



# Worrromontogus Lake Association Newsletter

PO Box 2582 Augusta, Maine 04338

membership@togusponds.org

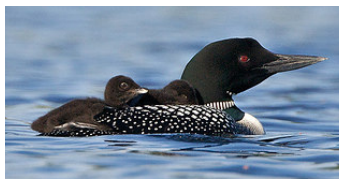
July 2009

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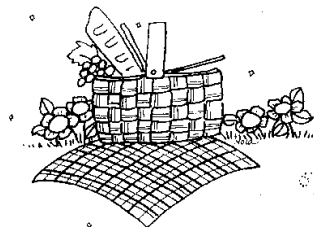
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Boat Landing  
  
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Visit WLA on  
the web at  
[www.togusponds.org](http://www.togusponds.org)

## WLA Summer Meeting and Picnic



Saturday, August 8

(Rain Date Sunday)

Join us for the summer meeting and picnic to be held at the boat landing on Hayes Landing Road.

- The Association will provide grills, hamburgers and hotdogs, water and ice and members should bring their own beverage and a salad or dessert to share.
- The gathering will start at noon.
- Walk, bike, paddle or boat over to the meeting!
- We won't have a business meeting but will have a short update on how the grant is doing and will open the forum to anything that you might wish to discuss.

We hope to see you there!

The landing is located on Hayes Road off of the Ward Road. After turning on the Hayes Road the road will fork, bear to the right and you will see the landing.

## Have you renewed your membership?

Our 2009 membership drive is still under way and we need your help. **Please help support the Worrromontogus Lake Association by becoming a member today! The WLA provides many resources.**

- A website that includes history, news, photos, calendar of events and lots of great information.
- An Association that is constantly working on ways to improve the quality and health of the lakes.
- WLA meetings where you can enjoy great food, meet your neighbors and hear speakers.
- Newsletters and information about upcoming workshops and available assistance grants.

## Dear Fellow Members,

The annual summer meeting of the WLA is just around the corner; once again we'll be enjoying a BBQ at our landing, this year on August 8<sup>th</sup> starting at noon. The WLA will furnish grills, hot dogs, hamburgers water and ice. Bring your own soda, juice, and/or adult beverages and plan to enjoy the day. Walk on foot, drive a car, ride a bike or cruise by boat! We will have an update on the 319 grant, an important vote on the Alewife issue and a few other items that should have updates. Included in this edition of the newsletter you will find information about the Alewife issue. Proxy votes are allowed with a signed statement from a WLA member in good standing, indicating that the bearer of the note has voting proxy authority, the holder of the note may cast a vote for a missing member.

Let me take this opportunity to remind everyone that this is the last season of the 319 grant and if you have buffer zone/rain garden projects that you want to consider under the grant or if your Road Association wants to apply for project money, now is the time to act.

Let's think good thoughts about a dry day for the picnic and a good turn out at the annual meeting, Hope to see you on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Patten Williams, WLA President



## Good time to work on buffers!

### WHAT ARE THEY?

Vegetated phosphorus buffer strips are areas of natural vegetation that have been left undisturbed or are replanted to naturally existing species. These vegetative buffer strips are composed of trees, shrubs, bushes, and a thick duff layer (pine needles, bark mulch, etc.)

### WHY DO WE NEED THEM?

Where there are humans, there is nutrient pollution. The way we live tends to over-nourish and pollute our environment. Fertilizers wash down over our carefully graded lawns directly to the lake. The oils and greases from our cars are rinsed off our driveways and roads down to the lake. We rest and play along the lake and our foot traffic tramples the vegetation. We park our cars and launch our boats as close as possible to the lake – our heavy vehicles compact the earth until it's as hard and impenetrable as asphalt. Our lifestyles are hurting the lake. Vegetated buffers provide a filter and percolation area for the runoff that comes from our home and play areas. The vegetation in the buffer uses the nutrients carried in the storm water as fertilizer. If the nutrients reach the lake, the aquatic plants will use them and an algae bloom can occur. Vegetated buffers are designed so that the nutrients are used by land vegetation rather than by lake algae. If water quality deteriorates, the value of your property decreases. Boating and swimming through pond scum becomes less attractive. Fish populations can decline or be killed off completely.



### WHERE SHOULD BUFFERS BE LOCATED?

Vegetated buffers need to be placed between people and the lake. We need to filter the storm water runoff from our houses, garages, driveways, roads (both paved and gravel), and road ditches through flat vegetated areas. Lakeside parking areas and playing fields should drain through a buffer, too. Equally important are the streams that flow into the lake. They also need to be protected by leaving vegetated buffer

strips next to them.

## **Alewives Vote at WLA August meeting! Educate yourself at the meeting below.**

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

# **Togus Pond Alewife Restoration Public Informational Meeting**

Please join us on July 28 from 4:30 to 6:30 as we host a public informational meeting to discuss the restoration of alewives in Togus Pond. The Departments of Marine Resource (DMR) and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IFW) have been working with the Worromontogus Lake Association (WLA) for three years to discuss the restoration of alewives in the pond.

Sea run alewives are a native fish that have been prevented from reaching the lake (their spawning grounds) since the dam was built in the 1800s. The successful restoration in nearby Webber Pond, including the installation of the fish ladder, has sparked new interest in the restoration in Togus Pond. Staff from DMR and IFW will give a short presentation on alewife restoration in the Kennebec River and will open the meeting up for questions and comments.

The WLA will be voting at the August meeting on this topic and want to be sure the community has a chance to participate. If you are unable to attend, please send your questions or comments to us at the address on this page.



MAINE DEPARTMENT  
OF MARINE RESOURCES

172 State House Station  
Augusta ME 04333-0172

Contact::

Melissa Laser, Biologist

Phone:

207-287-4436

Email:

[melissa.laser@maine.gov](mailto:melissa.laser@maine.gov)

Tuesday July 28, 2009

4:30 to 6:30 PM

Augusta City Center

Lecture Hall (Rm 135)

(enter front door and turn right)

16 Cony Street

Augusta

# 2009 Membership Drive

**2009 Membership Drive Renew today! Send this form and your check to:  
Worromontogus Lake Association, PO Box 2582, Augusta, Maine 04338**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Road \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I want to renew \_\_\_\_\_

I am a new member in 2009 \_\_\_\_\_



### 2009 Dues

Family Membership \$ 15 \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership \$ 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Osprey Member \$ 25 \_\_\_\_\_

Loon Member \$ 50 \_\_\_\_\_

Eagle Member \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary Contribution to the Dam Maintenance Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount of Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Newsletters and notices are sent via email unless we don't have your email address.  
Please give us your email if you have one. It saves us time, money and resources!**

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