



Waves

The Newsletter of Hickory Hills Landowners

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Autumn 2010

Annual Meeting Reports

September 18, 2010

Following are the reports presented at the meeting.

President's Report submitted by Neal Sullivan

The spring of 2010 will be remembered for its 100 year rain storms. The summer of 2010 will be remembered for the lack of rain – 8 to 10 inches below normal. This resulted in a lake level that was 12 to 20 inches below normal and a bumper crop of bladderwort weeds. By mid August, my cove was nearly impossible to navigate (swimming was out of the question) due to the extreme density of the growth. As President there are many things that fall under my control and many others that don't (I am however, thinking of learning native American rain dance for future years). While the stop logs (boards that control the water level) were installed in the dam on May 8, within the timing specifications that we have communicated to the state Department of Dam safety (April 15 to May 15), and within the safety margin we have established to control flows from Spring storms, there was not enough inflow to fill the lake. We have placed a heightened emphasis on the Dam committee and charged them with: defining committee organi-

zation to include operations, maintenance, communications, DCR/Dam Safety & Emergency Action Plan (EAP), and documentation. The specific expectations that have been set are: to revised a lake-level strategy that will review existing stop log policy and modify or enhance (while maintain our outstanding safety record) to address recreation needs; to develop a communication strategy to communicate dam operations more effectively communicate to the residents and to expand dam operations to include training of additional operators, a comprehensive safety program and a new maintenance strategy for the next five year period (our present, successful plan is coming to an end).

As we approach the required large scale work on the dam and the spillway, this group will be well positioned to lead us through this effort.

This is the first year of the annual maintenance fee increase. I am happy to report that receipts of yearly fees are on track with past performance – 93.6% collection for 2010 vs. 95.4% for 2009 and roughly consistent with a 3-5% delinquency rate. Given the difficult economy the BOD is thankful for the will-



(Continued on page 2)

Moving On...

Hello everyone,

It is Pat, from the Office. I wanted to let you all know that I am leaving the Office position at Hickory Hills Landowners, Inc. and my last day will be October 28th.

I took the position for what I thought would be a short stint and ended up staying 8 years. It turned out to be a great learning experience and a wonderful opportunity to meet so many of you through the years.

I have been interested in pursuing other endeavors and now I will have the time and attention to put towards these interests. Although, I will continue to be a Trustee of the C.A.R.F. fund and a member of the Finance Committee.

Thank you all for making my time in the office enjoyable. This is a unique and treasured community and I look forward to seeing you in the neighborhood!

Kind Regards, Pat



(Continued from page 1)

ing participation and support of the lake community as we fully fund our lake management programs (more than \$20,000 to LMG in 2009-2010) and build the reserves for the expensive dam spillway work anticipated in the next 3-5 years. In fact, our savings for the dam project is ahead of plan as we were able to save nearly \$35,000 (in a tax advantaged account) vs. the \$11,000 planned for by the Finance Committees 2009 projections.

Status against Goals for FY10:

1. *Complete the sale of the Beachview/Wildwood Rd property* - The property was sold in April for \$70,000. \$69,832.30 was placed into the special dam account. Welcome (back) to Eric and Stacey Manseau who have bought the lot and are constructing a beautiful new home.

2. *Improve electronic presences (website)* - There is a new and improved look to our website at: www.hickoryhillslake.com. We expect to take full advantage of this as the BOD enhances its communications to shareholders and residents. The BOD extends sincere gratitude to Linda Malcomb for her tremendous talent, exceptional creativity and her hours of work on the website.

3. *Increase the number of volunteers and community involvement*

4. *Facilitate Lake Management Action Plan*

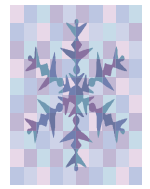
Goals 3 & 4 are really tied together and a great deal is owed to the energetic and extensive activities of the Lake Management Group. We are seeing ripple effects throughout the community resulting from the energy generated by the LMG volunteers.

5. *Formulate training procedures for the EAP*- The EAP update is completed and will be submitted by November. Training procedures for the EAP have not been met, due to the delay with the update. We plan to have a meeting with everyone involved with the EAP for the dam, including local government officials, in November to go over roles and responsibilities.

6. *Establish a procedure for boat access to the lake* - In order to continue our exceptional protection of the Hickory Hills from invasive aquatic plant species we have re-vamped our boat access procedures. The new procedure to be fully implemented in the spring of 2011 includes: lock maintenance - 1978 will lose its significance (at least for the lock!), training and implementation of Boat Launch Deputies who will staff the launch area during high traffic periods (spring and fall), institution of scheduled launches and inspections for dealer installed watercraft, and the investigation of the purchase and utilization of a lake owned trailer for all dealership boat launchings.

Fall & Winter Office Hours

Mon. & Thurs. 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.



Please call the office before arriving to make sure someone is there, 978-582-6365. Email is the best way to reach the office. If necessary, appointments may be made for a more convenient time. Remember you can always leave payments or documents in the drop box.

The beaches are open from dawn to dusk. Please make sure your vehicles are not in the parking lot after 8:00 p.m. Residents need a parking sticker to park in the beach lots.

Going forward the BOD is planning to maintain its executive focuses and refine the organizational structure which has been in place for well over a decade. The goal of this activity is to better reflect the support that the BOD has been given by LMG in managing the lake and turn the focus towards financial and long term planning. The Finance Committee will be restarted as we approach the timeframe for implementing the dam spillway expansion. We will focus on examining the best way to set aside money for dam investments, determine the best vehicles for tax-advantaged savings and to begin to assemble financing for 2012. In parallel the dam committee will begin preparations for the next five year maintenance plan and the spillway expansion.

As a BOD, we are committed to improving our communication with the various constituencies of the lake community: the shareholders, non-shareholder residents, the lake management group and various external entities important to the lake community. The website will be the lynch-pin for this new communications effort.

I would like to personally thank the Nominating committee: Charlie Kimball, Sue Andrews and Jane Blake for their yeoman efforts this summer, under novel and difficult circumstances. In my decade-plus with the BOD I cannot recall EVER having an excess of candidates for BOD positions - usually it is the role of the nominating committee to beg, cajole and threaten in order to fill positions. This year we were blessed with a wealth of outstanding candidates for BOD positions.

I would also like to thank Walt Parquet for his service to the lake community as a BOD member and most recently as Vice President. Walt has made significant contributions to Hickory Hills, most notably in putting together an exceptional security program that will provide a

(Continued on page 3)



(Continued from page 2)

model going forward. Walt's business acumen and insurance knowledge represent a resource that will be sorely missed.

Finally A personal thanks to the volunteers who have emerged lately to do so much for the lake community ... I cannot name them without surely offending some, you know and the BOD know what you have done for the lake. It is greatly appreciated!

C.A.R.F. Report submitted by J. Kutarnia

The Capital Asset Reserve Fund Board of Trustees is empowered by the shareholders and is responsible for the management and control of the reserve fund that when needed could be liquidated and used for emergency repair work due to a large storm or a breach of the dam structure.

I am pleased to report that this fund remains intact and has increased by \$3,855 during the past twelve months. We want to thank the contributors for their donations this year. We have had 37 contributors 5 of whom contributed \$100.00 or more.

CD Investments	\$56,298
Fidelity Cash Reserve Account	\$27,675
T. Rowe Price Cap. App. Fund	<u>\$10,585</u>
TOTAL	\$94,558

I am pleased to report that we continue to grow this fund and even though we have surpassed our short term goal of \$75,000. Thank you again for your continued support and your contributions.

Dam Report submitted by J. Kutarnia

During the past twelve months we have once again continued to make improvements on our dam. All improvements are in conjunction with our six year plan and address the two year inspection reports completed by Tighe & Bond. The improvements this past year include the completion of the berm at the end of Woodland Drive to prevent further erosion. We completed cutting down the last of the trees and removed the stumps from the dam. We cleaned the concrete dam area, emergency spillway and replaced the rocks on the lake side of the banking, removed weeds, trash, drift wood and logs from the banking between Woodland Dr. and Mulpus Rd. We have placed no parking signs along Townsend Harbor Rd. and our town highway department has added drainage pipe in front of our emergency spillway. We also contracted a mason to repair cracks and fill holes on the bridge em-

bankment, spillway and concrete dam.

During this week Tighe & Bond has once again completed the two year inspection and I'm pleased to report that we have received a verbal satisfactory rating on our dam. The Tighe & Bond engineer agrees that we are aggressively pursuing requirements to meet state dam requirements and must continue to perform annual maintenance in order to continue with satisfactory reports.

This is not to say we have met all requirements. Our final and major project is to increase our lakes drawn down capacity. At this time our dam is estimated to be approximately half of what the State Department of Dam Safety requires. The first phase of this project is to have the hydro analysis study completed and determine all alternative methods that would meet state requirements. We do not know the ramifications of what this study will

(Continued on page 4)

CLASSIFIEDS



House for Sale: Adorable Country Cabin for sale, Fully Renovated, Energy Efficient New Roof, Windows, Siding, Instant Hot Water Heater. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, Open Kitchen/Living Rm - all new. Beautiful yard on quiet street just 2.5 blocks from the beach, Presby Septic Installed 3 yrs ago, Title V guaranteed. Turn Key & Ready for someone to come enjoy lake community living! Price Reduced \$184,000 -- Cindy cschicho@gmail.com or 315 391-4439 cell





(Continued from page 3)

bring but we plan to have a good idea of what is in store for us at the next annual meeting.

Lake and Property Report submitted by **J. Leblanc**

This year two topics of conversation were constantly brought to my attention. One was the level of water in the lake and the other is weeds.

The low water level this year is a result of a combination of a few factors. Our dam guidelines call for the boards to go in on or about April 15th for the first 6 inch stop board. Then on May 1st for the second 6 inch stop board and then May 15th for the third 6 inch stop board. The next line reads weather forecast must be taken into account before placing any boards into the summer position.

We had quite a few 100 year storms in a row and more were forecasted. The boards for the dam were installed after the last storm missed and the water may have never reached the third board. During a normal season the water is 2 to 3 inches above the top of the boards; so we started out 8 or 9 inches low. One inch of water is approx. 1 million gallons. So we started out 8 or 9 million gallons low. We never got enough rain to keep the water table up and the few tiny rains we had all got absorbed by the dry landscapes. Our lake is primarily fed by just one brook and a couple of insignificant springs. Therefore, when the rain stops we are at the mercy of the temperatures to regulate the rate of evaporation. The surface water temperatures reached 80 degrees F in early June, climbed above 90 for a while and never dropped under 80 until the end of August and then climbed right back up.

The dam itself leaks very little water through the sluice gate, you can hear it trickle through but it is no worse than any other year. This year the town used the wells located at the Woodland condos a lot more than in the past due to the Lancaster Ave wells breaking down. The town is in the process of hooking up a brand new well near Lake Shirley. Your HHL President, Neal Sullivan used his enormous math brain to check the town's figures and does not believe it had a huge impact on the water levels on the lake. All of these factors created a perfect storm which I do not foresee happening again any time soon.

Well so much for the easy subject, now onto the ever present weed, bladderwort. I spoke in detail at the 2005 Annual Meeting about bladderwort and predicted its spread and I wish my predictions were wrong but here we are with chocked out props and coves thick with bladderwort. I have easily removed it from my swim area several times this

year with a rake and when it dries it is easy to get rid of. The key here is several times. As soon as someone in a boat goes by my beach fills back up with the weed, depending on the wind direction.

As a fisherman who stares into the lake with my polarized glasses I can honestly tell you our lake is in the worst shape I've ever seen it in my 15 years here. As the lead operator of the weed harvester I can also tell you how I have watched bladderwort sprout up wherever it floats to whether the harvesting of this weed spreads it or if its just boats and swimmers now that it has taken over our lake. We will soon have a meeting with the states #1 aquatic biologist Paula Packard who we recently made contact with. Hopefully she will be able to help us figure out our best course of action to get it under control. The weed harvester is in fine operating order right now thanks to the fine efforts of Jay Simeone. Unfortunately with the water so low we could not get the harvester into the lake and I more than anyone wanted to clean this lake up...but it was not meant to be. This winter we will be training a new fleet of operators who will go to a weed identifying class run by the State. We will be mowing and training as soon as the water is high enough next year.

Hydro raking was performed this year under an emergency action permit near the Mulpus River inlet. We didn't have a policy in place for introducing a machine to our lake that normally works in lakes that are infested with invasive species or invasive marine life. To say the board meetings and emails were not pleasant would be factual. As we look back at it now I would like to think we are all better educated about invasive species and plants and are using this information to implement many new policies and procedures.

(Continued on page 5)

Yard Waste Days for Lunenburg

The Lunenburg Landfill, off Youngs Road will be open Saturdays **October 16 through November 20 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Guidelines for disposal or yard waste:

- **Acceptable:** grass clippings, back mulch, wood chips, leaves, brush (with a diameter not to exceed 3 inches and unlimited length). Shrubbery and plantings with the same restrictions.





(Continued from page 4)

As for hydro raking itself, most people feel it bettered their waterfront properties and the only negatives noted were floating weeds with full root bodies attached and a fine layer of sediment on a abutters property. Also during the hydro raking process I noticed the lake had a high level of turbidity during a year when we had no rain which I feel was directly related to the amount of sediment disturbed. Caution and a homemade turbidity screen will be used wherever possible in all future hydro raking operations and turbidity will be monitored.

Moving forwards let hope it rains, the weeds go away and the fish get bigger.

Lake Management Group Report

presented by Paula Bertram and Mario Andella
submitted by Neal Sullivan

Most lakes across the Commonwealth have to deal with invasive vegetation. Hickory Hills is fortunate to be free of these non-native species. Additionally, issues such as such as pollution, storm water run-off, and development can adversely affect the quality of Hickory Hills Lake. It is in the spirit of remaining proactive to address these threats that the Lake Management Group (LMG) was formed in 2009, by a group of dedicated residents. The group's charter is to evaluate the quality of the lake ecosystem, identify potential issues, review options to address those issues and recommend the best courses of action to the HHL Board of Directors. The culmination of these activities in 2010 is a comprehensive lake management plan in the form of a Notice of Intent (NOI), filed with and approved by both the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEP) and the Lunenburg Conservation Commission.

The natural lifecycle of a lake includes its eventual death. As a lake ages, sediment accumulates on the lake bottom due to debris and decaying vegetation, the lake becomes more shallow and begins to fill in. This process is accelerated by human activity: development increases impervious area and decreases water infiltration, Storm water carries fertilizers and contaminates into the lake and increases erosion, boats and equipment can transport invasive "hitch hikers" such as weeds, mussels and algae.

A component of the lake management plan involves assessing and managing aquatic vegetation, in order to prevent the infestation of non-native invasive species and monitor native vegetation levels. Uncontrolled native vegetation can increase in cover and density, deplete



available oxygen, and increase sediment levels resulting in loss of open water habitat and interfering with recreational uses. In the most recent survey (Aquatic Controls Technology – ACT on September 1st) preliminary feedback reports that the observed significant increase in vegetation density this year was enabled by the low water level, (shallow water allows more light to filter to the lake bottom, resulting in increased plant growth), unusually high temperatures and low levels of precipitation. The dominant plants observed in the lake, in addition to bladderwort and consistent with previous year's studies are: tape grass and floating water shield or water lilies. Other notable plants that were found include large leaf pondweed, ribbon leaf pondweed, floating-leaf pondweed, Robbins pondweed and naiad. Bladderwort is a submersed free-floating annual carnivorous plant that can form dense mats. While there are over 200 species of bladderwort, the majority of bladderwort in the lake is common bladderwort. The primary way that bladderwort spreads is by dropping winter buds but it can also be spread by fragmentation and by seed. Mitigation measures for bladderwort including (but are not limited to) frequent harvesting and aquatic herbicides in localized areas, will be explored by the LMG and implemented as necessary.

Erosion control is a critical component of lake management. Once it is lost, shore line can never be recovered. There are several causes of erosion, including pedestrian and recreational vehicle traffic; beaver activity; loss of vegetation, storm water; boat traffic and normal movement of the water body. Erosion causes sedimentation, resulting in loss of water clarity, depth and overall degradation of the aquatic environment. Over Labor Day weekend, dirt (reclaimed from other areas in the lake), rocks, logs and coconut rolls (or coir fiber logs - coir is the fiber within the coconut - these logs are covered with

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5)

biodegradable netting and are one of the most efficient and cost effective methods for stabilizing banks) were transported to Lizard Island and used by an incredible group of volunteers to address the extensive erosion that has occurred. Each coconut log was anchored with stakes and planted with wetland grasses and high bush blueberries. The vegetation will root through the log and root into the bank. In addition, stones were installed at the point of the island and logs that have surfaced within the lake now serving as erosion control devices.

Sediment build up at the Mulpus Inlet, observed over the last several years, was accelerated significantly this spring due to the tremendous storm activity in March and April. In order to understand what was happening upstream and within the watershed, several members of the LMG walked the length of the Mulpus Brook in May. Sedimentation deposits were noted all along the brook as were piles of debris. GPS points were taken at various locations of interest to document locations in order to discuss with various town departments to see what steps can be taken to try to alleviate these possible factors. Other areas dramatically affected by the heavy rains that washed silt and debris into the lake include the Boat Ramp and Hemlock Beach. LMG contacted Matt Marro, Lunenburg Conservation Agent, for an assessment. A 30 day emergency permit to remove debris and sediment from the impacted areas was issued. Based upon LMG research and feasibility, Hydro-raking was chosen as the debris removal methodology. Mechanical raking (hydro-raking) is a widely used and effective technique for area selective removal of nuisance, rooted vegetation. In some situations the Hydro-Rake is also used to clear accumulations of unconsolidated bottom debris (i.e. decaying leaves, peat, and muck). The hydro-rake can best be described as a floating barge upon which is mounted a backhoe with several different size

and functioning rake attachments. The hydro-rake is powered by a Diesel engine which drives the hydraulically operated paddle wheel propulsion system and back-hoe functions. The hydro-rake can operate in water as shallow as 1.0 -1.5 feet and



can remove nuisance vegetation and bottom debris from variable water depths as shallow as a few inches to a maximum depth of 12 feet. The hydro-rake works from the water and can

therefore access coves and shoreline areas otherwise inaccessible to conventional machinery. Damage to valuable shoreline habitat and waterfront property is avoided with the hydro-rake. The hydro-rake deposits each rake full (maximum 500 lbs.) of material directly on-shore. While the hydro rake removed truckloads of debris from the three Emergency Order approved areas (and BOD approved hydro-raking in front of several homes in the Island Road area that were negatively impacted) and began to re-established the channel in the Mulpus Inlet, the extensive sedimentation was beyond the capability of the hydro-rake. During the research process, lake management members discovered the services of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project. In addition to mosquito spraying and larviciding, the CMMCP also does maintenance and wetlands restoration. After viewing several areas around the lake, CMMCP offered to work with the Department of Public Works to remove sediment caused by storm water run off from the Mulpus Inlet/Island Road Cove. The sediment removal was an intensive project; volumes of sediment were removed from the area. Care was taken to ensure that bull frogs, fish and turtles were not injured during the project; they were relocated by hand to the opposite site of the work zone. The results are truly extraordinary; wetland habitat has been restored and water flow greatly improved. The island area has been planted with wet mix which consists of various wetland grasses. CMMCP covered the seed with coconut mats and the area is being painstakingly watered and cared for by Phyllis Andella. It is hoped that the plants will root before the frost and stabilize the bank.

The final focus this year was storm water. As noted in the Shareholders presentation last year, there are 46 outfalls in the Hickory Hills area. After viewing some of these outfalls, the LMG recommended the installation of plunge pools in 5 locations around the lake; Mulpus Inlet/Island Road cove, Hemlock Beach, the boat ramp, 85 Island Road and Little Hickory. A plunge pool is an area excavated below the outfall which is lined with rock. These pools serve as storage areas to filter out sediment and pollutants before the water enters the main lake. Regular maintenance of these pools will be required to remove accumulated sediment and reposition stones. LMG members met with Katrina Proctor of CMMCP and Jack Rodriquez of the Department of Public works. After viewing the areas, they agreed to remove accumulated sediment, construct the pools, install trap rock and re-vegetate the disturbed areas. Three test sites were chosen based on the volume and dimensions of the debris plume, as well as their proximity to,

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6)

and effect on, areas with higher volume use: Mulpus Inlet/ Island Road Cove, Boat Ramp and Hemlock Beach

Recommended Management Techniques Moving Forward

Hydro-Raking - As recommended by the LMG, the BOD has approved hydro-raking in various community areas on the main lake and little hickory. Waterfront owners will also be allowed to participate in a BOD managed contract for hydro-raking of their beach front. The BOD is developing a formal process and more information on how to sign up for hydro-raking will be distributed at a later date in the Waves.

Erosion Control - The first erosion control project, Lizard Island, will be monitored over the next several months. Over the next several seasons the LMG will be installing erosion control devices along eroded Island shorelines.

Storm Water Management - The Storm water committee will:

- ♦ Evaluate plunge pools and redistribute trap rock as needed;
- ♦ Identify, categorize, prioritize and map all other storm water outfalls;
- ♦ Report findings and recommendations to the LMG & BOD;
- ♦ Monitor and report efficiency of CMMCP project
- ♦ Recommend plunge pool maintenance program

Benthic Barriers - The Board of Directors is developing a policy and procedure on use of benthic barriers by waterfront owners, more information will be available in a future Waves and on the website. Benthic barriers, also known as benthic mats or bottom screens, are mats that are installed on the bottom of a lake to inhibit the growth of invasive aquatic plants.

Purple Loosestrife - All of you by now are probably familiar with purple loosestrife. This invasive plant can take over a wetland and choke out natural vegetation. Volunteers have removed many infestations by hand pulling. You can help! Contact the LMG or the office for information on removing loosestrife.

Invasive Species - We must continue to guard against invasive aquatic species by preventing them from entering the lake. The primary means of invasive infestation is boats, trailer and equipments. The Board of Directors is currently working on a boat launch policy to ensure that our lake remains free of invasive plants.

As new technologies are developed, the LMG will investigate and make recommendations to the BOD. The LMG will continue to monitor lake habitat and investigate additional areas of concern as they are discovered. It is important to understand that the Lake Management Plan cannot be stagnant, as issues are identified, the LMG and the Board of Directors will recommend appropriate measures and update the plan accordingly. Public education and outreach is critical to the success of any Lake Management Plan. The LMG will continue to publish valuable information in the Waves, distribute literature and hold fun and educational events. Visit the Hickory Hills website for more information on the LMG's research. www.hickoryhillslake.com We encourage your active participation!

Public Relations Report submitted by L. Normandin

A Welcome meeting for new residents was held on April 29, 2010 at the Island Road office. Several people attended the meeting hosted by John Pesenti, Lisa Normandin. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the new residents and educate them about the lake and its rich history.

The Lake Management Group sponsored the first ever "Taste of Italy" fundraiser. The dinner and entertainment was held at the Eastwood Club on April 24, 2010. Many members of the Hickory Hills community enjoyed the music and dancing. The raffle items were very plentiful this year. Thank you to the many fine vendors, businesses and residents that made contributions to our raffle.

Adult volleyball continued this summer at the Island Road Beach. Volleyball is held on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the summer months. Feel free to join the group next summer.

We continue to publish the Waves newsletter quarterly to keep our residents up to date and to provide a means to share information. We welcome your photos and articles for consideration. Please visit our newly updated website for all of the current events and activities at www.hickoryhillslake.com.

We were delighted to be able to offer the Youth Activities Program again this summer. Despite the ever increasing temperatures, the program was a great success with over 28 children participating for a nominal fee. A big thank you goes out to Marie Doucette and her helpers, Ciera D'Agostino, and Jamie Narus and others for coordinating this event.

The second annual Hickory Hills Beach Party was held on

(Continued on page 8)



(Continued from page 7)

July 10, 2010. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet our friends and neighbors in the community. The Lake Management Group did a wonderful job organizing this event to raise awareness of the many issues of managing a healthy and beautiful lake.

Office Report submitted by **L. Normandin**

This year our office manager, Pat issued 712 boat stickers, 594 ID cards and 135 car stickers. There were 34 First Right of Refusal Releases issued for HHL property transfers.

There are currently 324 Hickory Hills Landowners, Inc. Shareholders. This year we had eight residents buy new shares and twelve shares transfer ownership from previous property owners.

In closing a huge thank you goes out to Pat our office manager for everything that she does for the residents of our community and the Board of Directors.

Roads Report submitted by **M. Andella**

The Lunenburg DPW road repair budget remains too low to satisfy our request to resurface all public roads within our HHL community. Until funding for the DPW improves, we can expect patching of existing road surfaces as the best they can offer. The DPW was responsive to our request for patching of potholes this past year. The Roads Committee will continue to work with the DPW to improve the quality of our public roads. Please contact the DPW if you notice a pothole on one of our paved, public roads. If you are not satisfied with the DPW's response, please leave an email or phone message at our office, and the Roads Committee will follow up.

Last year, we reported working with the DPW on two specific road safety issues:

- Diverting the water that accumulates in a dangerously large puddle in front of our emergency spillway on Townsend Harbor Road. We are pleased to report that this problem was corrected.
- Eliminating the hazard caused by southbound vehicles turning left from Townsend Harbor Road onto Mulpus Road. I wish to thank Dave MacDonald of Island Road for providing a plan to reconfigure this dangerous intersection. This issue is not yet corrected and will be a high priority for the Roads Committee this year.

We also made some repairs to private roads owned by Hickory Hills Landowners Assoc. Ruts formed by water runoff on Harbor Terrace were filled and re-graded. Thanks to Brett Ramsden for donating his labor and equipment. Hemlock Terrace and Hilltop Lane require regrading of several large potholes. We hope to complete these by the end of this month. I wish to thank Jim Bertram for coordinating snow plowing and sanding of our private roads.

Please remember to call the town's DPW if you notice any dangerous condition on our public roads. Do not assume that your neighbor has already called. Also, please try to keep the grates over catch basins in your neighborhood clear of leaves and other debris. If you need assistance with this, email or call the HHL office and we will provide assistance.

Security Report submitted by **W. Parquet**

The 2010 boating season was again mostly and fortunately uneventful from a security standpoint. Both of our security persons, Jake LaChance and Rick Lutter did a commendable job. Cooperation with and the relationship between the security detail and the boating and beach going residents was "exceptional."

Due to the dramatically low water levels and the excessive daily heat waves, floating logs became a major function of the security detail. They successfully hauled dangerous and almost invisible logs up to the main Island Road Beach. During 2009 we had five logs "pop up", for 2010 we had almost 70.

The lake community was also fortunate that the levels of vandalism and beach or island trashing were at an all time low.

Parking of non stickered cars at the main beach was a constant annoyance. Enforcement of parking was a significant factor in *the major increase* in the number of auto stickers issued by the HHL office. The issuance of boat stickers was also at an all time high. Unfortunately the number of non-stickered kayaks, paddleboats and canoes is still unacceptable and represents a loss of protection and income to the lake. The security patrols constantly requested a number of non-resident kayakers and beach goers to leave the lake and beaches.

We look forward to safe fall and winter seasons on and around the lake and continued cooperation and support for next summer's security detail.



Autumn 2010

BOAT PARADE — JULY 2010

