. Tim, along with other lake members, spent a number of weekends placing the mats on areas which previously contained phragmites. As we obtain more, the District will engage divers to install the mats at the beach areas and other areas where phragmites and milfoil are abundant. .

Committee Vacancies

The Committee expects to have a vacancy at the upcoming annual meeting, and potentially additional vacancies in the upcoming years. Each year a different member of the Committee is up for re-election and the item is addressed and voted on at the Annual Meeting. In advance of the meeting the District would like to reach out to see if any of its members have an interest in volunteering on the Committee. If so, please feel free to reach out to any Committee member or the District Superintendent.

Our Friends at Canyon Ranch

The District is beginning to establish a good relationship with the activities director at Canyon Ranch. Canyon Ranch frequently uses the lake during the summer for a number of activities, and they properly obtain all the required use permits. They have enjoyed Goose Pond for a number of years and would like to open up dialog about how they can give back to the community. Canyon Ranch has expressed an interest in donating to the District to assist with the ongoing maintenance and preservation efforts of the

Pond. We thank Canyon Ranch for their donation and look forward to a wonderful relationship.

Fish Stocking

Mass Wildlife reports that close to 500,000 fish will be restocked into the streams, lakes and ponds in the Commonwealth this spring. A variety of fish included Eastern Brook, Brown, Rainbow and Tiger trout have been stocked in waterbodies across the state since early March. Mass Wildlife website reports that Goose Pond was restocked with Eastern Brook Trout and Goose Pond Brook was stocked with Brown Trout in April 2017. Stocking also took place in the fall of 2016, so grab a pole and head out!

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	Until 2018
Roy Rapp	Until 2019
John Philpott	Lee
William J. DeSantis	Tyringham
William DeSantis (senior) Watcher	Dam
Peter Beckwith Watcher (backup)	Dam
Peggy DeSantis and Treasurer	District Clerk
Sarah Gapinski Superintendent	District