

WINTER 2024

# PERKINS PONDER

PERKINS POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

## PPPA Fall Meeting

On August 26, 2023, the PPPA held their fall meeting at the LSPA Center. A full copy of the minutes may be found at [perkinspond.org/minutes](http://perkinspond.org/minutes).

Noteworthy discussions were:

- **Water Testing:** The water was tested three times over the summer. The pond continues to test high for phosphorus.
- The Water Committee recommends that 4" above the crest of Turtle Rock is the optimum level in the summer for water to flow in and out of the pond. The level will be lowered in early November.
- **Watershed Management Plan:** Suzanne announced that the town and the PPPA had been pre-approved for a \$100,000 loan to have a Watershed Management Plan done for Perkins Pond. The loan must be approved by the voters of Sunapee at Town Meeting in March 2024. She asked for help from the PPPA members to get the information out to the voters.



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## PPPA OFFICERS

- .....
- Suzanne McMahon, President
  - Dundee Nestler, Vice President
  - Gil Watkins, Treasurer
  - Bunny Lewis, Secretary
  - Patty McGoldrick, Member-at-large

## NH LAKES WEBINAR SERIES

NH Lakes has a series of free webinars available that may interest you. Here are a couple to check out:

### Otterly Amazing: Dive into the Fascinating World of Otters and Our Lakes

Join us for a lively talk on the bounding, sliding, and swimming otter. Spend some time getting to know this charismatic local mammal and learn how to recognize its tracks and signs. Plus, otters are an excellent indicator of good water quality in a healthy, intact aquatic ecosystem. That's good news for our lakes!

#### Watch the video

### Lakes in Winter

Find out how our lakes freeze and what happens under the ice...and see and hear some strange and unusual winter phenomena!

#### Watch the video

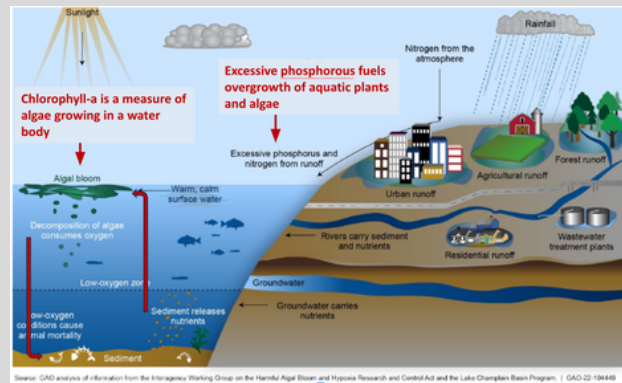
Reprinted from NH Lakes Youtube channel.



# THE HEALTH OF OUR LAKE

The PPPA is committed to maintaining a healthy, clean recreational lake for all to use.

- Tributaries and springs feed the lake and determine the water level. Storm runoff from roads and properties within the watershed area feed those tributaries and springs. Heavy rains and the spring thaw damage the roads around the lake. This summer chunks of road hardtop have been found in the lake near the boat launch and Burma Rd.
- Water samples collected from the pond have consistently shown high levels of chlorophyll and phosphorus. Over time, this contributes to weed and other plant growth, resulting in more siltage.



- If no action is taken, the water quality and pond depth will continue to deteriorate.

## Special PPPA Winter Meeting

On January 6, 2024, a zoom meeting was held to discuss the steps needed to get the support from the Sunapee voters to accept the loan from the NH DES.

Voted to spend up to \$2000 for advertising, including a town wide mailing.

Voted that the PPPA will be responsible for the interest accrued during the lifetime of the loan, estimated to be about \$2000.

Click [HERE](#) for a copy of the meeting minutes.

# Watershed Management Plan

A Watershed Management Plan will provide a scientific analysis of the specific causes of the contamination in our lake and the possible remedies. This will help determine what impacts our lake and what actions can be taken to implement best management practices to improve water quality and address storm water runoff contaminants. The Town of Sunapee, together with the PPPA, submitted a grant application to the federally funded Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) for funds to conduct a Watershed Management Plan. The Town has been pre-approved by the state for \$100,000 loan. In order to receive the grant, the loan must be approved by the Town of Sunapee taxpayers at Town Meeting on March 12, 2024.

Suzanne McMahon, and members of the PPPA who are Sunapee residents, attended the Selectman's Meeting on January 8th to request the selectman place a warrant article on Sunapee's 2024 ballot to be put to vote in the upcoming March town voting. The warrant article asks the town to approve accepting a loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (NH CWSRF) for the development of a Watershed Management Plan for Perkins Pond - Article 17. This request was approved.

The next step will be for the voters to approve the warrant article. If approved, the Town will receive the funds and a vendor will be selected to begin the study. The study is expected to take 1 year. The town will manage the loan and use the funds to pay for all eligible expenses incurred during the study. Once the study has been completed and the money dispersed, the state closes the loan and forgives the principal. The total cost of the interest over the expected 1 year project is estimated to be \$2,000. The PPPA members have agreed to pay for any interest incurred on this loan so the cost of the study will have no impact to Sunapee taxpayers. Once the study identifies the causes of the contamination, additional opportunities for grant funding become available to address the causes, not just for Perkins Pond, but for other areas impacted by stormwater runoff throughout the town's infrastructure. Without the study, we won't have access to those funds.

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

- Tuesday, January 30th at 6:00pm - Voter information session at Lake Sunapee Protective Association, 63 Main Street, Sunapee from 6-7pm.
- Tuesday, February 6th - Town deliberative session at 7pm, Sunapee Middle School
- Tuesday, March 12th - Town Meeting vote. Polls open from 8am-7pm at Sherburne Gymnasium

For more info visit our website - [www.perkinspond.org](http://www.perkinspond.org)

# Membership

The **Perkins Pond Protective Association (PPPA)** has been meeting for over half a century to support the health of the pond and to build community. There are two meetings per year. One in the spring and one in the fall. Benefits include:

- Regular water quality testing
- “Weed watcher” program
- Summer Water Carnival and BBQ
- The **Perkins Ponder** newsletter
- We are a 501c3 non-profit and your donation is tax deductible.

Membership is encouraged for all residents living on the pond or its watershed. Membership dues are \$50 per household, due each calendar year, beginning January 1.

Mail dues payments payable to PPPA:  
PPPA  
PO Box 123  
Sunapee, NH 03782

**OR**

Our [PayPal](#) option.

We are pleased to offer an electronic option for dues payment. However, using PayPal incurs a fee of \$1.94. Please consider making a \$52 payment to ensure the full dues amount of \$50 will go to support the PPPA.

Please support the Perkins Pond Protective Association with your dues and participation.

## Did You Know?



### The **Abbott Public Library**

is just down the road, across from the Sunapee Safety Station. Stop by for one of the many activities, or pick up a new book to read on a cold winter’s night. You can also reserve one of their private rooms if you’ve got a guest who needs to “work from home” while on vacation at the Pond! The library is open Monday thru Saturday. Here are just a few of the benefits of the library:

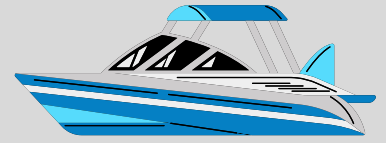
- Friday Night Movies
- Morning Story Time
- Winter After School Programs with topics like Investigating Fossils with the Montshire Museum or a Magician.
- A Book Discussion Group - Now reading “Harlem Shuffle, by Colson Whitehead”.
- Even a Fiber Arts group and a Mah Jongg group.
- Plus, free museum passes for many local museums and reimbursement of the entry fee to many other NE Museums.

**Check out all the Abbott Library [HERE](#).**

**Something for everyone!**



# Boater Education and Operation Requirements



## Do you have a child or grandchild who is now 16 or older?

New Hampshire has a mandatory boating education law and anyone 16 years of age and older who operates a motorboat over 25 horsepower on New Hampshire waters must have a boating education certificate.

New Hampshire accepts the following boating education certificates:

- A boating certificate issued by another State agency and NASBLA approved.
- A boating certificate issued by the U.S. Power Squadron.
- A boating certificate issued by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.
- An unexpired commercial boating license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard.
- An unexpired commercial boating license issued by the State of New Hampshire.

Sign up for a Boater Education Course offered by the New Hampshire Marine Patrol. Now's the time to take the course so they are ready for the summer season!

For more information, click [here](#).

Reprinted from NHLakes website.

Reminder: Renew your boat registrations.  
[Here](#)



Greg Mckee

## Winter Fun!

The boats may be off the water for the season but plenty of fun still to be had!



Steve Mietelski

# Town of Sunapee Information

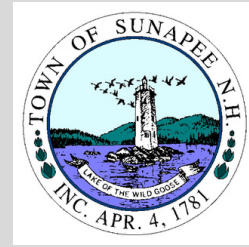
[Town of Sunapee Website](#)

## Transfer Station and Beach Stickers

Our new Transfer Station/ Beach Stickers are available and can now be requested online at through Sunapee's OpenGov platform: [sunapeenh.portal.opengov.com](http://sunapeenh.portal.opengov.com)

The Selectboard recently adopted a new policy that grants each household or property two free resident (3-year) or tenant (1-year) passes, and additional passes may be purchased for \$25 each through OpenGov. Guest passes are \$100 to replace and only one replacement may be issued per year.

**GUEST PASSES:** Each property may request ONE annual guest pass that can be used in any car, as it is associated with the address rather than a license plate. Guests may leave this pass on their dashboard and be granted the same privileges as a town sticker.



## Transfer Station Hours:

Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday:  
8:00am to 4:15pm

Tuesday & Wednesday: Closed

Sunday: 8:00am to 11:45am

What can be recycled or thrown away for a fee? Information can be found [HERE](#).

The transfer station also offers sand for residents in the winter months. Be sure to bring your own shovel and containers.



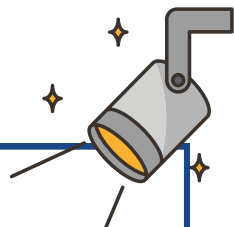
Want to stay on top of Town of Sunapee News? Subscribe [HERE](#) for town email alerts.

## Take it or Leave it Shop

Do you know about the swap shop at the transfer station? Here's a [link](#) to the general rules and hours.

# Rules & Guidelines of the Pond

- Boat speed must be at “No Wake” within 150 feet of shore, docks, rafts, other boats, and swimmers. It’s NH law, it’s safe, and protects the shoreline.
- If your boat has been in other waters, wash it thoroughly before launching into Perkins Pond to prevent any invasive species from entering the pond.
- Power boats travel in a clockwise direction on Perkins Pond.
- There are many rocks in the pond. Stay East and North of black/white markers and West and South of red/white markers.
- Do not feed the ducks or geese. It can compromise our health and the birds.
- Don’t use lawn fertilizers. They cause phosphorus to enter the pond, producing plant growth that clogs the waterways and harms water quality.
- Be courteous to your neighbors. Continually barking dogs echoing across the pond can really disturb a peaceful summer day.



Please remember to turn off your outdoor spotlights late at night. Be courteous to your neighbors across the pond.

## Mark your Calendar

The next Perkins Pond Protective Association meeting is scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024 at 10:00 am. More information will come prior to the meeting.

**Hope you can join us!**



[Join our Perkins Pond Community on Facebook](#)

# Perkins Pond Ice Out Contest

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“It will be hard to predict **“Ice out”** this year, we have had a funny fall/winter so far, with warm temps and then cold temps. In November, the pond started freezing and a young loon was trapped for a few days, then the ice melted. Since then, the pond has fully frozen, melted, frozen and melted again. The third and final full freeze came on January 5th, the latest **“Ice in”** date on record!

Be sure to enter this year’s **Ice-Out** Contest. \$5.00 per prediction (Max 10 per person).  
Deadline in March 1st. Winner takes 50% of the “kitty” and 50% goes to the PPPA general fund.

Entry forms are on our website. Check out our “Ice Out” history as well.

**Good Luck Everyone!**



## Memorabilia

New stock of Perkins Pond swag arriving this Spring. Watch the Perkins Pond Community Facebook page or our website, for details.



**Check out our website:**  
[perkinspond.org](http://perkinspond.org)



# Meet your neighbors:



*“Ya know it when ya see it!”*

I suppose that’s as good a way as any to begin the story of Patty McGoldrick and John Gutman.

At a chance meeting in San Diego, CA, while attending a professional conference, it was love at first sight (you can eye roll here). Fast forward. Comingling lives and families, John moved from Burlington, VT, and Patty from Gilford, NH, and they landed together in Wilmot, NH, well off the road and at the edge of Tannery Pond.



An abbreviated version of the Brady Bunch, with two daughters and two sons, helped to fill the home they built and enjoyed for eleven years. In 2012, the coming reality of an empty nest precipitated a move to New London to downsize and make the next plan. After 6 years on Wilder Lane, they knew they had to be near water again.

The moment 25 Demijen Lane came on the market in October of 2018, it was fate. Here was a cozy home of knotty pine for all generations to visit (‘cause now there are 7 grandchildren), and the house sat right on the edge of the water. Shown by the realtor at 1 pm—offer accepted by 5pm—destiny was realized! With renovations completed in spring of 2019, the cozy spot on Perkins Pond has provided all they had hoped for. ”Everyday life on the pond brought a sense of ‘how lucky we are,’ and our lives were enriched by visits from friends and family, who have equally grown to love both playing and being quiet on the porch or by the campfire.”



The McGoldrick/Gutman family enjoying the lake!



Cont'd

John passed away suddenly on the afternoon of March 7, 2023, and life is quite different now, but the memories will always be there. At the time, it was an easy decision to designate memorial gifts to the Perkins Pond Protective Association whose mission was so near and dear to John's heart.

"A value our family has always held near is that of community service and stewardship. So, when a position recently opened on the Perkins Pond board, I accepted a slot as an At Large member. Again, happenstance. There was an opportunity to contribute to the community that John and I now called home, and it was an easy decision to accept the offer. At every turn, since that day in 2018, this spot on the pond has been a haven for our family. There is love, there are fond memories, and great neighbors abide in this quintessentially small-town NH community."



Mary, Butch and Billie scratched their names into the new concrete at their family cabin on Piney Point Rd in 1967.



This plaque was on the island porch when the Nestler's got the island from the Winn family in 1990 and is still there.

**We want to hear from you!**

- What story does your house have to tell?
- Do you have suggestions for future newsletters?

Email us at: [news@perkinspond.org](mailto:news@perkinspond.org)