



# NOR' EASTER

*A Newsletter of the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society*

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# NORTHEAST AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

*The Purpose of the Society shall be to assist in the management of aquatic vegetation, to provide for the scientific and educational advancement of the members, to encourage scientific research in all facets of aquatic plant management, to promote an exchange of information among members, and to extend and develop public understanding in the discipline.*

Mission Statement , adopted April 20, 1999

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## John McPhedran, June 2012

As evidenced by the excellent attendance last January at the Wentworth by the Sea Resort in New Castle, NH, the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society continues to be a valuable forum for professionals and volunteers laboring to manage invasive species in the northeast. Marc Bellaud once again organized a varied and topical program with presenters from throughout the country. Kurt Getsinger presented the keynote and was on hand for informal discussions of management challenges facing NEAPMS members.



We adjourned the 2012 annual meeting at the Wentworth with a record 165 members. Since my first NEAPMS annual meeting in 2002, I have come to appreciate the roles of the general membership, dedicated Board of Directors (BOD), and generous corporate support that make the annual event informative, affordable and engaging.

The BOD is what keeps NEAPMS and the annual meeting ticking. In January, Mike Fleming and Nancy Murray were recognized for their time, energy and careful thought to improve the functions of the Society at the conclusion of their respective three-year terms on the BOD. Chris Borek, Jim Petta, and Robynn Shannon were kind enough to offer their candidacy for the 2012 election, and Chris and Robynn have begun their 3-year terms.

Paul Lord was elected as Vice President/President Elect. NEAPMS will benefit from Paul's experience and energy in leading the Society next year. Amy Smagula, Jim Sutherland, and Glenn Sullivan were reelected to positions of secretary, treasurer, and editor. As current President, I'm grateful for the continuity and commitment Amy, Jim and Glenn provide to NEAPMS in performing these roles.

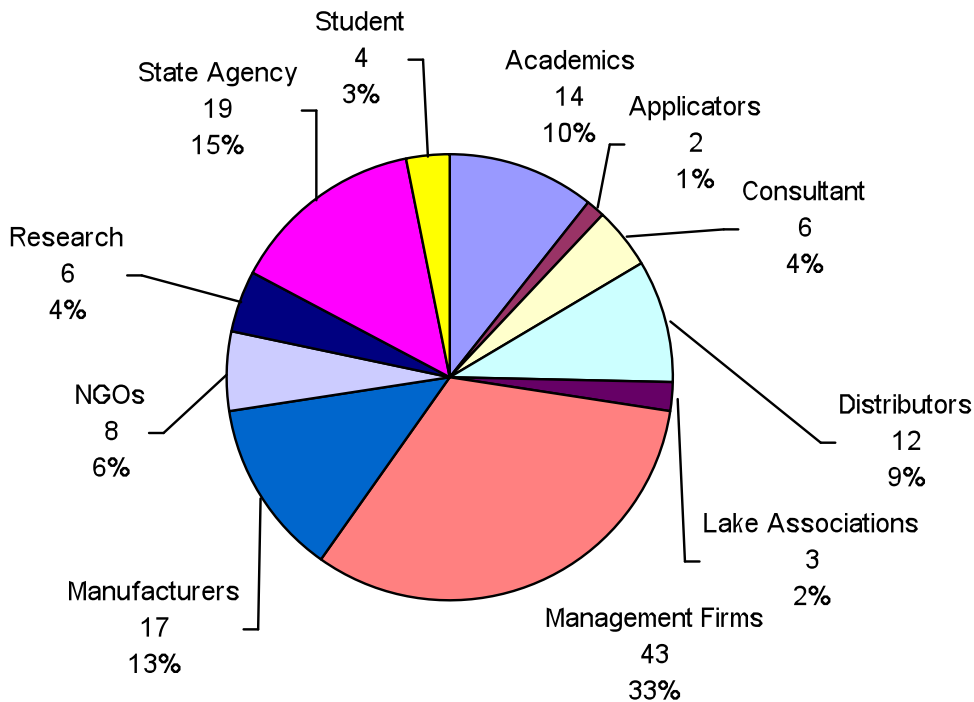
There remains an annual, ongoing need for members willing to serve on the BOD – please consider it. We try not to hound or browbeat, but you may be hearing a plea from someone on the nominations committee next fall as we prepare a slate of candidates for the election at the 2013 annual meeting.

An impressive array of professionals has contributed to NEAPMS since its inception, a fact that is crystal clear when reviewing past recipients of the Society's annual awards. Those recognized at the 2012 annual meeting certainly fit the bill: Carlton Layne received the Outstanding Member Award and Kurt Getsinger received the Aquatic Plant Science Award. A well-deserved Honorary Member Award was presented to Jim Sutherland.

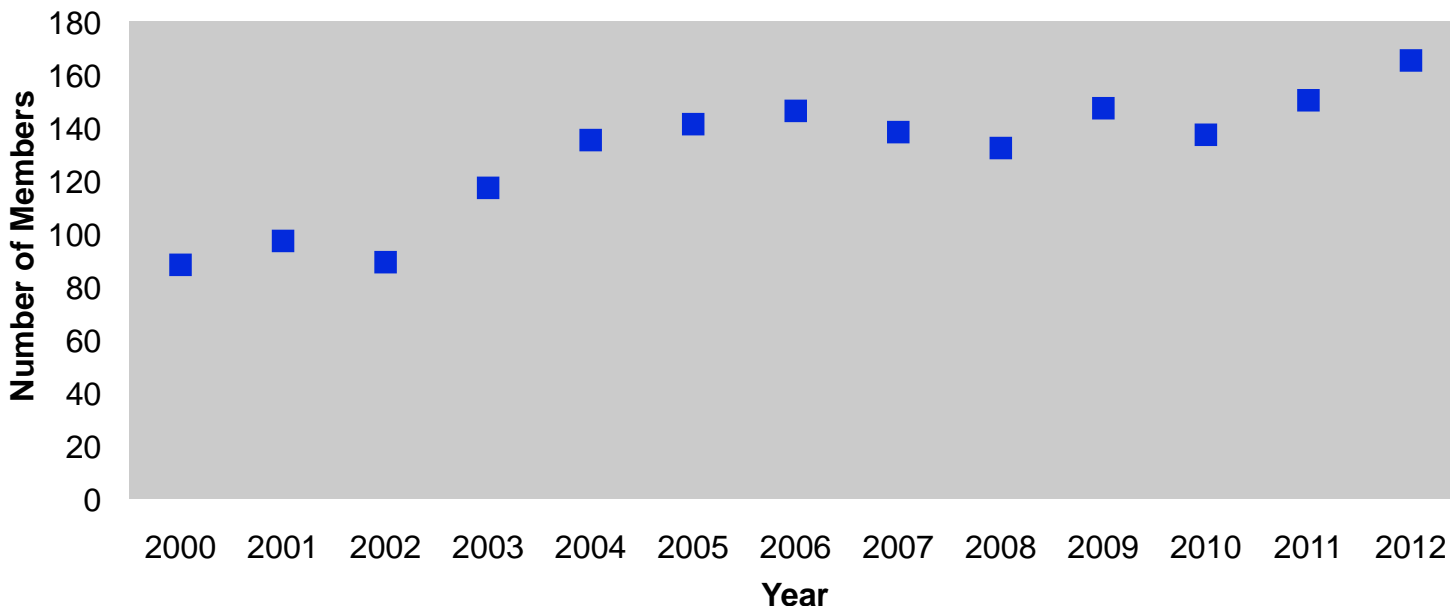
We're heading south to Water's Edge Resort and Spa in Westbrook, Connecticut for January 2013. We *do* review your conference ratings and comments when we consider changes to next year's meeting (thank you to the 62 of you who completed evaluations after the 2012 meeting). We obviously can't satisfy every desire but we do our best to meet the majority of needs in selecting the venue and menu, organizing the program and selecting talks, and planning the banquet. We'll update you on progress for the Water's Edge in the fall/winter newsletter.

Meantime, I hope the summer field season treats you well.

### 2012 Member Affiliations



### NEAPMS Membership Trends: 2000-2012





Jim Sutherland  
receives an  
Honorary Membership  
Award from  
NEAPMS' 2nd President  
Gerry Smith



President  
John McPhedran  
opens the  
2012 Meeting



Carlton Layne,  
Executive Director of the  
Aquatic Ecosystem  
Restoration Foundation  
receives the  
Outstanding Member  
Award





Special thanks  
to  
Mike Fleming  
for all the  
NEAPMS 2012  
photos

**CONNECTICUT**

Nancy Murray, Connecticut DEP

No report.

**DELAWARE/MARYLAND**

David Harden, Restoration Ecology

No report.

**MAINE**

John McPhedran, Maine DEP

Maine revamps infestation map

Maine DEP rolled out a new, more comprehensive list of waters impacted by invasive aquatic plants. The list represents the state of Maine infestations by grouping affected contiguous lakes, rivers and streams as lake systems and then identifying infested waters within each system.

The 2012 infestation list provides more data, identifying small waters that are part of larger systems but known by unique names. The outcome is more meaningful information for boaters and others who make decisions based on whether a given water body is infested. Old criteria for listing infestations had lumped together contiguously impacted water bodies with less precision, leaving out names of interconnecting waters, ponds within rivers and tributaries from the list of infestations

Infestation Status: One less infestation, optimism for two lakes, hydrilla challenges and two surface use restrictions

Middle Range Pond (Poland) is one name missing from the aforementioned 2012 infested waters list. With credit going to the Range Ponds Environmental Association, DEP recognized late last year three years without detecting variable-leaf water milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*), earning Middle Range Pond official removal from the state roster of infested water bodies. Association volunteers used mechanical controls, primarily benthic barriers and pulling by hand.

Pickerel Pond (Limerick) has created a cautiously optimistic buzz for shoreline residents and the DEP invasive species staff. Two consecutive seasons of finding no hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) in the 46-acre pond enables the DEP in 2012 to likely forgo herbicide treatment of the pond for the first time in nine years. Meanwhile, members of the Pickerel Pond Association are stepping up for training at an upcoming Invasive Plant Patrol workshop and have expressed commitment to monitor the pond. Their goal, early detection of hydrilla, should it rebound, and other invasive species. DEP will survey the pond again in 2012 by way of surface observation and SCUBA diving. Hydrilla was first detected in Pickerel Pond in 2002.

Damariscotta Lake (Jefferson): DEP finally quarantined a portion of Maine's second hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) infestation by closing the second and last inlet that connected the infested lagoon with the rest of the 4686-acre lake. Mild weather compounded by snow cover on lake ice over the last two winters had prevented heavy equipment necessary to deploy rip rap via ice cover. However, extraordinary (and fortunate) conditions in mid February (lower-than-usual water levels and frozen substrate) permitted equipment to deliver rip rap from the shoreline over the lagoon bed. Hydrilla was first discovered in Damariscotta Lake in 2009.

Beginning early June, Maine DEP staff will facilitate local volunteer efforts to begin frequent and routine monitoring and hand-removal of hydrilla found last autumn thriving in a stream feeding the lake, about three miles north of the



## MAINE, continued

John McPhedran, Maine DEP

lagoon infestation. With support of volunteers from the Damariscotta Lake Watershed Association (DLWA), DEP will resume hand removal of these patches and deploy benthic barriers. DEP is fortunate that DLWA exists to provide local support for and active participation in the prevention and removal effort.

DEP and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIFW) banned all boat access to the infested portion of the stream by declaring a temporary Surface Use Restriction for the entire 2012 boating season, effective March 23.

Two adjacent private ponds in the Midcoast region containing Maine's third hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) infestation discovered in summer 2011 may be addressed by draining the larger of two ponds to attempt winter kill of tubers. A DEP SCUBA diver attempted to find the drain outlet in late 2011 to no avail. This effort will be repeated in 2012.

Salmon Lake (Belgrade) also shows promise...for now. Four SCUBA surveys of Salmon Lake's Kozy Cove in 2011 by DEP divers with supporting surveillance by local residents found no Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*, EWM) since treating the 6-acre cove with herbicide in September 2009. DEP biologists say it is a matter of when and not if this persistent milfoil species will reemerge; however, DEP staff and surely Salmon Lake residents are pleased to see this inevitability postponed. When EWM does rebound, DEP will focus on hand-removal and benthic barriers to control a repeated, albeit smaller, invasion.

Pleasant Hill Pond (Scarborough): With the help of the pond's owner, Maine DEP in 2011 addressed the resurgence of Eurasian water milfoil by deploying benthic barriers over a dense portion of the infestation. With DEP guidance, the owner will continue to take charge of monitoring and redeploying barriers in 2012. This infestation was discovered in 2003.

Great Meadows Stream/Great Pond (Belgrade): Maine DEP and DIFW Commissioners reauthorized a Surface Use Restriction for the entire 2012 boating season to prevent power boat traffic (non-powered craft will be permitted after September 21) into areas undergoing variable water milfoil control (hand removal, benthic barriers); the control efforts are led by the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance and Belgrade Lakes Association. This infestation was confirmed in 2010.

### Boat inspections for 2012

The 2011 boating season was yet again another record-breaker: inspectors conducted 76,105 Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBIs), an increase of 3,677 over 2010. To achieve this, 2,719 additional inspection hours were logged in 2011 for a total of 39,884 hours, roughly equivalent to 19 full-time employees. Boats were inspected both entering and leaving with the majority of inspections (59%)



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**MAINE**, continued

John McPhedran, Maine DEP

conducted on boats entering. Maintaining this high level of prevention effort is a tremendous achievement for local and regional groups running the inspection programs.

Highlights included 154 launch sites on 116 water bodies conducted CBIs (14 of which were infested), 1786 inspections (2.4%) yielded plant fragments—native or invasive (of these interceptions, 287 (16%) were invasive species found mostly on boats exiting infested waters), and 50 organizations hosted CBIs.

For the second year in a row, bass clubs participating in bass tournaments were required to conduct inspections as a condition of their permit from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. As a result 65 bass clubs conducted 6,532 inspections at tournaments.

Public Outreach for 2012

Maine DEP has declared 2012 “the Year of the Boater Self-Inspection.” With support from the Department Commissioner’s office, publicity will escalate on the importance of inspecting boats and boating gear for preventing new infestations.

More information

Please check DEP’s website <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/topic/invasives/index.htm> or email [milfoil@maine.gov](mailto:milfoil@maine.gov).

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Marc Bellaud, Aquatic Control Technology, Inc.

No report.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE:**

Amy Smagula, New Hampshire DES

Prevention and Early Detection:

Prevention and early detection activities are key elements of the New Hampshire Exotic Species Program and serve as the first (prevention) and second (early detection) lines of defense when it comes to invasives. In partnership with DES, the New Hampshire Lakes Association is gearing up for another summer of Lake Host (launch watch) activities (with state, federal and local funds), aiming to cover 99 access sites across New Hampshire. In 2011, this program covered 92 access sites and performed 68,158 inspections, yielding 39 ‘saves.’ For early detection activities, several groups of Weed Watchers are slated to receive new or refresher trainings throughout the summer of 2012, expanding the program to more than 250 waterbodies across the state.

Rapid Response:

There was the need for just one rapid response initiative in New Hampshire in 2011, which was initiated when a vigilant Conservation Officer found a small patch of variable milfoil in a pond in southern New Hampshire. The Officer reported the infestation and DES biologists surveyed the waterbody and found only two small patches of growth near the public access site of the pond. The biologists dove on the site twice and installed a small benthic barrier. By the end of the growing season the plants appeared to have been successfully eradicated, but additional field work in 2012 will either prove or disprove that hope. There have been no new reports of invasives yet this year (one false alarm was reported that proved to be filamentous green algae).

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**, continued

Amy Smagula, New Hampshire DES

Long-Term Management:

In the fall 2011 edition of the Nor'Easter, I reported that state agencies in New Hampshire (along with valuable input by contractors, water supply managers and interested laypeople) were working to improve communications among agencies and programs with a stakeholder interest in aquatic plant management and systems in which these activities were taking place. Much emphasis was placed on revising content and format of an existing long-term management plan template. The revised template is in its second draft phase at the moment, and will hopefully be completed and ready to use for 2013 projects.

Several projects are underway for 2012. DES is providing grant funds for chemical and/or non-chemical control activities in 28 waterbodies across the state. Many projects include an integrated approach at management, with non-chemical means of control edging out the number of herbicide treatments.

Funding:

No changes to program funding have occurred, though many towns and interested parties have made contact with state legislators in New Hampshire to request legislation to increase program funding for exotic plant control activities. It is early to tell if this will be a possibility or not.

Program Report:

Over the winter a draft program report was developed for 2009-2011 program activities. The program report covers all activities and aspects of the New Hampshire Exotic Species Program, including prevention, early detection, management, revenues, expenditures and more. The report is in review at this time and should be published electronically on the DES website sometime during summer 2012 at [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov) on the Exotic Species page.

Legislation:

During the 2011-2012 legislative session, two bills pertaining to aquatic herbicide use were heard. Both had language that related to potentially banning use of aquatic herbicides within public water supplies, or at least within 10 miles of public water supply intakes. The Department of Environmental Services offered testimony in opposition to the bills, citing that such legislation would inhibit the state's ability to control invasive plants. A complicating factor to both bills was that they referenced fluoridation of water in the drinking water treatment process, so both topics included in bills muddled the separate issues. One of the two bills was deemed inexpedient to legislate, and the one bill that continues to move forward focuses primarily on fluoridation of drinking water, and does not include discussion of aquatic herbicide use anymore.

NPDES Permitting:

The roll out of the NPDES permit for aquatic pesticide use in October has not seemed to cause much problem yet on the state level in New Hampshire. Fortunately the contractors we work with have served as middle ground for much of the additional work that is required, and most state programs (in New Hampshire at least) have not really seen much by way of additional workload as a result of the permit requirement, though this may not always be the case as project scope and type change from year to year. What additional work that has been required has been minimal and easy to factor into those projects that required it.



## NEW JERSEY

Glenn Sullivan, Allied Biological Inc.

The threat of water chestnut (*Trapa natans*) appears to have reached the ears of many lakeowners in the northern part of the state over the last year. There has been an increased number of reports of this plant from private lake associations this spring. Private associations control the majority of freshwater lakes in the northern third of the state, and most have active plant management programs. Most reports indicate that water chestnut infestations are still manageable by hand removal, a testament to the educational effort of the New Jersey Coalition of Lake Associations and professional lake managers in the state.

The aquatic invasives scene is more critical in the central part of the state, where lakes are largely under town, county or state control and water chestnut populations are well established and often not managed. In addition, new hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) infestations have been found at two lakes in the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. In at least one lake, Stone Tavern, tubers are present and the infestation appears at least two years old. Another hydrilla infestation at Ocean County Park's Lake Shenandoah appears to be widespread and entrenched, without any current plan for lakewide management. Lake Shenandoah is an impoundment of the Metedeconk River, and it is assumed that hydrilla has spread into downstream sections of the river although these areas have yet to be surveyed. West Long Branch's Franklin Lake offers some positive news on the hydrilla front. The lake was treated with fluridone last year according to a multi-year management plan, and is scheduled for a follow up fluridone application this summer. As of mid-June, hydrilla sprouts were just beginning to appear.

The NJ Invasives Species Strike Team has been doing an outstanding job of raising awareness of invasive plants, both aquatic and terrestrial, throughout the state, and is steadily increasing their volunteer monitoring staff. According to Science Director Michael Van Clef, the NJISST plans to add three new aquatic invasives to its list of target species: brittleleaf naiad (*Najas minor*), european waterstarwort (*Callitriche stagnalis*) and water chickweed (*Mysoton aquaticum*). Dr. Van Clef also notes that didymo has spread as far south as Trenton in the Delaware River.

New Jersey's first aquatic pesticide permitting season with NPDES requirements has been relatively simple to navigate. NJDEP allowed aquatic pesticide applicators that expected to exceed the 80 acre threshold to file one RFA (Request for Authorization – think NOI) for any town or county that they expected to apply herbicides or algaecides in. The state also stayed NPDES requirements for Pesticide Discharge Management Plans and Spill Control Plans until the state's General Permit is revised. This significantly minimized paperwork and fees for the states applicators and waterbody owners. NJDEP went one step further and streamlined the Aquatic Pesticide Permit review process, resulting in approval letters for multiple sites at one time.



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**NEW YORK**

Scott Kishbaugh, New York DEC

Prevention, Outreach and Education:

After many years of frustration, the New York state legislature passed bills (S6826a, A9422) requiring the state Department of Environmental Conservation, in cooperation with the state Department of Agriculture and Markets, to restrict the sale, purchase, possession, introduction, importation and transport of invasive species. Working with the New York Invasive Species Council, the state agencies would develop regulations for dealing with the disposal and control of invasives, including a list of prohibited species that would be illegal to knowingly possess with the intent to sell, import, purchase or transport. A draft list has already been established for aquatic invasive plants, as part of the four tier listing process (ECL 9-1705 (5) (h)), through work conducted by the Invasive Species Council. Penalties would range from a warning for a first violation to fines of no less than \$250 for subsequent violations. Financial penalties would be greater for nursery growers, operators of public vessels and commercial fishing vessels. The legislation also directs the agencies and council to consider establishing grace periods for prohibited and regulated species, so businesses can plan the management of existing stock. The bill enjoyed bipartisan support in both the state Senate and Assembly, and awaits the Governor's signature.

Unfortunately, a state invasive species transport bill did not emerge from the recently concluded legislative session. In addition to the Warren County transport law and similar laws passed in individual (mostly Adirondack region) towns, several other counties made significant strides toward the passage of transport laws.

The New York Invasive Species Clearinghouse web page (<http://www.nyis.info>), funded by NYS DEC and USDA APHIS, continued to update New Yorkers on the status of all taxa invasive species management, surveillance and educational activities.

The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) held three aquatic plant trainings in 2012, attracting more than 100 participants, and these volunteer surveyors continue to search for aquatic invasives within the Park. Additional trainings were conducted as part of the NYS Federation of Lake Associations annual conference and at least five hydrilla-specific workshops in central and western New York state to address the on-going hydrilla infestation in Cayuga Inlet. The latter was part of a significant long-term outreach effort conducted by the Cayuga Inlet Hydrilla Local Task Force, which included the continued development of a robust web page (<http://ccetompkins.org/environment/invasive-species/hydrilla>), educational and social workshops focused on hydrilla response, and fostering sustained public support for the long-term eradication project.

The US Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) co-sponsored a ½ day hydrilla workshop with the Great Lakes and Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species panels in Rochester in late May, as part of a larger joint panel discussion. This workshop laid the groundwork for a two day monocious hydrilla symposium scheduled for September 11-12 in Syracuse. This symposium will identify the state of monocious hydrilla research and management in the Northeast, with the goal of articulating a research agenda for ERDC and partners in the coming years.

Boat Stewards:

The Finger Lakes Institute Watercraft Steward Program was launched in late May at boat launches throughout the seven eastern Finger Lakes and three southern Lake Ontario bays. The goal of the program is to provide education based on best practices for preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species, and of course to stop invaders from entering these waterbodies. The program is funded through a GLRI grant. More information about the FLI Watercraft Steward Program can be found by contacting Program Manager Jacob Schreiber at [flisteward@hws.edu](mailto:flisteward@hws.edu) or visiting the project's regularly updated blog at <http://flisteward.wordpress.com>.



NEW YORK, continued

Scott Kishbaugh, New York DEC

Stewards from the Watershed Stewardship Program run through Paul Smiths College (Adirondack Watershed Institute) intercepted water chestnut on a trailer backing into Raquette Lake in the northwestern Adirondacks, preventing what would have been the first infestation in this part of the state. More than 20 full time and part time watershed stewards interact with visitors at boat ramps in multiple locations within the Adirondack Park and perform watercraft inspections intended to prevent the transport of AIS. More information can be found at

The Lake George Lake Steward Program conducted by the Lake George Association looks for and removes invasive species, and educates boaters on how to prevent their spread within the lake and to other lakes. In addition, lake stewards collect data about the vessels entering and exiting the lake, summarized in an annual report. This provides significant insights about the geographical range of visiting boaters and about potential vectors for transporting invaders. More information can be found at the LGA website at <http://www.lakegeorgeassociation.org/>.

#### Control Actions:

The most substantial AIS and aquatic plant control project in New York State is the Cayuga Inlet hydrilla eradication project. Approximately \$1.3M in state and federal funds, and substantial city and town in-kind services have been dedicated to the project. The state and local Task Forces, and their various subgroups, continue to meet on a weekly to biweekly basis, and have worked through a large number of logistic, fiscal, and regulatory issues. The Task Force sought the assistance of six external peer reviewers with a long history of hydrilla management and research to identify the most appropriate near-term management actions in 2012 and beyond, ultimately settling on a multi-tiered approach using endothal, liquid fluridone applied through drip distribution ports in several locations, and pellet fluridone applied in areas isolated from the main flow. These strategies were developed to address the challenge of significant variability and timing in flow, substrate, depth, and tuber germination throughout the 166 acre infested area. The Task Force continues to work closely with the applicants, manufacturers, and other partners to develop an adaptive management strategy to respond to the uncertainty associated with monocious hydrilla growth patterns in this highly challenging setting. New York State also adopted an emergency rule that allows the use of pelletal herbicides in waters less than two feet deep, initiated the process for evaluating state regulations to allow this treatment option beyond the emergency rule window, and worked with the manufacturers to create product labels consistent with these innovative approaches. Extensive tuber and plant monitoring will be conducted on nearly 2000 sites through the treatment area and southern end of Cayuga Lake, to trigger treatments, evaluate treatment efficacy, and to catch new infestations if and when they are found outside the infested area.



#### Regulatory Update:

The SPDES general permitting for aquatic pesticides (GPP) was initiated in November of 2011. As of mid June, more than 330 NOIs had been filed with the DEC Division of Water, charged with administering this program. Many of these are for mosquito control or other pests not associated with invasive or nuisance plants. There remains some confusion from applicants (operators) about the differences between the existing DEC Article 15 pesticides permits and the new GPP permits, but much of this was resolved through working closely with DEC staff. DEC staff have also been discussing opportunities to address statewide uses of aquatic pesticides by Agencies and other applicants in a single NOI. All told, the GPP program is progressing in a mostly smooth and orderly fashion.



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**RHODE ISLAND**

Katie DeGoosh, Rhode Island DEM  
No report.



**PENNSYLVANIA**

Jack Hanish, Pennsylvania Lake Management Society

If you haven't heard yet, *Didymosphenia geminata*, or 'rock snot' has spread down the Delaware River farther than originally thought. It has carpeted a stretch of 150 miles from Hancock, NY to Martins Creek, PA. This now means that the algae is in the upper, middle, and lower section of the river. With the fishing season in full swing, it is feared that fishermen will spread the algae into tributaries that feed the Delaware, or other waterways. Efforts are underway to educate the media and the public about 'rock snot' and the ways to decontaminate gear that comes in contact with river water.

The Pennsylvania Lake Management Society concluded another successful conference this past March. In addition to the usual fare, there was a little bit of controversy generated on the treatment of blue-green algae - to treat, or not to treat a bloom when toxic strains are present. The first morning session led one to believe that treatment during a bloom would increase the amount of toxin in the water due to lysing cells, which is true. But here is the rub. What studies confirmed the underlying data and under what conditions? On the second day, the challenge went out to confirm that the studies were done in actual lake conditions, not just using laboratory data. None were found. At the end of the day, a consensus was building that a modest application of algacide was better than no application at all to control a bloom of potentially toxic blue-green algacide.

As always, applicator credits were available for those attending the conference. Of particular interest was a well-attended session on NPDES Update for Aquatic Applicators. Also available from the PA DEP was a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document on Discharges Associated with Pesticide Applications Under the NPDES Permit Program. Numerous specific questions were answered concerning interpretation of the rules covering the permit process.

Late breaking news: The PA DEP has confirmed the May 4<sup>th</sup> discovery of 'rock snot' in the East Branch of Dyberry Creek. The creek is a tributary of the Delaware River in Wayne County, PA.



## VERMONT

Ann Bove, Vermont DEC

A total of 100 water bodies have been documented with an aquatic, non-native and invasive plant: Eurasian or variable watermilfoil, water chestnut, yellow-floating heart, European frog-bit, brittle naiad or curly leaf pondweed. However, of those, only 3% are considered “heavy” populations. At this point, the majority of Vermont’s known aquatic, non-native and invasive plant populations are currently considered “light” meaning scattered areas of growth in limited areas. Many of these populations have been successfully targeted by local control efforts or were detected soon after introduction. The remainder, 35%, are considered moderate infestations.

**Rapid Response**

Vermont’s new emergency permitting authority aimed at initiating a rapid response to a new invasive species invasion was authorized under a General Permit in March 2011. VTDEC requested and received coverage under the General Permit for the use of diver operated suction harvesting on variable-leaved watermilfoil in Lake Champlain. Variable-leaved watermilfoil was first confirmed in Missisquoi Bay, Lake Champlain in fall 2008. Unfortunately, a rapid response control effort of the variable-leaved watermilfoil population in Missisquoi Bay has been determined to not be feasible. Surveys conducted in 2011 identified significant spread of the population, likely from spring and fall flooding. Adequate resources do not exist to control this expanded population. Another factor that weighed into the decision to abandon rapid response was the determination by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to not control a population of variable-leaved watermilfoil discovered in 2011 in South Bay in the southern reaches of Lake Champlain. Spread prevention initiatives by both state agencies will be ramped up to address both populations.

**Regional Invasive Species Leadership Initiative:** The newly formed inter-state invasive plant collaboration, the Connecticut River Watershed Invasive Species Leadership Initiative— spearheaded by the Silvio O. Conte National Wildlife Refuge—is off and running. A joint meeting of both the Steering Committee and membership CISMA partners was held in April in MA. The six subwatershed “CISMAs” in the region -- two in Vermont; two in CT; one in MA; and one spanning portions of Vermont, New Hampshire and Quebec – are coordinating on resource sharing, trainings and early detection and rapid response actions within the watershed.

**Boat launch monitoring**

Vermont’s 5th annual training workshop for boat access greeters was held in May for anyone staffing or supervising an access area greeter program during 2012 or those interested in starting a new greeter program. Thanks to a grant obtained in 2011, new tools – greeter on duty sandwich board signs and t-shirts – were distributed to attendees. The new tools will provide needed visibility for statewide programs as well as a consistent visual.

**Too Many Weeds Spoil the Fishing**

Exotic invasive aquatic plants such as Hydrilla, Eurasian Water Milfoil, Curlyleaf Pondweed, Water Chestnut and Water Hyacinth can be detrimental to a healthy fishery in lakes across the country.

These invasive plants when left unmanaged can alter the ecosystem of lakes and reservoirs, causing a decline in the fishery, as well as interfering with other valued uses of waterbodies.

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VERMONT, continued

Ann Bove, Vermont DEC

**State Aquatic Invasive Species Grants**

Approximately \$425,000 from a portion of state motorboat registration funds and federal Army Corps of Engineer monies will support 38 grants to municipalities managing aquatic invasive species in 2012: a mix of spread prevention related programs and Eurasian watermilfoil control efforts throughout Vermont.

**NPDES**

In November 2011, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources issued a Pesticide General Permit (PGP). The PGP covers pesticide applications to, over or near Vermont waters for mosquito and other flying insect pest control; weed and algae control; animal pest control; and for forest canopy pest control. Although Vermont’s PGP will cover the requirements under the NPDES program, the need to obtain a state Aquatic Nuisance Control permit has not changed for pesticide applications. The PGP clearly describes the categories of entities that must apply for coverage (submitting a Notice of Intent application). However, irrigation return flows and agricultural stormwater runoff do not require NPDES permits even when they contain pesticides or pesticide residues, as the Clean Water Act specifically exempts these categories of discharges. A copy of the NPDES PGP with fact sheet and a Notice of Intent application are available at [www.vtwaterquality.org](http://www.vtwaterquality.org).

**Vermont Invasive Patrollers (VIPs) volunteer monitoring early detection** In 2011, a volunteer alerted DEC staff that a Eurasian watermilfoil fragment had been discovered on the shore near the Shadow Lake (Glover, VT) boat ramp by an observant boat launch greeter/inspector. Follow up by volunteers and DEC staff led to the discovery of an incipient population and rapid initiation of a control effort. While spread prevention is the first line of defense against new infestations, early detection and rapid response are also vital, as they greatly improve the prospects for preventing an invasive species from becoming permanently established. Certified VIPs documented at least 30 surveys on 17 waterbodies in 2011.



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**Jeremy Farrell - Darrin Fresh Water Institute/Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

Title: Expanding Hydroacoustic Technologies to Accurately Identify and Map Eurasian Watermilfoil and other Aquatic Plant Assemblages

A portion of my graduate research has utilized hydroacoustics to detect and measure Eurasian watermilfoil in Lake George, NY. I have completed a manuscript entitled “Hydroacoustic Identification of Eurasian Watermilfoil”. It has been submitted to the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management and is currently under review. The work discussed in this paper is similar to the research work presented in a poster at last year’s meeting in New Hampshire. I am in the process of completing other chapters for my final dissertation and I intend to complete this process this coming fall. I fully intend to stay in the environmental field following graduation.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to the Society for the financial support you have given me. Thank you!

**Bianca Pier - Darrin Fresh Water Institute/Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

Title: Acclimation to and Possible Mitigation of Anthropogenic Nutrients by Wetland Plants in the Lake George Watershed

I was awarded a scholarship by the NEAPMS in the spring of 2012 to financially support part of my research on the role of wetland plants in the removal of nutrients flowing into Lake George, NY. The 2012 field season has provided an opportunity to conduct vegetative studies in three wetlands: two natural ones, Northwest Bay (NWB) wetland which is oligotrophic and East Brook (EB) wetland which is more impacted with more mesotrophic levels of nutrients. The third is a constructed wetland at West Brook. Preliminary analysis has indicated greater biodiversity in aquatic vegetation in NWB and less diversity in the East Brook wetland. Research into the primary succession of a constructed wetland has shown a rapidly flourishing population within the *Juncus* and *Carex* genera. The succession of plant species at this constructed site will be a focus of the summer season. Another avenue of research I am conducting is the use of bioassays on *Lemna minor* and its uptake of anthropogenic nutrients. Laboratory simulation experiments with *L. minor* from NWB and EB. We are currently testing the hypothesis that *L. minor* from impacted EB will remove larger quantities of nitrate and phosphate from artificially supplied media than *L. minor* from unimpacted NWB. The prediction is based on the assumption that aquatic plants can become habitat-adapted to environments of higher nutrients.





# CALL FOR PAPERS

## NEAPMS 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

In January 2013, the NEAPMS conference will be held in the state of Connecticut for the first time. The meeting will be held at the **Water's Edge Resort in Westbrook, Connecticut on January 22-24, 2013**. We will be staying with our Tuesday through Thursday line-up again this year, with workshops on Tuesday afternoon and technical sessions running from Wednesday morning through noon on Thursday. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our 14th Annual Meeting.

Hotel Information - A room rate of \$99 + tax (sgl or dbl occupancy) per night is available at the Water's Edge Resort. After January 7, 2013, we cannot guarantee room rate or availability, so please do book by the deadline. More information on the venue can be found at [www.watersedgeresortandspa.com](http://www.watersedgeresortandspa.com). Hotel reservations can be made by calling the Water's Edge Resort by January 7, 2013 at 1-800-222-5901.

Program Information - To help develop our program, we are seeking technical presentations and posters in all areas of aquatic plant management. In particular, the following special interest topics are requested this year, though other topics are certainly welcome:

- Hydrilla in the Northeast, biology, case studies, monoecious versus dioecious strains
- Harmful algal blooms and algal toxins
- Alternative control technologies
- Advances in biological and pathogenic controls
- Wetland plant dynamics and management
- Balancing aquatic plant management goals with other waterbody uses (fisheries, wildlife, recreation, etc.)
- Herbicide combinations for more effective plant control
- Molecular studies of invasive aquatic plants
- Seed viability studies and role of seeds in perpetuating infestations
- Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) case studies
- Impacts of budget cutbacks on aquatic plant management projects and/or protection of aquatic habitats.

Presentations are assigned 30-minute time slots. Powerpoint presentations on USB Flash Drives are expected. Presenters should prepare 20-25 minute talks, leaving 5-10 minutes for discussion/questions.

Instructions for Abstract Submittal - In order to offer approved re-certification credits for conference attendees, presenters must provide complete information on presentations and posters they plan to present.

- Presenter name, title, professional affiliation and biography
- Presenter address, telephone, fax, and e-mail
- Abstract- About 250 words, explaining purpose, approach, results, and management implications, as appropriate. Please be specific enough to allow independent evaluation of the professional value of the presentation or poster. This will encourage conference attendance, and will help gain re-certification credit for attendees.

Please forward abstracts and biographies with the required information *by Friday September 28, 2012* to Marc Bellaud, NEAPMS Program Coordinator. E-mail is preferable at [mbellaud@aquaticcontroltech.com](mailto:mbellaud@aquaticcontroltech.com), either in the text of the e-mail or as a Word attachment (using Times New Roman 12 pt font). Abstracts on disk can be sent to Marc at Aquatic Control Technology, Inc., 11 John Road, Sutton, MA 01590-2509.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFERENCE INFORMATION

### NALMS INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM



### NALMS 32nd International Symposium

November 7 - 9, 2012  
Madison, Wisconsin  
[www.nalms.org](http://www.nalms.org)

#### Regional APMS Chapter Meetings

July 26 - South Florida APMS

Davie, FL

[www.sfapms.org](http://www.sfapms.org)

September 17-19 - MidSouth APMS

Mobile, AL

[www.msapms.org](http://www.msapms.org)

October 8-11 - Florida APMS

St. Augustine, FL

[www.fapms.org](http://www.fapms.org)

October 17-19 - South Carolina APMS

Myrtle Beach, SC

[www.scapms.org](http://www.scapms.org)

October 22-24 - Texas APMS

Bandera, TX

[www.tapms.org](http://www.tapms.org)



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