



Dear Friend of the Lakes,

December 2025

As we approach the end of the year, we are reminded of how much we have to be thankful for, and how much our lakes depend on the generosity of people like you. The Belgrade Lakes Association is a volunteer-driven organization dedicated to protecting and preserving Long Pond and Great Pond. When you give to the BLA, your investment stays right here, supporting the waters, wildlife, and communities that make this region so special.

Because the BLA is entirely volunteer-run, every dollar you contribute goes directly toward the work that matters most. We have no paid staff and minimal overhead, ensuring that your donation makes the greatest possible impact.

Your support fuels our core programs:

- Invasive Species Monitoring and Remediation: Ongoing efforts to detect and remove milfoil and other aquatic invasives before they threaten our lakes.
- Courtesy Boat Inspections: A critical program that helps prevent invasive species from entering our waters.
- Youth Conservation Corps: Educating and engaging the next generation through hands-on shoreline restoration and erosion control projects.
- Septic System Awareness and Research: This year, we sponsored an intern to review decades of septic permits in Belgrade and Rome, helping us better understand aging systems and how to protect water quality through informed public education.
- Education & Public Outreach: Sharing practical knowledge about lake stewardship, water quality, and responsible land use through newsletters and community events.
- Loon Preservation Project: Supporting efforts to protect nesting loons, monitor populations, and raise awareness about the health of these iconic symbols of our lakes.

Each of these initiatives plays a vital role in keeping our lakes healthy and vibrant, not just for today, but for the generations who will follow.

The season of giving offers a meaningful opportunity to reflect on what we cherish most. Whether you are considering a gift as part of your year-end tax planning or simply want to make a difference during this special time of year, your contribution to the Belgrade Lakes Association helps sustain the natural beauty and ecological integrity of Great Pond and Long Pond.

Together, we can ensure that our remarkable lakes continue to thrive. Clear, clean, and full of life.

With gratitude,

Richard LaBelle
President, Belgrade Lakes Association