

With CLCA board approval, we have formally informed the DEC that we do not support the current launch expansion plan and recommend instead that the site be generally maintained in its current configuration, with more limited improvements.

Over the summer of 2015 the Adirondack Watershed Institute of Paul Smith's College, with funding from the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, performed comprehensive Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) surveys on waters within the southeastern portion of the Adirondack Park, including the Canada Lakes. The final report stated that "a total of 42 aquatic plant beds were mapped in Canada Lake covering 277.0 acres of surface water, 22% of the lake area". The report concluded that "no AIS were found in Canada Lake". This was good news, and confirmed a 2013 aquatic plant baseline assessment of the Canada Lakes by the Darrin Freshwater Institute during which no AIS were found. None of our volunteer lake inspectors reported AIS during their August lake survey.

The not-so-good news is that we are contending with a higher number of boats coming from waters already infested with AIS; there were two findings of clumps of Eurasian Water Milfoil by stewards at the boat launch this year. Fortunately, the co-chairs for the CLCA Invasive Species Committee, Mike Durkee and Marcus Harazin, are doing an exceptional job of spearheading our efforts to prevent the introduction of invasive species into our lakes. Over the last few months they have worked closely with the Town of Caroga to help prepare a DEC grant proposal that would augment town funding to staff and operate a boat wash station along highway 29A. In a separate initiative we are working with the DEC on a Stewardship Agreement that should provide workers compensation and liability coverage for all lake stewards when on duty. Further, we have been working closely with the Adirondack Lakes Alliance to ensure we are fully aware of, and coordinated with, other lake association best practices and efforts to limit the spread of aquatic invasive species.

The basic CLCA dues for 2016 are just \$30. With a \$50 "Friends of the Lake" membership level you can choose to direct the additional \$20 to either the general fund, or to a specific program or event for which you or your family have an interest. Additional voluntary contributions will help us support activities to reinforce our community connections and further our mission to preserve and protect the Canada Lakes. If you would like to become active in a CLCA committee, please contact the committee chair. Looking to the summer, we have a picnic on Canada Lake planned for July 23. Details on other community activities such as the Ski & Wakeboard Clinic, Amazing Race & Ice Cream Extravaganza and Flare Lightings will be published on the CLCA website (<http://clca.canadalake.com>) and in the lake newsletter, *The Echo*, published in late spring.

The Canada Lakes are a very special place. Thank you for helping the CLCA preserve and protect them.



Dr. David P. Graves
CLCA President