



Mike Pastore provided this photo of a peaceful view of Torsey Pond. You can help keep the pond pristine by taking part at the TPA meeting at the Town Office at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 11.

Torsey Pond Association
c/o Holly Rahmlow
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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(parentheses indicate year member's term ends)

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Hi, everyone,

Well, summer is almost here. I think I say it every year, but this had to be one of the colder winters on Torsey. One thing that surprised me was that the ice did not appear to be as thick as the previous year. I like to go out and drill a few holes hoping that the drill breaks through after not too long (hoping for spring thaw). When I checked in late March this year, it broke through after about 24 inches. The previous year it was around 27 inches.

At last year's general meeting we had a presentation from state wildlife biologist Keel Kemper about our non-migratory geese and other wildlife issues that confront us on the lake. I think it was clear that Keel was very knowledgeable and was able to answer a lot of questions.

This year we will be having Bill Monagle from the Cobbossee Watershed District talk to us about doing a watershed survey of Torsey. I mentioned the potential need of a watershed survey in last year's newsletter and annual meeting. Further discussions of this with CWD resulted in a cost estimate of \$3,600. This survey would use a number of TPA volunteers and CWD personnel. The goal of this would be to identify potential sources of "nonpoint source pollution" entering the lake.

A good example presently of this is the Desert Pond Road ditch erosion that is bringing a lot of mud and other material into the north end of the lake. We all could take a look at our driveways and roads leading up to the lake or tributary streams and see what happens during and after a rainstorm.

I hope to see all of you at this year's annual meeting on Saturday, July 11, at 10 a.m. at the Readfield Town Office.

Please talk to your neighbors about joining the association.

Keith Coulling, TPA President

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.TORSEYPOND.ORG!

If you would like to be added to an email distribution list for the association, please email your newsletter editor at holly@thundercastle.com. She promises not to spam you! You will be notified only about issues affecting Torsey Pond directly (such as an emergency or upcoming meeting).

The Torsey Pond Association annual meeting will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 12, at the Readfield Town Office. We hope to see you there, but if you can't attend, please still send in your dues and proxy.

LakeSmart Program

LakeSmart is an education and recognition program of the Maine Lakes Society for lakefront property owners who maintain their homes in ways that protects lake water quality and property values. The focus is preventing runoff affecting water quality, where waterfront owners are the last resort to prevent run-off and inputs of pollution. It advises on how to capture and infiltrate stormwater before it reaches the lake. Stormwater runoff ruins lakes and is the major cause of algal blooms, fish kills and impaired lakes.



LakeSmart is a cost-effective strategy that homeowners can use to protect their lake, their property's value and their recreational activities. Maine Lakes Society currently provides this service for free, and the visit usually takes less than an hour. You will be told right away whether you qualify for an award or commendation and you'll also receive information about lake-friendly land practices and relevant web links. LakeSmart is entirely voluntary, so you are free to take some of the recommended actions or not — it's completely up to you.

Contact Maggie at Maine Lakes Society 207-495-2301 or msshannon@mainelakessociety.org or me, David Roberts from the Torsey Pond Association at davidxcskier@gmail.com, to schedule a time to assess your property.

Last summer six properties on Torsey were evaluated and received Lake Smart Awards. In Mount Vernon they included (clockwise from top left) Merriann Boyd at 20 Dusenberry Lane (shown with Maggie), Jack (and Shawn, not shown) Painter at 19 Knotty Pine Lane (shown with Dave), Pat Williams (no photo) at 20 Mossy Trail, and Penelope Reilly at 229 North Five Season's Road. In Readfield Dave presented certificates to Henry and Darcy Whittlemore at 355 Chase Road and Alan and Winifred Howie at 62 Old Stage Road.

— Dave Roberts

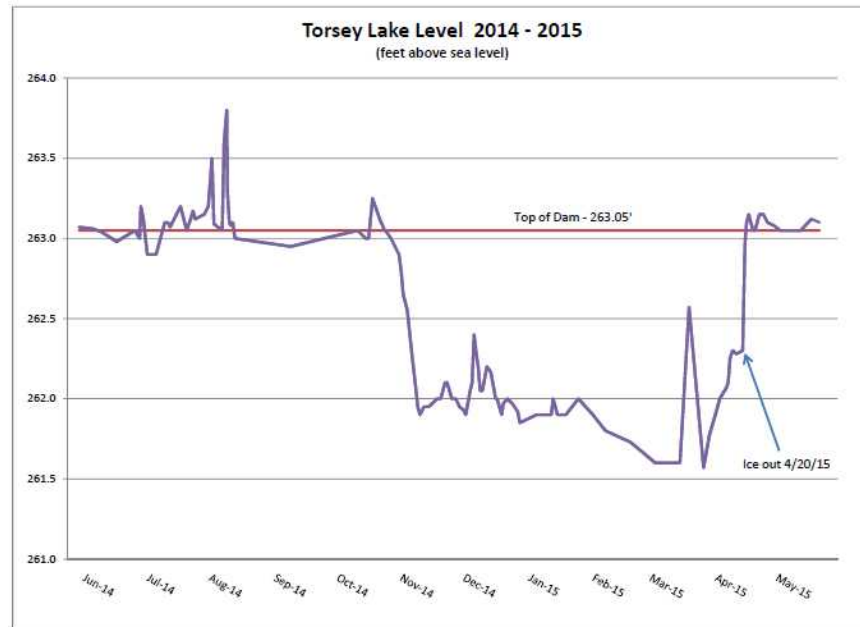


Dam Facts

Dam operation continued smoothly this year. Lower than normal spring rain allowed for a very easy spring start to the lake. Ice out was on April 20. It was interesting to see loons fly over the lake prior to ice out. They arrived within hours of the main bay of the lake opening!

Feel free to contact me at keithc@fairpoint.net with any questions/concerns about the dam.

— *Keith Coulling, Damkeeper*



Milfoil Prevention Program

Wearing bright yellow T-shirts, Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs) will be inspecting boats for hitchhiking invasive aquatic plants and educating boaters on the devastating impact milfoil and other invasives could have on Torsey. Most CBIs are contracted through the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed, but we also have a great group of volunteers who donate their time to do two-hour shifts on many weekends.

CBI coverage was expanded last year from ten hours to twelve hours each weekend day. This was done, in part, due to the confirmed discovery of milfoil in Annabessacook Lake in Winthrop. The expanded hours resulted in a 56% increase, year over year, of boats inspected, providing additional protection for Torsey. With eleven confirmed infestations within close proximity to Torsey, the danger is very real.

Also last year, an extensive survey of the pond was performed to identify any invasive plants. While three varieties of milfoil were discovered, all were native and noninvasive. No invasives were discovered during the survey. This year we plan to start a volunteer plant patrol. Training will be provided for any individual wishing to participate. The time commitment will not be significant, and participation could be a fun activity for the whole family.

Everyone can help protect Torsey from invasive plants. Before you launch your boat, please inspect it (hull, trailer, prop, fishing tackle, live wells, anchors, water skis, tubes, etc.) and remove any plant fragments. If you would like to volunteer for our CBI program or Plant Patrol or would like more information about our milfoil prevention program, please send an email to azuorski@septemberpartners.com.

Enjoy your summer!

— *Andy Zuorski*