



<http://hickoryhillslake.com>

978-582-6365

hickoryhills@net1plus.com

The Newsletter of Hickory Hills Landowners

Fall 2020

2020 Shareholder Reports

First, A Letter from Outgoing President - Neal Sullivan

These are difficult times. As a BOD and a Corporation, we successfully adapted to the virtual requirements of our pandemic world. All meetings: BOD, Committee, sub-committee and working groups were conducted online, as was much of the business of the Corporation. Once over the initial shock, the Corporation became adept in the virtual world... and we have been very successful. It is worth mentioning here that during this year we also transitioned from our long time Office Manager: Nicole Waters - who was the backbone of HHL operations for many years and cannot be thanked enough; to our new manager: Misty McGee - who with the help and support of Nicole and the BOD Office team (Joan Pease, Katie Kissel, Paula Bertram, Donna Fortune and Pauline Abrams) has not only hit the ground running but has put her own mark on the position and has been a rock of support for the BOD and residents, during these difficult times. The basic support functions for the lake: office (license, boat stickers, resident relations, resident communications and shareholder support), Land and Resource Management (beaches, Hickory woods, Boat lot, resident property permissions and conservation support), Dam management (finalizing the over-topping project, state inspections, repairs and maintenance) as well as the Fanwort mitigation project have all been successfully maintained and advanced. As always, this success is due to the unswerving dedication of the numerous volunteers who, it is worth stating, **are responsible for most of the functional operations of the Corporation**. This volunteerism starts with the BOD. Working with the current group, I have been honored and humbled by the dedication and effort that is put in by these outstanding individuals. During these very difficult times we have made significant progress against the Corporations pre-pandemic goals:

HHL, Inc. Goals 2019-2020

1. Continue aggressive actions toward the reduction of Fanwort and responsible management of native, non-native vegetation and algae utilizing a multitude of technologies including, but not limited to, hand pulling, suction harvesting, benthic barriers and 3rd party experts. Complete

At the end of the summer of 2019, we came to a clear realization that all of the heroic efforts to control the fanwort outbreak had come to naught: the countless volunteer hours from the DASH, Survey, LMG, and other volunteers were insufficient to control what truly turned out to be a monster. At the 2019 annual meeting, with decisive action from the Shareholders, a new course was charted: to rely on lake management experts to determine the best course of action. Given this mandate, the 2020 BOD, simpatico with the LMG (Lake Management Group), MLRTF (Main Lake Restoration Task Force) and the Finance Committee was able to evaluate and select a consultant (ESS), develop a funding plan and implement the first phase of the Fanwort control strategy. While success in this endeavor cannot be called at this time, the anecdotal evidence is positive: significant progress against fanwort is clear.

2. Formulate strategy for holistic and comprehensive lake management. Ongoing

The fanwort reduction and weed control strategy (see 1. above) are a piece of a larger lake management strategy that has been put in place with the help of our consultant (ESS) and our implementation partner (SOLitude). While the first phase is rightly focused on fanwort, HHL is well on its way to an holistic and comprehensive lake management strategy that will ensure the health, beauty and recreational opportunities of HHL will be sustained for years to come.

3. Develop comprehensive 5 year financial plan in support of increasing environmental challenges. Complete

The Finance Committee researched and proposed to shareholders two financial plans. One was a plan that addressed longer term financial needs through the use of a line of credit facility at a local bank. The second, a near term plan, addressed only the needs for the initial phase (calendar year 2020) of the fanwort mitigation and responsible management of native, non-native vegetation and algae, as proposed by ESS. The shareholders, at a special meeting in February 2020, chose the one year plan. As a result, a one time doubling of the annual fees was adopted to support the 2020 lake management needs. It is worth noting that the line of credit was a financial innovation for HHL Inc., that may be utilized at a later date as the need arises. At the end of this fiscal year, it is clear that HHL Inc. remains on very sound financial footing.

4. Continue regular maintenance on the dam as required by State regulations. Complete

Dam Safety Certificate of Completion: Hickory Hills Lake Dam Overtopping Protection Project (MA00851) - January 21, 2020.

The Dam itself is in great shape following the Overtopping project (see goal 5). The biennial inspection found minor cracks and spalls on the
(reports can't on page 2)



(reports con't from page 1)



upstream portions of the primary spillway training walls. This will be addressed this fall and necessitated the early drawdown, which received approval from the BOD July 2020 and the LCC in September 2020. The other area requiring maintenance remains the growth of grass over the earthen portions of the Dam.

5. Prepare for and pass the biennial State dam inspection. **Complete**

The Hickory Hills Lake Dam inspection was conducted on November 25, 2019 by Tighe & Bond of Worcester, Massachusetts. The Dam is classified as a Large, High (Class I) hazard potential dam, which is not a rating of condition but of hazard if the dam were to fail. The overall physical condition of Hickory Hills Lake Dam was found to be Satisfactory (second highest rating) based on the Office of Dam Safety's September 2017 rating guidelines. The only deficiency noted during the inspection and evaluation was the existence of cracks and spalls on the upstream portions of the primary spillway training walls.

6. Work with Board of Directors Committees and subcommittees to achieve goals and objectives. **Complete**

While many of the long-standing committees (e.g. Fanwort Survey, Weed Mitigation, DASH and Policy & Procedures) took a back seat to the local and global events of this year, progress was made in several important areas. Notable achievements include:

- Formation of a Communications Committee, led by Pauline Abrams-Zirkle, to control information, standardize documentation and improve responsiveness to shareholders.
- Security, under the watchful guidance of Mike Columbe, had a very successful season working within the difficulties associated with the pandemic to maintain a safe and enjoyable environment.
- LRM, with Doug Waters at the helm, continued to innovate using advanced project management techniques to address the many and varied projects that make up the work queue. Doug and team did a commendable job aligning the needs of the HHL community for recreational access with the rules and regulations associated with the pandemic.
- The nominating committee: Tim Murphy, Lisa Normandin, Meghan Arnold and Karen Fischer have selected outstanding candidates who will help to lead the Corporation towards continued success

It was my honor to serve the HHL community. My family and I look forward to many years of continued enjoyment and service.

Respectfully,

Neal T. Sullivan

Outgoing President, BOD, HHL Inc.

Shareholder Voting Results

Please be advised that all voting on the FY21 Slate, Slate CARF Substitution, and FY21 Budget has been finalized and the results are as follows:

1. Proposed FY21 Slate Elections: **PASSES**
2. Proposed FY21 Slate CARF Substitution: **PASSES**
3. Proposed FY21 Budget: **PASSES**

Lunenburg Landfill

Hours

Saturdays from 8 am to 4 pm

October 10, 17, 24, 31

November 7, 14, 21

Yard Debris Dropoff

Open to Lunenburg Residents Only. Acceptable material: grass clippings, bark mulch, wood chips, leaves, brush, (with a diameter not to exceed 3 inches ... unlimited length). **Shrubby and plantings;** with the same restrictions. Any container; bags, boxes, barrels, trashcans, tarps, flower pots, etc., must be removed and taken by the resident. *****No household garbage, trash, building materials/waste or rubbish of any kind will be accepted. No materials within the Landfill area; sand, stone, gravel, etc. are to be given away or sold. Access will be restricted to the disposal area. Commercial landscapers will not be allowed to dump.**



Muck Removal Can Help!!

By Joan Pease

The quality of the lake water is important to all lake residents. Many factors which impact water quality such as temperature, rainfall and amount of sunlight are beyond human control. But there is something that residents can do to improve the water quality of the lake adjacent to their homes.

Year after year of decaying weeds, leaf litter or other plant matter deposited on the lake bottom can result in thick layers of biomass/muck. Under ideal conditions, a balance exists between the amount of plant biomass and microscopic organisms (*decomposers*) who break down this biomass. When the balance is disturbed, chemical reactions cannot occur resulting in partially decomposed biomass/muck. This muck can, produce unpleasant odors, increase nutrient loading. This increase in nutrient loading of the lake bottom can fuel next season's algae growth and provided fertile growing conditions for weeds.

Additional Detail: Decomposers break down biomass into carbon dioxide, water and minerals.. The decomposers require oxygen to carry out the important break down of plant matter. If sufficient oxygen is present then all of the plant matter is completely broken down to simpler molecules. However, if the amount of plant matter is excessive, the size of the microbial decomposer population increases rapidly. The larger number of decomposers use up all the available oxygen and they then suffocate, halting the breakdown process. The result is partially decomposed layers of smelly anaerobic biomass muck.

Reducing the amount of plant matter on the lake bottom can help maintain an appropriate balance of decomposers and dissolved oxygen so that these tiny power houses can complete their job of returning the dead biomass back to the ecosystem appropriately.

You can help prevent an overabundance of biomass in the lake in several ways:

- * Do NOT blow or rake fall leaves into the water
- * Do NOT put any yard waste into the lake.
- * If leaves naturally fall into the lake, rake or blow them out of the lake and away from the lake edge during drawdown
- * If layers of biomass have accumulated over the years you can remove this material from the lake during drawdown. This can be done using hand tools or hiring a landscape contractor. Contractors may use mechanical equipment to scrape muck/silt from the lake bottom (no digging is allowed). The contractor may extend the arm of their equipment into the lake for muck removal but the equipment (wheels or treads) itself must remain on the land.

The following contractors are available for hire to assist residents in muck removal from their waterfront:

Jim Moisan, Moisan Brothers Landscaping, 978-621-2251
Brett Ramsden, Ramsden Fieldstone Walls, 978-815-7376
Mark Bursh, Lakeview Landscaping, 978-345-0362
Katie Forster, K. Forster Services, 978-400-1738

HHL 2021 Calendar Fundraiser Calendars are Selling Fast... Get Yours NOW

Each calendar contains 13 beautiful images of Hickory Hills Lake. The photos were taken by residents, entered into the photo contest and judged for their quality and content. Check out a few of the winner's photos.



Even if you no longer hang up a calendar, you will want one just for the photos. Put the calendar on your coffee table to show your guests or give them as gifts to your friends and family who spend time with you at the lake.

The 2021 calendars make great holiday gifts!

To Order NOW: Send an email to calendarorder@hickoryhillslake.com

Purchase multiple copies and SAVE!

1 Calendar \$18

3 Calendars \$50

5 Calendars \$80

In order to receive the discount price, multiple calendars must be ordered at the same time.

Calendar proceeds to benefit the Lake Management Group and will be utilized for lake restoration.

Bike For Sale



Mongoose vintage 1987 ATB, all chrome 24-26" frame. In great condition, asking \$200, helmet and bag for back rack are available.

Contact Pat at
ligatl@yahoo.com





Drawdown Fall 2020

Protect Your Property From Ice Damage
By John Fortune

What a year! For so many of us, this is a year we would like to forget. However, there is a silver lining we sometimes need to be reminded of. People took up walking and running, families spent time exploring Hickory Woods and so many more people took advantage of the beautiful beaches Hickory Hills has to offer. And the crown jewels, the 315 acres of the main lake and 5 acres of Little Hickory were full of people, more often than in recent memory. We are so lucky to be able to quarantine in such a wonderful place!

To maintain our lakes, the Dam Committee works on the dam periodically and we have another article (see Page 10) that tells what is happening this fall. This article is to remind our residents about the seasonal drawdown.

Seasonal drawdown has been happening since the first stop logs were put in the dam in 1928. Removing the boards in the dam lowers the lake 18 inches which gives extra capacity in the lake for spring run-off. About 10 years ago, HHLI started drawing down a little further to 36 inches to allow better cleaning of the lake shore. Three years ago, the Lunenburg Conservation Commission approved drawing down to 48 inches to remove built up sediment from the lake shore and to reduce weeds in the shallow areas.

This year, the lake is already down to 48 inches (Oct 15) due to the concrete work required by the Office of Dam Safety to maintain the dam. The Dam Committee (with the help of Mother Nature) will maintain this level until the ground has frozen solid, usually sometime in January. Once the Dam Committee and HHLI BOD are satisfied the drawdown has accomplished as much as possible, the lake will slowly be brought back up 30 inches until the water is flowing over the concrete. The state requires this to be done by April 1, 2021 but we are typically there by mid-March.

*Here is a friendly reminder for all residents with boats and docks. The lake will rise during a time when the water is frozen. It will come up 30 inches in the middle of the winter. If your boat or dock is not sufficiently out of the water when the water comes back up, **THE ICE COULD DAMAGE YOUR PROPERTY!** Please make every effort to pull your boat and docks far enough out of the water so a 30-inch rise will not adversely affect them.*

For next year, we hope the pandemic is under control, the dam is repaired, and the water level is flowing over the three levels of boards so once again we can all enjoy this little bit of paradise, we call home!

See you on the lake!



Hickory Hills would like to take a moment to send a huge "Thank You!!" to Jr. & Cheryl Torres for the beautiful picnic table you made and donated! Your time and generosity is so appreciated!



Autumn Gardening Tips — From HGTV

Garden Clean-Up

Pull and dispose (or compost!) all annuals that have died back and cut back your perennials and remove all fallen leaves from the area to use as mulch. Too many leaves can retain water that could lead to root rot in your perennials and also attract pests.



Save Seeds



Retain the seeds of all the vegetables and flowers you want to keep in your garden for the next growing season. Avoid exposing them to moisture and keep them in a dry, air tight container (stored in a dark, cool place) until you are ready to plant them.

Compost

Rake up all dead plant material, cuttings, twigs, weeds, and leaves and compost them. Any diseased or infested plant matter should be separated from the rest and disposed of as trash.



Last Chance to Water and Fertilize



Make sure to water and fertilize any perennials in your garden before the first freeze. The cutoff date is usually before Thanksgiving for most climate zones.

Soil Enrichment

If your soil is hard and compacted or you just need to supplement your existing top soil, cover your garden with a layer of compost and turn the earth over. This will add nutrients back into the ground and improve the soil structure. If you need to correct the acidity of your soil by adding limestone, this is the time to do it.



Winter Protection



Protect any vulnerable perennials in your garden from severe winter weather by applying a layer of straw over them. You can also wrap them with burlap and paper or build cold frames to protect them. Mulching with wood chips or pine straw is also a good defense.



EROSION CONTROL by Paula Bertram

Shoreline erosion is a serious issue for lakes and ponds and can continue to get worse over time. There are many causes of erosion, rainfall, wind, waves, human activity and loss of vegetation. Erosion causes loss of shoreline property, loss of proper water depth due to displaced soil, creation of shoreline cracks and gullies and loss of aesthetic appeal.

For many years, the Lake Management Group volunteers have been combatting erosion. Two erosion control events were held this year and a great deal of progress was made. On Sunday, August 30th volunteers gathered rocks from a construction site and hauled them out to the islands using a floating dock. The rocks were then placed around the shorelines and under the edges of Big Lizard and a smaller island.

On September 26th, a group of volunteers placed nine coir logs around the shoreline of Big Lizard and held them in place with stakes and stones. Coir is the natural fiber found in ripe coconut husks, and it has been used for centuries to make ship ropes due to its durability and resistance to water damage. One of the modern uses for coir is erosion control. The advantage of using coir logs for erosion control is that the coir allows vegetation to grow within it as it slowly biodegrades becoming part of the matrix of the soil. When observing the coir logs that were placed on Big Lizard years ago, we found that the plants and vegetation are thriving and the coir install is turning into soil, providing long term stability.



When you are out enjoying the islands, please step lightly; do not move the stones or disturb the coir logs as they are there to protect and preserve the islands. All of the volunteers that participated enjoyed the camaraderie and felt proud of the work they accomplished. If you have an hour or two and would like to participate in one of these types of events, please send an email to the LMG at LMGchair@hickoryhillslake.com and we will put you on our volunteer list and notify you of events you might be interested in.

Some candid shots of our volunteers hard at work!





The Birth of a Volunteer

By Eric Pettes

Since 2008 or so my wife Stephanie and I had been dreaming of buying a shack on a lake as our retirement strategy, even though we didn't have the money then. Honestly, who can really retire fully nowadays? So, we put a vision board up in our kitchen with a picture of a small shack on a lake and every time we walked by it, we dreamed...

Then in 2013, the employee-owned company I worked for was sold and I received some money/dividends/funds. It was then that we started to look in earnest for our "Shack". One Wednesday a new listing appeared at a place called Hickory Hills, we looked at it the next day. We walked into the living room and looked at the lake our real estate agent exclaimed, "This is a million-dollar view"! While Stephanie was out on the deck, I walked down the path to the dock, turned around and looked up at the shack and whispered to myself, "This is it"!

After purchasing the "shack" we remained somewhat isolated and did not really become a part of the community. We read the Waves publication and heard of the many opportunities to help but pretty much ignored them all quite frankly. Then I started to notice the Fanwort markers, and year after year they seemed to grow in number until I became panicked.

I decided to become a Shareholder in 2019 because something was growing within me, a desire to be a part of a place where we would live out the rest of our lives. I guess I reached my "moment of truth" remembering one of my Dad's favorite sayings, "if it's going to be, it's up to me". I attended my first Shareholder meeting in September 2019. The first person I met was Neal Sullivan. He was so nice and encouraged me to "get involved" multiple times. I will always remember that moment.

The next person I met was Paula Bertram, and I asked if I could get involved. She gave me her contact information and invited me to the next Lake Management Group meeting. Then the fanwort crisis escalated, and I became a member of the Main Lake Restoration Task Force, the Capital Campaign, the Weed Management Group and I was off and running!

I look back with regret at my lack of involvement and realize that by "getting involved" I received so much more in return. I now have an opportunity to help out the lake, give back to my community and to be a part of something important. HHL really is a wonderful community and everyone I meet receives me with open arms and a warm and sincere welcoming.

What we have here at HHL is so very special. It is not a big corporate conglomerate nor is it ruled by a government entity. It is small time America dependent only on what we as a community can bring forth. As time went on, I became interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors and am grateful that the Nominating Committee and Community agreed.

I am sure my story is not unique, that there may be others like me who are "sitting on the fence". As Neal encouraged me, I now encourage you. Volunteer and get involved even if it is only to help out in one or two projects as they come up. You will make a difference!



**KEEP
CALM
AND
VOLUNTEER
WE NEED YOU**

Calling All Volunteers! We Need YOU!

You don't have to commit a ton of time to contribute! Many committees to choose from, focusing on things like finance, weed mitigation, communications, survey, and the dam, there is room and a need for everyone! Check out our available committees here:

<https://hickoryhillslake.com/board.html>

Please contact the office if you are interested in learning more about becoming a Hickory Hills community volunteer at hickoryhills@net1plus.com



Fall 2020



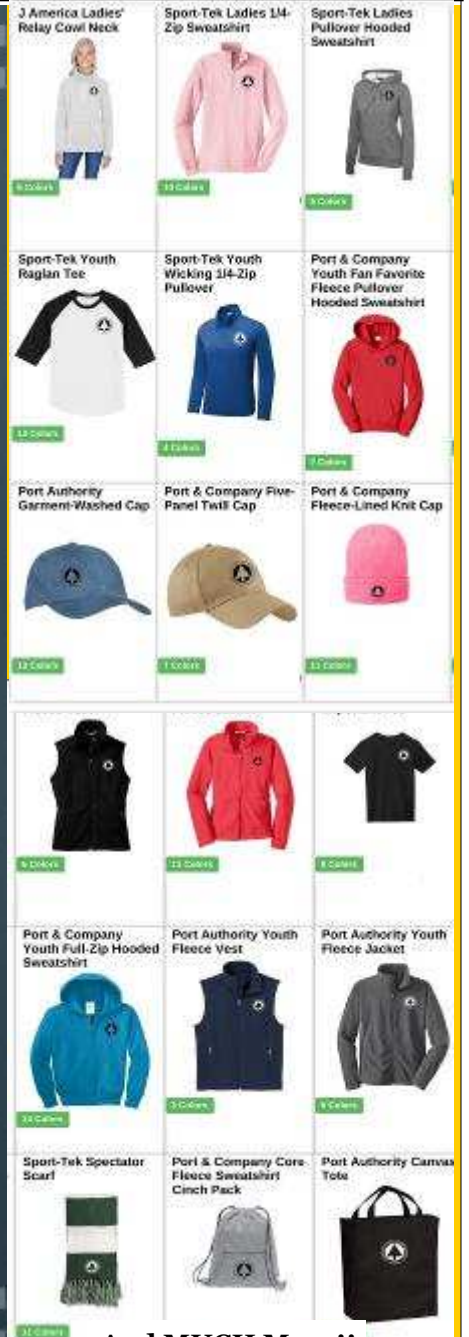
HICKORY HILLS LANDOWNERS
PRESENTS THE NEW ANNUAL:

"FALL INTO WINTER" POP-UP STORE

*All proceeds will go to the continued
maintenance and beautification of
Hickory Hills Lake, its beaches, and
surrounding green spaces.*

**Featured online for
2 WEEKS ONLY!
10/26/20-11/8/20**

HHL Fall and Winter apparel,
accessories and extras!
Grab them now - after the 2 week
pop-up closes they will be gone!



And MUCH More!!

Hickory Hills Apparel Store - Fall 2020

You can now purchase your items online in 3 easy steps:

1. Scan the QR code or go online to <https://hickoryhillsfall2020.itemorder.com>
2. Choose your items and add them to your cart
3. Securely checkout with your credit card



Online Store Deadline: **Sunday November 8th, 2020 (11:59pm EST)**



Fanwort Remediation Seen as Successful

By Bobbi Turkington

ESS, our lake restoration experts, recommended that we treat the lake with Fluridone this summer in order to address the invasive growth of Fanwort. So, how successful was the remediation program?

SOLitude Lake Management, was hired for this summer's treatment, which included two lake-wide Fluridone applications and 3 booster treatments in specific areas/coves. Our resident volunteer divers checked out the deep areas of the lake twice and Fanwort surveyors visited the coves and shorelines often in order to keep track of the Fluridone's success.

The results were excellent! By all reports it appears that the Fluridone treatments have been very successful in killing Fanwort. While Fanwort has never been completely eradicated from a lake once it takes hold, HHL has a guarantee from SOLitude that our lake will be at least 95% clear of Fanwort this year and 85% clear next year.

In the Spring of 2021, it will be very important for volunteer Fanwort surveyors to be out inspecting the lake to identify any patches of new Fanwort growth. If isolated Fanwort plants are found, they should be pulled. If larger patches are spotted the surveyors should contact the office so SOLitude can be called to return to spot treat in the Summer of 2021. If you are interested in helping as a surveyor next Spring please contact the HHL office.

Resident Comments

What are the residents saying about the apparent success of the Fanwort remediation program?

"The lake is in the best shape I've seen it in the 10 years I've been here." - MJ

"This summer has been a sheer joy - swimming and boating with few weeds." - EW

"I am interested in a plan for upstream ponds to prevent reseeding with invasive plants" - JA

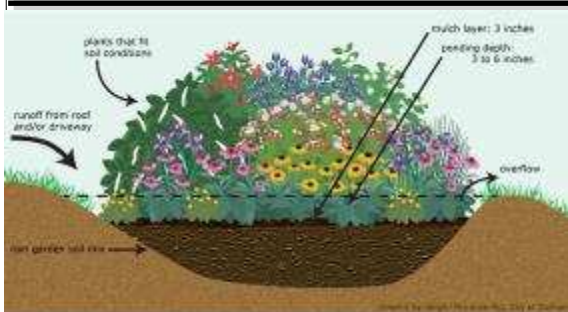
"As someone who has lived on this lake for 5 years, I am thrilled with the progress made this year. It has been wonderful to enjoy the lake to its fullest this Summer and not have to dodge Fanwort markers at every turn!" - ML

"We have seen a significant improvement in the water quality & the diminishment of weeds, both Fanwort & other aquatic weeds, over the course of the treatments this spring and summer." - SB

Next Steps

ESS will be providing a comprehensive analysis of the lake and will present a detailed 5-year plan identifying next steps, to be submitted in January 2021. The report will include recommendations on:

- ⇒ Sediment mitigation measures
- ⇒ Erosion control
- ⇒ Inflow of Mulpus Brook
- ⇒ Water quality management strategy
- ⇒ Aquatic vegetation control plan



Lake Management Group Plans to Plant a Rain Garden

by Carol Hatch

A rain garden is a garden of native shrubs, perennials, and flowers, planted in a small depression that has been filled with a combination of soils and sand that provide good drainage. It is designed to gather, and temporarily hold, rain water run-off from roofs, roads, driveways, and lawns. Rain gardens help to prevent erosion and water pollution, among other things. Fortunately, the Corporation received a donation of \$500.00 from a man named Andy Michaels in honor of his fifth anniversary of having received a transplant of lifesaving stem cells from Carol Hatch. He stipulated that Carol become the steward of the money. It was an easy decision for LMG member Carol, to direct that money toward a rain garden. Carol, and her co-chair Paula Bertram, with approval of the committee, decided to locate the garden on Hemlock Beach, alongside the already existing plunge pool, to help it function more efficiently. A group of residents met recently to test the drainage of the site, work out details, and assign tasks. Having already received approval from the Lunenburg Conservation Committee, the next step is to notify them that we would like to dig the depression this fall, while the water table is low, create the appropriate slope and berm, and fill it with 50% sand, and 25% each of compost and loam. Over the winter they will choose and design the plants so that they are ready to complete the garden in spring of 2021.

den on Hemlock Beach, alongside the already existing plunge pool, to help it function more efficiently. A group of residents met recently to test the drainage of the site, work out details, and assign tasks. Having already received approval from the Lunenburg Conservation Committee, the next step is to notify them that we would like to dig the depression this fall, while the water table is low, create the appropriate slope and berm, and fill it with 50% sand, and 25% each of compost and loam. Over the winter they will choose and design the plants so that they are ready to complete the garden in spring of 2021.

Anyone who would like to get involved, and/or make donations is welcome to contact Carol: carolzhatch@gmail.com



Winter Rules — Use of Hickory Hills Lake Area



To ensure a safe and enjoyable use of the Hickory Hills Lake area, we remind you of the following rules established by the state, town, and/or Hickory Hills Landowners:

1. Use of Hickory Hills Landowners' facilities, lake beaches, and islands is limited to licensed residents with current IDs and their guests.
2. Keep your ID with you while you use Landowners' facilities.
3. Guests must be accompanied by their host who has an ID while using Landowners' facilities.
4. Property owners who rent their homes are responsible for obtaining IDs for their renters.
5. Renters are not eligible to use Landowners' facilities unless they have identification.
6. No resident who is delinquent paying annual charges can be the guest of a resident who has paid annual charges.
7. Property owners are personally responsible for the behavior of their family members and guests while the latter are using Landowners' facilities.
8. Ice fishing is limited to residents with current IDs and their guests. A Massachusetts State Fishing License also is required.
9. Ice fishing is permitted from dawn to dusk only. No ice drills are to be operated before 6:00 a.m.
10. Ice fishing shall be done in compliance with all the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts including those laws and regulations concerning the number of fishing holes to be drilled each day and the size and number of fish to be taken. No holes greater than 8".
11. No open fires are permitted on the lake or on the land. (The town also prohibits open fires.) All fires must be contained (grill, hibachi, etc.). All materials brought on Landowners' facilities must be removed.
12. Vehicles may not be parked on public roads during snow-storms because they will obstruct snow plowing (a town ordinance). For fire purposes, all roads shall be kept clear during any type of weather.
13. Islands, except those privately owned and posted, may be used daylight hours only (one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset).
14. No trespassing on the spillway.
15. If a dog falls through the ice, do not attempt a rescue. The Lunenburg Rescue Squad has a flotation suit and can arrive within a few minutes to make a safe rescue.
16. No glass bottles or glass of any kind are permitted on Landowners' facilities.
17. Use of snowmobiles and recreation vehicles on Landowners facilities is at your own risk and limited to residents with current IDs and their guests. Snowmobiles and recreation vehicles also must be registered with the State of Massachusetts. Operating a snowmobile or recreation vehicle shall be done in compliance with all the laws and regulation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
18. Don't roll rocks or debris on ice! They become hidden after snow fall and could lead to injury
19. Walking or other activity on the ice is at your own risk.





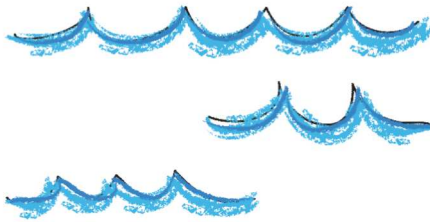
DAM NEWS by The Dam Committee



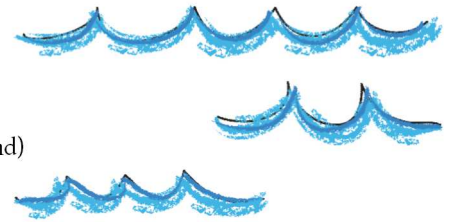
The dam has been ready for some maintenance that will hopefully be complete by the time this issue of WAVES arrives to you! It is the job of the Dam Committee, who is coordinating the work, to make sure the dam, which is the only reason our lake is here, stays in tip-top shape!

The dam sluice, or spillway, is the inclined section made of concrete and stone and is where lake water flowing over the dam cascades down to the Mulpus Brook. It requires periodic maintenance, last done about 20 years ago and it is time for some touchup work. Over the course of time, with water at times pouring over it with tremendous force, and with freeze and thaw cycles, the concrete matrix suffers some deterioration. So the Dam Committee has contacted qualified contractors to form a team to dig out old concrete and replace it with new concrete that should last at least another 20 years. While the crew is there, concrete on the lake side will also be repaired after years of wear, and sand deposits on the lake side will also be removed. We'll have pictures to post as the repairs proceed!

You may also have noticed that grass seemed reluctant to grow on the dam after the Topping project of 2018. Grass serves the important function of getting its roots into the Geoweb reinforcing structure, and stabilizing both the soil and the Geoweb. So the soil was tested and found to have little in the way of nutrients for grass to grow and be healthy. So Dam Committee volunteers teamed up last month to add:



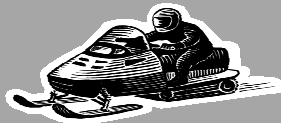
- ◆ 80 pounds of starter fertilizer
- ◆ 700 pounds of lime
- ◆ 50 pounds of fescue grass seed
- ◆ 30 yards of compost (spread by hand)
- ◆ 16 bales of hay (spread by hand)



And VOILA! Grass seems to be growing and we're keeping our fingers crossed that the roots will establish themselves before the ground freezes. So if you've seen people working around our dam lately, that's what they are doing to keep our dam in great shape for years to come!

Recreational Vehicles

We would like to remind our Snowmobile friends to have fun, but to remember their neighbors and not encroach on ice skating rinks and private property.



BE AWARE OF THE LOWER LAKE LEVEL!

ROCKS & STUMPS THAT WEREN'T ABOVE THE ICE LAST YEAR, WILL BE THIS YEAR DUE TO THE RECENT DRAW-DOWN.

Please also remember to stay off the Islands and the dike and to stay on the main beach's marked trail. Remember, recreational vehicles on the islands and beaches damage tree roots and cause erosion, so always stay on marked trails. Please be considerate of your neighbors and keep your machine quiet by 10:00 p.m.

When riding, think of safety first and stay away from open water. It's up to us as a community to police ourselves. Snowmobile and ATV riders should operate their machines safely and with respect for the environment and their neighbors.

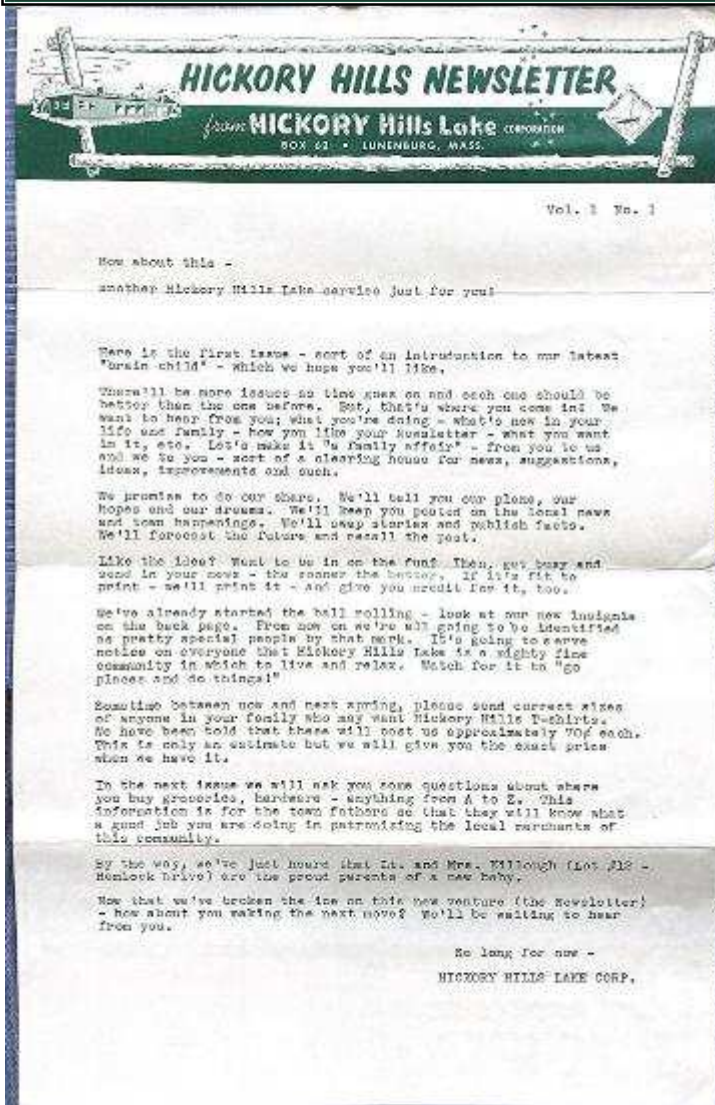


Aerial Shots of the Dam (Photo Credit: Eric Vickery)





Thanks to Mary Ellen & Francesca Bertolini for sending in this original "Waves" Newsletter they found at Mary Ellen's parents home! (residents since 1955!!)



Meet Bobbi Turkington and Bob Vaughan's cat, McGrath!



Time to...
Relax With
McGrath

How many autumn-themed words can you find?

🍂🍁🍂 Fall Word Search 🍂🍁🍂

H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	N	T	A	B	A	H
C	N	A	R	B	I	S	R	A	E	S	E	P	P
T	C	H	A	A	O	U	W	L	K	E	L	M	C
U	A	N	B	E	K	O	T	E	C	L	A	K	A
A	U	T	U	M	N	E	E	P	A	S	T	A	N
L	E	O	P	S	E	C	W	B	J	T	S	C	P
T	T	E	U	A	A	T	E	S	S	E	O	I	
E	T	N	T	C	M	O	R	E	S	A	V	R	N
A	I	I	R	U	O	P	R	T	A	Y	R	N	E
P	L	S	R	F	T	K	K	E	M	L	A	E	C
S	C	K	K	L	H	U	F	I	D	L	H	K	O
I	L	E	A	V	E	S	S	L	N	I	E	O	N
R	R	T	N	A	R	R	U	E	T	H	C	A	E
C	S	M	W	O	R	C	E	R	A	C	S	R	W



THIS YEAR THE TREES DECIDED TO CONSOLIDATE AUTUMN INTO ONE BIG LEAF.



<http://hickoryhillslake.com>

978-582-6365

hickoryhills@netlplus.com

Waves

The Newsletter of Hickory Hills Landowners, Inc.



Officers

President: Paula Bertram

Vice President: Bobbi Turkington

Treasurer: Mary Coleman

Clerk: Joan Pease

Directors

Pauline Abrams-Zirkle

Mike Coulombe

Pete Cowley

Katie Kissel

John Fortune

Eric Pettes

Korina Veenstra

TO:

Hickory Hills Landowners, Inc.
P.O. Box 298
Lunenburg, MA 01462

