SINGLETARY SUN

THE VOICE OF THE LAKE SINGLETARY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

"Dedicated to the Preservation and Protection of Lake Singletary and its Watershed"

2012 Honor Roll *Update on our membership for the year.* **Page 2**	**Water Quality Update** *Details on our water quality and testing throughout the year* **Page 4**	**Water level** *Rundown of the water level or lack thereof* **Page 7**	**Summer Pictures!** *Remember all the Summer fun* **Page 8-11**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi all! Well yet another season has drawn to a close. As usual each year presents its own set of challenges. This year was no exception. After managing our drawdown last winter the same as we have for several years, the lack of snow and rain postponed our reaching the high-water level until well into August. In addition, we sat and waited for the second year for the new Fanwort treatment, Clipper, to be approved by our state. We continue to wait. The good news on Clipper is that we have heard that our neighbors in Connecticut have had great success treating any Fanwort problems with this new product. We have also been told that we are very likely be able to have our treatment company use this product on our Fanwort "patches" in the summer of 2013. This treatment promises to improve our weed control options and continue to keep our lake pristine.

Our association continues to be strong with support from our broad member base and lots of interest from many members to help in managing our lake. I once again would like to thank all those who have served in the past and those who continue to serve and help. Our membership numbers continue to be strong, in the 140 household range, but we still have a few who are reluctant or not willing to join. To those of you have not joined our ranks I can only say "try it you'll like it". We have only one mission: the meaningful stewardship of our lake.

Our major endeavor for this next season is that we are planning to contract and help facilitate a new Lake Management Plan. This new plan will include all the new scientific developments and advances used in Lake Management. Our new plan promises to provide a solid road map specific to our lake for facing the challenges ahead and to continue to improve overall lake conditions well into the future. Our current Lake Management plan is some 17 years old and in desperate need of updating. The engineering firm has been selected and work will go on through much of next year. This project is one more example of how our dues and fundraising provide for moving our lake into the future.

Thanks to all of you who support our events and organization. Included in the newsletter as always is a complete list of our existing Board members (see page 12). Please feel free to contact any one of us with questions or ideas.

Well that's all for now,

Tim Vanderlinden, President LSWA

MEMBERSHIP HONOR ROLL 2012

Paul&Lee Adams
Roy & Marilyn Ahlen
Gangadhar Patil & Brandy Barnes*
Bill & Charlotte Bedord
Margareta Berg
Ken & Kathleen Bergeron
Carl & Penny Bergeson
John Bergin
Ed Bettke
Paul & Joan Bjork
Virginia Bliss
Mark Briggs
Brad Bumpus
John & Stacy Burl
Michael &Rie Poirier Campbell
Thomas Capistron
Paul & Linda Carlson
Lee Carman
Michael Catino
John & Cynthia Charest
David,Sherry & Tom Chevalier
Robert & Judy Clark
Robert & Jeff Clark
James & Amy Craft
Helen Largess-Crewe
Bob & Barbara Daigneault
Dan & Mary Daly
Joe & Kelli Deliso
Joyce De Rosa
John & Rose Direnzo
Stephen & Theresa Dunne
Mike & Judy Dunne
John Esler
Jenny Fields
Robert & Bridget Fink
Donald Fouracre
Diane Fulten
Barbara & Julio Fusaro
Greg Gauthier
Dana & Diane Giampa
Michael & JoAnne Goodfriend
Everett& Janet Grahn
Nancy Grant
Travis & Sharie Grant
Karen Green
John & Diane Greenlaw*
Conrad & Mary Hagstrom
Walter & Joan Hagstrom
Tony & Elaine Halpin
Katherine Hamelin*
Janet Hammarstrom
Tom & Marie Haynes
David & Deborah Hebert
Jon & Donna Heslin
Kathleen & David Holt
Donal & Dina Jamieson
Fred & Nancy Jarvis
Pam Jernberg
Gordon Johnson
Greg & Nancy Johnson
Jeff & Suzanne Johnson
Russell& Mary Johnson
Wayne & Ann Junnila
Paul & Mona Kawolis
Paul Larson
Paul & Kathy Laverdiere
James & Pamela Lavoie
Paul & Diane Lavoie
Kenneth & Karen LeBlanc
Michael&Candace LeBlanc
Bob LeClaire
Jim & Ruby LeClaire
Charles & Lynn Lidz
Axel Linder
Kenny Linder
Alan & Ellan Marcell
Paul & Vivian Marcell
David Marois
Normand & Gloria Marois
Lynda Martin & Craig Warneke
Garth Maynard
John Maynard
Kevin McCarthy
Patricia McCarthy
Theresa McDermott
Daniel & Kyrenya McNamara
Garry & Peggy Melia
Garry T& Karen Melia
Brian & Laurie Mellen
Wayne Mong
Stephen Moss
Dennis & Nancy Mulhane
Bill & Barbara Nartowt
Richard & Karen Norlin
Suzanne Nydam
Bernice O" Gassian
Lynne Olsen*
David & Ruth Parker
Robert & Ginny Picking
Ken & Karen Rapp
Frank G. Rourke
Alan Rudge
David Rudge
Ronald & Janet Rudge
Richard & Carol Rudman
Michael & Rosemary Salem
Donald Salerno& Marna Hasz
Lucille & Jack Sampson
Jacqueline Shakar &Debra Pinto
Mark Shirman
John Silverberg
Ronald Stead
Robert Strong &Letty Wheelock
Dottie Sundquist
Don & Dolores Swatik
Bill & Wendy Talcott
Dominic & Cheryl Triola
Dana & Dolores Tschirch
Steve & Lisa Vaillancourt
Tim & Deb Vanderlinden
Mark S. Vayo
Carolyn Wellington
Parker & Diane Wellington
Bonnie Westerback & Jennifer Kapenas
Giles & Lynn Whalen
Stanley & MaryEllen Wilczynski
John & Jeanne Willis
Stephen Winchell
Beth Winchester
Chris & Kellie Windle
Terrance B Windle
David & Nancy Winn
Gregory & Cynthia Wolodkin

***Denotes new members Thanks to all LSWA members. It is not too late to be a 2012 member!!!**
Send dues to: Robert LeClaire c/o Benjamin Ins., 497 Central Turnpike, Sutton, MA 01590

SINGLETARY SUN

2012 – 2013 Drawdown and Refill Plan for Lake Singletary:

As is our normal practice this year's drawdown is requested to the Town of Millbury as follows:

- Drawdown began on or about 10/11.
- Rate of drawdown will target our finish around 12/1.
- We are planning a drawdown target of approximately 72 inches + -.
- This drawdown is a bit less than the last couple years.
- Hoping for the desired "weed freeze" the dam is planned to be closed on or around 1/3/2013.
- The "hold " water level target at that time will be below the level of lake walls or approx. 3 ½ feet below spillway until ice out.
- The water level will be monitored to maximize our hold depth in order to help facilitate a "full" refill for next years recreation season.

EMAIL ADDRESS REQUEST

Are you on the e-mail list? We regularly communicate via email for event reminders, drawdown timing, weed treatment timing and other useful news. Your e-mail address will not be shared and will only be used by the LSWA for membership communications. Please send an e-mail to LSWABOD@gmail.com with Add Me in the subject and get all the latest news!

SEWER SYSTEM SURVEY COMING SOON!

ATTENTION SHORELINE PROPERTY OWNERS !!

Please watch for the Sewer System Survey which will be arriving shortly via mail. Your cooperation in completing this survey promptly is very important and greatly appreciated. The information gathered from this survey will be utilized towards updating our Lake Management Plan.

Thanking you in advance for your efforts,
Karen LeBlanc & Sewer Survey Committee

VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING UPDATE

by Karen Norlin

We are just wrapping up our 19th year of volunteer monitoring. Our current program includes in-lake measurements for clarity (Secchi depth), pH - dissolved oxygen (DO) - and temperature profiles, alkalinity, and total phosphorus. In addition, we monitor phosphorus at 3 upstream locations in the Merrill Ponds.

New to the program last year (2011), we added pH, DO, and temperature to the upstream locations.

New to the program this year (2012):

- We updated our Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) and obtained DEP-approval. This document describes our quality control procedures that ensure data integrity. Generally, organizations need a QAPP to apply for grant funding or use the data for evaluation by consultants & government agencies.
- We added mid-lake phosphorus samples at the recommendation of Bob Hartzel from Geosyntec Consultants.
- We added wet weather sampling for phosphorus at 3 locations to identify potential "hot spots" for runoff contamination.

General observations:

- Clarity has changed very little over time, and averages 3-4 meters, which is good.
- Dissolved oxygen is being depleted at the bottom; however when looking at DO profiles, the change is not as large within the water column at other depths (see charts from 2001-2006-2012).
- Phosphorus loading – still seeing an increase at bottom (see phosphorus chart).

Increased phosphorus and decreased DO are caused by decomposition of organic matter in sediments. The sediments result from runoff and algae/plant die-off (either naturally or as a result of chemical treatments).

As you probably know, increased phosphorus acts as a fertilizer for plants and can cause algae blooms. Experts consider levels of 10-20 parts per billion (ppb) detrimental. This past year, surface levels were steady at 15-16 ppb average, in that detrimental range.

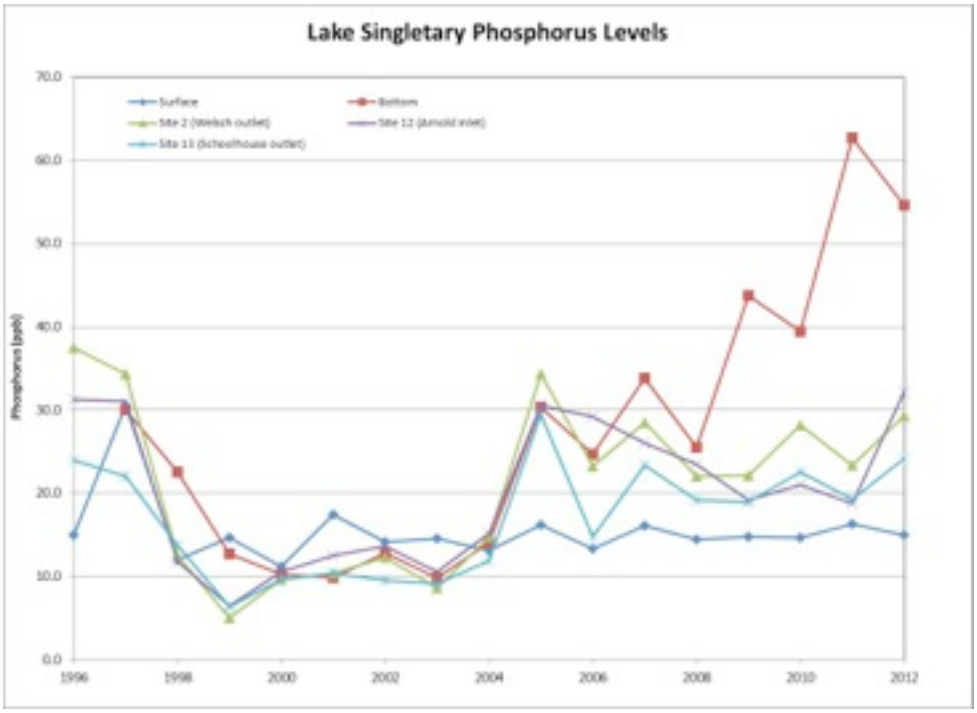
Last year we averaged 63 ppb at bottom, so far this year the bottom average is 55 ppb.

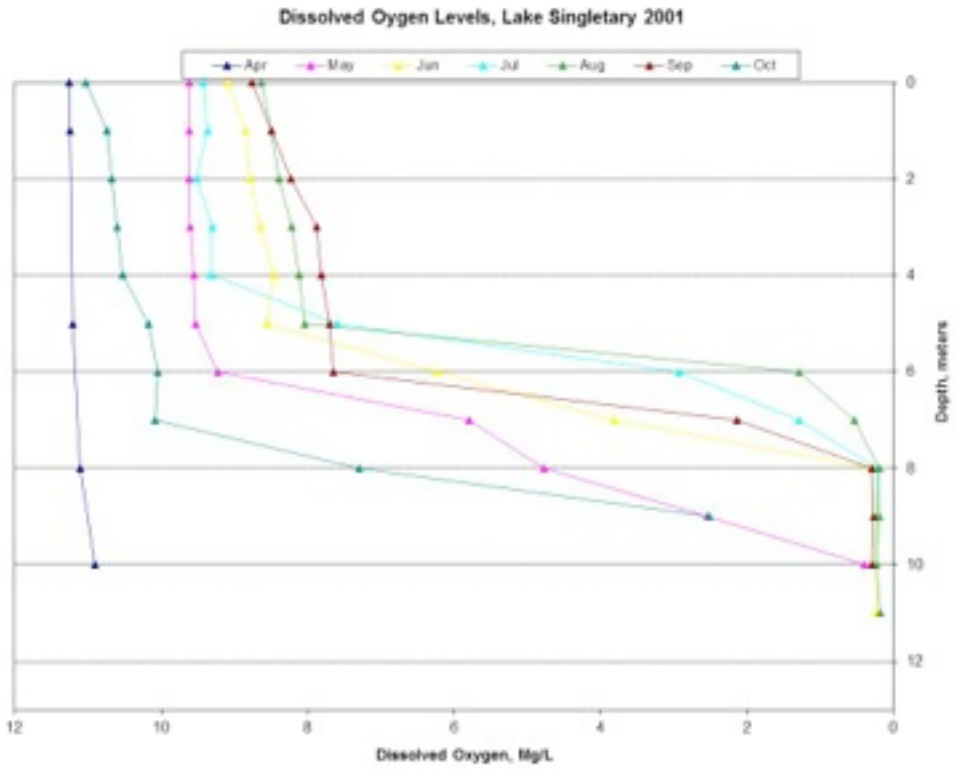
The Merrill Pond system tributaries ranged from 10 to 40 ppb in 2011 and 11 to 90 ppb so far in 2012.

We are planning to have our data evaluated by a lake scientist for the Management Plan update, which is scheduled to start this fall with Geosyntec. Because we have so many years of data, this will be valuable for determining water quality trends over time, and for predicating future trends and potential improvements.

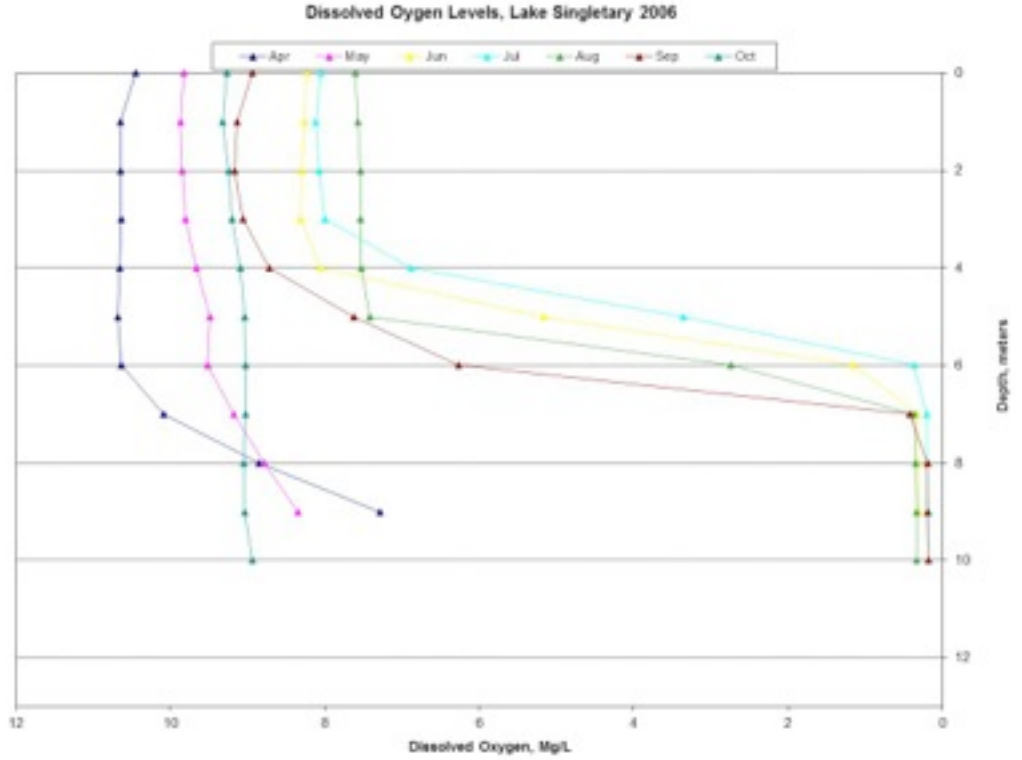
If interested in learning more about our sampling program, check out our web site at www.lakesingletary.org. Click on Maintenance/ Water Quality to explore our program.

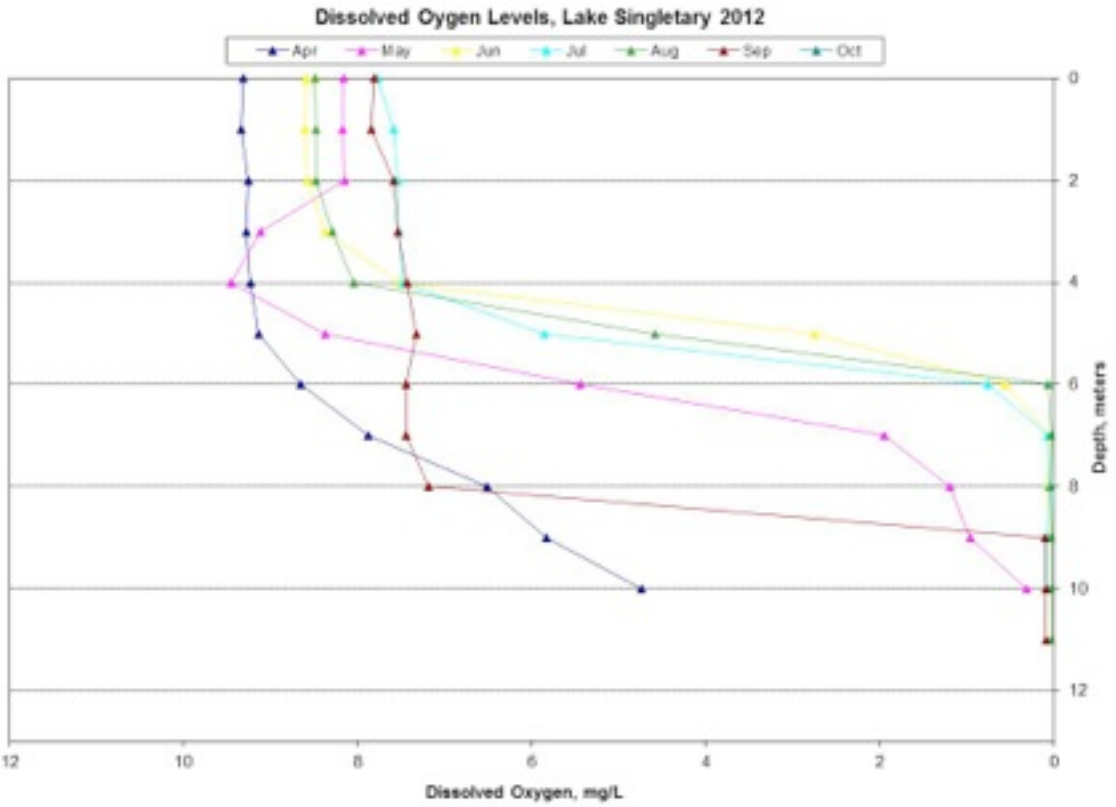
VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING UPDATE CHARTS





VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING UPDATE CHARTS





WATER LEVEL OR LACK THEREOF

by Paul Kawolis

For 2012 we certainly witnessed the effects that extremes of Mother Nature can have on our lake water level.

In the fall and early winter of 2011 we carried out our normal lake drawdown to aid in weed control as well as prevent ice damage to walls and structures around the shoreline.

At the beginning of February, having recorded minimal precipitation, it was decided to close the dam and capture what little water flow we had. Even though this was a very early closing of the dam historically, the extreme dry conditions which prevailed throughout the winter, spring and early summer made for a challenging refill. The result of the lack of winter snowfall and subsequent spring runoff in conjunction with a dry spring and early summer was a boating season which began on our lake, along with many others in our region, with less than normal water depth. As the summer progressed and rainfall began to approach closer to normal values, our lake finally reached historic normal water levels by the end of the season.

This year the dam was again opened on Columbus Day, with a targeted winter drawdown of a slightly conservative 72 inches below the emergency spillway. Ideally we need a hard freeze to kill weeds on the exposed lake bottom before we commence the refill. While we don't anticipate another season of drought conditions, we are planning to begin the refill even earlier this year and then carefully monitoring to maintain the lake level below the walls until ice out at which point a full refill will begin.

Hopefully this coming year we can get the desired weed kill and the full refill we historically enjoy.

FOURTH OF JULY BOAT PARADE

ALTHOUGH THE WATER LEVEL WAS LOW, THE ENTHUSIASM WAS HIGH OF ALL THOSE WHO WERE IN THE BOAT PARADE OR WHO WATCHED FROM THE SHORELINE. THE BOATS WERE CREATIVELY ADORNED WITH PATRIOTIC DECORATIONS AND LIGHTS. AT THE END, EVERYONE GOT TO VIEW THE SPECTACULAR DISPLAYS OF FIREWORKS!

RAFTING PARTY SATURDAY AUGUST 4

ONCE AGAIN LAKE NEIGHBORS RAFTED THEIR BOATS TOGETHER NEAR ROCK ISLAND FOR OUR ANNUAL RAFTING PARTY. THERE WAS GREAT FOOD, DRINKS AND FUN FOR ALL WHO CAME. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

MORE WING DING MEMORIES...

MORE WING DING CONTINUED...

YOUR ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

President	Tim Vanderlinden	fatcat103@verizon.net	508-865-3019
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	John Silverberg	jrsilverberg@gmail.com	508-865-8130

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