



Presentation to Hinesburg Select  
Board by Lake Iroquois Association

1/13/2014

# The Problem

- 3<sup>rd</sup> highest phosphorus level of all inland lakes in Vermont.
- Highest percentage of boats coming directly from Lake Champlain (location of over 50 invasives).
- Little agreement in how our lake should be used.
- Major west-side runoff reported in 2010
- Blue-green algae in 2010 and 2011
- Beach erosion problem defined in 2012
- Massive influx of milfoil in 2013

# West Shore Runoff Effect



# Blue-Green Algae, SW Shore



# Beach Washout



# 2013 Milfoil



# Our History

- Renewed effort began 7 years ago.
- Leadership of Roger Crouse, President for the first 4 years.
- Have written 14 grants in the past 6 years, 12 of them successful.
- Began with less than 20 members, now have over 70.

# Association Purpose

- Main role is education, research and action to improve lake water quality.
- Limit our scope to issues relating to water quality.

# The Current Board of Directors

- Bob Pasco, Current President
- Roger Crouse, Past President
- Dan Sharpe, Vice President
- Roger Jones, Treasurer
- Kathy Hudson, Secretary
- Steve Lidle
- Chip Wright
- Meg Handler
- Pat Suozzi
- Jim Ross
- Marian Mumford
- Dick Phillips

# Current Initiatives

- Promoting the study and implementation of an overlay district around the lake.
- For the 6<sup>th</sup> year hired paid greeters at the fishing access.
- Building rain gardens to address erosion
- Two phases complete to address west side runoff
- Design work complete to eliminate beach washout

# Current Initiatives (cont.)

- Through a LaRosa Grant, ten (10) tributaries monitored for phosphorus and chloride content, and turbidity to determine the sources of pollution.
- Continued implementation of engineering design that addresses stream erosion between Pond Road and the lake.
  - The initial phase took place September 2012 building catch basins below culverts on Pond Road and Shadow Lane.
  - The second phase took place September 2013 using funds from the Town of Hinesburg.

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# Rain Garden Work



# Pond Road Basin – Phase 1



# Reworked Streambed – Phase 2



# Homeowner's New Path



# Other Current Initiatives

- Working with the Lake Iroquois Recreation District (LIRD) to successfully sought grant money that funded an engineering study to address runoff from the beach parking lot to the lake.
- Working to build buffers on lakeshore by participating in Buffers for Blue Lakes.
- One property recognized with ANR Lake Wise award for stewardship of their property.

# Buffers for Blue Lakes



# Award to Steve and Lessie Reiman (1<sup>st</sup> such award on Lake Iroquois)



## Other Initiatives (cont.)

- Publishing newsletters and adding to our website informing watershed residents of our initiatives and recommending best practices. (<http://www.lakeiroquois.org/>)
- Continue to hire divers to pull milfoil in public areas, and are educating property owners to do the same.
- 2014 Management Plan effort for more aggressive milfoil control.

# How we have used Hinesburg funds

- \$5,000 was approved by Hinesburg Select Board, summer of 2013, appropriated to the Youth Conservation Corps to complete phase two of the hillside/stream restoration project between Pond Road and Lake Iroquois
- **Thank you!**

# Other Assistance for Projects

- Significant involvement by Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
- Distinctive Landscaping, Horsford Nursery
- Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (labor plus \$20,000)
- Our thanks to them

# Plans for the Future

- Continue to work with state and town officials to help improve water quality on the lake.
- Continue to Increase membership in LIA.
- Continue to build liaisons with state and local groups (state: ANR and FOVLAP; local: LIRD and conservation commissions).
- Continue to update and distribute the publications that we have created.
- Seek solutions to address erosion patterns on Dynamite Hill above Pond Road.

# Runoff From Dynamite Hill, 9-8-2012



Sediment laden water from Dynamite Hill Road and from 1943 Pond Road driveway flow across Pond Road just south of Wilson driveway above culvert during the short rain Saturday afternoon (9/8/12)

# What We Need From You

- Regular line item budget contributions to LIA.
- We are asking the same from the other towns bordering the lake.
- Continued cooperation with town officials for meeting our goals.

# For a Cleaner Lake!

