



Re: BLA Annual Appeal

Dear BLA Members and Friends:

October 17, 2016

For all of its 108-year history, the BLA has taken the lead in protecting and improving our lakes. In its earliest days, the BLA put out navigation buoys and lights, tracked down polluters, sponsored a regatta, consulted on state fish stocking programs, and used dynamite and horses to clear boulders and sunken boats from the village stream.

Today, the BLA continues to be a leader. It helped save the Mountain and started Docks to Doorways, which gave us new public docks and the Maine Lakes Resource Center. It also put together the STOP MILFOIL Task Force and the aggressive action plan that has kept this invasive plant in check on Great Pond. Now the BLA is taking a leading role in the Belgrade Water Quality Initiative to deal with our excess phosphorous problem.

All of these important programs are possible because of your generosity. They all require funding. In 1919 the BLA had a balance of \$219.19 in its bank account. Fortunately we are in a stronger position today. But our funds will quickly run out without your continued backing.

This year the BLA spent \$85,000 for STOP MILFOIL, \$25,300 for Courtesy Boat Inspectors at our boat ramps, \$5,500 for LakeSmart, \$5,000 to support the work of the BRCA Youth Conservation Corps and \$10,000 for the services of Dr. Ken Wagner, our consulting limnologist lake science expert. We hope you believe these are wise and worthwhile investments.

If you value the BLA and the work we are doing on Great Pond and Long Pond, please consider making a donation to the 2016 BLA Annual Appeal. Your gift will make a difference because every dollar will go into programs to protect and improve our lakes.

Thank you very much for your support and contributions. If you have questions or want to discuss our plans or activities, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would very much like to hear from you.

With great appreciation,

Lynn Matson, President  
Belgrade Lakes Association  
207 716 -6094