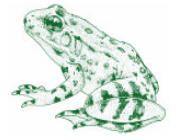


Raymond Waterways Newsletter

Published by Raymond Waterways Protective Association

"To protect and improve pond and lake water quality and foster watershed stewardship"

June 2004



Dear Friends of Raymond Waterways;

After experiencing a "non-winter" with hardly any snow, we anxiously await a normal summer, replete with warm temperatures and sunny days.

First, a change of date...

You may be a bit surprised by the early arrival of this publication. We surmised that most people's interest in lake activities is greater in early summer rather than late in the season and it gives us a chance to let you know about upcoming trainings and events, hence the change. Hope you agree.

And, what's on our mind is...

Of course the milfoil situation. While it is very true that Raymond is surrounded by infected lakes (North-Parker Pond, East-Little Sebago, South and West-Sebago) our four main lakes (Crescent, Panther, Raymond, & Thomas) are thankfully spared the dreaded weed for another year. This is due in no small part to our effort to inform, educate, and patrol (inspect) our waterways. Read about our efforts on page 2.

And even more on Milfoil...

As if we haven't got enough to watch out for, in addition to variable milfoil and the hydrilla found last year in Pickeral Pond, we now have another invasive to be con-

cerned about and this one is very close to us. Little Sebago Lake has a close relative of variable milfoil called *Myrophyllum pinnatum*. We know that this new (to us) plant does not have flowers like variable milfoil, making it even more difficult to identify!

The first line of defense, our staff...

We have been fortunate to acquire the services of Noralee Raymond as Executive Director. She is in charge of education, overall coordination, and is the person to contact for all communications. She will be active in running both the Milfoil Ranger Program and the Watershed Stewards Program. Our Lead Ranger, Kevin Hughes, will continue to offer his assistance as time allows and we have hired two Raymond residents as our summer Lakes Protection Rangers - Deb Cutten and Mark Dixon. Look for us all at the boat ramps this summer.

Need to contact us...

By phone - 207-671-3329 or e-mail - lakes@raymondmaine.org. If you think you have spotted an invasive plant, do call promptly

as we will then visit the site and marshal our resources quickly if need be. What makes invasives so dangerous is the fact that they spread and grow rapidly, sometimes growing an inch or more per day. Hence rapid reaction time is paramount to their control or

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Invasive Plant ID Workshop

Come learn about the "weed" and other invasives! RWPA is sponsoring this workshop, led by the Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants (MCIAP). Using live samples, learn how to identify invasive and native plants. Proper identification is essential to keeping these invasive plants out of our lakes.

Date: Tuesday, June 22nd

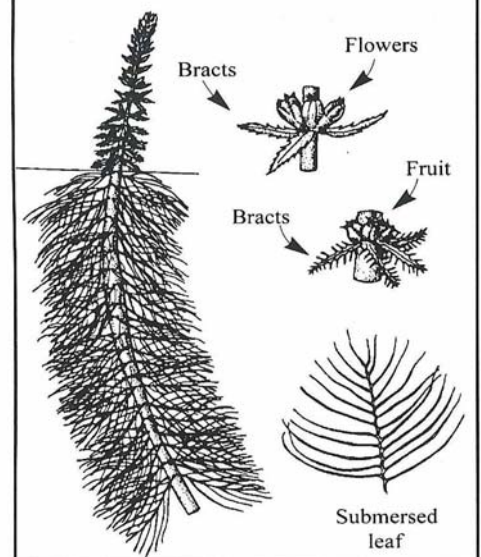
Time: 4 - 8:30

Location: Raymond Public Safety Building

RSVP: 671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org

A copy of "A Field Guide to Invasive Aquatic Plants" is included, as well as other materials. **RSVP required.** Please let us know you are coming so MCIAP can bring enough materials.

Variable Milfoil



2003 Ramp Inspections & the Ranger Program Results

Have we been busy? You bet! Take a look...

at our 2003 ramp inspection results.. This represents 480 hours of work at the four launch sites listed. Please be advised that a low count at some ramps does not necessarily mean that ramp was not visited often. Some ramps just naturally do not get used as much as others. We try to have our Rangers at the launches during peak use times to talk to the maximum number of people. Each year we update our schedules to maximize their use.

Lake Plant Surveys 2003

- Completed shoreline plant surveys of Raymond Pond, Crescent Lake, Panther Pond, and Notched Pond. **No colonies were found.** Great thanks to the volunteers who assisted with this effort.
- Due to numerous floating fragments of variable milfoil sited at Raymond Beach, we completed a detailed shoreline survey along Jordan Bay and documented existing colonies.

Remediation Efforts 2003

- Assisted the highly motivated Bayview Estates group with ongoing management of a colony in one canal. Assisted with both hand removal and laying down bottom (benthic) barriers.
- Supported Portland Water District and Maine DEP with a hand pulling of milfoil at the Sebago Lake State Park.
- Monitored Panther Run and found that the plants have

been substantially impacted beneath the barriers.

Inspections 2003

- A total of 401 boats inspected at four launch sites, a 40% increase over 2002 (286 boats at two launch sites)
- In August, our rangers reported that many of the same boats had already been inspected and had not been to other lakes.

SUMMER 2003 INSPECTION SURVEY TOTALS

	Raymond Beach	Crescent Beach	Thomas Pond	Panther Run	Combined	% of Total
State of Registration						
ME	237	73	5	6	321	80%
MA	16	10	1	2	29	7%
NH	18	10	0	0	28	7%
CT	5	4	0	0	9	2%
VT	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Other	9	4	0	0	13	3%
Total	286	101	6	8	401	100%
Boater Informed of Invasives?						
Yes	273	98	5	7	383	96%
No	13	3	1	1	18	4%
Total	286	101	6	8	401	100%
Boat Have Sticker?						
Yes	254	86	5	7	352	88%
No	32	15	1	1	49	12%
Total	286	101	6	8	401	100%

Thank you to our volunteers and to Lead Ranger Kevin Hughes and his assistants, Eric Dyer and Ben Lubbers for all their hard work.

Lakes Ranger Program 2004 - A Busy Season Ahead

Removal Effort in Jordan Bay

The 2004 Season is off to a busy start. Noralee put together a Management Plan for the Jordan Bay Marina canal identified in the 2003 shoreline survey to be 25% infested. On May 16th, with four divers, ten volunteers and staff from the Marina and Portland Water District, we removed 3 1/2 yards of variable leaf milfoil and put down 2700 square feet of benthic (bottom) barrier to kill the roots and prevent further growth. The divers and our volunteers made this effort a great success!

Inspections

We have a busy season ahead for 2004 with coverage of the same four launch sites of last year, in addition to visits to the Raymond Pond on a semi-regular basis. We will continue to do our best to cover the ramps during peak hours with our two new rangers.



Divers Assist at Jordan Bay Removal

If you are interested in being a trained volunteer boat inspector, please contact us. We hope to organize volunteers to assist the Rangers and increase coverage at all the ramps.

Lake Plant Surveys

Inspections on all the lakes each season are critical so that we can identify colonies as soon as possible and take action immediately.

Thank you to our Vice President, John Rand, for the use of the family boat, a 13' Boston Whaler to help us inspect all our lakes for invasive plants. This is not a police boat and has no police powers, but serves only to make it possible to inspect our lakes for invasive plants, especially in July and August when all flora have reached maturity. Be sure to look for us and don't forget to wave!

If you think you have spotted an invasive plant be sure to give us a call and we will come check it out as soon as possible. Early detection is essential to preventing the spread of these plants.

RWPA Structure & Services - What Do We Offer?

Here is a look at the five main services RWPA provides. RWPA continues to monitor and publish water quality results and trends for all Raymond lakes, has trained technical staff, and maintains a ranger program. The figure below is an example of the structure we hope to create to provide comprehensive lake protection. The goal is to work with a lake association or committee that represents each lake and helps guide the effort on each lake. We are looking for motivated individuals from each lake to serve on our Board.

Milfoil Protection

- Provide milfoil and invasive aquatic plants education and prevention by conducting boat ramp inspections and annual lake plant surveys, hosting plant ID workshops, and developing milfoil management plans.

Watershed Stewardship

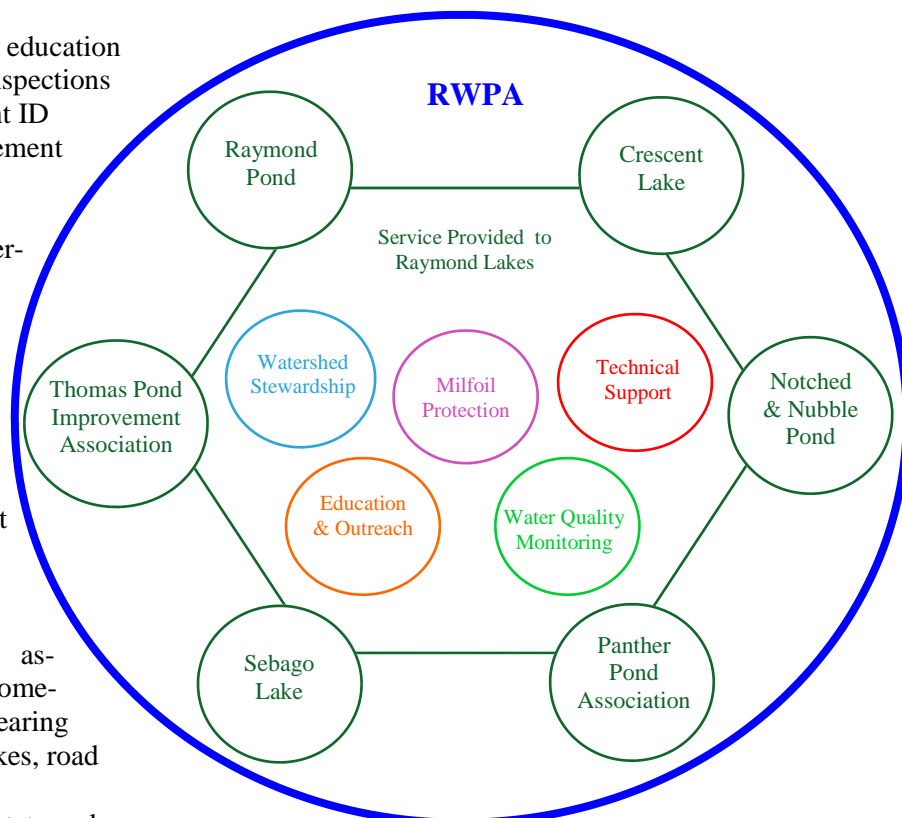
- Assist lake associations in conducting watershed surveys and implementing lake protection projects to document and control erosion and polluted runoff.

Technical Support

- Provide technical support to towns, lake associations and individual landowners on all watershed issues.
- Pursue state, federal, and foundation grant opportunities for watershed and milfoil protection.

Education & Outreach

- Create a directory of contacts for lake associations, road associations, and homeowner associations to provide a “central clearing house” for information sharing between lakes, road associations, and individuals.
- Foster working partnerships with existing state and local watershed protection groups and assist in the formation of lake and road associations on all the lakes and ponds.
- Develop outreach and education programs to promote



public awareness of all watershed issues.

Water Quality Monitoring

- Train and coordinate volunteers who monitor lake water quality on all lakes and ponds and publish

Working Together With Lake Associations – A Success Story

Here is a great example of how having a local lake group can increase the work accomplished on an individual lake. It also shows how a recently formed lake association has defined its role and effectively uses RWPA for technical support. Local groups are essential to our efforts. With Panther Pond Association taking an active role on the RWPA Board and in lake protection efforts, they have greatly increased the work accomplished and educational efforts in their watershed.

Raymond Waterways		Panther Pond Association
Provided Training and Technical Support Checked the Work of Volunteers	Panther Pond Watershed Survey	Organized Steering Committee to Guide Project Activities & Organized Volunteers
Provides Technical Support to Landowners on ALL Raymond Lakes	Conservation Projects	Contacts Landowners with Erosion Sites Organizes Volunteers to Fix Sites on Panther
Coordinate Lake Plant Surveys and Boat Ramp Inspections for ALL Raymond's Lakes	Aquatic Invasive Plant Protection	Recruits Volunteers to Assist with Lake Surveys & Boat Inspections at Panther Run
Director Applied for Federal Grant Funds Provides Technical and Administrative Support for Project	Proposed Conservation Project Grant	Guide Project Activity with a Local Steering Committee and Contacts Volunteers and Landowners to Coordinate Efforts

Thomas Pond Conservation Update

In 2000, the Thomas Pond Improvement Association, MDEP, CCSWCD and volunteers conducted a watershed survey that identified 125 erosion sites. Thomas Pond's water quality problems can be attributed to polluted runoff that washes into the lake from its surrounding watershed. The Thomas Pond Conservation Project has been underway since May of 2003 and is gearing up for one more season of water quality improvement projects. The Thomas Pond Conservation Project, (a \$46,000 Federal 319 grant from MDEP) will reduce erosion and polluted runoff at 34 sites throughout the watershed.

Highlights of the project to date:

- Twenty of Thomas Pond's residents and road associations have taken advantage of the free technical assistance program to find solutions to common problems like washed out gravel driveways and roads and expansive lawns that run to the lakes edge.
- Construction projects have occurred on Watkins Shores Road, Thomas Pond Terrace and Libby Road. Thomas Pond Shore Road, Old Route 302 and Quaker

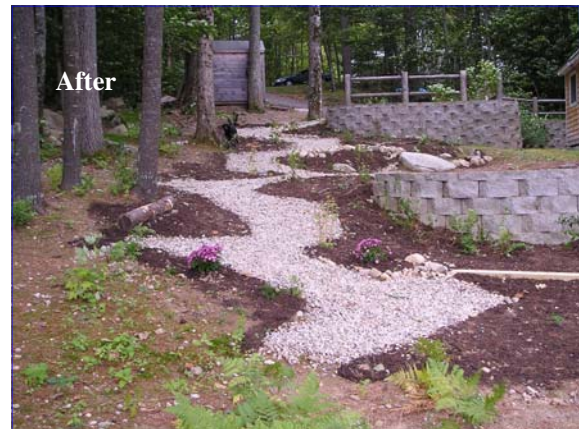
Ridge Road are scheduled for work this upcoming season.

- Six residents have benefited from an excellent program to encourage planting native plants in the watershed. If the homeowner purchases \$100 worth of native plants, the grant will match up to \$100. There is more funding available through the plant matching grant for the upcoming season
- A Buffer Workshop was held in August of 2003 where 16 participants boarded two pontoon boats and toured the lake to view natural and landscaped buffers. Balancing lake views and water quality protection through plant selection was the focus. A second Buffer Workshop is scheduled for this summer (look for announcement on Local Cable Access).

We look forward to a busy season and making progress towards protecting the water quality of Thomas Pond. For more information, please contact Betty Williams, Cumberland County SWCD, 856-2777 or betty-williams@me.nacdn.net



**Moderate to severe erosion
on steeply sloped side yard**



**Curved, stone-lined pathway installed
along with native plants on either side**

Panther Pond Association Completes Watershed Survey

Background

The Panther Pond Association (PPA) was formed in 2002 by landowners concerned with protecting the long-term viability of Panther Pond and a desire to bring together all the road and neighborhood associations around Panther Pond to provide landowners with a mechanism to speak as one organized voice and take a proactive approach to solving Panther Pond watershed issues.

To avoid a one year delay PPA decided to forego the grant funded process for watershed surveys. With technical assistance from the Maine DEP, Cumberland County SWCD, and RWPA, Panther Pond Association organized

volunteers and completed their watershed survey in the fall of 2003.

Survey Results

Volunteers and technical staff identified 84 sites in the Panther Pond Watershed that are currently impacting or have the potential to impact water quality of the lake. Almost half these sites were found in residential areas. Compared to eroding road sites, these sites tend to have less severe erosion and can be fixed easily with low cost. However, added together these smaller sites can have a

(Continued on page 5)

Panther Pond continued

(Continued from page 4)

big impact on water quality. Individual landowners can play a big role in helping to address these sites. Erosion on road related sites (state, town, and private roads) make up about 1/3 of the total number of sites which tend to be larger erosion problems with a greater impact to the lake.

Future Plans

RWPA staff will work with PPA and landowners to address several sites this season. The Town Road Commissioner has fixed one town site and plans to fix a second site on Raymond Hill Road this year.

RWPA staff has worked with the PPA to put together a grant proposal to apply for federal funding to fix 42 of the

sites identified in the watershed survey. If approved, the project would begin in the spring of 2005.

Survey Report

A copy of the Panther Pond Watershed Survey Report is available at the Raymond Village Library or contact PPA if you are interested. All PPA members and those landowners with an identified problem received the report

Join PPA

Annual dues for Panther Pond Association are \$20. These funds will help produce and distribute the survey reports and provide the necessary local matching funds they will need when applying for the conservation project grant.

Write to PPA at PO Box 68, Raymond, Maine 04071 or e-mail pantherpondassoc@aol.com for more information.

Raymond Pond & Crescent Lake Demonstration Project Completed

With the hard work of the local Steering Committee and Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District Staff, this project came to completion in the Fall of 2003 with great success. The purpose of this project was to demonstrate a variety of conservation practices and ultimately to improve water quality in both watersheds.

Project Highlights



Crescent Shores Right of Way with severe erosion straight to the lake

- Conservation practices were installed at 14 sites, including: Crescent Lake Beach, Kokatosi Campground, Camp Agawam, 3 town roads, 3 private roads, 1 right of way, and 3 residential areas
- Twenty technical assistance visits completed. Project staff met with landowners to do a site walk and discuss the erosion issues and possible remedies. Recommendations were summarized in a brief report.
- Two field tours were organized to showcase conservation practices installed and provide education on how these practices can be used at other sites.
- 34 people attended the Community Watershed Forum which has helped RWPA define its increasing role in lake protection efforts.



24 volunteers installed 2 open top culverts, 2 waterbars, and 7 timber stairs

RWPA Offers Free Technical Assistance

Through their Watershed Stewardship Program, RWPA is offering free technical assistance to landowners on all Raymond's lakes and ponds. Do you have a lawn that runs up to the edge of the lake? Does your gravel driveway or road wash out every year? Call Noralee Raymond at 671-3329 or e-mail lakes@raymondmaine.org to schedule a visit to your property. After the visit, we will pro-



Plant a Buffer Today!

vide you with a free packet of materials specifically designed to help you fix the problems. Any recommendations we make are voluntary.

RWPA will also be contacting landowners that were identified in one of the four completed watershed surveys to work with those landowners to fix the erosion on their properties.

This Year's Ecological Honoree is...

Ta-daa, the tree. After looking at excerpts from the "Society for the Protection of NH Forests" our choice became obvious. Trees, of course, are great buffers, slowing erosion to our lakes. As such, here are a few very good reasons why trees offer an astounding array of benefits; (from Nonpoint Source Times, Vol 13, Issue 2)

1. Trees remove airborne pollutants, such as sulfur dioxide, ozone, and nitrogen, as well as trace toxic metals, including lead.
2. For every 5% of tree cover added to a community, stormwater runoff is cut 2%.
3. Healthy, mature trees add 10-20% to a home's market value.
4. By shading roofs and walls, trees can cut air condi-

tioning costs up to 58%, and homes surrounded by trees can save 20-25% in energy costs.

5. Shade trees can extend the life of asphalt paving by 10-15 years, by slowing the vaporization of oil-based binders.
6. Well-positioned trees reduce noise pollution and retard soil erosion, as well as slowing storm water runoff, which often contains phosphorus which is deadly to our lakes.
7. Trees are just plain beautiful



Water Quality Monitoring Results

Learn More About Our Lakes Department...

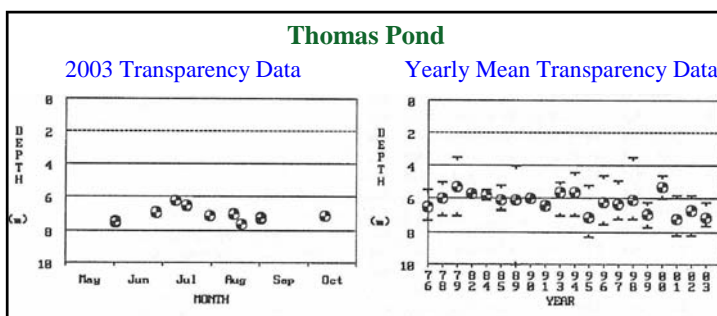
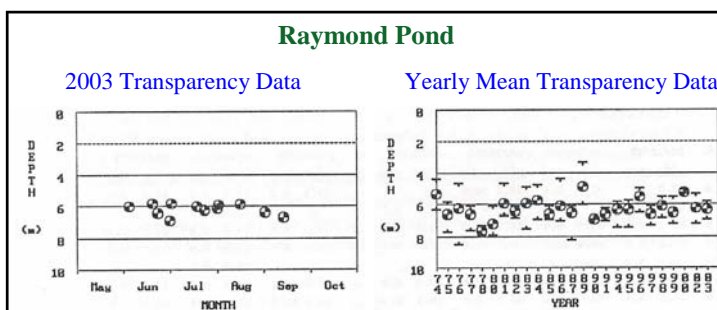
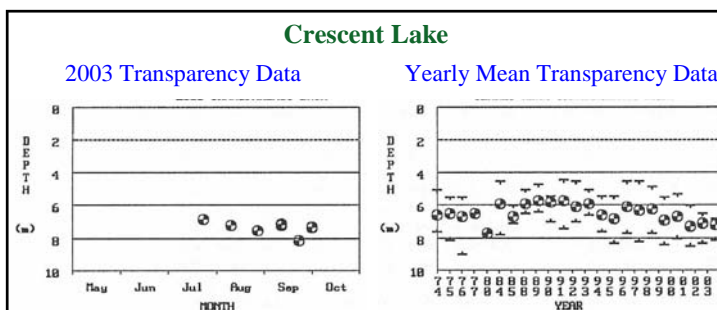
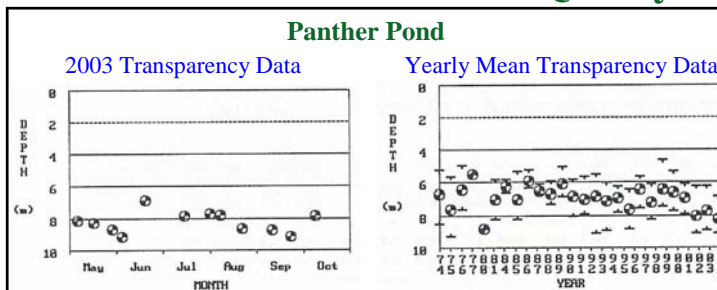
Ever wondered how much bigger Sebago is than Panther? Here are the sizes of our main lakes in descending order: Sebago 29,526 acres, Panther 1411 acres, Crescent 717 acres, Thomas 497 acres, and Raymond 346 acres. Instead of trying to remember the numbers, think of it this way; Thomas and Raymond are about half the size of Crescent, Crescent is about half the size of Panther, and it would take 21 Panther Ponds to equal the acreage of Sebago Lake.

Maine DEP established the "The Nonpoint Source (NPS) Priority Watersheds" list (253 water bodies - 181 lakes) to help direct State and encourage local NPS water pollution control actions where it is needed most to protect waters considered threatened by NPS pollution sources. It lists waters that have impaired or threatened water quality and have significant value from a statewide perspective.

All Raymond lakes except Nubble are listed.

The Maine DEP "Lakes Most at Risk from Development" (232) under the Maine Stormwater Law lists lakes at risk due to rising development pressures in the area and current water quality information. All seven Raymond lakes are on this list.

Watershed	Raymond Pond	Crescent Pond	Thomas Pond	Panther Pond
Lake Size	346 acres	717 acres	497 acres	1411 acres
Watershed Survey	1999 71 sites	2000 139 sites	2001 125 sites	2004 84 sites
Conservation Project Grant	Completed 2001-2003	Completed 2001-2003	In progress 2003-2005	Applied for 2005
NPS Priority Watershed	listed	listed	listed	listed
Lakes Most at Risk	listed	listed	listed	listed



How Well is Your Well Water?

Since most of us in Raymond have our own private sources of water, usually in the form of points, dug wells or artesian wells, we are personally responsible for the quality of the water we drink, cook with, and bathe in. Yet we seldom think about what comes out of our tap when we twist the handle. We take good care of our cars, maintain our homes, and watch carefully our finances, but infrequently, if ever, become concerned about the quality and condition of the water we put in our bodies.

Remember, water is necessary for life, and where there is no water, there is no life. It follows then that there is quite probably some life in the water we drink, namely microscopic life in the form of bacteria. Now, many forms of bacteria are beneficial and even essential to our well-being, but there are some forms of bacteria that can be

harmful.

Do you know what kind is in your glass of water? Incidentally, bacteria may be found in most all well water. We're not trying to scare you, just give you a statement of fact. How can you find out what your water contains besides H₂O? Why by having it tested of course!

Well water test kits can be ordered from the state by calling 287-1716 or over the internet at www.maine.gov/watertest/.

The cost is \$13 to \$30 depending on the

parameters you test. Don't forget other contaminants may be present, such as arsenic, radon, and uranium, besides bacteria and nutrients. State health officials recommend that people with private wells test them every year for bacteria and three to five years for other contaminants

Test Your Well Water Today
Call 287-1716 or order over the internet at www.maine.gov/watertest/.
For private wells yearly testing for bacteria is recommended.

Dear Friends continued...

(Continued from page 1)
eradication.

Note of appreciation...

Thank you to our 2004 donors who have contributed \$9,300 toward our efforts. Please help us reach our goal of \$18,000 to match our 2003 fundraising effort and sustain the quality of our lakes protection programs.

About our loon friends...

It is obvious with the early printing of our newsletter, the status of our loon population will necessarily be deferred. However, we will present results of this year's count of all our Raymond lakes at our Annual Meeting. Please attend!

Want to save some money? Of course...

you do. Here's how; be sure to cover all exposed gas tanks and cans from direct sunlight. If the tank warms up, the gas inside increases its vaporization and escapes to the atmosphere. And never store tanks in the house and never

close up a tank completely to the outside. Those evaporation fumes can easily burst any tank seams if allowed to accumulate. As usual, common sense prevails.

And, speaking of bursting tanks...

get that septic system pumped. Sorry to keep harping on this, but it is so important, We can't think of a more devastating way to ruin your summer, than to have to get your leech bed replaced and/or redug. A word to the wise, well you know...

Change of date and venue...

Do try to make it to our Annual Meeting on July 18th (Sunday) at the Public Safety Building starting at 1pm. We are sure you will be interested in learning about the goings-on in Raymond lakes and watershed. Our featured speaker will be Noralee Raymond who will present updates on the milfoil ranger program, milfoil remediation efforts, and conservation projects. Hope to see you there.

RWPA Membership Form

This form is for those who have not yet contributed. Help us reach our 2003 efforts of \$18,000 in donations

I am glad to be a member: Again _____ For the first time _____

My lake/watershed is (please circle one): Crescent Raymond Thomas Panther Sebago Notched Nubble

Enclosed is (please circle) \$150 \$100 \$75 \$50 \$25 Other _____

Name _____ Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Mailing Address _____

Raymond Address (if different) _____ Raymond Phone _____

Please mail contributions to: RWPA, PO Box 1243, Raymond, Maine 04071

Board of Directors and Staff

President

Charlie Turner

Vice President

John Rand

Treasurer

John Palmer

Secretary

Connie Cross

Executive Director

Noralee Raymond

Rangers

Deb Cutten

Mark Dixon

Kevin Hughes

Lake Representatives

Panther Pond Association - Ben Severn

Thomas Pond - in progress (TPIA)

Raymond Pond - in progress

Crescent Lake - contact us!

Sebago Lake - Portland Water District

Notched Pond - Gary Bucklin



Raymond Waterways Protective Association

To protect and improve pond and
lake water quality and foster
watershed stewardship

RWPA

PO Box 1243

Raymond, Maine 04071

Phone: 207-671-3329

Email: lakes@raymondmaine.org

Updates will be posted on the Town of Raymond website:
www.raymondmaine.org/committees/waterways/default.htm

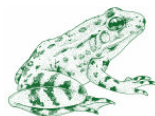
Calendar of Events

Milfoil Removal Training

Monday, June 14th, 8-4pm

Sebago Lake State Park

RSVP Required



Milfoil Identification Training

Tuesday, June 22, 4-8:30

Raymond Public Safety Building

RSVP Required



RWPA Annual Meeting

Sunday, July 18th, 1pm

Raymond Public Safety Building

For more information or to register contact Noralee at
671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org

Volunteers Needed

Let us know if you are interested in volunteering
for an afternoon or on a regular basis.
No experience needed. We will provide all training.

- Boat Inspectors
- Shoreline Surveys
- Milfoil Removal Projects
- Water Quality Monitors
- Planting & Digging

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