

# Maidstone Lake Association

911 Maidstone Lake Road  
Maidstone VT 05905

## **2020**

# **Annual Report to the Membership**

For Fiscal Year  
**July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021**

Presented by the Board of Directors  
July 10, 2021

### Table of Contents:

• Agenda	2
• Minutes of July 11, 2020 Annual Meeting	3-9
• President's Report	10
• Treasurer's Report	11
• Financial Statements & Budget	12-16
• Aquatic Stewardship Program	16-22
• The Internet of Things at the Lake	22-24
• Useful Resources	25-25

### Current MLA Officers

Jim Mazzonna - President, Chris von Alt – Vice President  
Gregory Poer -Treasurer, Sharon Taylor - Secretary.

### Terms expiring July, 2021:

Gregory Poer Lot 119A, Eric Gagnon Lot 26A, June Lockert Lot 106

### Terms expiring July, 2022:

Carroll "Sam" Gorham Lot 40, Robert Snowman Lot 69,  
Marianne Bouthillier Lot 20

### Terms expiring July, 2023:

Jim Mazzonna Lot 96A, Chris von Alt 104A,  
Sharon Taylor Lot 71

# Maidstone Lake Association

## 2021 Annual Meeting Agenda

### July 11, 2020

1. 9:00 AM Call to order: *President, Jim Mazzonna*
2. Welcome, Acknowledgements & Introductions: *President, Jim Mazzonna*
  - Invited Speakers - Maidstone Selectboard Discuss Town of Maidstone & updates. Luc Beaubien – NEWCo, Ben Copans, SoV, Hannah Fay - Essex County Natural Resources Conservation District, Trevor Symonowski – Game Warden.
3. Business Meeting: *President, Jim Mazzonna*
  - 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes ... *Review & Acceptance*
  - Treasurer's Report ... *Gregory Poer*
  - Safety Report ... *Bill Sanborn*
  - Water Quality Report... *Chris von Alt*
  - Boating Safety...*Linwood Mixer*
  - Aquatic Nuisance/Shoreline Monitoring Program Manager... *Chris von Alt*
  - Lake Directory ... *Mary von Alt*
  - Remarks & Maidstone Lake Service Award ... *Jim Mazzonna*
  - Additional Old Business:
    - Mailbox Update - Chris von Alt
4. Nominating Committee Report:
  - Election of new MLA Directors.
5. New business:
6. Adjournment:

**NOTE: To MLA Directors:** Immediately following the annual meeting there will be by an organizational meeting for the new Board of Directors; Election of Officers, Appointments: Recording Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Monitoring Program Project Manager. Set next Board of Directors meeting –date, time, and location.

# Maidstone Lake Association - 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

## July 11, 2020

1. 9:00 AM Call to order: *President, Jim Mazzonna*
2. Welcome, Acknowledgements & Introductions: *President, Jim Mazzonna*
  - Invited Speaker - Maidstone Selectboard (Doug Lord)- Discuss Town of Maidstone & updates.

Doug Lord:

- Town Hall is still not fully open. Open via appointment only, one person at a time. Town's main concern is protecting the public and the people who are working inside.
- Bob Champagne Willis is in on Monday and Thursday, Town Clerk – T, W, Thu.
- If anyone needs services from the Town Hall, please call to make an appointment.
- Election coming up August 11. There will be tents set up in the parking lot, and registration will take place in the first tent. You will receive a clipboard with a ballot. At the second tent you will drop off your ballot. The state sent out the opportunity to vote by absentee ballot. This is only a Primary. We aren't expecting a large turnout.
- Issue with dogs: after lengthy discussion, it was decided to monitor what is going on. This year, due to the pandemic, we won't see all the people we normally see. After a period of time, we will determine whether or not to put a dog ordinance in place. This will be worked on at a future date.
- ATV's: State Law – no ATV's are allowed on public or private roads (highway or town roads). Notices will be placed on all town roads. Will be working with the sheriff to have them enforce this. This is the best way to go without putting an ordinance in place.
- Roads: Brad made a great effort to get to all the roads prior to July 4<sup>th</sup>. The weather impeded this project. Brad will go back and get to all the portions that were damaged before he leaves.
- We will be doing the culvert down by the guardrails. It is a large project, starting late August/early September. To be completed by the end of September.
- Bulky Waste Day: August 1 – we will be doing the same thing we do every year with this.

Jim: if you have issues, please engage directly with the Selectmen and the Town to discuss.

Trash bags were disbursed at Bob Champagne Willis location. Bob will keep a few at his location for those who need it.

Jim: ordinances for quiet times – if the town wanted to have a designated quiet time, it would have to be passed as an ordinance. Typically, everyone is good about the quiet time/common courtesy. We are unable to enforce this as a rule. The Selectboard will be the body to enforce the ordinance of this request.

QUESTIONS FOR THE TOWN: None.

### **3. Business Meeting: *President, Jim Mazzonna***

- 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes Greg motioned to accept, Bob Seconded. Motion carried.
  
- **Treasurers Report ... Gregory Poer**
  - Chris von Alt has continued to monitor the aquatic nuisance program and shoreline monitoring.
  - Thanks to all – for the ice out contest.
  - Thanks to Bob Willis Champagne for the accounting/bookkeeping services.
  - We always budget \$1,000 towards Milfoil.
  - No money has been budgeted for annual meeting as we haven't been able to hold one. However, we can add a line item should be able to host a gathering.
  - Bob Snowman asks about clothing sales given that we aren't holding a meeting. As per Greg, people have been stopping in to Sam's to purchase crafts and clothing. The amount is an estimate. Bob Suggests placing this information on our website to allow others who don't know about the availability.
  - We will see a reduction in interest earned due to current rates.

Bob motion to accept Treasurer's Report  
Bert Desrochers second.  
Motion carries.

QUESTION: Who is the webmaster for the Maidstone Lake website.

- **Safety Report ... *Bill Sanborn***
  - Bill couldn't join us, so Jim is delivering the safety report.
  - We feel it's important that everyone has a 911 sign. Each camp has a 911 address. Bill Sanborn has signs, as well as Jim. They are \$10 each. Bill is also the Fire Warden. Whenever he hears a call to Maidstone, Bill is there making sure services get to where they need to go. As the FW, Bill also handles all the fire permits. You do not need to have a permit for a camp fire. All other requests need to go through Bill.
  
  - Helicopter landing site: created through all volunteer work. A few weeks ago, the field was torn up by someone with an ATV. Volunteers repaired and fixed the landing site to ensure the site is available.
  
  - Question was posed about the secondary helicopter site – people are storing trailers, etc there. The Board will look into this.
  
  - Question: Bill Desrochers – the secondary site is state land, nothing is supposed to be there. Unsure if the site is acceptable as a landing site.
  
- **Water Quality Report... *Lee & Mary Stewart***

- Last year was a great year for the association. In terms of vision, one of the best in state. Lowest chlorophyl, lowest phosphorus. Maidstone was the best of all the lakes in VT. Doesn't diminish the fact that we are seeing phosphorus – one of the biggest concerns for this lake. We need to constantly monitor phosphorus loading into the lake. This comes directly from camps. This year, due to no coordinator, they are only monitoring 25 lakes in VT. Due to our clean state, the state will continue to monitor here.

▪ **Boating Safety....Linwood Mixer**

- Refer to last page of this report. Always important to remind everyone. Updated version of boating safety rules.
- Lin posted an update on FB group. Boating activity has increased this year. Suggestion to print out list of safety rules for those who rent out their camps. Quite a few personal watercraft less than 200 feet away from other boats – 200 foot distance, no wake. PFD – paddleboards/peddleboats – you have to have a PFD. If being towed behind a boat, you need a PFD. When waterskiing, need an observer/spotter that is 12 years or older.
- Have to stay 200 feet away from designated swim area. Also stay 200 feet away from diver down flag. Suggestion to purchase colorful kayaks/crafts as well as colorful paddles. Be aware of unaccompanied swimmers as well. You can call VT State Police in Derby if you have complaints or spot a violation.

Chris von Alt: we are getting to the point of excessive speeds out there. Fair number of new boats and jet skis that are traveling at high speeds. It does get scary for those of us on the lake they speed past. Anything we can do to minimize this. As per Linwood – state speed limit of 50mph on this lake.

Jim: has anyone seen any law enforcement presence on the lake?

Linwood: haven't seen any

Greg: usually see State Police, Game Warden. Greg hasn't seen any activity from them during the week or the weekend.

Trevor Simonowski/Randy Hazard – assigned to this area. If Jim sees them at the store, he will talk to them.

State controls the water; we have a responsibility to be good neighbors.

▪ **Aquatic Nuisance & Shoreline Monitoring Program Manager... *Chris von Alt***

- We are changing from being clear water (nutrient free) towards something that will be accepting of invasive species. The real way to fight this is to stop the trend of stressing the lake.
- In the long-term, what's going on is not good. As lake owners we should work together to reverse this trend. Best way is to work with shoreline protection programs. Heather Johnson at Essex Cty Conservation – runs these programs. Trying to introduce bio-engineering effort. They are taking out a bunch of railroad ties soaked in creosote and replacing them with something that won't leach anything into the lake. Chris encourages people to look at their houses and reach out to Heather about ways to stop

introducing phosphorous into the lake. Mercury – due to atmosphere/rain – fish we are pulling out of the lake are just below EPA limits for Mercury.

- Chris suggested forming a committee of volunteers to move our lake from stressed into a different direction.
- Greeter Program: Kaiden Covington – F, S, Sun 7 – 4. Hasn't been too busy this year, but once the park opened seemed to get a little bit busier. Greg Poer and Preston Horton installed a screen door. This year because of the pandemic, Kaiden will need masks to interact with the public at all times. Masks and sanitizer have been donated by the Taylor's and von Alt's to meet this as this is mandated by the state of VT.
- Shoreline Monitoring Program: going around looking for milfoil and invasive aquatic species. This is off and running. This is a big source of matching funds. We apply to the state for the Greeter Program – we have to provide matching funding. We need to generate 140 hours of patrol time. As a volunteer, you are helping us to receive the funds to pay Kaiden for his time. We have most of the lake covered, but not all. We still need more volunteers.
- Contact Heather Johnson and talk to her about having a Lake Wise evaluation. She will help you determine what you need to do to make your home better for the lake and improve the water quality.

Mary von Alt: Heather has done a great job helping them plant shrubs and trees to protect the shoreline. Other lake owners discussed how helpful Heather has been in protecting the lake from their....

Chris von Alt: put out another call for volunteers to help monitor shoreline.

Greg Poer: any camps that don't have anything than a pit for their septic. How many camps don't have an adequate septic system or holding tank. What effect does this have on our water? Does it leach into the lake?

Question to Doug: does the town have record of homes without holding tanks.

Doug: no records kept, at the present time, this is monitored by the state.

Chris von Alt: somewhere in the 70's just before shoreline protection put into place, a lot of systems were installed, and some are probably failing. There's no enforcement of repairing these systems.

Greg is referring to camps with no system at all. Grey water flows under camp – and possibly into the lake. This may influence the readings at the north end.

Chris: nothing the state can do; repair needs to be voluntary.

Mary: awareness needs to be built; attended a meeting where someone had gone around and tested for E. coli. If you can figure out a way to get grants and publicize it, people would WANT to improve.

Chris: any interest, please talk to him. There is money out there to help.

Bert Desrochers: I wouldn't rely on the state of VT for anything; they don't follow up and don't have money. The association had a responsibility to monitor this. It creates serious problems between association and private owners. It is important to document who has what in terms of septic (voluntary). If we have illegal systems, this should be monitored. Maybe we need to take this on ourselves, without being confrontational with landowners.

Mary: We need to build awareness. Maybe start out with a survey. Present it as we are trying to gather information to protect our lake quality. We are trying to find money to help upgrade systems. Not everyone is a member of the lake association. Make this voluntary.

▪ **Lake Directory ... *Mary von Alt***

- Please be sure to make sure your information is accurate; notify Mary of any changes. Thanks everyone for their help. This is a great resource; this is voluntary and not shared out with businesses, etc. However, it is shared out to a landowner that may request it.

Jim: keep in mind; membership has nothing to do with this resource. To have this contact information when you see something happening to a neighbor (ie – boat floating away) – is good.

▪ **Remarks ... Jim Mazzonna**

Mailboxes: thanks to Chris von Alt for his work on mailboxes

▪ **Additional Old Business:**

- Mailbox Committee update - Chris von Alt
- 76 mailboxes, 6 package lockers. Most are full. Hard to get information from post office about what's available or not. Package lockers can be an asset – but these boxes are full
- 202 lots on the lake, 41 full time residents.
- There has been discussion on moving the mailboxes to be closer to the lake. Most want this, however, any land close to the lake is owned by the state. It doesn't appear that we can use the right of way, as there is no safe spot for pulling over for mail delivery/pick up at this time. If someone wants to help figure out a spot for placement, Chris would appreciate it.
- Probably cost around \$30k for full replacement with roof structure to protect from elements.
- The association is looking for input from everyone as to what they want to do.
- Refer to information provided in Chris' report for conceptual drawings and estimates.
- Bob Snowman: perhaps move into space Weyerhaeuser? Chris – fairly wet area, culverts would need to be installed.
- Doesn't appear to be an easy thing to move the mailboxes.
- Weyerhaeuser has to go to VT Land Trust to get approval to do anything with their property.

Jim: gets complicated because if even if we could acquire the land, we would want it to be big enough for people to be able to drive up and access and we need to be able

to have a plow access it. If we did get permission to use the swath of land across the way, we'd need to get the town to somehow own it. Knows of 2 people who need mailboxes and there are presently none that are available. PO is responsible to maintain parcel boxes (in need of repair) we are responsible for installing them initially.

Chris: we don't have to install a roof, but it's a two-way street. It's possible to do this cheaper utilizing volunteers.

Doug Lord: determine where people want it first.

Jim: please know the board is working on this. We must do something for those who have moved up here full time and need access to mail. It's becoming more important. We are hoping to make one decision and move forward. Please email Chris with any suggestions.

Dave Kamins: (has to go to Guildhall at the moment) what's the next step? How do we get closer to a resolution?

Chris: determine where the money comes from. Whether each person contributes to new mailbox, or it is split 50/50 between association and members.

Jim: most of our projects aren't 30k. This could be a combination effort of asking homeowners to contribute some portion of the cost of the project and then figure out a way for the association to use some \$. We want to look at locations and see what's possible. We can spend a lot of time finding a path of approval to move closer to the lake. We need feedback, and we need to raise awareness of what we are currently dealing with.

Bert Desrochers: we've been looking at this for a long time. The postal service is supposed to provide rural service. Why can't an individual at this lake just put up their own private mailbox at the end of the lake? We need to follow up with the PO about their responsibilities.

Chris: the PO does not have a responsibility to PROVIDE a mailbox for individuals. Once there is a cluster of mailboxes, individuals cannot place their own boxes there. We spend the money, install the box, turn the keys over to the PO and they maintain it.

Dave Kamins: seems best alternative is new boxes where currently exist with a roof over it.

Chris: what's a reasonable price for an individual to pay to install new boxes and roof?

Greg Poer: favor of Chris' concept; placed where they are now. Contact everyone who has a box, suggest each pay \$100, association covers the rest.

Jim: request help from professionals who live around the lake to volunteer with construction – perhaps saving money.

40 FT people, 76 boxes in use.

Mary: there may be boxes that people have abandoned why haven't we done anything with those?

Jim: has spoken to Hans – they are aware there are a couple of boxes available if no one has used them by end of July – we possibly step in?

Amy Pear: can we use association membership as a benefit for mailbox cost fluctuations?

Jason Taylor: why is association providing funding even for people who are not members? What percentage of members?

Jim: 114 / 202 membership percentage

Jim: dues had been lowered to make membership more enticing. Now that town owns the road, dues can be lowered. Board thought if dues were lowered, more would join. We are at about the same membership level as we were before.

Jason Taylor: doesn't make sense to expect the MLA to front the entire cost of mailboxes when they aren't members.

Bob Snowman: place a warrant on the ballot to receive funding from town to build new boxes.

Linwood: ask existing owners if willing to put in \$\$\$, and if someone wants an additional unit, get a letter to take to PO to authorize box.

Amy: any idea of why now, if boxes are full there's no consistency as to where the package is delivered? Normal deliveries are shipped to two different PO's.

Jim: Please take the time to fill out forms and pay dues. Want to reiterate the MLA tries to look out for the welfare of the community. Town handles rules and regulations but we also have state land and water around us. We do our best, but we may or may not be the right place to handle your frustrations.

Volunteer work continues to diminish. We are hiring out mowing and trimming. Sam Gorham maintained this for many years. We have a contract with State of VT to reimburse for this service. We have hired Tyler Vosinek to continue this. Thanks everyone for joining.

**4. Nominating Committee Report:**

- Election of new MLA Directors. Three up for renomination. Mazzonna, Taylor, and von Alt.

Sharon Taylor casts one vote for each.

Jim asks for all in favor – all agree.

**5. New business:**

Jim: Any new business.

None.

**6. Adjournment:**

Motion to Adjourn: Greg Poer

Seconded: Marianne Bouthillier

Motion carries.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Taylor**

# Maidstone Lake Association President's Report

For Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021

Thank-you for your ongoing & generous support that enriches the stewardship of this great lake and surrounding lands. Our **individual efforts** each contribute powerfully to the overall impact in creating a difference in how we leave this place to those who follow. Your ongoing support -- through dues or donation & volunteering help us move forward and create a legacy that will sustain the great lake and lands we all so much enjoy. All those sources of support are vital to our sustainability.

We cannot adequately express our gratitude to those who volunteer their time to support our lake community. The MLA Directors serve this community to foster the MLA mission & taking great care to act in the best interests of all owners. Please take a moment to engage them to help define areas for improvement. Also -- consider serving as a Board member or other volunteer position. As you might expect there are also many folks who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support the lake in so many areas.... mowing the dam, trailer parking and maintaining the boat launch, plowing, green-up day, ice-out, selling crafts, coordinating with the State, shoreline & boat launch monitoring, shoreline monitoring, helicopter landing zone designation & improvement, fire safety, and the list goes on & on. Without this amazing level of volunteerism -- it simply would not work. Please accept our collective and eternal appreciation & gratitude for all that you do!

As we continue to share with you in Annual Reports, Maidstone Lake Mirror's, and each year at the Annual Meeting - our work together is a continuum of those that have served before us. There are many new challenges that face our Lake that will require our mindfulness and vigilance. While we are fortunate to have a lot of undeveloped forestlands surrounding the lake, we must not overlook the value and importance of the lake water & watershed. **The quality of the water and ecosystem are tightly woven together - so we should not take lightly those things that threaten their stability. Simply put -- as the water quality goes -- so goes the lake.** Our comprehensive triad of existing programs in the Lay Monitoring, Greeter, and Shoreline Monitoring activities to help us detect any issues with invasive species or degradation of water quality. These are critical programs that we will continue to support along with our efforts and practices to improve the water quality in working with the Essex County Natural Resources Conservation District to see how we can all work together to implement Best Management Practices on our properties. We need to continue to push ourselves to find ways to make improvements that result in protecting the waters we share.

When it comes to aquatic nuisance issues - any **lake that is unfortunate enough to have an infestation of milfoil or other aquatic nuisance does not ....EVER... eliminate the nuisance -- rather they must plan for ongoing remediation efforts to simply "manage" the impacts of the nuisance.** The impacts of these types of infestations are significant. The reality is if we have an infestation -- our **reserves may well be depleted in the first year** and then the recurring annual estimate could be upwards of \$100K or so to "control" the nuisance. There is very limited State, and unknown local support for this, so that leaves us to find the additional resources. Let's continue to support our best efforts to keep our lake free of these very devastating and permanent impacts.

As you will hear and read in the Lay Monitoring report from Chris von Alt -- Maidstone Lake is considered one of the "cleanest" lakes in Vermont based on the 2020 results. While that is wonderful news, we need to continue supporting all parts of the Aquatic Stewardship Program by our efforts at the boat launch and Shoreline Monitoring programs. We also should take steps at our camps to make sure we are thoughtful about improving/maintaining our shoreline habitat, land development, lawn care practices, and septic systems. Water quality is key to our sustainability, and you will also hear today on ways we can hold ourselves accountable for the quality of our lake ecosystem.

We are so fortunate to have such a great place to share and enjoy so many year-round outdoor activities on some of the most pristine lands in Vermont. Our stewardship actions today will help pave the way for future generations to enjoy this beautiful place. Our legacy is created by your continued generous support -- through donations, membership, serving the Lake or community, volunteerism, participating when and where you can, creates a positive energy and a pay-it-forward spirit. Thank-you again for your ongoing & generous support of the MLA and please continue to foster new friendships across the great community of Maidstone.

**Jim Mazzonna, President**

# Maidstone Lake Association Treasurer's Report

For Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021

We continue to report another good year for the Association's financial position. Much thanks to all of the members of the Association and to the Town of Maidstone. Our membership last year was 104 members. We encourage everyone to talk with your neighbors and friends and invite them to join the Maidstone Lake Association if they are not already members. Though membership is voluntary, support of the Association should be seen as an inherent responsibility of lake ownership. It makes good and proper financial sense to spread the maintenance costs of our lake among all the property owners. Many Associations **require** the financial maintenance of an area to be shared by **all** of the property owners. **100% participation** in the Association makes a strong statement and enhances our ability to get things done. Our "Mission" remains just as stated in our MLA By-Laws:

- To promote services and improvements in the Maidstone Lake area which are mutually beneficial to all owners
- To have representation with the State, Town, and Civic officials relative to property owner interests
- To promote the "Good Neighbor Policy" among the owners
- To preserve the natural beauty of the environment
- To preserve the purities of Maidstone Lake

The Maidstone Lake Association doesn't make nor enforce any regulations on your camp or lot. The State of Vermont and Town of Maidstone make and enforce regulations.

We want to continue to place significant emphasis on the Aquatic Nuisance (Boat Launch Greeters) and Shoreline Monitoring Programs. Chris von Alt continues the management of the Program. Shoreline monitoring is a very important part of the overall program by keeping a watchful eye on your piece of the shoreline. Please let Chris von Alt know of any unusual or suspicious plant growth. The 2021 Ice Out Contest made the association \$1097.50. Mary Davitt and Jim Intoppa each received \$548.75 in this year's ice-out. We greatly appreciate Sharon & Dave Atkinson for managing the Ice Out Contest including the entry records which are essential and very tedious. In addition, the dedication of Sam Gorham and Dave Lufkin with their watchful eyes on the Ice Out Clock. Another successful year with the Ice Out Contest.

Bob Champagne-Willis (105) has continued to provide invaluable volunteer bookkeeping and accounting services for the Association. His data processing system makes it easy to monitor our budget, accumulate data and produce current financial reports. The document that follows is a special single page report we have developed to have an easy way to represent our actual income and expenses for fiscal year 2020-2021 and the 2021-2022 projected budget.

**Gregory B. Poer - Treasurer, Maidstone Lake Association**

Maidstone Lake Association  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of June 30, 2021

	Jun 30, 21
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Certificates of Deposit	
Passumpsic Money Market 3250001	76,994.55
Union Bank CD #7002991	6,328.11
Union Bank CD #7003007	6,328.10
<b>Total Certificates of Deposit</b>	<b>89,650.76</b>
Passumpsic Bank Checking	20,078.21
Passumpsic Bank Money Market Ac	30,172.56
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>139,901.53</b>
Other Current Assets	
PayPal Account	3.61
Prepaid Expenses	
Web Site	882.49
<b>Total Prepaid Expenses</b>	<b>882.49</b>
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>886.10</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>140,787.63</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>140,787.63</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Prepaid Dues Received	
FY 2021-2022	5,730.00
FY 2022-2023	50.00
<b>Total Prepaid Dues Received</b>	<b>5,780.00</b>
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>5,780.00</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>5,780.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>5,780.00</b>
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	31,120.04
Retained Earnings	99,399.76
Net Income	4,487.83
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>135,007.63</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>140,787.63</b>

Maidstone Lake Association  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
July 2020 through June 2021

	Jul '20 - Jun 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
911 Signs Sales	10.00	60.00	-50.00	16.7%
Advertising Income	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Clothing Sales	1,536.00	2,400.00	-864.00	64.0%
Craft Sales				
Sam's Crafts	980.00	1,100.00	-120.00	89.1%
Total Craft Sales	980.00	1,100.00	-120.00	89.1%
Dam & Boat Launch Maint. Income	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.0%
Decal Income	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
Dues Received				
FY '20/'21	5,290.00	6,000.00	-710.00	88.2%
Total Dues Received	5,290.00	6,000.00	-710.00	88.2%
History Book Sales	470.00	250.00	220.00	188.0%
Ice-Out Contest Donation Gross	2,195.00	1,600.00	595.00	137.2%
Interest Income	351.53	400.00	-48.47	87.9%
Miffoil Monitoring Donations				
Others	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
Town of Maidstone	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.0%
Total Miffoil Monitoring Donations	1,000.00	1,050.00	-50.00	95.2%
Trailer Parking				
Trailer Parking Stickers	331.00	40.00	291.00	827.5%
Trailer Parking Stickers Wait	10.00			
Total Trailer Parking	341.00	40.00	301.00	852.5%
Unspecified Donations	875.00	50.00	825.00	1,750.0%
Total Income	13,048.53	14,300.00	-1,251.47	91.2%
Gross Profit	13,048.53	14,300.00	-1,251.47	91.2%
Expense				
911 Signs for Resale	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
Administrative Costs				
Accounting Software		461.00	-461.00	0.0%
Annual Meeting	1,222.00			
Bank Service Charges & Fees	70.65			
Bond	0.00	260.00	-260.00	0.0%
Dues	50.00			
Insurance	867.00	2,600.00	-1,633.00	37.2%
Miscellaneous Costs	663.61	500.00	163.61	132.7%
Postage	84.50	70.00	14.50	120.7%

9:45 AM  
 07/04/21  
 Cash Basis

**Maidstone Lake Association**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 July 2020 through June 2021

	Jul '20 - Jun 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Registrations	20.00	50.00	-30.00	40.0%
Supplies	500.92	400.00	100.92	125.2%
<b>Total Administrative Costs</b>	<b>3,578.68</b>	<b>4,341.00</b>	<b>-762.32</b>	<b>82.4%</b>
Clothing Purchased for Resale	790.50	2,300.00	-1,509.50	34.4%
Dam & Boat Launch Maint. Exp	420.00	800.00	-380.00	52.5%
Defibrillator (AED) Purchases	496.65	500.00	-3.35	99.3%
Donations Made VT Traditional Use	0.00	750.00	-750.00	0.0%
<b>Total Donations Made</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>750.00</b>	<b>-750.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Ice-Out Contest Donation Expense	1,097.50	800.00	297.50	137.2%
Milfoil Monitoring Program Greeters Program	1,226.52	1,500.00	-273.48	81.8%
<b>Total Milfoil Monitoring Program</b>	<b>1,226.52</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>	<b>-273.48</b>	<b>81.8%</b>
Parking Area Expense	272.15			
Snow Plowing Expense	450.00			
Web Site Expense	228.70	250.00	-21.30	91.5%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>8,560.70</b>	<b>11,491.00</b>	<b>-2,930.30</b>	<b>74.5%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>4,487.83</b>	<b>2,809.00</b>	<b>1,678.83</b>	<b>159.8%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>4,487.83</b>	<b>2,809.00</b>	<b>1,678.83</b>	<b>159.8%</b>

<u>Maidstone Lake</u>		FY20-21	FY20-21	FY21-22	
		<u>Actuals</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
<b>Reserves</b>	Legal	5,000	5,000	5,000	
	Milfoil Abatement	100,000	100,000	105,000	
	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>105,000</b>	<b>105,000</b>	<b>110,000</b>	
<b>Assets</b>	CD's	89,651			
	Checking	20,078			
	Money Market	30,173			
	PayPal Account	4			
	Prepaid Administrative Cost	0			
	Prepaid Bond	0			
	Prepaid Insurance	0			
	Prepaid Web Site	882			
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>140,788</b>			
<b>Income</b>	Summer Social Fund	0	0	500	
	911 Signs	10	60	30	
	Advertising Website	0	100	0	
	Annual Picnic Donations	0	0	0	
	Clothing Sales	1,536	2,400	1,600	
	Craft Sales	980	1,100	1,100	
	Dam & Boat Launch	0	1,200	1,200	
	Decal Income	0	50	50	
	Dues	5,290	6,000	6,000	
	History Book Sales	470	250	250	
	Ice-Out Contest	2,195	1,600	1,800	
	Interest	352	400	400	
	Milfoil - VT Grant	4,301	4,301	3,362	*
	Milfoil - Maidstone	1,000	1,000	1,000	
	Milfoil - Donations	0	50	50	
	Donations - Other	875	50	200	
	Trailer Parking	341	40	350	
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>13,049</b>	<b>14,300</b>	<b>14,530</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>	911 Signs	0	250	250	
	Accounting Software	0	461	461	
	Annual Meeting/Picnic	1,222	0	2,300	
	Bond	0	260	260	
	Summer Social Fund	0	0	500	
	Insurance	967	2,600	1,000	
	Miscellaneous Costs	784	500	800	
	Postage	85	70	90	
	Vermont Registration	20	50	20	

Service Awards	0	0	92
Supplies	501	400	600
Clothing	790	2,300	900
Donations - VT			
Traditional Use	0	750	750
Dam & Boat Launch	1,142	800	1,200
Ice-Out Donation	1,097	800	900
Milfoil/Greeters Program *	1,227	1,500	1,500
Defibrillator (AED)			
Purchases	497	500	500
Website	229	250	250
	<b>Total</b>		
	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>8,561</b>	<b>11,491</b>
	<b>Net Balance</b>	<b>4,488</b>	<b>2,809</b>
		<b>2,249</b>	

\* The Grant income from the State is shown for information only. The Grant money flows to the Town and is used to fund those hired as "Greeters". The MLA picks up the expenses that exceed the Grant.

***Aquatic Stewardship Program Manager's Report 2020  
Lay Monitoring, Greeter Program, & Shoreline Monitoring  
Christopher von Alt***

Maidstone Lake has a number of programs that aim to protect the clear, low nutrient water that fills the lake. These programs are grouped into the following four categories by the State of Vermont:

(1) **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS):** Programs in this category include the **Greeter Program** and the **Shoreline Monitoring Program**. Both of these programs are aimed at the early detection of invasive species, before they have a chance to take root or spread in the lake. If Maidstone Lake becomes infected with an invasive species, it will degrade the value of the lake, possibly leading to algae blooms and making the lake a much less appealing place to swim, boat, fish, or live beside. Shoreline property values will decrease. Any attempt to remove or control the invasive species will cost a great deal of money and time. To date, the Greeter and Shoreline Monitoring Programs have not identified any invasive species in or attempting to enter Maidstone Lake. However, many nearby lakes are infected, and many boats that are operated on these infected lakes also come to Maidstone Lake to fish or have fun. The Greeter Program is our first line of defense against the introduction of invasive species from boats transiting from infected lakes. The Shoreline Monitoring program is our second line of defense. **We need more volunteers to support both of these programs.**

- **Greeter Program:** Aquatic invasive species are spread in many ways including overland transport of watercraft, trailers, fishing equipment, and other recreational equipment from one lake to another. The most effective way to prevent the spread of invasive species is through education, equipment inspections, and watercraft decontaminations to remove invasive species. The Maidstone Lake Greeter Program is focused on the inspection of watercraft entering the lake through the public access area boat ramp that is managed by Vermont Fish and Wildlife. We do not currently

decontaminate or clean watercraft. Boat owners are asked respectfully if their boats can be inspected to insure there are no invasive species on board before the boat is launched from the access area. The boat owners' participation is not mandatory. If any invasive species are found, the boaters are asked to not enter the lake until they have cleaned their boats themselves outside the access area and away from the lake. A Greeter is normally on site from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays from Memorial Day through Labor Day. For the 2021 season, Karl Fuller is our Greeter inspecting watercraft entering and leaving the lake. Chris von Alt is managing the program. Last year our Greeter spent a total of 389 hours on station during this period, inspecting 273 watercraft. No invasive species were found. The State of Vermont awarded a grant to the Town for \$3,893 in 2020 for the Greeter Program. The Town of Maidstone and the Maidstone Lake Association contributed an additional \$2,000 to provide the salary for the Greeter. Volunteers provided additional time that is required to support the program. The cost of the Greeter Program in 2021 will be about \$5,062.00. In order for the Town of Maidstone to receive funding from the State, we have to generate matching funding, discussed further below. **We need more volunteers to help protect the lake.**

- **Shoreline Monitoring:** The Shoreline Monitoring Program looks for milfoil and other aquatic invasive species invading the lake's shoreline. The goal is early detection of any aquatic invasive species so they can be removed before they have a chance of infecting our lake. Since all patrollers volunteer their time, the program contributes to the generation of the matching funding required to support the Maidstone Lake Greeter Program, which is our primary means of preventing aquatic invasive species from entering our lake. This year we have indicated that our Invasive Patroller Program will generate \$600 in matching funding, by providing 40 patroller hours credited at \$15/hour. Additional matching funding comes from a \$1000 donation from the Town of Maidstone, and the time Chris von Alt spends managing the program, applying for the grant, and generating the final report. During the summer of 2020, a total of 35.5 hours were spent patrolling the shoreline. Currently we have 11 patrollers signed up to monitor the areas on the lake. Large parts of the lake are not yet selected for monitoring by any volunteers. **We need more volunteers. Please help.**

Last year, the patrollers began identifying the geographic location of the harmless plant species along the shoreline by photographing the plants and using the Seek plant identification application, available at [https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/seek\\_app](https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/seek_app). The plants identified last year were Pipewort, Cattails, and Pondweed. In the Bull Throat this year, we have found Water Horsetail, Three-way Sedge, and Water Shield. Not only is it interesting to learn the names of the harmless aquatic plants living in our lake, it also helps to identify what should NOT be living here.



Cattails  
71° 39' 38.46" W, 44° 38' 25.212"



Pond weed  
71° 39' 38.022" W 44° 38' 25.38" N



Pipewort  
71° 39' 5.55" W 44° 39' 4.728" N

An anonymous donor has offered a \$200 prize through the Lake Association to be awarded to the person who identifies and records the greatest number of aquatic species living in Maidstone Lake in 2021. The photos, location, and identification information about these species will be shared with the entire MLA membership through the Mirror and the MLA website, thus educating us all.

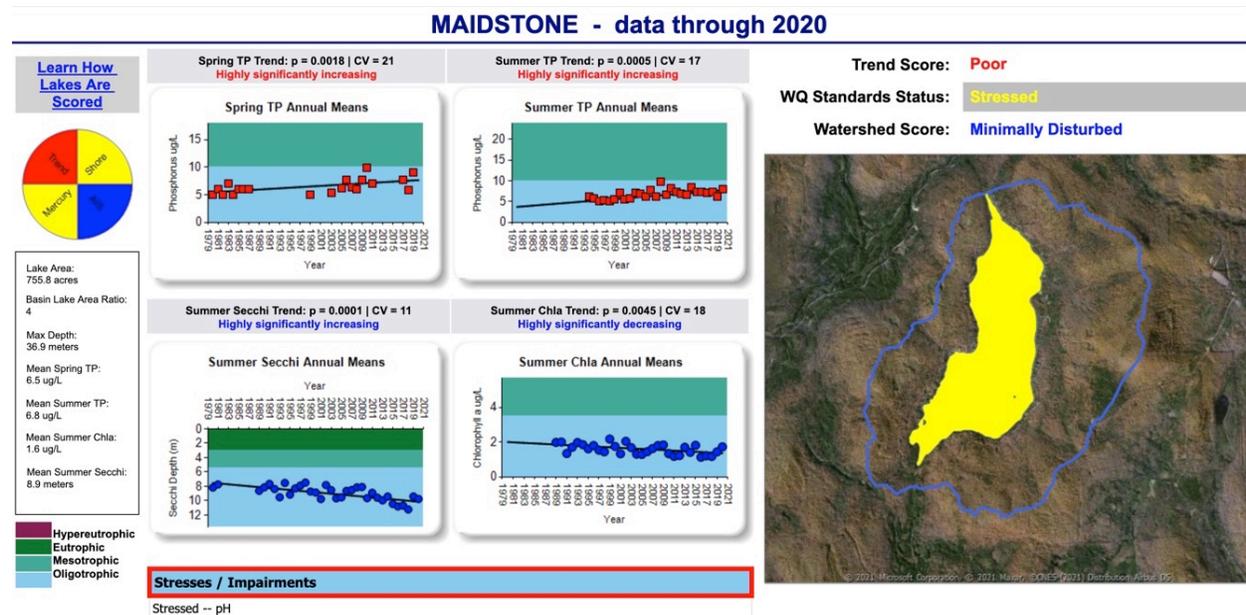
- **Nutrient Trend:** Programs in this category include the **Lay Monitoring Program** and the **Spring Phosphorus Program**. The aim of these programs is to measure the concentration of Phosphorus in the water early in the Spring (soon after ice-out), and then to monitor the concentration of Phosphorus and Chlorophyll-a, as well as Secchi depth, during the Summer. Phosphorus is the main nutrient of concern because it fuels the success of most fresh water algae. Algae are photosynthetic organisms that derive energy for growth from the sun. If they are in a lake with too much phosphorus, they may become too successful and cause harmful algae blooms, as some algae are toxic. Oligotrophic lakes like Maidstone do not normally have such problems. However, findings over the past decade have demonstrated that Maidstone Lake’s trend is poor, stressed, and of concern (see the graphic below). As a community, we need to work to reverse this trend, if we do not want algae blooms to become common on our lake. The concentration of Chlorophyll-a and the Secchi depth collected during the summer are indicators of how successful the algae are, before a bloom occurs and their success becomes apparent.
- **Lay Monitoring:** Lee and Mary Stewart performed the Lay Monitoring program as volunteers for decades, for which we all owe them an enormous debt of gratitude and appreciation. We are lucky to have the extensive historical records their work has generated. The weekly samples they took during the summer were sent to the State and were used to generate the Summer TP, Secchi, and Chala charts that are included in the Maidstone Lake Score Card. Often their readings have been reported on the Maidstoners for Life FaceBook page by Linwood Mixer, who also helped with this field work. After over 30 years of collecting and reporting for the Lay Monitoring program, Lee and Mary have stepped down. Chris and Mary von Alt have volunteered to take do the lay monitoring during 2021.
- **Shore:** Programs in this category include the **Lake Wise Program**, implementation of the **Shoreline Protection Act**, and others, such as **Septic Socials**. In this area our rating is fair, which indicates that Maidstone Lake’s “poor, stressed, and of concern” trend is primarily due to the way the shoreline and surrounding properties are being developed and maintained by property owners.

- One **Septic Social** on the lake was held in 2018. A Septic Social draws property owners together with experts in the field to discuss the problems caused by poorly functioning septic systems and the various septic systems that can be installed to protect the lake. Sewage that leaks into the lake from inadequate or poorly maintained septic systems poses a threat to anyone fishing, swimming, or boating in the lake. **All septic systems on the lake should be adequate for the task, fully functioning, and well maintained in order to keep human waste out of the lake.**
- **Lake Wise Program:** The Lake Wise program is currently managed by the Essex County Natural Resource Conservation District (ECNRCD), which is located at the Nulhegan Basin Wildlife Refuge, and managed by Hannah Fay. Hannah can be reached at: [essexnrzd@gmail.com](mailto:essexnrzd@gmail.com). ECNRCD has been funded by the State of Vermont to produce a Lake Watershed Action Plan (LWAP) for Maidstone Lake that assesses how activities in the watershed are impacting the lake, either positively or negatively. The LWAP will incorporate three Core Field Assessments: the roadway, shoreline, and stream sources that contribute to sediment and nutrient loading in the lake. The LWAP will create a Digital Watershed Data Library (DWDL) of relevant information such as shoreland parcels, lidar-generated topography, land use mapping, water quality data, and town infrastructure information. This library will include a list of stressors or concerns that will be ranked by importance. High priority projects will receive a concept design. ECNRCD will work with the landowners to discuss priority projects and assess their willingness to be involved in addressing these stressors and concerns. With a landowner commitment, each concept design will be further developed. Up to ten projects will be addressed, and budget estimates for completion will incorporate the utilization of innovative bioengineering techniques to address eroding shorelands, streams, or roads. These projects will be agreed upon by respective Project Teams that may include landowners, Lake Association members, Town Officials, State technical staff, Watershed Coordinators, and other stakeholders.

ECNRCD has extensive partnerships within the Maidstone Lake Community that will be central to developing the LWAP, including direct contact with many of the lakeshore owners through five years of developing the Lake Wise Program on the lake. The ECNRCD has completed over 30 Lake Wise Evaluations and implemented more than 18 Best Management Practices with support from the Maidstone Lake Association, willing lakeshore owners, and partners. ECNRCD held a two-day training and information session, coordinated a kayak paddle, hosted a Septic Social, and attended several Maidstone Lake Association annual meetings to showcase the Lake Wise Program. ECNRCD is a trusted partner of the lake community and committed to making the LWAP a success in the community. ECNRCD also has an established relationship with the Town of Maidstone and completed their Road Erosion Inventory in 2019 that helped identify significant erosion, culvert, and water quality issues on roads around the lake.

- **Mercury:** This program relates to fish tissue contamination, which is primarily due to air pollution. In this area we are rated fair, which indicates that mercury accumulation in the tissue of fish caught in Maidstone Lake is likely below EPA limits for allowable fish tissue mercury concentrations. This is a regional problem, not a local one, but it still impacts the health of the lake.

The State of Vermont uses the four categories described above in the Score Cards that document the health of each Vermont Lake. The Maidstone Lake Score Card for 2020, developed by Vermont Lakes and Ponds Management and Protection Program, is provided below. This graphic shares a complex set of data on the overall health of our lake with lake users so they can understand and act on it. The Score Card answers the question: how is our lake doing? The answers it provides are “poor” and “stressed”. We are trending in the wrong direction and have been for a number of years now. Although we have a minimally disturbed surrounding watershed (the blue circular ring in the righthand picture on the score card below), Spring Phosphorous in the lake, that is, the amount of phosphorous available for plants and algae to feed on during the Summer, has been increasing year to year for the past several years. The other three graphs, Summer TP, Secchi, and Chla, are outputs of the Lay Monitoring Program and reflect how the lake’s phytoplankton are responding to the



The background colors in each of the four graphs below show how Maidstone Lake is trending from the clear nutrient free oligotrophic lake (light blue) we all love towards a lake which less clear, has more plants, more nutrients, and is more welcoming to invasive species, a Mesotrophic lake.

increasing availability of Spring Phosphorous. The Trend score, which is marked in red on the Secchi disk on the upper left of the score card, is based on all four of these measurements. The results tell us that Maidstone Lake is experiencing a significant declining trend, moving our lake water away from its historically stable low nutrient state that is considered to be a valuable resource to our community and the State. Maidstone is now rated as a yellow lake, i.e., poor and stressed, but recoverable. **This means property owners on Maidstone Lake have an opportunity to reverse this overall negative trend and improve water conditions by reducing nutrient inputs if they choose to do so.** The Shoreline Programs offer a valuable means of reducing nutrient input; these programs are in some cases backed by State funding. More information can be found at:

<https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/data-maps/scorecard>

### Reclassification of Maidstone Lake

With the support of The Town of Maidstone, the Maidstone Lake Association, and the Essex County Natural Resource Conservation District, a petition is being prepared for submission to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation to reclassify Maidstone Lake from its current designation as a B(2) Lake for a number of uses to an A(1) Lake for a

number of uses. The petition process requires the petitioners to reach out to the surrounding municipalities and stakeholders to inform them that we are submitting the petition, to explain why we are submitting the petition, and to establish if the abutting municipalities and stakeholders support the petition.

**The issue at hand is this:** Maidstone Lake is in excellent condition and exceeds the Vermont Water Quality Standards for an A(1) lake for aesthetics, fishing, and swimming, but is currently designated as a B(2) lake. This means that Maidstone Lake's water quality is being managed by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation to a much lower standard than it should be. This situation is not in the best interests of the general public and local municipalities, and therefore must be corrected. The benefit of reclassification is that the lake is placed into a water quality class that better reflects its actual condition, and the threshold for declaring the lake as a lake with deteriorating water quality is dramatically lowered. That means that if the water quality of Maidstone Lake continues to degrade, we will not have to wait until the lake degrades to below a B(2) status for State funded corrective action to be taken.

There is a compelling argument to increase protections for lakes with excellent water quality, like Maidstone Lake, where summer Total Phosphorus concentrations are increasing, to ensure that water quality deterioration does not get so bad that it makes the lake an undesirable place to swim, fish, boat, or live beside. Consider the significant degradation that has happened to the water quality of Lake Champlain and several other lakes in Vermont that have been managed to a B(2) standard. Degradation has caused beach closures, fishing restrictions during the summer, and the infestation of lakes by invasive aquatic species that are extremely expensive to control and combat. In addition, a study conducted by UVM clearly showed that declining water quality resulted in significant, measurable declines in property values on Lake Champlain. It is obviously not in the best interests of our communities to let the water quality in Maidstone Lake degrade to this point, and it is clear, based on ongoing studies, that the quality of the water in Maidstone Lake is already headed in this direction. We therefore must act now to prevent further degradation. This is why we are soliciting your support. Please sign the petition.

### **Tactical Basin Plan**

The final Upper Connecticut River Tactical Basin Plan was approved this fall and is now available at:

<https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/WID/WPP/2021%20Upper%20Connecticut%20River%20Tactical%20Basin%20PlanSigned.pdf>

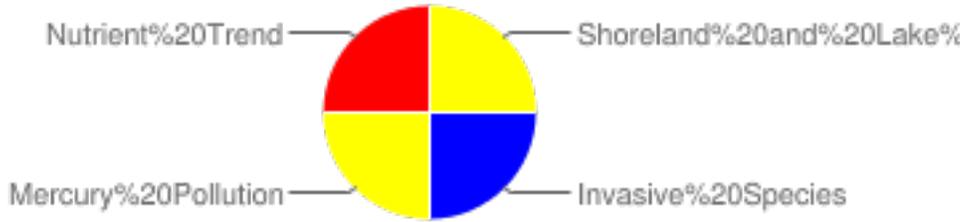
### **Boat Wakes**

The consequences of the wakes generated by slow speed boats has become a subject of great concern to many people throughout the country. Below are links to two articles of interest to provide additional information.

<https://kezarwatershed.org/s/Boat-Wake-Presentation-Executive-Summary-May-2021.pptx>

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwjlqBCZi8\\_xAhWFkmoFHac5C6AQFjAAegQIAXAD&url=https%3A%2F%2Fimg1.wsimg.com%2Fblobby%2Fgo%2Fcf65b112-4ce9-4da9-a066-f09ac53fad63%2FBoat%2520Wake%2520Impact%2520Analysis%2520-%2520Final%2520Report%2520-%2520202.pdf&usg=AOvVaw3hMPZq\\_HbsgyxWJnvJrS52](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwjlqBCZi8_xAhWFkmoFHac5C6AQFjAAegQIAXAD&url=https%3A%2F%2Fimg1.wsimg.com%2Fblobby%2Fgo%2Fcf65b112-4ce9-4da9-a066-f09ac53fad63%2FBoat%2520Wake%2520Impact%2520Analysis%2520-%2520Final%2520Report%2520-%2520202.pdf&usg=AOvVaw3hMPZq_HbsgyxWJnvJrS52)

## MAIDSTONE Lake Scorecard



### Lay Monitoring Data for Maidstone Lake - Town of Maidstone - 2020

Station	Date	Sample Type	Depth (m)	Secchi (m)	Chl-a (ug/l)	Phosphorus (ug/l)
1	05/31/20			0.8		6.80
1	06/06/20	Hose	2	1	2.82	6.30
1	06/13/20	Hose	20.6	10.3	1.41	19.00
1	06/20/20	Hose	27.6	13.8	1.21	7.20
1	06/27/20	Hose	24	12	1.24	7.00
1	07/04/20	Hose	23	14	1.24	10.00
1	07/12/20	Hose	23	12	1.69	7.50
1	07/18/20	Hose	22.8	11.4	1.5	7.10
1	07/25/20	Hose	21.8	10.9	1.53	7.80
1	08/01/20	Hose	21	10.5	1.81	6.90
1	08/08/20	Hose	19.4	9.7	2.01	6.50
1	08/15/20	Hose	19.2	9.6	2.03	7.10
1	08/22/20	Hose	19.6	9.8	1.88	6.30
1	09/05/20	Hose	21.8	10.9	2.04	6.70

## The Internet of Things at the Lake

The Internet services at the lake remain an issue, but certainly better as each year passes by. We rely on private companies to make this happen and sometimes it does not work out. There have been lots of stories in the news about companies not fulfilling their promises to deliver services. Perhaps some of the COVID funding will give us greater access in the near future!

We should all know what our options are for the Internet. There are basically a few ways that Internet service *can* be delivered to the lake.

1. **Satellite:** These are companies like HughesNet, Wild Blue & Starlink. This technology relies on beaming signals to low earth orbit satellites from your house to earth stations where it connects to the Internet. They are costly - by comparison, and typically are "slower" than other services since the signal needs to travel a way and there is an inherent delay. The latest player in this market is Starlink which is:

- a constellation of satellites to provide broadband services to remote areas. Starlink (owned by SpaceX - Elon Musk) has launched 1500 low earth orbit satellites to help provide broadband internet services. They are in Beta service now - but it is up & working and provides decent Internet speeds.

- you need to have a view of the N/NE sky.

- speeds could be 50Mbps or higher download and 20Mbps or higher upload.

- latency is advertised as 20-40ms which is fine for most all applications.

- there are no data caps - at the moment - like other satellite providers.

- understand it does not pass SIP protocol which would mean no WiFi calling at the moment.

- Cost of service is \$99 per month plus the one-time equipment charge of \$581.94 - see below.

- self installation.

- There is a Starlink App you can download, and it will walk you through locating the antenna placement on your property. You can do this without ordering service.

More info at:

<https://www.starlink.com>

Type in your service address and you will be either able to sign-up to be notified or allowed to order equipment.

Hughes Net: <http://www.hughesnet.com>

[844-737-2700](tel:844-737-2700)

Wild Blue: <https://www.wildblue.com>

[855-627-2554](tel:855-627-2554)

Starlink: <https://www.starlink.com>

2. **DSL:** This service is provided by Consolidated Communications and working well for many around the lake - but not all. This service is where the Telephone companies can use existing copper phone lines to multiplex the data and provide homes with Internet. Works well but is limited in the speed it can provide. Relatively cost effective and if you are within the prescribed distance of the Telephone building which is located on the East side.

### DSL Services

Consolidated: [603-703-9865](tel:603-703-9865)

<https://www.consolidated.com>

3. **Hybrid - Value Added Services:** So, these are companies that leverage existing services & technologies and then add value. So, a good example of this is New England Wireless Co (NEWCo). NEWCo uses a fiber optic connection to the outside world and then has set up a series of wireless access points around the lake to which you can connect to through a box that they provide. This system has been operational for several years and has been recently upgraded. You will need to call them to set-up the service - see info below. Pursuant to a grant from the State of VT New England Wireless Co. ("NEWCo") is now offering Internet access with speeds up to 25 Mbps down & 8 Mbps up. Below is a list of service levels now being offered by NEWCo\*:

---

### Internet Access Service Plan details - June 2021:

<u>Product*</u>	<u>Download</u>	<u>Upload</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>EPP**</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Mbps</u>	<u>Mbps</u>			

Broadband 8	6	2	\$ 47.95	\$5.00	\$ 52.95
Broadband 12	9	3	\$ 55.95	\$5.00	\$ 60.95
Broadband 16	12	4	\$ 63.95	\$5.00	\$ 68.95
Broadband 20	15	5	\$ 71.95	\$5.00	\$ 76.95
Broadband 24	18	6	\$ 79.95	\$5.00	\$ 84.95
Broadband 28	21	7	\$ 87.95	\$5.00	\$ 92.95
Broadband 33	25	8	\$ 95.95	\$5.00	\$100.95
Broadband 36	27	9	\$103.95	\$5.00	\$108.95
Broadband 40	30	10	\$111.95	\$5.00	\$116.95

\* Subject to coverage. May require non-standard equipment at additional cost.

\*\* Equipment Protection Plan. Fee waived when using State funded equipment.

. - Phone service, unlimited local & long distance, US & Canada, \$24.95/ mth 1 line, \$44.95/ mth 2 lines (keep your old #)

. - Installation fee: \$150/ \$200/ \$250 with 2 yr/ 1yr/ no commitment. Early termination fee \$50/ yr short.

New England Wireless Co. llc

[www.NEWISP.net](http://www.NEWISP.net)

PO Box 5233, West Lebanon, NH 03784

### **NEWco Customer Support: 877-543-8429**

4. **Cellular Data:** Anyone who has a smart phone has a data plan and these devices can be used to connect to the Internet. These systems rely on Cell Data towers to provide connectivity. Hopefully, in the next few years – newer technologies like 5G will create better Internet access at the lake. If we had good cell service into the lake you could also "hot spot" your cell phone to provide Internet. 5G has great data throughput but requires towers to beam down into the lake.

5. **Cable:** This may never happen either due to low density of population - but it uses Coaxial Cable to provide TV & Internet services. Doubt Spectrum or other providers will find payback by routing cable to the lake.

6. **Fiber to the House:** This may happen in our kid's lifetime at Maidstone Lake. Basically, the Telephone companies replace the old copper lines going to our camps with the Fiber Optic line. This type of system would greatly enhance our Internet to say the least! Larger cities have this type of service. Let's hope Consolidated moves on this soon!

**Speed:** Speed matters! Generally, you will be able to get somewhere between 1.25 - 25 Mbps on the services that are available to the lake. Those are terrible speeds compared to what you can get in the rest of civilization - but this is what we have! Your actual mileage may vary - your speed will be what you experience - NOT what they sell you! The costs vary as well from something like \$70 or so and up. Satellite services tend to be the costliest.

**Which Internet Option is best?** The one that works! Seriously - there are many factors in each of these services that need to be considered. Availability is the largest driver - some of these services will not work in certain locations of the lake - or work the way you expect it. As technologies improve and we can get better cellular services we should see the situation improving.

**This stinks - who can I voice my opinion with?** This is interesting because if you look at what the Vermont DPS states on their website - it is a private issue.

<http://publicservice.vermont.gov/telecom/consumers>

You can certainly email the Vermont Department of Public Service with your questions & inquiry.

BUT - the fact of the matter is ....this is from their website:

#### **Broadband (From Vermont DPS Website)**

"Broadband services such as DSL, cable modem, dial-up Internet, wireless and satellite have been deregulated at the federal level by the FCC. What this means for consumers is that the state of Vermont cannot compel any company to offer broadband services, nor can the Board or the PSD regulate how these services are offered or what companies charge for them. The Telecommunications and Connectivity Division can assist consumers in finding out what broadband options are available in their area."

For more information on Vermont DPS Broadband Initiatives:

<https://publicservice.vermont.gov/connectivity>

**Resources for you 7X24:** Reminder that our Lake Website and the Town have Maidstone Website have online resources for your convenience.

Maidstone Lake

<https://maidstonelake.net>

Town of Maidstone

<http://www.maidstone-vt.org>

Maidstone Lake – Membership Form

<https://secureservercdn.net/104.238.71.109/av5.10a.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/MLA-Membership-2021-22.pdf>

Maidstone Lake – Pay Online Membership Form – PayPal

<https://maidstonelake.net/membership>

Maidstone Lake – Pay Online Boat Trailer Form – PayPal

<https://maidstonelake.net/trailerparking>

Maidstone Waste Schedule

[https://secureservercdn.net/104.238.71.109/av5.10a.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/waste\\_recycle-schedule\\_2021.pdf](https://secureservercdn.net/104.238.71.109/av5.10a.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/waste_recycle-schedule_2021.pdf)

Boating Safety Guidelines

<https://av5.10a.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Vermont-Boating-Regulations-Resources.pdf>

Maidstone Lake E-Resources Page

<https://maidstonelake.net/mla-lake-info>

Maidstone Lake Classified Section

<https://maidstonelake.net/lake-classifieds>

Maidstone Lake Quick Link Resources

<https://maidstonelake.net/links-of-interest>

Town of Maidstone – Documents & Policies

<http://www.maidstone-vt.org/documents>

Town of Maidstone – Town Officials

<http://www.maidstone-vt.org/town-officials>

Town of Maidstone – Meetings Info Page

<http://www.maidstone-vt.org/meetings>