

Sand Dam Reservoir Association Newsletter

August, 2020



SUCTION HARVESTING: Under the leadership of Aaron Colaluca & Art Searle, 8 sessions have been conducted to date, with much accomplished. They have been supported by workers on the harvesters, as well as boaters, kayakers & paddle boarders gathering the remnants. The dedication of all, up to 10 volunteers a session, is noteworthy. **Thanks to ALL who are helping with this important program.**

LAKE DRAWDOWN: This initiative is another significant program, *requiring a lot of work*, to combat milfoil. Per our DEM permit, we are allowed a 54-inch drawdown, not to exceed 2 inches/day, to be completed by November 1st. PERFECT conditions (never happens!) would therefore require 27 days. This year the **DRAWDOWN start date is OCTOBER 1st.** Please be mindful of this date when planning your activities.

LAKESMART PROGRAM: Looking for **volunteers** to participate in this valuable program that models Maine's stellar initiative to bring into greater focus the relationship between property & lake health. It enables a property owner to obtain an independent look at their land in light of best practices.

- **A visit time at your convenience will be arranged in advance. You are welcome to join the team during the visit, which takes about an hour.**
- **A small team completes the outdoors survey and analyzes the findings in relation to model criteria. Based on those results, a property owner may make changes in the following months and years as they deem viable.**
- **If a sufficient number of criteria are met, a LakeSmart RI award is given. To date, 3 properties on our lake have participated, and each family has valued the feedback it has provided.**
- **To inquire or sign up, please contact Judy: Colalucajudy@gmail.com or at 401-486-8414. Also, see a more detailed description of the LakeSmart RI Program later in this newsletter.**

The survey requires no work on the part of the property owner and presents an important yet easy way to assist our lake association in meeting its goals toward a pristine lake.

DUES REMINDER: If you have not paid your annual dues (\$100), please do so now. To continue receiving SDRA notifications, dues must be paid at the latest by December 1st. Also, if you can, any *additional contributions* are welcome because we were unable to do our very successful Bella's event this year; if you wish, you may specify the program you want to assist with these funds.

“SMALL BUT STEADY FUNDRAISER”
Beautiful NOTE CARDS depicting scenes from our lake
Prepared by local photographers



*Scenes of
Smith and Sayles
Reservoir*

7 Blank Cards \$20



Photography by Deb Silva & Cathy Zuraw

\$20/pack (\$22.00 out of State of RI to cover postage)
Contact Deb at 401-290-7381 or debsilva7771@gmail.com

THEY ALSO MAKE LOVELY GIFTS - so purchase several packs if you wish, while helping SDRA meet its financial responsibilities.

THANK YOU!

LAKESMART RI PROGRAM

Sand Dam Reservoir Association and Save the Lakes invite you to join a valuable program that offers lake homeowners the chance to analyze the relationship between their landscaping & lake health. LakeSmart RI enables property owners to gain an independent look at their land in light of best practices and to learn from models designed by the Maine Lakes Society.

LakeSmart RI is a program that offers FREE opportunities for homeowners to learn how to manage their home and yard to protect the water quality of their lake.

The goal of LakeSmart RI is to change the increasingly common suburban landscaping practices around lakes to more natural, lake-friendly environments.

How Does the LakeSmart Evaluation Process Work?

The evaluator walks around the property and reviews landscape and management practices in the 5 following categories:

- Road, Driveway, and Parking Areas;
- Structures and Septic System;
- Lawn, Recreation Areas, and Footpaths;
- Shorefront and Beach
- Undeveloped Land.

Landscaping and managing your property in an environmentally friendly manner through LakeSmart RI is one way for you to help your lake and have a low-maintenance, great-looking property.

Pristine lake waters add beauty, increase property value, and provide recreational opportunities throughout the seasons.

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