



Happy 20th Anniversary Kingston Lake (Great Pond) Association Inc.

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SUMMER 2026

You can do something about storm water run-off.

Storm Water Run-off is caused by: new or increased impervious surfaces, eroding soils, fertilizers, pet waste, leaking septic systems, lawn and auto chemicals, road salt and increased water temperatures.

These are KLA spring and summer dates.

**May 9, 9-12
Kingston State
Park Clean up
Volunteers needed**

**June 24, 7-8:30
Membership
Meeting, speaker
a biologist from
LPC. Kingston
Community
Library.**

**August 2, 2026
Bruce Anderson
Regatta at Camp
Lincoln. Join us
for this fun family
event.**

**Are you interested
in participating in
our lake
programs? We
have something
for everyone:**

Lake Hosting

Weed watching

Water Sampling

The winter of 25-26 was good for the lake. The snow and ice came early in December and stayed throughout the winter. Ice out was March 26 after several days of strong winds. One pleasant winter day, I walked across the lake to chat with the fishermen. They were fishing between the Island and the State Park. One said the ice was 18 inches thick. The top six inches was snow cover and then there were 12 inches of black ice. This kind of winter with thick ice and snow prevents the sun from reaching the vegetation in the lake and prevents it from growing. A warm winter will see a growth in lake vegetation. A snowy cold winter like this year keeps lake vegetation down.

Loon Mating and Nesting Season 2025. As I write this newsletter on April 16, there are two loons in front of my house. The following are excerpts from Jim MacDougall's Loon Report 2025.

“For the first time in modern memory, a pair of loons successfully hatched two chicks on Great Pond (Kingston Lake). The pair choose to nest on the spot on Clark Island where they had nested in 2024. They nested earlier (May 31) than previous years. The nesting pair shared duties and appeared generally to be committed fully to the nest. For a considerable amount of the nesting season, one adult sat on the nest while the other patrolled in sight of the nest. Eagle activity on the lake was constant throughout the spring and summer. Several encounters between the loons and an eagle were seen. So far, the loons have been up to the task. At 9:30 am on 30 June, the adult on the nest opened its wing partly and one chick popped up and then a second.”

The news about the 2 chicks spread quickly around the lake. Many folks in kayaks and canoes ventured forth to observe the loons and their chicks. This was a National Geographic Summer! We saw them feeding their young, carrying them on their backs, drying their wings and doing the foot waddle. The ice went out on March 26, 2026 and on the 28th a loon was observed. This loon had not shed its winter feathers of brown or gray. Their black and white plumage is only during the mating season. I heard my first loon call today, April 15. We will anxiously await this new mating season to observe the loons.

Are you interested in loons? You won't want to miss our annual membership meeting on Wednesday June 24, 2026 from 7-8:30. A biologist from the Loon Preservation Committee will be our guest speaker. The biologist will talk about loon behavior and the work that has been accomplished by LPC to help loons survive and thrive. KLA is holding an All-Things Loons raffle. Raffle items include: loon beverage glasses, loon dish towel, loon post cards, loon pillow. Raffle tickets will be available at the meeting. They are 1 for \$1.00, 6 for \$5.00, 11 for \$10. All raffle proceeds benefit KLA programs and activities.

KLA Officers:

Muriel Ingalls, Pres and Secretary. V Pres – Linda Corson Treasurer-Susan Palmetter. Web Master- needed

Board of Directors: Betty Wright, Bill Bixby, Betsey Bixby, Larry Smith, Sumner Kalman, John Halloran, and Holly Ouellette. Two positions vacant.

Weeds are not all bad. They are a natural part of a water body and they provide food and habitat for fish. However, too many weeds are a nuisance. You can help to stop the spread of weeds by avoiding stormwater run-off and pumping your septic system every two years. Don't fertilize near the lake.

A family or individual membership to KLA is \$40. Our budget includes: dues to NH Lakes, and Loon Preservation Society, \$500 scholarship to a YMCA Camper, support for our activities, and printing and postage for our newsletter. Each year we set money aside in the budget for the "weed fund".

The Scott B. Weinhold Memorial Life Jacket Loaner Station will open for Memorial Day weekend beginning on Saturday May 23. Life jackets are available in all sizes, including life jackets for dogs. If you show up at the boat ramp and discover you do not have life jackets, you can borrow from the loaner station and return at the end of the day. This system works well and no one is at risk if there is a boating incident. This initiative is the work of Patti Weinhold who lost her grandson in a boating incident. He was not wearing a life jacket.

Stormwater run-off is a serious threat to healthy water quality. Assess your property for stormwater run-off. Information and websites you can use to assist in managing stormwater run-off. NHDES' "Homeowners Guide to Stormwater Management". Soak up the rain in NH. www.soaknh.org. www.nhlakes.org/lakesmart/.

2026 Lake Host Program. The Lake Host Program is a courtesy boat inspection program. Paid and volunteer lake hosts staff the town and state ramp areas and inspect boats as they come and go from the lake. Lake Hosts make sure that boats, trailers, and gear are free of exotic aquatic plants and animals. It is important to **wash, drain and dry** all equipment entering and exiting the lake, as once these invasive species enter the lake, they take over, spoiling the lake for recreational use. **In the summer 2025, Lake Hosts performed 2,518 boat inspections at the State and Town ramps.** This number of inspections makes KLA eligible for \$3200 in grant money from NH Lakes. This amount combined with \$2500 from the Budget of the Kingston Conservation Commission makes it possible for us to have an effective Lake Host Program. In 2025, lake hosts worked 346 hours at the boat ramps. **Leigh Komornick is the KLA program coordinator** for the Lake Host Grant. Anyone interested in becoming a paid or a volunteer lake host can contact Leigh at lgkski@aol.com Volunteers help earn money for the lake host program. **NH Lakes Lake Host Charitable Giving Program.** You can make a donation to the Kingston Lake Host Program. Your donation will go directly to the Kingston Lake Lake Host Program. Contact Leigh Komornick for more information or go on line at NH Lakes Lake Host Program. www.nhlakes.org/lakehost/

Check Out Our Spring and Summer Schedule

The Adopt- a- Park Program. On **Saturday May 9, 9-12** volunteers will sweep into the park with rakes, tarps, trucks and tractors to spruce it up for another summer season. We can use your help. Our goal is to clean the beach and picnic area by the beach. Many hands make light work. We are grateful to the Kingston Select Board for allowing the Kingston Highway Department's personnel and equipment to help us with this project.



EDUCATE



Aquatic plants provide natural filtration, shade the water from the sun's rays and provide cover for fish from predators. But, aquatic plants out of control become a nuisance and hinder recreation like boating and swimming, and decrease property values.



The American Bull Frog is the largest native frog species in the US. They are food for birds and fish. Frogs eat mosquitoes. Our lake has lots of frogs and they are cool. Kids love them. Frog populations have been declining worldwide. Because of a loss of habitat, and a variety of environmental conditions like climate change

Spring Lake Clean-Up is ongoing. We have many KLA members who live on the lake and they are vigilant about cleaning up debris in the lake. If you need help with a lakeside project email Muriel at dmingalls@comcast.net.

June 24, 2026 Annual Membership Meeting 7-8:30 in the Kingston Community Library. We will have a social time with refreshments from 7:00-7:30. There will be a 45-minute presentation by a biologist from LPC.

The Bruce Anderson Kayak/Canoe/Paddle Board Regatta is scheduled for Sunday August 2, 2026. This fun family event, named after its founder, continues to grow. The three-mile course is around the perimeter of the lake beginning at Camp Lincoln. Kayaks and PFDs are available at Camp Lincoln. Paddle board course will be around the island. Registration begins at 9:30 and the starting bell is at 10:30. Refreshments are available before and after the race. The registration fee is \$10.00 per person. Prizes are awarded in several categories.



Last July, I invited Kyle Mason from Solitude Lake Management (SLM) to visit Kingston Lake (Great Pond). I asked John and Sheila Whittier to give him a tour of the Lake. I asked Kyle to assess the Lake for vegetation. Many lake residents have seen growth in lake weeds especially lily pads and water shield. Kyle identified several areas where lily pads are in abundance including: Ridgewood Beach area, Camp Lincoln, State Ramp Area and in front of the town beach area near Kingston Recreation. Kyle said the good news is "I don't see any invasive weeds". Hooray for that and our Lake Hosts and weed watching programs. SLM is a reputable company that works on restoring lakes. The company works with NH DES. Kyle submitted 2 proposals to the Board of Directors at a KLA meeting in March. The proposals called for an herbicide treatment of these lily pad areas. The herbicide used is approved by NHDES. There is a permitting process required by NHDES. The cost of one proposal was for \$12,930. The second proposal was for \$26,880.

KLA needs you. This is year 20 for us. Help us keep growing by joining.

Please clip and return to KLA. Box 1018, Kingston, NH 03848

Enclosed is my check for \$40 for membership renewal/donation. Dues are usually paid in May/June.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

email _____

I would like to help with _____

____ Please contact me.

The Kingston Lake Association meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 at the Kingston Community Library. All meetings are open to the public; your ideas and feedback are welcome. We do not meet in November or December. Come and join us.

In my 50+ plus years on the lake we have never done an herbicide treatment. KLA is sensitive to the reaction by lake residents. Your opinion matters to us. Please tell us what you feel and think. KLA will hold a fall meeting to discuss these proposals.

The Watershed-Based Management Committee (WMC) led by Chair Tom O'Steen has been meeting monthly in the Kingston Community Library at 6 PM on the last Wednesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public. WMC is an ad hoc committee of the Kingston Select Board. Its sole purpose is to implement the best management practices for healthy water as recommended by the 2024 Kingston Lake (Great Pond) Watershed-Based Management Plan prepared by FB Environmental Associates. This plan is available in the Kingston Community Library. The plan identified 55 sites in the watershed area that need improvement. Many of the sites are a result of stormwater run-off. The number one cite for improvement is the Greenwood Beach area on Greenwood Pond. Run-off from Church Street through the parking lot at the Children's Center has damaged the banking and path area to the pond. The WMC has partnered with the First Congregational Church, the Gideon Lodge and the Children's Center to remedy this situation. WMC is working with Tom Roughan from the Kingston Highway Department to mitigate the erosion issues. Plantings along the banking, adding logs to divert run-off, and laying down erosion stone along the pathway to the beach are strategies that will improve this site. Other erosion sites have been identified at Camp Lincoln, the Kingston State Park, and the town beach area by the Recreation Building. The Highway Department has been working diligently at improving the erosion issues on various town roads. KLA and WMC is grateful for the support of the Kingston Select Board and the Kingston Highway Department for their attention to improving water quality in Kingston Lake (Great Pond) and the greater watershed area.

Two important ways you can help improve water quality in Kingston Lake (Great Pond) are to have your septic system pumped every 2-3 years and control storm water run-off on your property.



