Healthy Waters Coalition

Protecting the waters of Sebago Lake Region, Maine

The Healthy Waters Coalition is a collaborative work group created in fall 2012 to inform and educate the citizens of the Lakes Region, Maine on issues concerning the Sebago Lake watershed. The Coalition defines "watershed" as including the tributaries, waterways, wetlands, lakes, rivers, creeks and ponds within the Sebago Lake Region of southern Maine.

The coalition aims to 1) inform and educate citizens, 2) recommend pro-active measures to local governments and others, and 3) to take action when called upon to protect our waters, our communities and our way of life. Volunteers, concerned citizens & representatives from local organizations and local government are welcome.

Membership. As of 2013, the Coalition includes representatives from eight different Lakes Region towns: Raymond, Casco, Otisfield, Sebago, Naples, Standish, Windham and Waterford. Members are volunteers and representatives from local government, town boards and committees, local watershed groups, including Sebago Lake Anglers' Association, Panther Pond Association, Parker Pond Association, as well as other interests, such as Saint Joseph's College, several local businesses and individual citizens. While the coalition was founded in Raymond, it quickly expanded to include members from other towns and throughout the Lakes Region.

One current issue of concern is the possible transportation of heavy oil sands, or diluted bitumen, through the Portland-Montreal Pipe Line, which passes through the Lakes Region near Sebago Lake. The Healthy Waters Coalition is concerned about oil spill prevention and mitigation, protecting the watershed and the community…since the region itself is a "water community."

The coalition held an information forum at the Raymond Village Library in its early stage of forming in fall 2012 and plans to coordinate a future public information forum in spring 2013. It maintains a "pro-info" stance on these issues. The HWC holds monthly meetings.

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