



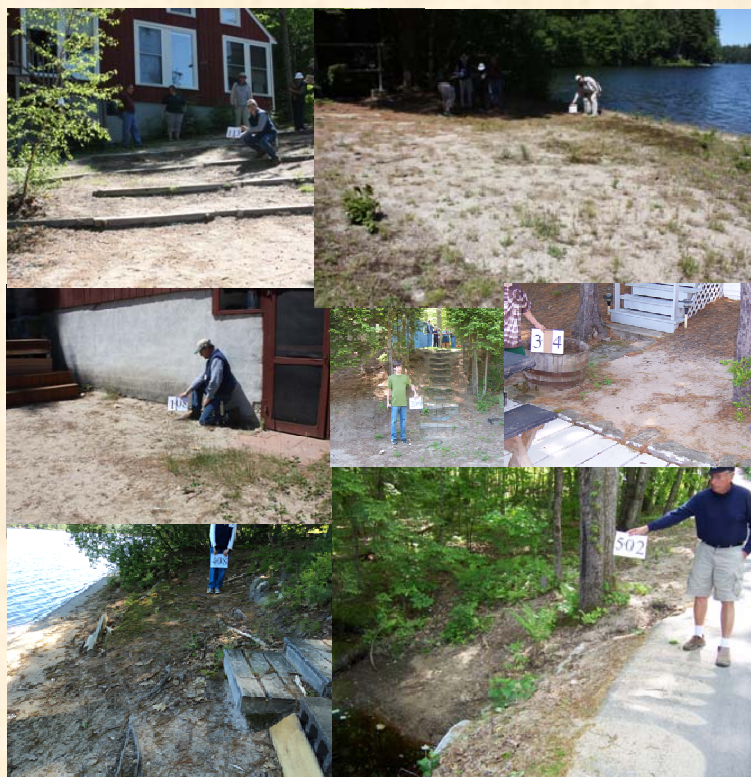
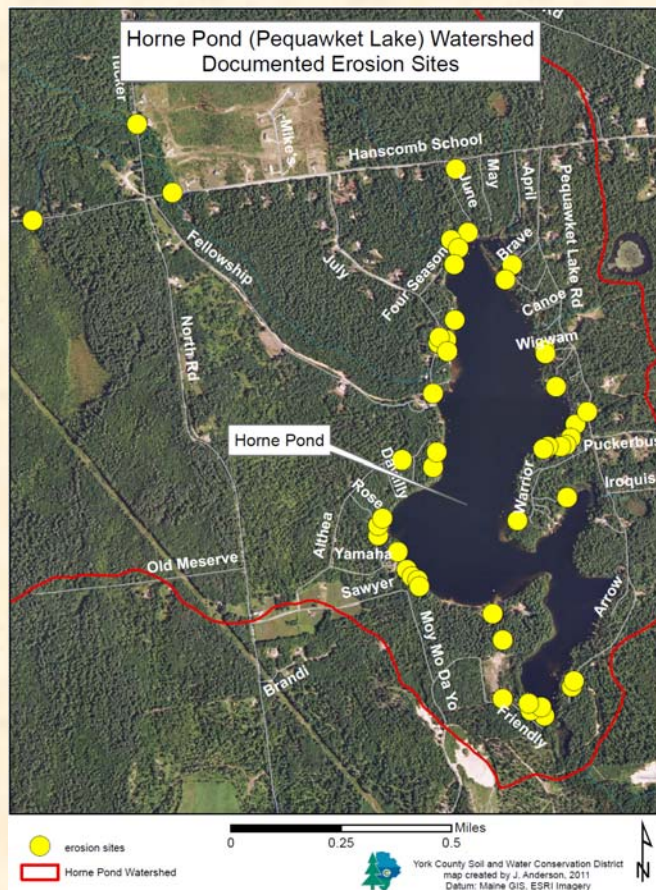
Survey Volunteers, June 2011

Horne Pond (Pequawket Lake) Limington, Maine Watershed Survey Summary Fact Sheet

BACKGROUND:

Horne Pond is located in the Town of Limington in York County, Maine. Locally, it is referred to as Pequawket Lake. The Pond covers 139 acres and has a direct watershed of 2.8 square miles. It is also part of the Little Ossipee River watershed and the larger Saco River watershed. The area is well developed with 177 seasonal and year-round houses. **Soil erosion** in particular, is the single greatest source of pollution to Horne Pond.

- Lake pollution is caused, in great part, by “**nonpoint source pollution**” (NPS). Pollutants such as soil are picked up by stormwater runoff within the watershed and then carried into the lake.
- Due to the declining water quality and development pressures within the watershed, Horne Pond is listed by the Maine DEP on the *Maine Nonpoint Source Priority Watersheds List* and *Watersheds Most at Risk from Development*
- Soil contains the nutrient phosphorus, which has the potential to promote algae blooms when it enters a lake in large quantities. Just one pound of phosphorous can produce up to 1,000 pounds of algae!
- Algae blooms also turn water green, decreasing water clarity and making the water body virtually unusable. Studies have shown that as water clarity decreases, property values also drop.



Examples of Identified Erosion Problems

WATERSHED SURVEY:

On June 4th, 2011, a team of 36 volunteers, trained technicians and staff from the Pequawket Lake Preservation Association (PLPA), Pequawket Lake Road Management Association (PLRMA), Moy-Mo-Da-Yo Recreation Oversight Committee (MMDYROC) and the Town of Limington conducted a watershed survey on Horne Pond.

Using cameras and standardized field data sheets, the teams documented stormwater runoff sites from areas with the following land use: state and town roads, right of ways (ROW), residential properties, driveways, municipal and public lands, commercial properties as well as boat and beach access areas.

Teams also made recommendations to remediate each source of NPS erosion using BMPs (Best Management Practices). All of the NPS sites were assigned an impact (high, medium or low) based on the potential impact and were also given a cost estimate (high, medium, or low) to fix the problem.

Results and recommendations were compiled in the *Horne Pond (Pequawket Lake) Watershed Survey Report*.

KEY SURVEY RESULTS:

Through the watershed survey, volunteers and technical staff recorded 48 sites within the Horne Pond watershed that are directly or indirectly jeopardizing the pond's water quality. Residential sites accounted for the largest number of sites impacting the Pond:

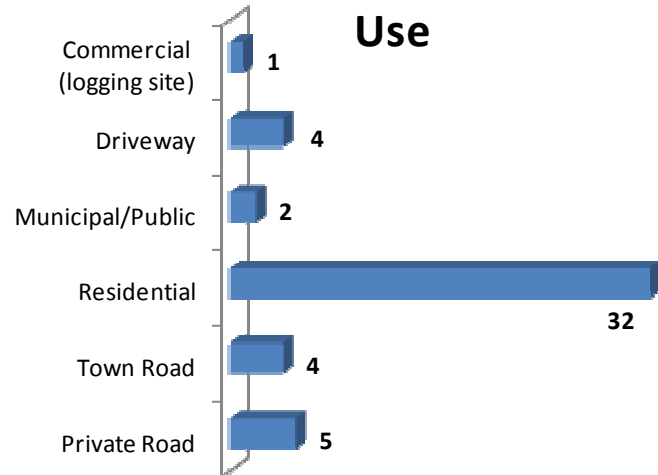
- Thirty-two (32) of the identified sites (68%) were found on residential properties. Over half of these sites (19) have a low impact on water quality and will be inexpensive to fix.
- Nine (9) of the sites identified (18%) are associated with roads; town and private. These sites tend to have a more severe impact on the lake with higher associated costs.
- Six different land uses were identified in the survey. Thus, no *single* source is responsible for pollution of the lake, and all parties need to be involved in protecting the water quality.



Project Partners:

Pequawket Lake Preservation Association (PLPA)
Pequawket Lake Road Management Association (PLRMA)
Moy-Mo-Da-Yo Recreation Oversight Committee (MMDYROC)
The Town of Limington
Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP)
York County Soil and Water Conservation District (YCSWCD)

Total Documented Sites by Land Use



Every land use has aspects that can be improved and there are numerous resources to aid in this improvement. The Maine DEP and Portland Water District developed a series of fact sheets that answer many common how-to questions about conservation practices. Download from:

<http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docwatershed/materials.htm>

NEXT STEPS:

- Send a letter offering technical assistance to property owners and the Town with identified erosion problems encouraging them to make improvements.
- Make copies of the survey report available and provide educational materials and guidance to members of the Horne Pond watershed community.
- Apply for grants to help fix erosion problems identified in the survey.
- Continue to promote the water quality monitoring programs and invasive plant inspections on boats and trailers at the Moy-Mo-Da-Yo Recreation Area.
- Host a meeting and/or workshop with presentations by the Maine DEP and York County Soil and Water Conservation District to educate property owners about the importance of the long-term health and protection of Horne Pond.
- Contact PLPA to learn more about the Horne Pond Watershed Survey. Lend a hand and learn how to fix problems on your own property!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Pequawket Lake Preservation Association
<http://theplpa.com>

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