

Milfoil Control 2016

Update from the Chateaugay Lake Foundation

Milfoil control will be continuing for a ninth season this summer, thanks to ongoing support from shore owners. Activities will be reduced from last summer, however. Last year, divers spent ten weeks and were able to hand-harvest the entire Narrows for the first time. The work was funded by a grant obtained by the Adirondack Watershed Institute at Paul Smith's College. This year, the Chateaugay Lake Foundation has contracted for three weeks of hand-harvesting work, beginning the week of June 6. The divers are from Aquatic Invasive Management (AIM) and have worked on Chateaugay Lake before.

The AIM crew will spend two weeks on maintenance control in the main area of treatment to date—the south Narrows including the boat launch and sand bar. Milfoil density has been reduced in this area by 70 to 90 percent. Once an area has been brought under control, maintenance is essential to keep milfoil at low levels or it will rebound.

Divers will also spend a week tackling a small but very dense bed of milfoil off Indian Point. This bed is a feeder for the large milfoil bed in the South Inlet. This will be the first time divers have worked in the Upper Lake.

The inlet of the Lower Lake continues to be a priority for future treatment. A dense 20-acre bed of milfoil has filled in the inlet from the Narrows and is spreading up the shoreline. About \$80,000 is needed for a three-year treatment plan.

The Chateaugay Lake Foundation has started a designated donations program to raise funds for treatment plans for each segment of the lake. The 2015 year-end mail campaign raised \$16,800. Since the designated donations campaign began in mid-2013, almost \$69,000 has been raised, including \$8,700 for the Lower Lake, \$3,000 for the Chateaugay Narrows, \$11,000 for the Upper Lake, and \$46,000 for use where it is needed most. The Foundation will use these funds to seek matching contributions from other sources including government and nonprofit donors. The Chateaugay Lake Association remains one of our strongest supporters, with contributions from their own fundraising and communications like this newsletter.

If you are already a supporter of milfoil control, we salute you! If you have not yet joined the ranks of project supporters, please take a look at why Eurasian milfoil is such a threat to the lake and what we are trying to do about it. Visit our website at www.chateaugaylakefoundation.org. For in-depth information about Eurasian milfoil and other invasives, visit the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program website at: www.adkinvasives.com

We hope you will stop by and say hello at our raffle table at the Farmer's Market at the Hollywood Inn each Saturday this summer, or at the Arts Festival at the Hollywood on July 30th. Our annual benefit dinner is Saturday August 20th at the American Legion in Lyon Mountain. We would love to see you there!