

Financial Assistance

Funds are available to address the 13 remaining high and medium impact erosion sites, as identified in the Panther Pond Watershed Survey. Landowners and road associations of these sites are eligible to receive free technical assistance and 50% cost sharing to fix erosion and runoff problems.

There is also funding available for 20 additional lower impact erosion sites, (up to \$300 per site). This funding can be used to buy native plants for establishing vegetative buffers or for building materials (rocks, timbers, erosion control mulch) that help mitigate soil erosion. The sites will be selected based on the level of impact to the lake and the landowner's desire to participate in the project.

Additional sites may also be considered under the Conservation Project Grant and will be evaluated on a first come-first serve basis.

Project Steering Committee

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| Phil Boissonneault | Fabienne Cattell |
| Marie Connolly | Peggy Jensen |
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| Charlie Turner | Brian Walker |
| Nathan Whalen, PWD | John Wolanski |
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Project Staff: Noralee Raymond, RWPA
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For More Information Contact:

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What You Can Do To Help

- ✎ Establish a buffer by allowing manicured lawns to naturalize and by planting non-invasive trees, shrubs and annuals (it is unlawful to remove any existing shoreline vegetation).
- ✎ Consider buffering not just your shoreline, but also your driveways and paths.
- ✎ Cover bare soil by seeding with grass and/or wild flowers or with erosion control mulch.
- ✎ Stabilize eroding footpaths by defining them and then covering them with materials, such as erosion control mulch or crushed stone.
- ✎ Install stormwater runoff diverters on roads, driveways, paths, and around buildings to prevent polluted water from entering streams and lakes.
- ✎ Pump septic systems every 2 to 3 years or 4-5 years for seasonal camps.
- ✎ Use only phosphorus free fertilizer.
- ✎ Familiarize yourself with shoreline zoning laws. Any work done within 75 feet of the shore requires a permit issued by the DEP.



Volunteer to help fix identified erosion sites on Panther Pond. It's fun and very satisfying!

Panther Pond Conservation Project: Phase II



PHASE II HIGHLIGHTS

FREE Technical Assistance
Remediation of 33 Erosion Sites
Financial Grants for Homeowners
Workshops and Tours

Panther Pond Association
PO Box 68
Raymond Maine 04071



This heavily used path was worn down to bare soil. Stormwater was flowing quickly down the path, directly into the Pond.



Infiltration steps and crushed stone were used to stabilize the eroding soil, as well as to allow stormwater runoff time to soak into the ground.

PROJECT BACKGROUND AND UPDATE

Pollution from soil erosion has been identified as the **most damaging pollution source** threatening Panther Pond. With the assistance of the Maine DEP and the Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA), the Panther Pond Association received a grant in 2005 to address about half of the 84 identified soil erosion sites on the lake.

With the improvements that were made during Phase I to sites that were considered to be of high impact, PPA was able to reduce the amount of sediment entering the Pond by an estimated **75.1 tons** and the amount of phosphorus by **62.2 pounds** per year! This reduction amounts to **70%** of the estimated pollutant load associated with sites identified during the 2003 watershed survey.

Based on this success and again working with its collaborative partners, PPA has received a **Phase II \$115,134 grant** (\$63,289 federal funding, \$51,845 local match) to address the remaining sites on Panther Pond over the next two years.

All Panther Pond watershed residents are encouraged to participate in this grant to reduce erosion problems. Remember, **financial assistance and FREE technical assistance** is available. Please help us protect Panther Pond!



The natural vegetated buffer on this shorefront property had been completely removed. A manicured lawn lends virtually no aid to treating polluted runoff. If your property already has an existing lawn, maintaining it at a minimum of 3 inches is recommended, although allowing the area to naturalize is preferred.



Once a “permit by rule” was obtained through the DEP, erosion control mulch and native vegetation were installed along the shoreline. This buffer strip will be able to more effectively slow the running stormwater, which will give it time to infiltrate into the ground.

WHY is **SOIL EROSION** the single greatest threat to water quality? Soil contains the nutrient phosphorus, a naturally occurring element that is found in soil, rocks, fertilizers, detergents, sewage, etc. When it enters a lake, it promotes rapid algal blooms, which depletes the water of oxygen making it difficult for fish and animals to survive. Algal blooms also turn water green and murky, make rocks slippery and give drinking water an unpleasant taste and odor. Studies have shown that as water clarity decreases, property values also decrease by as much as ten to twenty percent.