



CBI Newsletter

September 2020

If you do not want to receive information for CBI coordinators and project managers please contact Mary Jewett (mary@mainelakes.org) to unsubscribe from this list. If you click unsubscribe, you will no longer receive any information about milfoil and other invasive aquatic species in Maine, this includes grant announcements.

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Kezar Save

On August 23, during a bass tournament on Kezar Lake, an inspector from the Lovell Invasive Plant Patrol Committee (LIPPC) discovered Eurasian milfoil on a trailer. At first glance this is a triumph for LIPPC and shows negligence by the boater, but the story goes deeper than that.



Eurasian milfoil

First off both the tournament inspector and CBI on duty checked the boat and cleared it to enter the water. They found no signs of the offending plant until after the boat launched and the trailer bunks were exposed. The plants had been wedged between the boat and trailer and could not be seen until after launch. This is one reason why we encourage inspectors to look at trailers when they come on shift, and it should be done after a boat launches.

The boat was previously in Lake Ontario in New York, a lake known to have several invasive species. According to the BASS club member, the ramp on Ontario has a mandatory boat wash station. Because the plants were trapped between the boat and trailer bunk, they could not be seen or washed off. This is another stark reminder that boats from out of state should always be treated as suspicious.

We are lucky in Maine to have the Department of Environmental Protection, and dozens of groups like LIPPC, who prioritize this issue and will immediately respond to, and document, reports of invasive aquatic plants. If you Google the name of one of Maine's infested lakes (i.e. Sebago, Arrowhead, Cobbossee) with the word milfoil you will find links to articles and non-profits working on this

issue. The work we are all doing will significantly slow the spread of invasive aquatic species throughout Maine. Keep up the good work!

For a detailed account of the discovery from LIPPC please click [here](#).

Frog's Bit

News from Maine DEP:

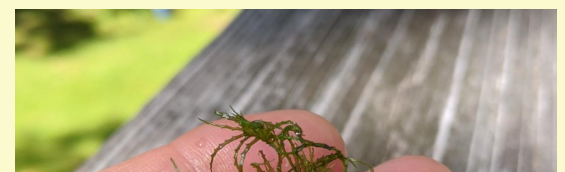
European frog's-bit was found in Pitcher Pond Lincolnville by an Invasive Plant Patroller (IPP'er) Adrian Lefever from Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed. She was hired by Pitcher Pond Association to survey the pond for invasive aquatic plants. Adrian found a few small rooted plants of European frog's-bit by the boat launch. She removed the plants and then did a level 2 survey of the remainder of the pond and found no other plants. DEP returned shortly and was met by members of the Lake Association board Rich Sanderson and Jim LeClaire for a full survey of the pond. No other invasive plants were found. Water levels were very low and there is a lot of emergent vegetation so the lake association was cautioned that plants could have been missed in the survey. They were encouraged to do a full survey next summer in late June or early July when the plant emerges, and water levels are higher.



Brittle Naiad (waternymph) in Lake Arrowhead

A suspicious plant was found in Lake Arrowhead by Invasive Plant Patroller and lake resident Debbie Broderick during the weekend of Aug. 22nd. Debbie sent the plant to Roberta Hill at Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) who confirmed, after conferring with a group of experienced taxonomists in the northeast, that the plant is *Najas minor* or brittle naiad (also called brittle waternymph).

This is the second invasive aquatic plant in Lake Arrowhead and third location for this plant in Maine. Brittle naiad is a prolific seed producer and with high spread potential because the seeds are very small and may be concealed on boats, gear, and clothing. The seeds can also survive ingestion by waterfowl and may be moved by their activity.



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Immediately after hearing the confirmation, Laurie Callahan of the York County Invasive Aquatic Species



New England Milfoil removing Naiad near the boat ramp. Photo: Dale Schultz



Brittle Naiad Photo: Debbie Broderick

Project rallied volunteers to

survey three days on Arrowhead (Aug. 31st, Sept. 3rd and 8th); another day of surveying is planned for this month. This has been an extremely rapid and well-organized response involving 11 volunteer plant surveyors. Their surveying was critical for directing a day of removal by New England Milfoil (NEM) on September 4th. DEP hired NEM, which has extensive experience removing this plant in the Salmon Falls River on the ME/NH border, under a contract for rapid response to new infestations.

The Lake Arrowhead Conservation Council (LACC) diver-assisted suction harvest (DASH) team located the largest patch of this new invader and observed NEM's work on the 4th. Debbie and her husband Dale Shultz, the LACC DASH crew and DEP collected fragments during NEM's removal. The LACC DASH crew, which has extensive experience managing variable-leaved water-milfoil, is poised to modify their collection equipment to deal with the small fragments created by brittle naiad in the coming years.



Brittle Naiad from the surface
Photo: Dale Schultz

Everyone's hope is that the infestation is confined to one part of the lake and can be managed with manual removal, but time and additional surveying will tell. While the new find is clearly bad news, the rapid response by local and regional groups has been phenomenal.

Final reports - Due October 12th

As CBI programs come to a close it is time to file your grant report to the DEP. This report helps the DEP see how your program is being run, and how the grant is being spent. Below is a copy of the payment schedule and the requirements for receiving those payments. A reminder that if you have not submitted any inspection data you will not receive any additional payments, and any future awards may be effected.

Grant payments and reporting:

There will be 3 payments distributed in the following manner:

- Fifty percent of the award will be released soon after grant award announcement provided the applicant has an up-to-date Vendor Form on record with the State of Maine.
- The second payment of twenty-five percent will be paid upon receipt of the initial electronic inspection data. Inspection data must be submitted electronically by June 29 and must contain all inspections to-date.
- The final payment of twenty-five percent will be paid upon receipt of the remaining inspection data and approval of the final report. The final report must contain amount of expended funds and match breakdown for the 2020 season. Final payment is affected by match: if 100% match requirement is not met, the final payment amount may be reduced. The final report must be submitted to LEA by **October 12, 2020** unless permission is obtained from DEP. The final payment may be forfeited if the final report and/or electronic inspection data is not submitted by this deadline.

Click on your preferred document type. If you have any questions about filling in the report please contact mary@mainelakes.org.



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