



GOOSE POND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT DISTRICT NEWS

May
2021

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2021 Annual Meeting

COVID-19 has impacted all our lives for well over a year, including the Goose Pond Maintenance District meetings. Last year, the District held a successful, masked and socially distant, Annual Meeting at the Tyringham Fire Pavilion. It was voted that this location is ideal again this year, and possibly for years to come! We hope you come join us!

The 2021 Annual Meeting will be held **Saturday, May 29, 2021**

at **Tyringham Fire Pavilion** starting at **2:00 p.m.**

Mr. Tim Puntin is up for re-election to the Prudential Committee.

We urge everyone to attend the meeting for updates on activities and to meet the quorum requirements set forth by the Commonwealth. However, we understand that people have individual circumstances that may not allow them to feel comfortable to meet in a large group. Pre-existing health conditions, travel and age can all be contributing factors to the safety of our District Members. Therefore, it is important to focus our attention on the Proxy Ballots. The District is required, by the Commonwealth, to obtain a quorum at the Annual Meeting to pass the budget. If we do not get a quorum, we will need to reschedule, which can be problematic for our budget, ending on June 30, 2021, and costly. The vote proxy certifications and warrant are folded with this newsletter. A blank proxy can also be found on the Goose Pond Website. **If you cannot or do not want to attend the meeting, then please fill out the proxy. The proxy can be mailed back to the District, nominating the person who will represent your vote at the meeting, or hand deliver it to any District member who will be in attendance. Our Board Members are more than willing to represent your vote as their attendance is required. Please reach out to the District to help navigate you with this process.**

GPM
P. O. Box 519
Lee, MA 01238

To Swim or Not to Swim

Goose Pond does not have any public beaches or bathing areas. This includes at the boat ramp, where it is posted on the kiosk. Last summer, on several occasions, it was found that people were using the right side of the boat ramp, where it is sandy, to set up chairs and swim. Pursuant to 320 CMR 2.04, it is unlawful for any person to conduct the following uses or activities within a public access facility: camp, swim, sleep overnight, picnic, loiter, gamble or drink alcoholic beverages. This is for the safety of both the boaters and swimmers. If you encounter swimmers, please reach out to the Tyringham Police Department at (413) 243-1749 ext.104, to resolve the matter. They oversee monitoring the Boat Ramp.

Invasive Updates

The District, in our ongoing effort to stay on top of the returning Eurasian milfoil and phragmites problem, completed a survey of Goose Pond in the fall of 2020 by Water Resource Services (WRS). WRS was hired to complete a full day, full point survey of both Upper and Lower Goose Pond for both invasive species. These points correspond with the original invasive survey completed by WRS in 2016. This survey resulted in the following.

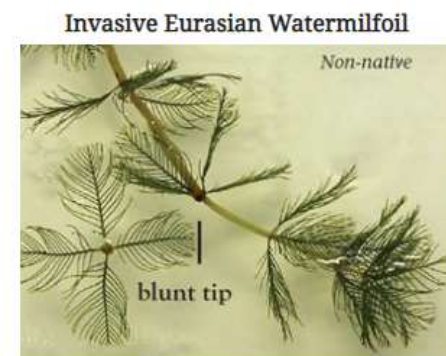
Eurasian Milfoil

Both Upper and Lower Goose Pond were surveyed in the Fall of 2020 for the presence of Eurasian Milfoil. The District performed a lake wide treatment during the Summer 2017 growing season and a selective hand pulling in the spring of 2020. These treatments have been successful. However, it is an invasive species and will likely make a comeback.

Milfoil was found in Upper Goose Pond, 13 plants in the previously hand harvested area. The rest of Upper Goose is looking clean and full of native vegetation. There are 12 areas along the south shore of Lower Goose Pond that have milfoil plants, ranging from a

few plants to a 1,000 square foot patch. Currently, the milfoil is not considered an extreme condition, however, it should be managed before it will spread.

The District has engaged the services of SOLitude Lake Management to treat these areas with herbicide. This will occur after a pre-treatment survey has been conducted May. Please follow the website or look for flyers to provide additional information on treatments this summer!



Phragmites (Common Reed)

The first widespread treatment of Phragmites by the District was in 2016. This proved successful for about 2 years. Surveys completed on Goose Pond in 2018 and again in 2019 found several returning strands along the shoreline, approximately 37 areas totaling 18,500 square feet, which were treated in the fall 2019. The most recent survey in 2020 found that 12 of the previously treated areas had either regrown or had lateral expansion along the shoreline. This new growth totals approximately 7,500 square feet. All the areas identified are located in Lower Goose Pond.

The District has engaged the services of SOLitude Lake Management to provide treatment of the newly mapped areas. This will occur in late summer / early fall and similarly to previous treatments, this I will be performed from a boat with a spray applicator. This is a less costly, yet effective method of treatment.

Once the invasive beings to die, they can be removed from the shoreline. It can be cut and burned or bagged and removed from the site. The area can also

be covered in mats as done in past years. All methods to remove the plant must be done by hand, no mechanical means are permitted.



Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*)

The Committee strongly suggests that if you see any signs of phragmites or Eurasian Milfoil around the lake, please feel free to reach out to any Prudential Committee Member, the District Superintendent or submit an inquiry on the website. Information about phragmites can be found on the website.

Boating and Kayaking

The ramp has been busier than ever! With Covid, short summers and just the raw beauty that Goose Pond has to offer, there is a constant hustle and bustle at the boat ramp. This is especially true on the weekends and holidays. Just a reminder, when visiting the ramp, please expedite loading and unloading your trailer at the actual ramp. There is an area to the right of the ramp that is a good staging/waiting area. This area is also ideal for kayakers. Again, as previously noted, the ramp is monitored by the Tyringham Police Department. If there are any issues, please feel free to reach out to them.

Rocks in the Channel

Again, during the 2020 drawdown of Goose Pond, it was discovered that someone(s) was placing rocks in the channel between upper and lower Goose Pond. It appears these rocks were placed to restrict access to Upper Goose during normal lake elevations. This

same activity was discovered during the 2016 and 2019 drawdown. The rocks in the channel can be damaging to boats and can be hazardous to emergency response teams. In addition, activities of this nature are a violation of several environmental acts and policies and can result in significant fines.

If any member sees any illegal activity in the channel, please do not confront these individuals. Instead, reach out to the Lee Police Department or the Environmental Police Department. Both agencies have been made aware of our situation.

Email Me!

Over the past few years, the District has requested 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 emailing list. This will allow you to stay up to date on events or restrictions at Goose Pond. To date, we have just under 20% participation. The District would love to see 100% participation!!! Please share your email with us!!

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 by email at goosepondmanager@gmail.com or by phone at (413) 358-0623.

Officers / Staff

Joseph Janis, Chairman	Until 2023
Timothy Puntin	Until 2021
Toni Thomas	Until 2022
John Philpott	Lee
William J. DeSantis	Tyringham
William DeSantis (senior)	Dam Monitor
Peter Beckwith	Dam Monitor (backup)
Peggy DeSantis	District Clerk and Treasurer
Sarah Gale	District Superintendent