



2021 Season Wrap-Up

Milfoil Control Update

SCUBA divers were on Chateaugay Lake for six weeks this past summer, hand-harvesting Eurasian water milfoil from high-density areas that are subject to heavy boat traffic. This matches the level of five to seven weeks that has been maintained over the past several years. The work targets hot spots in each part of the lake system. Here is what was done.

Chateaugay Narrows. The upper Narrows, especially from the boat launch to the Sand Bar, historically has been the most infested part of the lake. Divers began the season with a bit more than a week of work at the boat launch, paying extra attention to the northern edge that had not been harvested recently. The amount removed was almost double compared to past seasons. The divers moved on to the Sand Bar, focusing on the boating access lane from the north, to finish out the second week of work.

Lower Chateaugay. Since 2018, divers have spent two weeks each year to clear and maintain a boating lane through the dense bed that stretches across the inlet from the Narrows. The buoys that were to go in this season to mark the boating lane

were mis-routed, but replacements are here and will go in next summer.

Upper Chateaugay. Harvesting continued along the western shoreline of the South Inlet basin, where a large bed of milfoil has developed. The densest part is south of Indian Point, where prevailing wind and water currents carry fragments to other parts of the lake. This has been an initial focus, as divers work their way along the buoy line that marks the outer perimeter of the bed. With a boost in support from the Town of Dannemora, divers were able to spend a second week of harvesting time and tripled the amount removed compared to 2020.

Lake-Wide. Overall, the dive crew removed 10.5 tons of milfoil this season, with a weekly average similar to 2020. Both 2020 and 2021 had warm spring weather that gave milfoil an early start and this year it was also very dry. Lower water levels mean more of the lakebed is exposed to sun and milfoil can claim new territory. With support from our donors, the CLF seeks to maintain and even increase the work level to meet these challenges.

Did You Know?

- . . . That shoreline property values can fall dramatically when Eurasian water milfoil takes over?
- . . . That if milfoil is not controlled, shore owners may end up resorting to expensive mechanical harvesting machines just to keep boating lanes open?
- . . . That Chateaugay Lake has an organization dedicated to preventing milfoil from reaching that point in our lake?

The Chateaugay Lake Foundation needs your support!

Mail in a donation or donate online at www.chateaugaylakefoundation.org. If you are of retirement age, the CLF is a charitable organization that can help you meet your Required Minimum Distribution. We also accept donated securities. Email us at info@chateaugaylakefoundation.org.

Be sure to send your donation to the Chateaugay Lake Foundation rather than the Chateaugay Lakes Association, to ensure milfoil project designation as well as tax deductibility.

Meet the Board

The CLF welcomed three new board members this year—David Kemp, John Homburger, and Hannah McNulty. Their bios and those of the rest of the Board are posted on our website at www.chateaugaylakefoundation.org. The CLF by-laws call for up to eleven Board members and there are seven now. If you would be interested in contributing your time and talents to serving on the Board, please email us: info@chateaugaylakefoundation.org. Let's talk!

Chateaugay Lakes Association (CLA) Renews Support



CLA President Jeff Manley presents check for \$4,500 to Chateaugay Lake Foundation (CLF) President Mary Johnson at the CLA's annual meeting in July. The CLA has been a generous supporter of the CLF's milfoil control work, donating \$63,000 since work began in 2008. In spite of COVID and limited fundraising, the CLA reached deep to keep supporting the project!

Donation Tips

\$100 helps remove 50 pounds of milfoil.

\$200 covers an hour of harvesting by three divers.

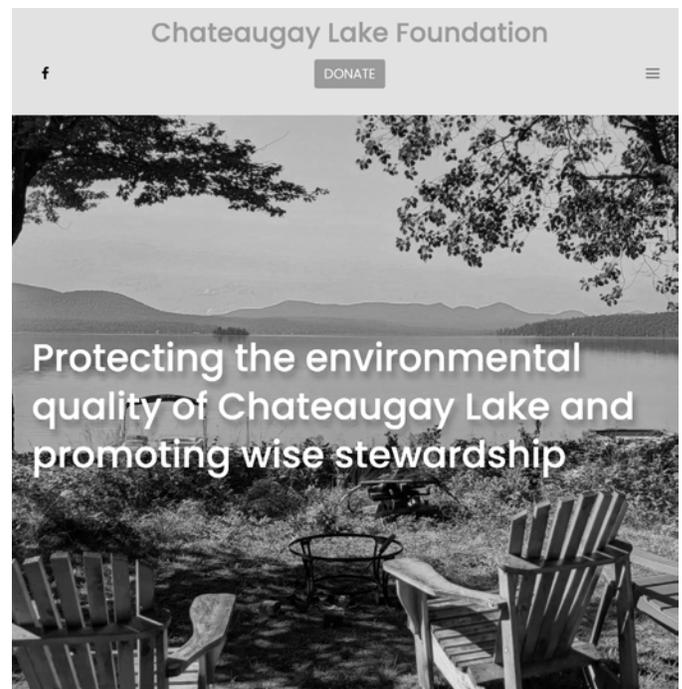
A \$200 donation from each shore owner would triple the number of harvesting weeks each year!

Thank You Towns!

Chateaugay Lake spans three towns. Most of the Upper Lake is in the town of Dannemora, most of the Narrows is in the town of Ellenburg, and all of the Lower Lake is in the town of Bellmont. The Towns have cumulatively contributed \$83,000 for milfoil control over the years. For the past two years, all have chipped in with annual contributions of \$4,000 or more. A week of hand-harvesting by a three-person crew costs \$7,500, so this annual support is needed and appreciated!

Check Out CLF's New Website

For the latest on invasive species and CLF activities, visit our revamped mobile-friendly website: www.chateaugaylakefoundation.org



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