

DPA

newsletter

Fall 2021



The Dudley Pond Association

A non-profit organization, founded in 1968

www.dudleypond.org

DPA Board 2021-2022

Dear fellow Dudley Pond community members,

The foliage season is upon us and trees around Dudley pond are starting to display their beautiful fall colors. We are all very lucky to live in the vicinity of such a beautiful great pond.

This year, keeping Dudley pond beautiful and healthy required special efforts, as we dealt with a relatively new problem. We had significant growth of tape grass and curly leaf weeds all around the pond and we needed to bring in a weed harvester. A weed harvester cuts and collects pond weeds just like a lawn mower cuts and collects grass from your lawn.

Bringing in a weed harvester might sound simple but it was a very heavy lift and happened only thanks to the significant efforts of Norm Marowitz and Bob Smith. Both are community and DPA members and spent countless hours looking at different ways to deal with the weed growth problem, until they finally found the harvester that we used..

In this newsletter and in the fall meeting, the weed harvester will be a major topic of discussion. I urge you to read through the newsletter and to participate in the fall meeting, to better understand how we plan to deal with the weed problems in Dudley pond.

I look forward to seeing all of you in the fall meeting and around our beautiful pond.

Thanks,
Doron Almog

President — Dudley Pond Association

- President - Doron Almog
- First VP - Tim Dreher
- Second VP - Mike Margossian
- Treasurer - Jamie Pierce
- Secretary - Lisa Jacobs

Members-at-large:

Eric Macklin
Naomi Deutscher

For membership info see
www.dudleypond.org



Weed Harvester

DPA Harvester Purchase Analysis

The problem:

Dudley Pond requires weed maintenance every summer. Over the past 25+ years, different solutions (chemical, hand pulling, harvesting) have been employed with some success. Each summer brings a different set of weeds and solutions for managing the pond. Each year's weather conditions determine **when** and the **type/severity** of the weeds that need to be managed. Outside vendors require a few months lead time to schedule harvesting; starting at the wrong time is a waste of money and resources. Contracting a boat for the approximately 40 days needed to harvest each summer can also be a problem.

Surface Water Quality Committee in Wayland (SWQC) has requested that the town purchase its own Harvester to reduce costs, but that would require a capital budgeting process, including town meetings, that may take several years. In addition, there is no guarantee that the proposal would be approved. The DPA's recent history with the town is that we reimburse the town 25% of pond maintenance expenses.

The opportunity:

The DPA has the opportunity to buy a newly refurbished Harvester (refurbished engine, new stainless hull, extra 8 feet wide cutting blade that can drop as deep as needed) at about half the cost of a new one for approximately \$82,000 from a reputable company. This harvester was used during the short period of time of harvesting on the pond in August. The **DPA would lease the harvester to the town** each year, thereby recouping the investment over an approximately 5 year period of time. The DPA and DPW are in discussion about how the DPW can operate, maintain and store the Harvester.

The harvester we used this past summer only cut the weeds at a 4 1/2 foot depth. If we purchase a harvester, we will have an additional device that can cut as far as 8 feet below the water surface as well as have side catchers to collect more cut weeds.

The harvester would be used for tape grass but not Millfoil.

PROJECTED COST/Payback via leasing to the town:

Purchase Cost = \$82,000

Annual Lease Revenue to DPA = \$16,000 (minimum)

Payback period = 5.125 years

Assumptions:

- The Town of Wayland would pay DPA a minimum of \$16,000/year for leasing the Harvester.
- DPA would reimburse 25% of DPW operating costs
- approximately 40 days of harvesting/summer

Cost/Benefit analysis of maintenance:

DPA buys, DPW maintains

Projected cost to operate (operator, maintenance, insurance, etc.): \$16,310 (DPA 25% share- = **\$4,078**)

Using an outside contractor

Only one vendor services our area, and the quote for 20 days in 2021 was \$37,500. And an estimated 40 days was required for the extensive tape grass spread- \$75,000 total. (DPA 25% share=**\$18,750**)

Annual cost saving to DPA: \$14,672 with Harvester purchase (\$18,750 using outside contractor minus \$4,078 reimbursing DPW.)

Annual cost saving to the Town: \$25,893, even after paying DPA its lease payment.

Membership Meeting Items

The opportunity to purchase a harvester will be a major point of discussion at our Fall membership meeting. Please read the analysis on page 2 before the meeting. If you have any questions before the meeting, you can email them to dpasecretary84@gmail.com. This will help us to collect them together and prepare to address them at the meeting. Thank you.

We will be conducting a special board election. These are normally held at the Spring meeting, but we will be asking for approval for the following board changes: Doron Almog moves from President to First VP, and Tim Dreher moves from First VP to President. Also, we would add Ann Drouilhet as a third Member At Large. Until our normal election in the Spring, the board makeup would be:

President - Tim Dreher; First VP - Doron Almog; Second VP - Mike Margossian; Treasurer - Jamie Pierce; Secretary - Lisa Jacobs; Members-at-large: Eric Macklin, Naomi Deutscher, Ann Drouilhet

Dudley Pond Boating Safety and Etiquette

Perhaps a silver lining of the pandemic is that the pond has been rediscovered by boaters and swimmers alike. We would like to remind everyone of the Town Rules for Dudley Pond (<https://ecode360.com/12285356>) in support of sustaining a safe and pleasant experience on the pond. The rules stipulate that gas engines are limited to 10 h.p. and that speed on the pond should not exceed 10 miles per hour. We support and encourage swimmers who are more than 150 ft from shore (the distance that boats are to stay from the shore), to trail a visible buoy so that they can be seen by boaters. Remember that sound travels very well over water and that even casual conversations are easily heard by those on shore, both during the day and evening. In the spirit of honoring this beautiful spot, let's all make an effort to be safe and courteous when in and around the water.

Fishermen, please be careful not to leave behind lures and fishing line as it can harm the wildlife or swimmers.

Glass beverage containers are discouraged as broken glass can be dangerous. There was a young woman who cut her foot on glass near the shore at the Château which became infected and led to weeks of pain and bandage changing.

Save the Date: October 17

On October 17, in place of our traditional fun run/walk, invite everyone in the community to take a walk along the pond or hang out with friends at Mansion Beach. We will supply name tags and ice cream treats in coolers near Mansion Beach.

Dudley Pond Association
P.O. Box 5114
Wayland, MA 01778-4137

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News & Events

Fall Meeting

DPA Membership Meeting
Via Zoom

Sunday, October 24th, 5pm

- Pond management update
- Harvester purchase discussion
- Special election
- 2022 budget presentation & vote

Stay in the loop! If you are not currently receiving our emails, please send an email to dpasecretary84@gmail.com



Harvester and trailer