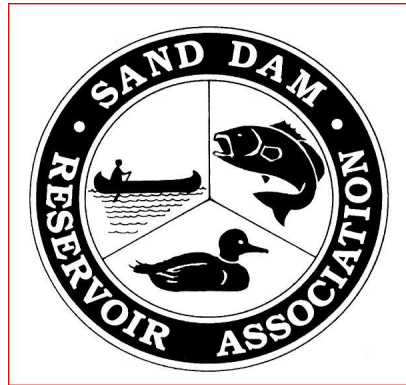


Sand Dam Reservoir Association Newsletter

Fall 2019



IMPORTANT DATES: *Mark your calendars now!*

DRAWDOWN: STARTS **OCTOBER 12th** - As the water level drops in the weeks following the drawdown, it becomes a great time to clean up your waterfront area. Consider **hand harvesting milfoil** around your property at this time.

BE SURE TO TAKE YOUR BOAT OUT THIS WEEKEND BEFORE THE WATER LEVEL GETS TOO LOW!

&

Please mark any milfoil you can't handle with plastic bottles so the Suction Harvester team can find them next summer.

BELLA'S: Our popular FUN night & fundraiser is set for: **APRIL 18, 2020**. Friends & neighbors come together to enjoy this special night, sharing good food, a wonderful array of wines provided by Kevin Kitson of Chepachet Liquor, and the fantastic Black Tie Affair band! Mark your calendars now!

CLEANUP DAY: Judy will lead a team of volunteers on **Saturday, November 9th** for the annual Fall effort to remove debris that has landed in and around our lake. This is a very weather-dependent activity so the following Saturday, the 16th, would be the backup date if poor weather intervenes on the 9th. ***Volunteers are needed to make this effort a success.*** Contact Judy to volunteer: colalucajudy@gmail.com 568-4267.

IT'S BEEN A BUSY SUMMER - with many hands helping!

- Several *Suction Harvesting* sessions were conducted to address problem areas but, as we know, the milfoil never totally leaves our lake.
- A couple of teams tackled *phragmites*; some quality photos are included in this newsletter to help identify this nuisance growth. Thanks to Art teaching a few of us what they look like, more of us are now able to identify them. Cleo took some great photos, shown later in this newsletter.
- A *Lake Smart* visit of Rico & Judy Colaluca's lovely property was conducted by Carolyn and those findings have been sent to Maine for analysis; positive results are anticipated.
- Our *Boat Greeter Program* got off to a late start this year, but one tournament was the beneficiary of the dedicated volunteers carrying out this program.
- *Monitoring Water Quality* continues in conjunction with Watershed Watch at URI.
- *Documents* are being developed to provide a *framework for describing SDRA*, as well as primarily *single page briefs describing each of our major initiatives*.
- A new *budget reporting format* has been developed to align income and expenditures with programs; a budget committee provided input and a lot of hard work by Marissa brought forth a quality product that will be used in the future.
- *Fundraising* ideas that will be promoted: *Bella's*; *Tee Shirts*; & *Note Cards*! The latter 2 will be included at *Bella's*, and other times as well.
- *Corporate Insurance* was obtained, as in the past; this year, in keeping with the direction the prior Board was pursuing, a *policy to cover all Board members* was also purchased; and *suction harvester* insurance is being explored. Related to our insurance policy and safety issues, *signs* will be developed clearly stating prohibited actions (e.g. swimming not allowed at state boat launch facilities) & posted at key sites. More on that later this year.
- *Non-profit status* is being worked on; Attorney D'ovidio is assisting.

Gaining Control of Invasive Species



PHRAGMITES

- **Phragmites** form dense stands and spread rapidly to adjacent areas.
- **Cut the phragmites 2 to 3 inches below the water surface** to cut off the plant's supply of oxygen and drown the plant. To prevent the accidental spread of the plant, **collect the cut material and bag it before disposing of it.**
- **Repeat this routine several years in a row.** Patches may emerge even after regular treatments, but once the majority of phragmites are wiped out the plant will be much easier to control.
- **Phragmites in Sand Dam Reservoir:** Notice the *horizontal leaves* that make it easier to spot. (Phragmite photos are thanks to Cleo)



