

**THE WATSON POND LAKE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
NEWSLETTER
October 6, 2011**

Condition of Dam

As a result of hurricane Irene, the dam has sustained some significant damage. The MA Department of Dam Safety has informed the Watson Pond Association that the dam is unsafe, in poor condition, and in need of immediate repair. The ownership of the dam has long been a debatable point, however, in the interests of getting the dam repaired and in a safe condition, WPA has chosen not to contest the Dept. of Dam Safety's belief that we are the presumptive owners of the dam. On Saturday October 1, a group of Watson Pond homeowners met with Ed Hughes from the Dept. of Dam Safety. The next step is that we need to have a PE (Professional Engineer) take a look at the dam, to assess what needs to be done.

Weed Treatment Fundraising Update

If you have pledged, but haven't yet paid fully, we hope that you will do so as soon as possible. If you haven't yet pledged, please do so. We will all benefit from a cleaner, healthier pond, and the responsibility belongs to all of us. We don't expect to need as much money next year as we needed this year, but the work of keeping the pond healthy is ongoing.

Treatment Plan Update

Fluridone treatment of the pond has now ended. Ken Wagner is pleased with the results despite the effect of excess amounts of rain this summer. **Please be aware that we are not in a position to pat ourselves on the back and walk away from the responsibility of taking care of our pond.** We need to continue to implement methods to control the weeds. Just as keeping up with our lawns requires regular maintenance, so does maintaining the health of the pond.

Septic Tanks

As part of our effort to ensure the long-term health and maintenance of our pond, all residents are strongly urged to have their septic systems pumped every 1 to 3 years. Please take the time to read your educational handouts on the topic of the importance of septic system pumping. A list of septic pumping companies was supplied with the previous newsletter.

Watson Pond Web Site

Watson Pond now has it's own web site www.watsonpondassociation.org. Please check in with this website for updates and news.

Next WPA/WPLMC/Weed Meeting

The next meeting of the Watson Pond Lake Management Committee will be on Sunday, November 27 at 11 am at the Hughes Camp. We will discuss long-term plan for management of the pond, as well as update on the dam situation.

**NEXT MEETING OF WATSON POND LAKE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Sunday Nov 27, 11 a.m. at Hughes Camp
ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**