



# THE ALIC NEWS

Join or Renew Today

Summer 2022

## Message from the President by Buddy Cummings

In the fall of 2020, invasive variable-leaf watermilfoil was discovered in the Inner Cove of the lake, northeast of the public boat launch on 133. Unrelated to the milfoil infestation, the lake began to turn visibly green starting in August of 2021. By mid-September, water clarity levels dropped below 2m, the threshold at which the state officially begins to define an algal bloom.

Invasive aquatic plants such as variable milfoil can quickly take over portions of a lake, disrupting wildlife, habitat, and making recreational activities difficult or impossible. Algal blooms, such as those experienced on Androscoggin, have the potential of releasing toxins dangerous to humans, pets, and wildlife. Our beloved lake faces two very serious problems. It is a lake in crisis, and it needs your help.

The lake association has long partnered with the 30 Mile River Watershed Association. We have collaborated on our invasive plant patrol program (*Eyes on the Water*), our water quality testing program, educational outreach, the *LakeSmart* program to educate property owners around good lake stewardship, and courtesy boat inspections. Last summer, 30 Mile managed efforts to prevent the spread of milfoil outside of the known infestation area. Moving forward into 2022, ALIC and 30 Mile are now partnered in a new program which we call *Save Androscoggin—Campaign for a Healthy Lake*.

The *Save Androscoggin* campaign is a fully collaborative program between 30 Mile and ALIC, intended to eliminate the invasive from our lake and to do everything we can to avoid future algal blooms. On the milfoil front, 30 Mile staff will regularly and closely monitor for the invasive again this summer, divers will be used to remove invasive plants, and we will continue to engage with the DEP. To combat the threat of future algal blooms, we completed the first phase of a watershed survey in early May. We will increase water quality monitoring, study phosphorus loading, study impacts from the

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## Quick Stats for Androscoggin Lake

<b>Ice</b>	<b>In</b> 12/24/2021	<b>Out</b> 04/04/2021
<b>Total Phosphorus</b>	<b>Low</b> 07/15/2021 11 ppb	<b>High</b> 09/20 & 10/05/2021 20 ppb
<b>Secchi</b>	<b>High</b> 07/1/2021 5.91 m	<b>Low</b> 10/10/2021 1.55 m

## Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 6th

Yacht Club

10:00 am business

12:00 pm potluck

12:30 pm events

Everyone is encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars!

[www.androscogginlake.org](http://www.androscogginlake.org)

## President's Message ...

*(Continued from page 1)*

Dead River, develop a comprehensive watershed management plan, and seek grant money to help in the remediation of problems that put the lake at risk of future blooms.

In this newsletter, you will find several articles that dive deeper into both the milfoil and algal bloom problems.

The budget for *Save Androscoggin* is outside of the regular operating budgets of both ALIC and 30 Mile. The cost to fund the campaign's three-year program is approximately \$150,000. See the article on page 3 to learn how to make a special contribution to this fund.

I close with an appeal to each of you to increase your regular membership contribution to the lake association. The *Save Androscoggin* program includes efforts to support initiatives that go far beyond what is included in the regular operating budgets of either ALIC or 30 Mile. While ALIC is an all-volunteer organization, the regular operating budget for ALIC includes *Courtesy Boat Inspections* (CBI) support, materials and equipment for *Eyes on the Water*, educational outreach, our annual meeting, the website, the newsletter, lab and equipment costs, printing costs for direct mail, and more. All of these costs have risen with inflation. The budget for ALIC is currently around \$6,000 in the red. Help us to turn this to black by increasing your membership contribution.

I love this lake more than anything. I have been coming here every year of my life for 67 years. It tears at my heartstrings that our lake could decline to a place that is overtaken with invasives or plagued by recurring algal blooms. As you read through this year's newsletter, look for all of the things that you can do to help to save Androscoggin Lake.

## Annual Meeting of the Lake Association

The ALIC Annual Meeting will be held this year on Saturday, August 6th, at the Androscoggin Yacht Club in Wayne. The meeting will begin at 10 am and will include both the usual business and several presentations regarding the health of the lake.

We plan to break at around 11:30 am for about half an hour in order to set up for a potluck lunch which will begin at noon. Enjoy lunch with friends and neighbors.

After lunch, the real fun begins with games, contests, drawings, demonstrations, and more presentations!

Anyone with an interest in the future of Androscoggin Lake is encouraged to attend the meeting, the presentations, the lunch, and the events.

### Androscoggin Lake Improvement Corporation

#### Board of Directors

ALIC  
PO Box 307  
Wayne, ME 04284  
[alic\\_board@androscogginlake.org](mailto:alic_board@androscogginlake.org)

Ian Barclay (*Town of Leeds*)  
Frank Barley (*AYC*)  
William Cousins, *Treasurer*  
Buddy Cummings, *President*  
Linda Gatti-Fyler  
Nancy Hasenfus

Patricia Koscinski  
Bill Messer, *Vice President*  
Ted Tucci  
Don Welsh (*Town of Wayne*)  
John Yindra, *Secretary*

## ALIC Announces Major Fundraising Effort

*by Ted Tucci*

Last summer's lake-wide algal bloom was a wake-up call. We must take action now to protect Androscoggin Lake's water quality from the spread of invasive milfoil and the increase of organic pollutants, such as phosphorus, which contribute to the threat of algae and cyanotoxins.

ALIC is leading the fight for the future of Androscoggin Lake. Partnering with 30 Mile River Watershed Association, we have developed a \$150,000 three-year plan to combat milfoil spread and limit more phosphorus from getting into the lake. To put the plan into action, ALIC announces a major fundraising effort for 2022: *Save Androscoggin—Campaign for a Healthy Lake*. ALIC Board members alone have already donated or pledged over \$30,000 toward this goal.

Do your part to save Androscoggin Lake for future generations by making a tax-deductible contribution today! When you use the membership form found at the back of this newsletter to renew your support for the lake association, remember to add your contribution to this campaign. Campaign contributions can also be made directly online by visiting [30mileriver.org/save-androscoggin](http://30mileriver.org/save-androscoggin).

## What More Can I Do?

- Become *LakeSmart!* Contact our *LakeSmart* team at [lakesmart@androscogginlake.org](mailto:lakesmart@androscogginlake.org) to request a free evaluation and to learn how you can improve your property for the benefit of Androscoggin Lake's water quality.
- Reduce soil erosion and cover up any exposed soil on your property with vegetation or mulch.
- Establish or improve the native vegetation on your shoreline. The bigger your shoreline buffer, the better it is for Androscoggin Lake.
- Do not use fertilizers on your lakefront or streamfront properties.
- Maintain a permitted and healthy septic system. Pump your septic tank regularly. Have it inspected. Make necessary repairs. Tell your town officials that you support enhancements to the code.
- Volunteer to become a plant patroller or courtesy boat inspector.
- Volunteer to serve on a lake association committee.
- Inspect your boats, both before entering and after leaving the lake. There should be no aquatic plants. If you find suspicious plants, contact ALIC for guidance by calling Buddy at (207) 320-5720.
- If you see suspected code violations that impact water quality in the lake, consider contacting code enforcement in your town. Take pictures. Neither ALIC nor 30 Mile are involved with enforcement or reporting of violations.
- Educate yourself about the threats to Maine lakes. There is a wealth of information on the websites of ALIC, 30 Mile, Lake Stewards of Maine, Lakes of Maine, Maine Lakes, Maine DEP, Maine IFW, and the Maine Audubon Society. Subscribe to newsletters offered by these organizations. Attend annual meetings and conferences.
- Spread the word. Encourage all family members, friends, renters, and neighbors to get involved and to support ALIC, 30 Mile, and *Save Androscoggin*.
- Donate to the *Save Androscoggin* campaign, to ALIC, and to 30 Mile.

To volunteer, to participate, or to learn more, contact us at [alic@androscogginlake.org](mailto:alic@androscogginlake.org).

## Loon Count 2021

by Tom Wells

On Saturday, July 17, Maine's 2021 annual loon count was held. Under cloudy, windless skies, 16 volunteers headed to their quadrants at 7:00 am to count loons. They were pleased to encounter a large population of loons that were enjoying our waters!

Loon Counts	
<b>2021</b>	
adults	47
chicks	0
<b>2020</b>	
adults	39
chicks	0

At 7:30, the official close of the state-wide count, volunteers all headed to the yacht club to tally the results. The total: 47 adults, 0 chicks, beating last year's count (39 adults, 0 chicks), which at the time, represented the highest in recent years. Despite the fact that no chicks were sighted, a number had been spotted on previous days (Snake Island).

The quadrant of the lake finding most success was on the eastern side of Androscoggin Island where we saw many of our prized feathered friends swimming in the middle of the lake. In this section, Jim Breazeale and crew spotted 11 adults, 8 of which were treading water together in large flotilla!

We'd like to thank all of the volunteers who helped with the count. If you are interested in participating, please contact Tom Wells ([tomhod@roadrunner.com](mailto:tomhod@roadrunner.com)), and we will make you part of the team.

## Ice-In, Loons Out?

by Janet Bernhards

Many of you may have seen television coverage or read news reports about the two loons that were rescued on Kezar Lake back in January. They were caught in an opening left after ice-in started, but hadn't finished. There wasn't a long enough stretch of water for them to be able to 'run' and build up enough speed to become airborne. Lucas Savoy, Biodiversity Research Institute's (BRI) loon program director, was part of the rescue team. In a recent conversation, Lucas told me that loons getting iced-in during the fall/winter is pretty common and it's mostly juveniles (chicks), who have not yet learned how or when they should migrate from the lakes. That was the case of the five loons total that BRI rescued from Kezar Lake.

However, Lucas said they are now starting to rescue more and more adult loons, which is a bit unusual. One theory is that lakes seem to be icing over later

in the fall/winter. Loons, including adults, are staying longer to feed on the abundant fish in the lakes. The problem with this is that adult loons molt each year—they replace their flight feathers all at once—and are flightless for a few weeks until the new ones grow in. This typically occurs in January or February. This isn't a problem if they are already on the ocean (where they normally are in those months) where they do not need to fly. Adults are staying on some lakes and beginning to molt there, becoming flightless. Then, when a cold snap occurs, they are locked in. BRI rescued several adults this winter on lakes where loons were flightless. Their colleagues in NH, VT, and NY are seeing the same trend. They see a possible issue with climate change and lake freeze-over dates.

If you see a loon trapped in the ice on the lake, contact [loons@androscogginlake.org](mailto:loons@androscogginlake.org) immediately!



Find us on  
Facebook

The ALIC Facebook page is an open forum. We encourage everyone with an interest in our lake to post their thoughts and photos. Find us at [www.facebook.com/androscogginlake](http://www.facebook.com/androscogginlake)

## The Fight Against Invasive Milfoil

by Lidie Robbins, Executive Director, 30 Mile River Watershed Association

Since the discovery of invasive variable watermilfoil in the Inner Cove of Androscoggin Lake in the fall of 2020, 30 Mile and ALIC worked together closely, with support from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Lake Stewards of Maine, to fight the infestation as hard as possible. We have taken an aggressive, multi-pronged approach to ensure our greatest chance of success at preventing this harmful invasive from taking over and devastating the lake. We continue to work toward the ultimate goal of eradicating it.



Beginning in May 2021, 30 Mile staff began intensively surveying the north end of the Inner Cove (4-5 days/week), marking each individual milfoil plant that we found. Every 2-3 weeks, staff from the Maine DEP joined us to carefully remove the plants by hand, using SCUBA equipment. The milfoil was scattered throughout an area roughly 200 yards by 50 yards in water 3-4 feet deep. Throughout the summer and into the fall, we made great progress, removing all the invasives we found and carefully monitoring regrowth. Unfortunately, in October our work came to a halt when the algal bloom turned the lake green and we could no longer see the plants.



To limit the infestation’s spread, we worked to keep boat traffic out of the infested area. Late last July, at our request, the Maine DEP and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife ordered a temporary *Surface Use Restriction* in the cove, closing the infested area. The area has been marked with large buoys. To encourage compliance with the surface use restriction and educate boaters, last

summer we doubled our hours of paid 30 Mile staff conducting boat inspections at the state boat launch in Wayne.

Additionally, we needed to confirm that invasive milfoil was not growing in other parts of the lake. Throughout the summer, 25 ALIC volunteers on the *Eyes on the Water* team, along with 30 Mile staff, conducted surveys of other parts of the lake, surveying all of the near shore areas where aquatic plants are likely to grow. To our great relief, no other invasive milfoil was found.

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## 2022 Bass Tournaments on Androscoggin Lake



06/19	Open	<i>Maine B.A.S.S. Nation</i>
06/22	Club	<i>Saco Valley Cast Masters</i>
08/20	Club	<i>Western Maine Bassmasters</i>
10/1	Multi-Day	<i>TBF of Maine</i>
10/2	Multi-Day	<i>TBF of Maine</i>
10/8	Club	<i>Mainely Bass</i>
10/15	Club	<i>Southern Maine Bassers (TBF)</i>

*The lake association will be contacting each tournament organizer this year to inform them about the variable watermilfoil infestation on our lake.*

## 2021 Algal Bloom—How it Happened and What Do We Do Now ? by Whitney Baker, Program Manager, 30 Mile River Watershed Association

In 2021, Androscoggin Lake experienced a lake-wide algal bloom, only the second bloom documented on the historical monitoring record spanning the last 52 years. The 2021 bloom was caused by cyanobacteria, a type of algae, originally called blue-green algae because dense blooms will turn the water green or blue-green in color. Cyanobacteria are a natural and important part of the lake ecosystem and can be found in lakes all over the world. However, when nutrient concentrations (phosphorus) are high enough, and conditions are just right, their population can explode. The result is what we call a “cyanobacteria bloom” or “algal bloom.”

### **What caused the algal bloom? Phosphorus.**

Phosphorus is the nutrient that most encourages the growth of algae in lakes. Even small increases in the concentration of phosphorus in a lake can cause a substantial increase in algal growth.

### **Where is the phosphorus coming from?**

**Androscoggin Lake’s watershed.** A watershed is the land area that sheds or drains into a lake via streams or ditches, or directly over the ground surface. This overland flow of rainwater from the watershed and into the lake is called stormwater runoff. Everything that happens in a watershed has the potential to impact the health of the lake, for better or for worse. Though phosphorus is found in very small amounts in lake water, it exists in very high amounts in the watershed surrounding the lake—in soils, fertilizers, pet and livestock waste, agricultural runoff, and septic systems, among other sources. Phosphorus in the watershed is picked up by stormwater runoff each time it rains and is delivered to the lake.



### **What can be done to prevent future algal blooms? Reduce the amount of phosphorus entering the lake.**

The quality of the stormwater runoff entering the lake depends on the condition of the land that it drains from. Developed land can deliver 5-10 times more phosphorus to the lake than undeveloped land (forest). If we improve the condition of the land in the watershed, we can improve water quality in the lake. But to be successful, it takes all watershed landowners working together, each doing their part to protect the lake.

Stay informed by visiting 30 Mile’s Androscoggin bloom page for updates, algal bloom information, and to learn more about how you can help: [www.30mileriver.org/androscoggin-bloom](http://www.30mileriver.org/androscoggin-bloom).

**Watershed survey.** 30 Mile, ALIC, and other local partners formed a steering committee in 2021 to help guide the efforts needed to improve water quality in Androscoggin Lake. First on the list of next steps was to complete a watershed survey (completed May 12 & 13, 2022). During the watershed survey, trained volunteers worked alongside technical leaders to identify sources of erosion and polluted stormwater runoff throughout the watershed. Information gathered during the survey will give us a better understanding of the watershed condition, provide solutions to landowners, and will provide the information we need to apply for grant funding that can be used to fix priority, high-cost problems. Visit [www.30mileriver.org/watershed-surveys/](http://www.30mileriver.org/watershed-surveys/) for the most recent survey updates.

In the coming months, 30 Mile will be working with key watershed stakeholders to 1) develop a Watershed Protection Plan for Androscoggin Lake that will lay out a strategy and schedule for pollution mitigation and water quality protection efforts over a 5- to 10-year period, 2) implement an enhanced water quality monitoring program to gather new data, and 3) monitor changes and trends in water quality over time.

## Androscoggin Lake: A Connection to the Past

by Janet Bernhards

As a child I remember canoeing with my family and friends down Dead River and then carrying our canoes over the portage known to us as the “Indian Carry.” The 50-foot path cuts off about a mile of paddling to reach the lake, and is marked by a white rock on the lake side and a huge oak tree on the river side. At the time I walked on that path, I didn’t realize the cultural or physical significance of Native Americans around this beautiful lake.

Paleoindians were the first people to inhabit Maine, having moved into New England from west of the Hudson River about 13,000 years ago. Historian Charles Starbird wrote that the Indians of Maine claim descent from the powerful Algonquin Nation, one of the eight great North American language families. The Wabanaki people, part of this nation, still live in Maine today and have strong connections to their language and lands. The Eastern Abenaki are the part of the Wabanaki tribe whose homelands include areas around Androscoggin Lake.

**Wabanaki**—“*People of Dawn-land,*” is a regional identity encompassing members of the Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, Abenaki, and Micmac tribes, with representation in the US northeast and Canada.

So where did the name Androscoggin come from? In a presentation to the Wayne Historical Society, Molly Saunders said, “Place names were always descriptive. ‘Coggin’ meant ‘coming’ and ‘Amascoggon’ was ‘fish coming in the spring.’ ‘Am-a-ra-skah-gin’ has been translated as ‘turbid foaming crooked snake’—a good description of the river, especially before all the dams were built.” She noted that Androscoggin can be found written at least sixty different ways. “Andros” was the Captain of an early English fort, which may have influenced the name “Androscoggin.” However, the words “Amarascoggin” or “Arosaguntacook” may be closer to the original name used.

Dr. Arthur Spiess, an archaeologist with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, explains that there are 40 or 50 prehistoric Native American or pre-European archaeological sites that we know of in and around Wayne, Leeds, Androscoggin Lake, and the Androscoggin River. Almost all of these sites are on the shores of bodies of water, where stone tools, stone fragments from making stone tools, or pieces of Native American pottery were found.



Before 3,000 years ago, water travel was by dugout canoe, but this type of canoe was heavy! A dugout needed to be available at each body of water because it couldn’t be portaged *between* bodies of water. When the lighter birch bark canoes appeared (about 3,000 years ago), Native American hunters, fishers, and gatherers were able to move more easily along the coast and across the interior waterways during open water season. Some travel was to trade furs or other items; some was for seasonal shifts for food harvesting or for visiting relatives.

The whole lake area was at the intersection of important routes and carries (see carry icons on map). Once on the lake, travelers had the choice of going north in the 30 Mile River watershed, or crossing over from Perkins Beach to Wilson Pond/Annabesacook/Cobboosee to access the Kennebec River and Merrymeeting Bay.

The map also shows the location of the Yindra Barus site in the southwest corner of the lake. ALIC member John Yindra recalls a time when his good friend Don Matson, an avocational archaeologist, came over to visit. “Don was intending to go over to Black Sand Island (Lothrop) to see if he could find some arrowheads, but got

(Continued on page 8)

## Connection to the Past ...

*(Continued from page 7)*

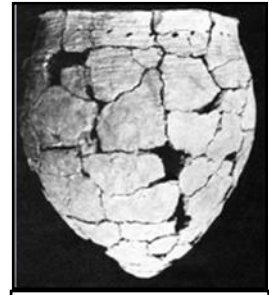


*5 x 3 Inch Knife Blade  
Photo credit: John Yindra*

*If you do find an artifact,  
please don't disturb the site.  
Contact the Maine Historic  
Preservation Commission for  
additional guidance.*

distracted while walking down the path to the water. He saw a nub sticking up and after digging around it, discovered an awl that was about twelve inches long.” Don believed this tool was used to chip out charcoal from a log. He further uncovered plummets used for nets, and chips and fragments indicating people had worked there to make tools. The knife blade pictured to the left is from the Archaic Period (10,000 to 3,000 years ago).

Ron Newcomb, another avocational archaeologist, found this particular pot in the silt of the delta landform that sticks out into Androscoggin Lake. The pot is from the Ceramic Period (2,800 to 500 years ago). It is large, about 15 inches high, with a capacity of about 2 gallons (Spiess). Molly Saunders commented on the artistry of repeating lines and dots around the edge and the pointed bottom. She explained, “This pot could not stand on its own; it was always held up by a carefully built fire.” The pot is a reminder that there were native people here on the lake, right up until the time when Europeans settled the area and began interacting with Native Americans. Ask your relatives if they heard stories about Native Americans selling their wares along the shore back in 1910 or so, when the first camps were being built.



*Large Pot about 800  
Years Old*

*Image courtesy of the  
Maine Archaeological  
Society, Inc.*

On your next hike or canoe trip, consider that many, many people traveled these routes thousands of years before you, and be mindful of the history and cultural significance of the land and water to the Wabanaki. Keep your eyes peeled for ancient treasures—maybe you will be the one to find signs of another well-preserved site!

~With thanks to Art Spiess and Molly Saunders, for permission to use text and images from their presentations to the Wayne Historical Society.



*Paddlers can  
cross at the  
carry at Dead  
River, but please stay on  
the carry itself, and respect  
the adjacent private land-  
owner's property.*

## Invasive Milfoil ...

*(Continued from page 5)*

In 2022, we **must** continue all of these efforts. To win this fight, we are counting on you. Here's how you can help:

- Learn to recognize variable watermilfoil and report any suspicious plants.
- Volunteer as an invasive plant patroller or courtesy boat inspector.
- Stay out of the infested area to limit the spread.

For more information, visit <https://30mileriver.org/androscoggin-milfoil/>



## Forest & Buffer Incentives for Lake Improvement

by David Van Cott

Did you know that layers of leaf canopy and roots in both native forests and buffers—various types of vegetation planted to improve conservation in an ecosystem—can help prevent algae blooms? That is because these layers of leaves and roots filter out harmful nutrients and keep them from entering the lake.

The conditions of woodlands directly affect water quality issues, including algae blooms, and are making headlines across the country. For example, researchers have linked the great, though stressed, Maine forests to the 20-year mega-drought occurring out West. Also, to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay, a county in Maryland more than 50 miles away implemented a “Green Streets” program by planting and maintaining trees along all roads;

publicly discouraging lawn chemicals; and adding buffers to storm drains that will absorb and filter runoff.

Those headlines point to the need for prompt, sustainable responses. Maximizing native forest and buffer spaces at home is an urgently needed, lasting solution for lake improvement. By keeping functional areas such as walkways and paths well tended, buffers may naturally conform with traditional community aesthetic values.

The Governor of Maine has a Carbon Task Force Report that proposes financial incentives for small- to medium-sized woodland property owners to preserve, not merely harvest, trees that are protecting watersheds. Citizens may call elected representatives to support passage of such legislation.

## Rebates and Gas Prices Make Electric Vehicles a Good Deal

by Nancy Hasenfus

As we deal with climate changes that affect our beautiful Androscoggin Lake, I want to share with you my letter to the editor that the Portland Press Herald published on January 24, 2022, in its online section. We need to try to protect our lake at a local level, but also it would be wise to decrease our greenhouse gas production. This letter discusses one of many feasible ways to do this.

*Electric cars are a great option now. In the past year, you have seen an increase in natural disasters. Climate change is here now. Fifty-four percent of the greenhouse gasses produced in Maine come from gas powered vehicles (Maine DEP January 2020). If you are buying a car, consider an electric vehicle (EV). Gas is up about 30 percent since last year.*

*Being concerned about global warming, I bought my EV in 2020 and love this quiet, peppy car. I got a \$2,500 rebate from Efficiency Maine and a \$7,500 federal tax credit. With these two benefits, the price of my car was similar to a gas car. My EV needs less maintenance and no oil changes. Combustion engines have 3,000 moving parts while an EV engine has about 300 parts—so less maintenance.*

*If helping the environment and saving money appeals, look at the Efficiency Maine website and see available models, their charge distance and the state rebates. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill contains \$7.5 billion for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure so more charging stations soon.*

*The climate crisis is here, so whether an EV appeals to you or not, please consider calling Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King and Reps. Chellie Pingree or Jared Golden and ask them to support a price on carbon. Thousands of economists and scientists support this as the most important first step to slow climate change. An electric car will decrease your carbon footprint a little; if we can get our legislators to act on the climate crisis, it will help the world a lot.*

For models and state rebates, visit: <https://www.efficiencymaine.com/docs/Eligible-Vehicle-Rebates.pdf>

For federal rebate info, visit: <https://fueleconomy.gov/feg/taxevb.shtml>

## Water Quality Report for 2021

by Patricia Koscinski



The water testing team usually performs quality testing on Androscoggin Lake bi-weekly, starting in May and continuing into October. Last year, testing started in June and because of the algae bloom on our lake, we did some testing in December. As a new member on the water testing team, I accompanied Whitney Baker, Program Manager for 30 Mile River Watershed Association, on many of the testing dates. I am now certified in using a Secchi disk to measure water clarity and in using an oxygen meter to measure the water's dissolved oxygen content.

The Secchi disk measures water clarity in meters to determine how deep one can see at a water body's deepest spot. Androscoggin's clarity numbers ranged from 5.91 meters in July to a low of 1.55 meters in October. According to Maine's DEP (Department of Environmental Protection), a

reading below 2 meters indicates an algal bloom. Even without those Secchi disk measurements, lake residents began reporting algal blooms to ALIC in September.

The oxygen meter measures dissolved oxygen—how much oxygen is dissolved in the water and made available to living aquatic organisms. The deepest levels of our lake had less than 2 parts per million (ppm) of oxygen from mid-July through September first. This is significant because levels less than 2 ppm allow phosphorous to be released from the bottom of the lake, a contributing factor to the algal bloom.

You can view the full report on Androscoggin's water quality at <https://30mileriver.org/androscoggin-lake/>.

## New Owners and Name Change for Beaver Brook Campground

*Beaver Brook Campground*, at the southern end of Androscoggin Lake, was sold to Northgate Resorts last fall. The new name of the campground is *Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park™ Camp-Resort: Augusta*. We are pleased to report that the new management at *Jellystone* is working with both ALIC and 30 Mile on several fronts, including a new *Courtesy Boat Inspection* program at the campground, recommendations for reducing runoff from campground roads, and more.

While the new owners have demonstrated a real concern with water quality issues facing our lake, they have said that they do plan to expand over the coming years, likely in Leeds. As with any new development around the lake, both ALIC and 30 Mile are concerned about negative impacts that expansion could have on water quality, wildlife, and the fragile wetlands. We will continue to work with *Jellystone*, the DEP, the planning boards of the two towns, and other concerned groups as plans unfold.

## Calendar of Events



**July 16th**

**Annual State Loon Count**

Contact Tom Wells for details or to volunteer: [alic@androscogginlake.org](mailto:alic@androscogginlake.org)

**July 30th**

**13th Annual Paddle Trek**

Visit [30mileriver.org/paddle-trek/](https://30mileriver.org/paddle-trek/)

**August 6th**

**ALIC Annual Meeting**

10 am, Androscoggin Yacht Club

Visit [www.androscogginlake.org](http://www.androscogginlake.org) for more information regarding summer events

## Time to Renew Your Membership and Support



The primary purpose of our lake association is to maintain and improve the quality of the water in Androscoggin Lake. ALIC works hard to safeguard the lake from threats posed by both pollutants and invasive plants. But, the ability of ALIC to continue its good work relies on support from all of its members.

If you have not already done so, please renew your membership in ALIC today!

With both the recent algal bloom and the variable watermilfoil infestation in our lake, it is more important than ever to support both the lake association and our collaborative campaign with the 30 Mile River Watershed Association in our fight against these serious threats.

Use the form below to join or renew your membership in ALIC and to make a special contribution to *Save Androscoggin—Campaign for a Healthy Lake*.

Send your check to the address below. You may also contribute to *Save Androscoggin* online.

**ALIC**  
**PO Box 307**  
**Wayne, ME 04284**

### ALIC MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Member e-mail addresses are never shared by ALIC)*

- Renew Membership       New Member  
 I would like to save some trees. By checking this box you will not receive paper copies of ALIC Newsletters. ALIC newsletters can always be found on the web site, [www.androscogginlake.org](http://www.androscogginlake.org).

#### Membership Contribution

- \$35 Basic       \$50 Steward       \$100 Loon       \$250 Benefactor       \$500 Eagle  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Save Androscoggin – Campaign for a Healthy Lake*

Contribution to *Save Androscoggin Campaign*: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions to *Save Androscoggin* go into a special fund managed jointly by *ALIC* and *30 Mile* to address the current crisis conditions facing the lake.

#### Mailing Address

**Street or PO Box:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Summer Address (if different)

**Street or PO Box:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_